

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “12/19/74 - White House Press Christmas Party” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CHRISTMAS PARTY

for

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS CORPS

December 19, 1974
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Dress: Business Suit . . . afternoon dresses for the ladies

Schedule
of Events:

7:00 p.m. Your guests will arrive and be escorted
to the State Floor.

7:15 p.m. You and Mrs. Ford will be escorted via
elevator to the State Floor -- proceed
toward the East Room -- pause for
announcement.

You and Mrs. Ford will proceed into the
East Room to the dance band where a
microphone will be positioned. You will
welcome your guests and introduce Mr.
Michael Carney and his Orchestra. (Suggested
remarks are attached. Tab B)

You and Mrs. Ford will join your guests
for dancing.

NOTE: Buffet and mixed drinks will be
served to your guests in the State Dining
Room.

You and Mrs. Ford will bid farewell to
your guests and return to the Family Quarters.

NOTES:

Guest list is attached. Tab C

A Marine Dance Combo will be playing in the Grand Hall.

A Marine Harpist will be playing in the Diplomatic Reception Room.

Military Social Aides will be present.

White House photographer will be present.

Nancy Lammerding

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SUBJECT: Instructions for Social Aides

EVENT: Christmas Party for Press Corps

Date/Time: December 19, 1974 (7:00) No. of Guests: 1000

Uniform: Service Dress Parking: North Grounds

In-Place Time for Aides: 6:00 p.m. (Library)

In-Place Time for OIC: 5:45 p.m. (Duty Aide)

Duty Aide: LCDR T. S. Todd, USN

First Family Participation: The President and Mrs. Ford

The following Social Aides will attend:

LCDR T. E. Grabowsky, USN
Lt Marsha A. Johnson, USN
Lt F. Taney Heil, USN
Lt(jg) Joseph R. Cherry, USCG
Major Duncan D. Briggs, USA
Capt Janet S. Rexrode, USA
Capt Carl E. Linke, USA

Major David Van Poznak, USAF
Capt James M. Roberts, USAF
1stLt Robert J. Harig, USAF
2dLt Thomas Morgan, USAF
* Major Henry W. Buse, USMC
Capt Andrew N. Pratt, USMC
1stLt Bowen F. Rose, USMC
1stLt George W. Flinn, USMC

*Officer in Charge

Music: USMC Harp in the Diplomatic Reception Room (6:30) (East Gate)
USMC Dance Combo in the East Room (6:30) (East Gate)

Remarks:

2 doormen from MDW
1 doorman from Garage
Call system in effect

for MacCollin
T. STEPHEN TODD
Lieutenant Commander, U. S. Navy
Naval Aide to the President

DISTRIBUTION:

MGen Lawson
LtCol Sardo
LCDR Todd
LtCol Blake
Major Barrett

Mrs. Lammerding
Mrs. Weidenfeld
Secret Service
Visitor's Office
Band

Usher's Office
White House Garage
White House Staff Mess
Mr. O'Donnell
White House Police (7)

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1974

FOR: RONALD NESSEN
~~SHEILA WEIDENFELD~~
FROM: NANCY LAMMERDING *nh*
SUBJECT: Christmas Party for the Members of the Press Corps
December 12, 1974

The President and Mrs. Ford have scheduled a Christmas Party for the Members of the Press Corps on December 12, 1974. Would you please coordinate this project and send me a list, totaling 1,000 names? The compilation of the final guest list will be left to your discretion. When you submit your lists, please include the following information, as we will be sending formal invitations:

1. Whether or not list includes spouses or escorts, etc.
2. Correct marital status
3. Correct title and place of business
4. Current home address and phone number (include area code)
5. Current business address and phone number (include area code)

Your lists should be in my office (Room 200, East Wing) by the close of business on November 20, 1974.

Thank you very much.

December 6, 1974

File

Dear Sheila:

Spoke with Jack Hushen the other day and he related you were handling events for a 'Press' Christmas Party. If I may, please, I would delight in the receipt of an invitation.

Herewith enclosed is a copy of two letters received relating to Dr. Mary's birthday event. Sorry, time was too short to get the information to you - but there may yet be a real White House event....as I am interested in having Mr. Clement Conger give some consideration to her desk becoming a piece of furniture....he was a mite interested a year ago when I realized it was Chippendale-Empire, etc.

Hopefully, too, the upcoming Military Medical Academy may have the library named for her... there are not any women M.D.'s on this very prestigious 'Board of Regents' and fewer than 100 women M.D.'s in uniform, etc. All this plus a stamp, a sculpture showing Dr. Mary administering to a Confederate wounded as she was doing when captured, etc.

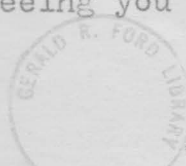
Her life would make a great book, documentary, movie or play...if I had the right contacts..... but there is a real paucity of information about her life, so we keep hoping...

I guess I have not recovered as well as I had felt, typing is difficult, etc., and spirits often low!

I am, sincerely looking forward to seeing you again.

Cordially,

Anne



VANCE HARTKE, IND., CHAIRMAN
HERMAN E. TALMADGE, GA. CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
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FRANK J. BRIZZI, STAFF DIRECTOR
GUY H. MC MICHAEL III, GENERAL COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 25, 1974

Ms. Ann Walker
3025 Dunbarton Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Ms. Walker:

Let me offer my congratulations to you and the Oswego County Historical Society for organizing a commemorative day for your great, grand aunt, Dr. Mary Walker.

From research that the staff of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee has done, it is clear that your great, grand aunt was not only courageous during the term she served as a contract-doctor in the Union Army, but also as an outspoken proponent of feminine rights.

Both as a doctor and feminist, she was much ahead of her time, and, as is usual, she was not regarded kindly by many of her contemporaries.

Today, she appears prophetic. Many of the changes she sought have come about. Others have not, and no doubt she would be active in the cause of furthering women's equality that so profoundly affects our society today.

It is, therefore, very worthwhile that we pause to honor Dr. Walker, who was both a fighter and a visionary. Things can be changed if people believe strongly enough, as did Dr. Walker. Dr. Walker's example reminds us again that one person can make a difference. I am pleased to be a part of this commemoration.

I would add that the Veterans' Affairs Committee staff is pursuing an investigation to see if the restoration of the Medal of Honor to your great, grand aunt is possible, or what other courses might be open to honor her should that course fail.

Very truly yours,

Vance Hartke

Vance Hartke
Chairman



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T. EDWARD BRASWELL, JR., CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 22, 1974

Ms. Ann Walker
3025 Dumbarton Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20007

Dear Ms. Walker:

I certainly want to commend all the individuals involved in the memorial service for Dr. Mary Edwards Walker. Such a tribute is surely richly deserved and appropriate -- especially so at this time.

In this period, which has seen an increasing number of women taking on ever broader responsibilities in the armed services, I cannot imagine anyone more deserving of a warm and respectful tribute than Mary Edwards Walker, who was, I believe, the Army's only woman physician-surgeon and, to this day, the only woman to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

I share in your wish to honor her memory and recall the fine services she performed during another very trying and difficult time in our nation's history.

Sincerely,


John C. Stennis



Anne Walker
3025 Dumbarton Street, NW
Georgetown, D. C., 20007



We hold these Truths...

Jefferson



UNITED STATES 10c

Mrs. Sheila Weddenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Gerald R. Ford
White House
Washington, D. C.,
20500



Happy Christmas
HOLY CHILDHOOD

FACT SHEET
Mrs. Ford's Office

Event Christmas Party
 Group Members of the Press Corps
 DATE/TIME 12/19/74 at 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Contact Ron Nessen/Sheila Weidenfeld Phone 2100/2164
 Number of guests: Total approx. 1,000 Women x Men x Children _____
 Place State Floor
 Principals involved President and Mrs. Ford
 Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) no
 Remarks required yes
 Background The President and Mrs. Ford's Christmas Party for the Members of the Press Corps

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes
 Invitations yes Programs no Menus no
 Refreshments yes (buffet, cocktails and mixed drinks)
 Entertainment no
 Decorations/flowers yes
 Music yes (Marine Dance Band)
 Social Aides yes
 Dress business suit Coat check yes
 Other _____

Press: Reporters (Party is for members of the Press Corps)
 Photographers no
 TV Crews no
 White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono. _____
 Other _____

Technical Support: Microphones yes PA Other Rooms no
 Recording yes
 Lights no
 Transportation cars and taxicabs
 Parking South Grounds
 Housing _____
 Other (Risers, stage, platforms) ?

Project Co-ordinator Pat Howard Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.



*The President and Mrs. Ford
request the pleasure of your company
at a Christmas Party to be held at
The White House
on Thursday evening, December 12, 1974
from seven until nine o'clock*

*Dress:
Informal*

Regrets, only 456-2510

The Press 'Makes It' To a White House Party

By Ymelda Dixon
Star-News Staff Writer

was constantly passed. The State Dining Room boasted another bar and a room-length table featuring two giant rounds of steaming beef olivier.

"I made it, I made it, I finally made it."

UP-049

(WHITE HOUSE X-MAS)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD ARE PLANNING TO HOLD TWO PARTIES FOR THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS AND FAMILIES DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

THE FORDS WILL INVITE SOME 500 MEMBERS OF THE REGULAR WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS AND THEIR SPOUSES, AN INVITATION-ONLY EVENT TO A 7 P.M. TO 9 P.M. OPEN HOUSE GATHERING ON DEC. 19 WHEN THE EXECUTIVE MANSION WILL BE DECKED OUT IN ITS YULETIDE ARRAY.

ON SATURDAY, DEC. 21, THE WHITE HOUSE DOORS WILL BE THROWN OPEN AGAIN TO REPORTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES FROM 1:30 P.M. TO 3 P.M. THOSE REPORTERS NOT HOLDING REGULAR WHITE HOUSE PASSES MAY CALL THE PRESS OFFICE FOR ADMISSION.

THE FORDS EXPECT TO BE ON HAND FOR THE PARTY ON DEC. 19 BUT THEY MAY BE HEADING FOR VAIL, COLO., FOR THEIR ANNUAL SKIING HOLIDAY BY SATURDAY, DEC. 21, DEPENDING ON WHETHER CONGRESS IS STILL IN SESSION. THE FORDS WILL NOT DEPART FOR VAIL BEFORE CONGRESS ADJOURNS.

THEY HAVE ALREADY INCLUDED IN THEIR CHRISTMAS PLANS A BLACK-TIE BALL AT THE WHITE HOUSE THE EVENING OF DEC. 17, A DAY AFTER THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD RETURN FROM MARTINIQUE.

THE FIRST LADY WILL UNVEIL THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE MANSION TOMORROW AFTERNOON. AFTERWARDS SHE WILL DISCUSS FAMILY PLANS.

ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MRS. FORD WILL ENTERTAIN THE CHILDREN OF WASHINGTON'S DIPLOMATIC CORPS AT A 4:30 P.M. PARTY.

THE FORDS' CHRISTMAS CARDS WILL BE DROPPED ON FRIDAY, SOME 40,000 TO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, CONGRESS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, HEADS OF STATE AND FRIENDS.

THERE ALSO WILL BE SOME CHRISTMAS PARTIES FOR THE STAFF IN THE COMING DAYS, AND THERE WILL BE AN HISTORIC GIFT FOR EACH OF THE GUESTS.

UPI 12-09 11:32 AES