

The original documents are located in Box 2, folder “1/22/75 - Republican Congressional Wives” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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re Republican Congressional Wives

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mrs. Ford,

This is technically the meeting to welcome new wives. But there are only 11 new ones (ouch!) and of those, only two are coming for sure (moving and weather problems). I only mention this because it might be appropriate to direct only part of your remarks to the new ones, and the rest to the group in general.

Also: I did not include any kind of rah-rah-work-for-the-Party message in my suggestions because the wives seem to be particularly battle weary this year and not really 'up' for that type of thing.

On the other hand, hate to have the press emphasize the 'it was a bad year for the Republicans and there are only 11 new wives' theme -- so tried to end on an upbeat, 'we have a close Republican family here' type of thing.

As in the past, it's a very informal coffee, and while I realize you won't want notes, thought the attached might provide ideas if you're looking for them.

Jatti





Suggestions: remarks for Republican Congressional Wives

I'm delighted to be here today. I remember my first year as in Washington so vividly ... It was not only my first year as a congressional wife, but my first year as Jerry's wife period! If you think that year wasn't something!

I think all of us have very poignant memories of our first years here ... maintaining two homes, two sets of friends, and really -- two lives. Getting adjusted to being pulled in a thousand different directions. Trying to make things easier for our husbands and for many of you, trying to help your children adjust as well. Somehow, though, it all pulls together, and all of a sudden you're a part of the community here. You never know, of course, if you're going to be here two years or six or 26. But all of a sudden you wake up and find that even though you thought 'home' was Grand Rapids^{or Des Moines or wherever} -- and in many ways still is -- the fact is that your children are grown, and they did most of their growing here in the D.C. area. So it's very important to make yourself a part of the community here as well as maintaining your ties to your district.

I have a very soft spot in my heart for this organization. The Republican Congressional Wives has given me some of my closest friends and some of my warmest memories -- and I think does much to introduce new congressional wives to Washington. Altogether there is a very nice feel among our Republican family here in Washington and I think that adds to the camaraderie and community feeling throughout the Capitol.

To those of you who are new, let me join in welcoming you to Washington and hoping you'll let me help if there's a way I can. And for those of you here I've known longer -- I love being here again and can't wait for the chance to talk over coffee! Thank you.

For immediate release
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will drop by a meeting of the Republican Congressional Wives at the Capitol Hill Club Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 11 a.m. She will make brief remarks.

The purpose of the meeting is to greet and introduce the wives of the new Republican members of Congress. The organization is composed of the wives of the Republican members of the Senate and House of Representatives and meets monthly from January to June each year.

Being honored at the meeting Wednesday: Mrs. William F. Goodling, Jacobs, Pa; Mrs. Richard T. Schultze, Malvern, Pa.; Mrs. Thomas N. Kindness, Hamilton, Ohio; Mrs. Jim Jeffords, Montpelier, Vt.; Mrs. Tom Hagedorn, Truman, Minn.; Mrs. Charles Grassley, New Hartford, Iowa; Mrs. George Hansen, Pocatello, Idaho; Mrs. Henry Hyde, Park Ridge, Ill.; Mrs. Richard Kelley, Tarpon Springs, Fla.; Mrs. W. Henson Moore III, Baton Rouge, La.; and Mrs. Jake Garn, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Antoinette Hatfield, wife of Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon, is President of the Republican Congressional Wives. Hostesses for the Wednesday coffee are Mrs. Hugh Scott and Mrs. John Rhodes, wives of the Republican leaders of the Senate and House.

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January 20, 1975

3:00 pm

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

MRS. FORD'S DROP-BY
AT THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL WIVES
NEW MEMBERS COFFEE

Capitol Hill Club
Wednesday, January 22, 1975

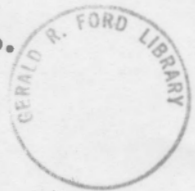
10:50 am Mrs. Ford boards motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route
Capitol Hill Club.

[Driving time: 9 minutes]

10:59am MOTORCADE ARRIVES Capitol Hill Club.

Mrs. Ford will be met by:
Mrs. Hugh (Marian) Scott
Mrs. John (Betty) Rhodes



Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Rhodes,
proceeds to the Private Dining Room #4 and pauses
for announcement.

11:02 am Mrs. Ford enters Dining Room and takes her seat.

11:03 am Mrs. Clark MacGregor (Barbara) introduces
Mrs. Ford for brief remarks.

11:05 am Mrs. Ford's remarks.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
ATTENDANCE: 60

11:08 am Remarks conclude.

11:08 am Mrs. Antoinette Hatfield thanks Mrs. Ford
for attending and invites everyone to mingle
informally.

11:09 am

Mrs. Ford greets the honorees:

Mrs. George Hansen (Connie), Idaho
Mrs. Richard Kelley (Lorraine), Florida
Mrs. W. Henson Moore, III (Carolyn), Louisiana
Mrs. Jake Garn (Hazel), Utah

11:25 am

Mrs. Ford departs Dining Room en route motorcade
for boarding.

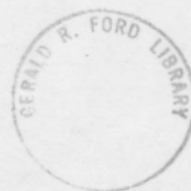
11:26 am

MOTORCADE DEPARTS Capitol Hill Club en route
South Grounds.

[Driving time: 9 minutes]

11:35 am

MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.



Nancy H.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: PETER SORUM
FROM: SUSAN PORTER
SUBJECT: Action Memo

Mrs. Ford has accepted the following out-of-house invitation:

EVENT: Drop-by for Coffee
GROUP: Republican Congressional Wives
DATE: Wednesday, January 22, 1975
TIME: 11:00 a.m. (their meeting begins at 10:00)
PLACE: Capitol Hill Club
301 First Street, Southeast
CONTACT: Mrs. Mark Hatfield
229-6039 (Home)
229-0330 (Her Office)



COMMENTS: This is the first meeting of the Republican Congressional Wives. The seven new members will be welcomed. From 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. they will have coffee and sweet rolls. Starting at 10:30 they will begin the introductions of the new members with brief welcoming remarks by Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Rhodes. Mrs. Ford, of course, has been a member of this organization since the 81st Congress. She will drop by around 11:00 and mingle informally. Because the organization has done a press release which states this meeting is open to the press, I think this will definitely need at least a mini-advance.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff
Red Cavaney
Warren Rustand
Bill Nicholson
Max Friedersdorf
Jack Marsh
Staircase
Rex Scouten

January 20, 1975

REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL WIVES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 8, 1975

Dear New and Active GOP Congressional Wives:

We wish to add our welcome to Washington, D. C., and to extend our invitation before your many activities commence.

"Our Club is the one that has gone before ---." It is made up exclusively of Republican Congressional Wives who meet once a month.

94th Congress - First Meeting
January 22, 1975 - Wednesday at 10 a.m.
Capitol Hill Club - 300 1st Street, S. E.
Phone: 484-4590

Official Hostesses: Marian Scott - Wife of Senator
Hugh Scott - Senate Leader
Betty Rhodes - Wife of Congress-
man John Rhodes, House
Leader

New members present will be assisted by active members with introduction and orientation.

Meeting all of you will be a pleasure.

Sincerely,

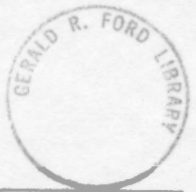
Toni

Antoinette Hatfield
President



Republican Congressional Wives

NEWS RELEASE



For release:

JANUARY 17, 1975

Press Contacts: 547-1112

~~MRS. JERRY L. PETTIS~~
~~MRS. JACK P. KEMP~~

Mrs. William Steiger
Mrs. Charles Thone

EDITOR'S NOTE: OPEN TO THE PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Republican Congressional Wives will form a welcoming committee Wednesday, January 22, 1975, to greet and introduce to Washington the wives of the new Republican Members of Congress.

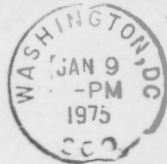
Honored guests at the Welcome to Washington will be: Mrs. William F. Goodling, Jacobs, Pa.; Mrs. Richard T. Schultze, Malvern, Pa.; Mrs. Thomas N. Kindness, Hamilton, Ohio; Mrs. Willis D. Gradison, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio; Mrs. Jim Jeffords, Montpelier, Vermont; Mrs. Tom Hagedorn, Truman, Minn.; Mrs. Charles Grassley, New Hartford, Iowa; Mrs. George Hansen, Pocatello, Idaho; Mrs. Henry Hyde, Park Ridge, Ill.; Mrs. Richard Kelley, Tarpon Springs, Fla.; Mrs. W. Henson Moore III, Baton Rouge, La.; and Mrs. Jake Garn, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Special hostesses for the morning coffee-reception at the Capitol Hill Club will be Mrs. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania and Mrs. John Rhodes of Arizona, wives of the Republican leaders of the Senate and House.

President of the GOP Congressional Wives for the new year is Antoinette Hatfield, wife of Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon. The organization which is composed of Republican Wives of the Members of the U.S. House and Senate meets monthly at the Capitol Hill Club from January to June of each year.

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Republican Congressional Wives
2213 Dirksen Building
Washington, D. C. 20510



Mrs. Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

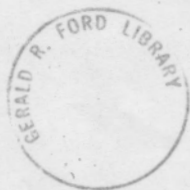
On completion of this form,
forward immediately to the
Advance Office.

THANK YOU LETTERS

Event Republican Congressional Wives

Date January 22, 1975

Advanceman Peter Sorum



NAME & ADDRESS	SALUTATION	DESCRIPTION
Mrs. Antoinette Hatfield 6809 Selkirk Drive Bethesda, Md. 20034	Dear Toni:	President of organization, introduced Mrs. Ford to the members individually and escorted her to curbside.
Mrs. Marian Scott 3014 Woodland Drive N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008	Dear Marian:	Greeted Mrs. Ford and escorted her to the meeting room.
Mrs. Betty Rhodes 5502 Pollard Road N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016	Dear Betty	Greeted Mrs. Ford and escorted her to the meeting room.
Mrs. Shirley Pettis 5171 Palisade Lane Washington, D.C. 20016	Dear Shirley:	Greeted Mrs. Ford and escorted her to the meeting room. She is 1st Vice President of organization.
Mrs. Barbara McGregor 2834 Foxhall Road Washington, D.C. 20007	Dear Barbara:	Introduced Mrs. Ford for remarks and offered one of the most humorous introductions while being very warm and extremely friendly. Mrs. Ford loved it.

Barbara McGregor *Mrs. Scott*