

**The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “1-12-76 League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia Lunch” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Nancy/Carolyn  
rec  
file

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 8, 1976

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

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

EVENT: Luncheon

GROUP: League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia

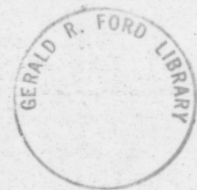
DATE: Monday, January 12, 1976

TIME: 11:30 Reception  
12:00 Luncheon

PLACE: Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C.

CONTACT: Mrs. Bruce E. Clark, President  
O: 347-5113  
H: 667-5109  
PRESS: Ms. Dorese Bell, 966-4124

COMMENTS: Mrs. Ford was for many years an active member of the League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia and will attend their luncheon. She is also Honorary Chairman of the luncheon. The luncheon is called the "Frankie Welch Congressional Wives' Luncheon Style Show" and the style show will be presented by Frankie Welch. Preceding the luncheon will be a reception. Mrs. Ford does not wish to spend a great deal of time at the reception and feels that the thrust of her attention should be upon the guests attending as opposed to the





VIPs. I would think, however, that she might want to drop by for quick photographs at the conclusion of the reception. I might also mention that they are planning to have a baby elephant ("Gabriel") which should make for some enjoyable photographs. The file is attached.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff  
Red Cavaney  
William Nicholson  
Max Friedersdorf  
Gwen Anderson  
Rex Scouten  
Staircase



①

ATTEND ☒  
REGRET ☐

# LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUITE 310, 1130 SEVENTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

DI 7-5113 — 5114

December 11, 1975

MRS. BRUCE E. CLARK  
PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK MEDICO  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. ROY E. JAMES  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. L. WILLIAM BONSBIB  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. EUGENE C. RACCA  
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. SANDEL M. POWELL  
RECORDING SECRETARY

MRS. GERARD F. MACDONALD  
ASSISTANT  
RECORDING SECRETARY

MISS ANN BABINGTON  
TREASURER

MRS. H. N. MISENHEIMER  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

MISS EDNA BEACHLEY  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MISS THERESE KARGER  
ASSISTANT  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

## DIRECTORS

MRS. HUGH SCOTT  
MRS. CLAIRE LEE CHENNAULT  
MRS. CASEY M. JONES  
MRS. J. WILLARD MARRIOTT, JR.  
MRS. RUSSELL E. SINGER  
(GLADYS MONTGOMERY)  
MISS EVELYN NEE  
MRS. PIERRE M. PURVES  
MRS. DOROTHY W. S. RAGAN  
MRS. A. G. RONHOVDE  
MISS ROBERTA VAN BEEK

MRS. BARBARA D. DIMOCK  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Susan Porter  
Appointment Secretary  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Porter:

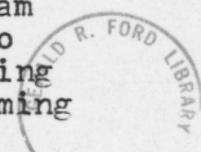
Following our telephone conversation, I thought it would be helpful to put in a letter the big plans made for our fashion show and luncheon in the Mayflower Hotel ballroom, Monday, January 12th.

We are delighted to have the First Lady as our Honorary Chairman and the League is most hopeful she will make every effort to attend as our distinguished guest. We do need her help.

Since January is the first month of the new election year, the League plans to make this an important kickoff event to rally women to work extra hard for the victory of Republican candidates across the country as well as in the District. The program theme will be a call to all Republican women to rise up in the fighting "Spirit of 1976" to bring in at the home-stretch Republicans in the upcoming national and local elections.

It would be a great boost to our national effort if the First Lady could participate at the luncheon by saying a few encouraging words - perhaps four or five minutes - to build contagious enthusiasm among Republican women, and to make them know the important role they play in final victory for our candidates.

Advance publicity is vitally important to create a solid turnout for our "Spirit of 1976" luncheon. As I mentioned to you, the Wildlife Reserve in Largo, Maryland just happens to have a wonderful baby elephant named "Gabriel". The Director, William Natter, Jr., said it is quite possible to bring to the driveway of the White House this charming rascal, with your permission of course.



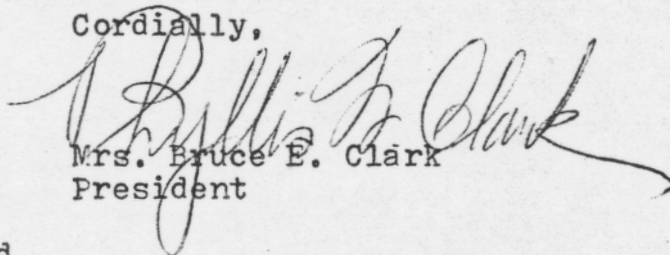
We would deeply appreciate it if a brief picture session could be worked into Mrs. Ford's schedule before or after the Christmas holiday in very early January.

Our publicity chairman, Dorese Bell, (a former White House Correspondent for Mutual Broadcasting System), will follow through on any arrangements. She may be reached at 966-4124.

May I warmly express on behalf of the League our genuine desire to have the First Lady as our distinguished guest. We anticipate our kickoff event with fashions by Frankie Welch to be a hearty sendoff for successful Republicans nationwide during this upcoming election year. Over eight hundred Republican supporters as well as Cabinet, Congressional and Ambassadorial wives are expected to attend.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Cordially,



Mrs. Bruce E. Clark  
President

cc: Sheila Weidenfeld

BEC/db





# LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUITE 310, 1130 SEVENTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

DI 7-5113 — 5114

November 19, 1975

MRS. BRUCE E. CLARK  
PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK MEDICO  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. ROY E. JAMES  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. L. WILLIAM BONSIB  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. EUGENE C. RACCA  
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. SANDEL M. POWELL  
RECORDING SECRETARY

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(GLADYS MONTGOMERY)  
MISS EVELYN NEE  
MRS. PIERRE M. PURVES  
MRS. DOROTHY W. S. RAGAN  
MRS. A. G. RONHOVDE  
MISS ROBERTA VAN BEEK

MRS. BARBARA D. DIMOCK  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I do wish to thank you most sincerely for your graciousness in accepting the Honorary Chairmanship for our Frankie Welch Congressional Wives' Luncheon Style Show.

The League is most appreciative of your kindness and we are looking forward to having you with us if it is at all possible for you to do so.

We will be in touch with you in the very near future as to the progress we are making on our Style Show.

Again, our many thanks.

Sincerely,

*Phyllis B. Clark*  
Mrs. Bruce Edmund Clark  
President

BEC/fhm



November 13, 1975

Dear Mrs. Clark,

How much I appreciated your gracious letter telling of plans for the Frankie Welch Congressional Wives' Luncheon Style Show and inviting me to serve as Honorary Chairman. Although I do not yet know whether my January schedule will permit me to be with you, it would be a special pleasure to have my name listed in this way reflecting my admiration for the efforts of this organization. I am also grateful for this opportunity to convey my Congratulations to you on your recent presidency and the accomplishments of the League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia in increasing the membership of the League.

With encouragement to all who are working toward the success of this occasion and my warmest best wishes,

Sincerely,

15/ Betty Ford

Mrs. Bruce Edmund Clark  
President  
League of Republican Women  
of the District of Columbia  
1130 Seventeenth Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C. 20036



SP/sr

c: BF Honorary Affiliations (accept)  
✓ BF Pending To Consider (January 12, 1976, Mayflower Hotel)

- noted re  
working cal.  
- send up OBF

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Mrs. Ford,

You are invited to have your name  
listed as Honorary Chairman of the  
Frankie Welch Congressional Wives' Luncheon  
Style Show to be given by the League of  
Republican Women of the District of Columbia  
on January 12th at the Mayflower Hotel.

☒ Lend name

☐ Regret

Attendance:

☐ Accept

☐ Consider closer to the date

☐ Regret

*and congratulate  
her on presidency  
plus new members  
they have gained*

Thank you,

*Susan*  
susan





10-20

# LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUITE 310, 1130 SEVENTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

DI 7-5113 - 5114

October 27, 1975

MRS. BRUCE E. CLARK  
PRESIDENT

MRS. EUGENE C. RACCA  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANK MEDICO  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. ROY E. JAMES  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. L. WILLIAM BONSB  
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. SAMUEL M. POWELL  
RECORDING SECRETARY

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MISS EVELYN NEE  
MRS. PIERRE M. PURVES  
MRS. DOROTHY W. S. RAGAN  
MRS. A. G. RONHOVDE  
MISS ROBERTA VAN BEEK

MRS. BARBARA D. DIMOCK  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Mrs. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mrs. Ford:

In just one month we have brought the League of Republican Women of D. C. to life again. For October and November we have had a steady stream of new members and reinstatements as you will notice from our November Bulletin which is enclosed.

Among our outstanding programs for the year, first priority is given to our "Frankie Welch Congressional Wives' Luncheon Style Show" to be staged at the Mayflower Hotel Ballroom on January 12th.

You are cognizant of our project, I am sure, through your discussion with Frankie regarding your Michigan Scarf and your conversations with Mrs. Weidenfeld regarding the famous Bicentennial Scarf.

In June of this year, as President of the Charles N. Crittenton benefit, I asked you to be my Honorary Chairman and you were gracious in consenting to do this. !!!

I am now your recently elected President of the League of Republican Women of which you were a recent Director.

Will you please once again honor me by allowing us to use your name as our gracious Honorary Chairman for the January event, and in addition put a circle around the January date to also be present at our function. We would be so very delighted and appreciative.

We are expecting 800 guests and with your support the Style Show will certainly be a noteworthy success.

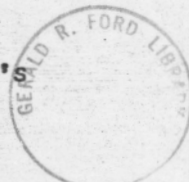
We are anticipating your affirmative support in our League's endeavor.

Fondly,

*B. E. Clark*  
Mrs. Bruce Edmund Clark  
President

BEC/fhm

To the attention of Mrs. Weidenfeld.



41: 667-5109

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MRS. FORD

VIA: RED CAVANEY

FROM: PETER SORUM *PS*

SUBJECT: YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE  
D.C. LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN  
WOMEN'S LUNCHEON  
Mayflower Hotel  
Monday, January 12, 1976

Attached at TAB A is the proposed schedule for the subject event.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

BACKGROUND

The League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia begins 1976 with a "Bicentennial Salute to Fashion" featuring creations by Frankie Welch. You are Honorary Chairman of this event having been an active member of the organization for many years.

PROGRAM

The Host Committee has asked that you make brief remarks prior to the fashion show which has been scheduled. They also asked if you would personally award the first door prize, an autographed picture of the First Family, which you donated. I advised Mrs. Clark, your hostess, that you would discuss this with her during the luncheon and decide at that time whether this would be appropriate prior to your departure.



TAB  
A





1/9/76  
5:05 pm

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

MRS. FORD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE  
D. C. LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

Mayflower Hotel  
Monday, January 12, 1976

11:55 am Mrs. Ford boards motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route  
Mayflower Hotel (DeSalles Street Entrance).

[Driving time: 5 minutes]

12:00 noon MOTORCADE ARRIVES Mayflower Hotel.

Mrs. Ford will be met by:  
Mr. Steve Harper, Senior Assistant  
Manager, Mayflower Hotel

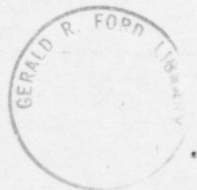
Mrs. Ford proceeds to ballroom entrance to greet  
Mrs. Bruce Clark, President, D. C. League of  
Republican Women.

12:05 pm Announcement

12:05 pm Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mrs. Clark, proceeds  
to Head Table and remains standing for invocation.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE  
ATTENDANCE: 600

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will be  
seated second seat, stage right.  
Mrs. Clark will be on her left  
and Mrs. Barbara Dimock will  
be on her right.



12:07 pm Invocation sung by Mrs. Richard E.  
Marriott.

12:10 pm Welcoming remarks by Mrs. Clark.

12:12 pm Greeting by Mrs. Eugene Racca, Luncheon  
Chairman.

12:15 pm Luncheon is served.

1:15 pm Luncheon concludes.

1:16 pm Remarks by Mrs. Clark concluding in the introduction of Mrs. Ford.

1:20 pm Mrs. Ford's remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

1:23 pm Remarks conclude.

Mrs. Ford returns to her seat.

1:24 pm Fashion Show by Frankie Welch begins.

2:25 pm Fashion Show concludes.

NOTE: Mrs. Ford may choose to award the first door prize prior to departing.

2:27 pm Mrs. Ford departs Head Table en route motorcade for boarding.

2:30 pm MOTORCADE DEPARTS Mayflower Hotel en route South Grounds.

[Driving time: 5 minutes]

2:35 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.



CP  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1976

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

-----

Mrs. Ford is the Honorary Chairman of the League of Republican Women of the District of Columbia's luncheon which she will attend at the Mayflower Hotel today at 12:00 Noon in the Grand Ballroom.

Approximately 600 will attend including representatives of Women's Republican clubs from the Metropolitan area.

There will be a fashion show after the luncheon which will be narrated by Frankie Welch of Alexandria, Virginia. The models will be wives of members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Seated at the head table with Mrs. Ford will be: Mrs. Bruce Clark, Mrs. David Mathews, Mrs. Mary Louise Smith, Mrs. Patricia Lindh, Mrs. Frank Medico, Mrs. Roy James, Mrs. Eugene Racca, Mrs. Barbara Dimmock, Mrs. L. William Bonsib, Mrs. Richard E. Marriott and Mrs. Marjorie Ward Lynch.

# # # #

Press Pick-Up: 11:40 AM

