The original documents are located in Box 35, folder "Christmas, 1974 - White House Decorations (2)" of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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April 3, 1975

Dear Anne:

I just received your letter and the enclosed prints of the Christmas decorations.

I'm really sorry you can't use them. If we can ever be of help to you in the future please let us know.

Sincerely,

Nancy Chirdon Mrs. Ford's Press Office

Ms. Anne Ogden Art/Crafts Editor HOUSE BEAUTIFUL 717 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10022



es-floush File

NEW YORK WASHINGTON LOS ANGELES CHICAGO PARIS

GORDON L. SMITH

(202) 331-7520 CABLE ADDRESS: EDGOTTLIEB

December 18, 1974

Ms. Nancy Sheridan The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Nancy:

As promised, I am enclosing my release on activities of our florist decorators at the White House. This was distributed with photographs to 20-25 cities and towns by me and will be sent in essentially the same form to some additional cities by representatives of the other florist inter-city delivery services. In this aspect, I represent FTD only and each service does its own publicity.

Frances Lewine called me and may have used reference to the florist volunteers and their organizations. Somehow the local papers managed to ignore us altogether, although I assume you made the information available as you did for other volunteer groups connected with the decorating project. So thanks for all your effort.

I will be glad to give you a further report if you would like to have it when I see how much pickup we get from my mailing. Incidentally, I worked with AP and UP photo on behalf of various florists at the time they were in the White House, arranging to service local papers in the same manner that would have been done for Mr. Easton, about whom you called me yesterday. That particular request has also been taken care of. If you have others, the best thing might be to call me first, and if it is not an FTD florist, I can refer you to the proper person.

Sincerely,

Gordon L. Smith

GLS: jac Enclosure From: Edward Gottlieb & Associates 818 - 18th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20006 (202) 331-7520 (Gordon L. Smith)

For: Florists' Transworld Delivery

For Immediate Release

PATCHWORK DESIGNS HIGHLIGHT "OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS" AT WHITE HOUSE; FLORISTS FROM 24 STATES DONATE SERVICES

Washington, D. C., Dec. 13 -- Patchwork quilt decorations reminiscent of an "old fashioned Christmas" accent the season at the White House this year.

Patchwork swag, bows, and balls on the tree in the Blue Room set a theme of simplicity decided upon by the first family. The First Lady's own ornament with the legend "Betty Ford - 74" was the last item to go on the tree at the press preview this week.

Mrs. Ford indicated that she was having an old fashioned Christmas because that is the kind the Ford family always had and that making the new ornaments was a way of involving senior citizen and other special groups.

The 19-foot Christmas tree was decorated by Washington florist William Dove and his associates, with the assistance of professional florists from florist industry delivery services -- Florists' Transworld Delivery, Teleflora, Florafax International, and American Floral Services, each of which assigned members to actually decorate the tree as part of a "pool" arrangement under which the florist industry assistance was provided. In all, more than 80 florists from 24 states, including the District of Columbia, donated their services over a ten-day period to make decorations that will be seen by an estimated 50,000 visitors to the White House during the Christmas season. They worked under the direction of Mrs. Ford, design consultant William Dove, and chief White House floral designer E. M. (Rusty) Young. Their work is to be seen in the East Room, the Green, Blue and Red Rooms, the State Dining Room, and in the Great Hall and Foyer.

-2-

The patchwork theme, emphasizing thrift and recycling, is a rural American art form. The handmade ornamentation of blue moire swag lined in patchwork circles the tree, on which is also seen silvery-grey dried arrangements of statice and small, handmade wooden toys. They were made by craftsmen and senior citizens groups throughout the country. New York interior designer Susan Hutchins and Celine Mahler, Bayside, N. Y., of the Quilters Workshop advised on quilting and patchwork. The tree is trimmed with 550 patchwork balls in four shapes -- round, pentagonal, orange-peel, and Christmas lantern. The patchwork balls were made by Appalachian area women in North Carolina commissioned by Blue Ridge Mountain Industries, while a Pennsylvania toymaker donated toys.

Decoration of the other rooms is in a more traditional pattern, including poinsettia "trees" in the four corners of the East and State Dining Rooms. Some 30 green wreaths weighing about 75 pounds are at the first floor windows of the mansion. In the entrance foyer are eleven herald angels made from aluminum foil sprayed with gold paint.

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12/13/74

818-18TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006



Ms. Nancy Chirdon The White House Washington, D.C. 20500



NEW YORK WASHINGTON LOS ANGELES CHICAGO PARIS

818 - 18TH STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

GORDON L. SMITH

(202) 331-7520 CABLE ADDRESS: EDGOTTLIEB

January 2, 1975

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sheila:

Since our efforts in decorating the White House, some of the FTD florists, at least, have had some very nice publicity in their home town papers. For your information I am attaching copies of articles which appeared in the Muskegon, Michigan, Chronicle; The Stanley News & Press, Albemarle, N. C.; Milwaukee Journal; Tacoma News Tribune; and the Ardmoreite, Ardmore, Oklahoma.

I thought you might like to see these and pass them along to Rex and Rusty. I also enclose a copy of the January issue of FTD NEWS with the color cover for which you so kindly arranged. It will be quite a hit in the florist industry I can assure you.

I want to wish you a very happy and successful New Year.

Sincerely,

Jordan

Gordon L. Smith

GLS: jac

Enclosures

CC: Mr. Rex Scouten Mr. Rusty Young

Sent edgies to Ret and Rusty 1/7/75

Members Fill White House With Christmas Spirit

Glittering lights, colorful ornaments, rooms filled with flowers and holiday greens make Christmas a time of joy and celebration in millions of homes throughout the world.

The warmth and glowing in the nation's White House symbolizes America's celebration of Christmas.

Christmas is a special, unique event at the White House. Decorating the mansion takes a lot of time, work and effort to give it real warmth for the holiday season.

Twelve of the regional winners in the 1974 FTD Americas Cup competition responded affirmatively to invitations to join with the White House staff in decorating for the holidays.

Decorations began to be prepared and put into place in early December. Members each worked on the decorations for an average of two days.

Bill Dove, Bill Dove Flowers, Washington, D.C., was appointed as Betty Ford's consultant for the Christmas decorating. He and White House Chief Floral Designer Elmer "Rusty" Young supervised the decorations.

Mr. Dove has had experience decorating many goverment functions and noteworthy locations including the Metropolitan Gallery in Washington.

Mrs. Ford specified that the Christmas decorations use economical materials displaying American crafts with aesthetic value. Traditional Christmas colors were highlighted.

The focal point of the decorations was the Michigan Fir Christmas tree set up in the Blue Room. The 19½-foot high tree from Mayville, Mich., preserved a tradition started by President Benjamin Harrison.

The tree was entwined with wheat lights with an overlay of silver statice. Calico patchwork ornaments made by disadvantaged senior citizens from Appalachia, pine cones, sachets of spices and American Indian made baskets filled with gumdrops and ribbon candy enhanced the fir tree. Swags of blue moire, lined with calico



Charles Smith and Bill Dove of Bill Dove's Flowers, Washington, D.C., place a golden angel decoration above a portrait of the late President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Mr. Dove was the White House Christmas decorating consultant for 1974.

patchwork designs from all over the United States, were strung around the tree.

Small pieces of mirror in various shapes and sizes gave added glamour and reflection to the tree.

Members helped decorate the White House at different times during a 10-day period. The first few days they worked in the flower room. The rest of the time was spent decorating the State Dining Room, East Room, Red Room, Green Room, Blue Room and Diplomatic Reception Room.

Members decked the Christmas tree and decorated the entrance foyer and Great Hall with rope, wreaths and topiary ficus trees interspersed with red berries. Mantles were garnished with poinsettias and needle point ivy.

Mixed bowls of natural greens with clusters of statice, dried materials and red berries were placed throughout the White House.

Musice GON CHRONICLE FLOWER POWER DOES IT Musice GON, Miet Jur Bob Chomped Hot Dogs in White House

By DENISE McCOURT

Bob Carr of Bos Floral House had the White House this week.

ot dogs - served in a beautiful

"You know they have 800 security guards at the White House working around the clock," he said. "Each day when we arrived at the northwest gate they checked our driver's license against a list they had. Then they isflorists usually buy ready-made by machine.

The White House was also decorated with 44 double-faced Crhistmas wreaths hung in the windows. The wreaths were kept even if they put them in different rooms.

"As each flower gets a new cut, the arrangement becomes shorter.

The flering store or often sugar state



Claude Harwood, owner and operator of Harwood's Florist and Green House in Albemarle, was one of eight florists selected to help decorate the 19-foot Christmas tree that stands in the Blue Room of the White House. Mr. Harwood was brought to Washington last week by Florists' Transworld Delivery to help ready the White House for Yuletime inspection by an estimated 50,000 visitors. Selected because he was a regional winner in the FTD America's Cup floral design competition earlier this year, he was one of the some 80 florists from 24 states who participated in the annual Christmas decorating project at the White House.



Claude Harwood, Jr., has returned to Albemarle from (Continued from Page One)

STONLEY NEWS T. PRESS N.C. PLOE MARLE, N.C.

design consultant William Dove, and chief White House floral designer E.M. (Pusty) Vorum blue stad Red Rooms, the State Dining Room, and in the Great Hall and Foyer.

Mr. Harwood pointed out that patchwork quilt decorations reminiscent of an "old

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL Page 6 Decking the White House Halls By Bea J. Pepan of The Journal Staff Getting a house ready for Christmas can be a big pro-

He'll deck the halls for Jerry

Tacoma floral designer Bob Bigham will help decorate the White House for Christmas this year one of 20 master florists chosen for the honor.

The first family's holiday trimmings will be "simple and traditional," Bigham said, in contrast to the gaudier displays of recent years. Bigham, 30, an employe of

Bigham, 30, an employe of Brown's Flowers in Tacoma, earned his appointment to the White House design team by placing eighth in a nationwide floral display competition.

Story, Page A-3.

Staff photo by Bruce Larson



1-22 that show we are grand

The News Tribune

Tacoma, Thurs., Dec. 19, 1974

Bob Bigham and 'back to nature' Christmas tree

Tacoman changed mood of White House for the holidays

Section D

Radio-Television

Financial news

By BARBARA ANDERSON TNT staff writer

Sound Life

The creative ability and natural beauty of the Northwest are part of the White Hous this Christmas season. Tacoma's Bob Bigha spent four days with oth top floral arrangers in th country changing the moo of the museum-like building giving it the warmth of ture in a home atmosphe decorating for the holiday Not only that, but all Christmas greens used garlanding - noble and sil ver fir, berried juniper and incense cedar - came from The Kirk Co. in Puyallup.

ARDMORE, OKLA. ARDMORITE

Ardmoreite Helps Decorate White House

An Ardmore florist, Branson, Baker, was one of 80 florists who helped decorate the

honor by winning the regional competition sponsored by Florists' Transworld Delivery.

rooms of the White House, many are not normally open to the public, including the worked on the large Christmas wreaths and garlands as well as large angels made White House during the From: Edward Gottlieb & Associates 818 - 18th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20006 (202) 331-7520 (Gordon Smith)

For: Florist Wire Services

Immediate Use

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT WHITE HOUSE TO BE FASHIONED BY INTERCITY FLORIST GROUPS

Washington, D. C., Nov. 12 -- For the third consecutive year, members of florist intercity delivery services will help fashion the color and charm that is "Christmas at the White House" for thousands of seasonal visitors.

Under the direction of Elmer "Rusty" Young, chief White House floral designer, members of Florists' Transworld Delivery, Teleflora, Florafax International, Inc. and American Floral Services, Inc. will spend several days making garland, wreath, and special floral designs. Undoubtedly the most prestigious of Christmas decorating activities in the florist industry, Mr. Young has encouraged florists to participate in this project for several years.



At the request of White House officials, each of the intercity services has invited up to 15 of its members to participate in the decorating project, which will take place early in December.

Most of the designers will devote two or three days' work over a ten-day span to the project. Detailed plans for Christmas 1974 are now being worked out by the First Family and the White House.

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11/12/74

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| Jack Van Cleve, Florafax rep | | | | | | | | | GER | ANNIA. |
| Janet Van Cleve, Florafax | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |

Intercity wire services : teleFlora Inc. Florists Transworld Dellary american Floral Service Florafax Intl reps of Society of amere Florests (SAF) & allied Florists associations started out inform - went & wire services ETD special award winners some offer others are inuited reputations voluntary cooperative effort they pay for their own go way

WASHINGTON

tetty Malson 2193

List of Prospective Volunteers for decorating for Christmas 1974 as of 14/22/74 Thomas Baker 12/3 & L ARDHORE, OKLA. (Jeanne Leet 12/8 & 9 LOUISVILLE, KY. Neil Bassin 12/8 & 9 arlington Julian Berry 11/30 - 12/7 ORANGEAURGS Claire Leishman 12/2 - 19-SACRAHENTGCALIE Darwin Bigham 12/6 - 9TANONA, WASHINGTON Willie Nell Ligon 12/5 - 9 WICHITA FALLS TET Linda Sordwine 12/7 - 9 James Mailloux 11/30 - 12/4 WEST LAFAYETTE, 14 Sidney Bowen 12/8 & 9 Prince Virginia Bowen 12/8 & 9 Frederick, Md Susan Mauck 12/2,8 & 9-SILVER SPAINE, HD. Dick Moore 11/30 - 12/9 - AFS FKarlton Morris, Sr. 12/8 ANNAPOLIS, MD. James Boukas 12/5,7 & 9 Wash DC Jane Bull 12/8 & 9 Battimore Juanita McKinney 11/30,12/1 - 10 FT. CAMADdu, F Bruce Buntin 12/6 - 8 wash Frank McMurtray 12/87 Janet McMurtray 12/8) GAITHERS BURG, MD. Lee Cantley 12/2 - 9 DEL MAR, CALIF. James Cwens 12/4 - 9 LAWRENCE, KANS. Robert Carr 12/5 - 11 Muskegor Kathryn Carroll 12/3 - 561EBS Ron Payne 11/30,12/1,12/7 & 8 ALEXANDAIA, VA \$ William Carroll 12/3-5.60 7 Parp Mike Polychrones 12/7 - 9-SPRINGFIELD, UA Judith Richards 12/8 & 9-HELBOUANE, FLA. Walter Charron 11/30 - 12/9 Wash OC Elynor Robertie 12/8 & 9 FAIRFAY, VA Mike Costa 12/2 - 14 Sagramento Phil Rulloda 12/7 - 9 PHOENIX, ARIZONA Bob Costin 12/9 - Rel Roy Serif, Florida William Cutting 12/2 - 7 FTD Perry Russ 11/30 - 12/9 - SAF. Dick Salo 12/7 - 9 WORCESTER, MASS. Don Davis 12/8 & 9 Shirley Davis 12/8 & 9 de Plato, Mce. George Sampson 12/7 - 9 NEW YORK, N.Y Sters Dieterich 12/7 - 9 MELBaunte, FLAS Bruce Sandin 11/30 - 12/9 Oliver Dunstan 12/7 - 9) Ruby Dunstan 12/7 - 9 PONTIAC, HICH Fain Sandin 11/30 - 12/9 Jim Saxton 12/7 - 9 FT. WAYNE, IND Allison Easton 11/30 - 12/5 MT. VEANON, Marlens Scherer 12/7 - 9 FT. WAYNE, MD David Enge 11/30 - 12/9 Constance Shulack 12/7 - 9 MANVILLE, NJ. Don Flowers 12/9 - SALTIMONE, HO. Michael Shulack 12/7 - 9 Dorothy Friedenberg 12/2,9 & 10 -A221EIS Francis Simonds 12/6 - 9 Omaha, NEB. Bob Sokolowski 11/30 - 12/9 ARLINGTON, WA . -Bill Harrer 12/1, & 5 Claude Harwood 12/6 - 9 ALBE HAALE, N.C. Jack Stevens 11/30,12/6 - 87 TELEFLORA, Idic Lucille Ann Hille 12/3 - 6 ELH GAOVE LUNCJan Stevens 12/8 POTOMACA40. Frances Hogan 12/9-CAMP SPAINES, HD. Stellita Stowart, 12/7 - 9 Lyndon Holt 12/5 - 9 DALLAS, TEY. John Tedesco 12/7 - 10 Donald Hoppe 12/5 - 9-0000005, TEV KENMORE, N.V. Pauline Ann Tedesco 12/7 - 10 Betty Howard 12/7 - 9 - TAHPA, FLA Rosemary Turner 12/7 - 9 BOLIVAR, TENN. Mac Hughes 12/7 - 9 COLONIAL HTS. VA. Jack Van Cleve 11/30 - 12/9, FLORAFAX Virginia Jakes 12/5 - 8 Aocky HILL, Capel BALTIMORE, MD Janet Van Cleve 12/8 Louinda Jones 12/6 & 7 VIRGINIA BENCH, P Bill Venuto 12/8 - WASH. D.C. Edward Von Bargen 12/7 - 9-JERSEY CITY, N.J. Joe Vinclas 12/6 - 9 OHAHA, NER. Frank Lazzaro, Jr. 12/7 - 9 NEW YORKALY. Patricia Lebanik 12/8- ALLIED. Bob Wietholter 12/7 - 9 BLUF FTON, IND. Jean Williams 12/7 - 10 SARING FIELD, 12L. Bill Lee 12/9 Winnie Lee 12/9 With S.H.D.C. Lee Martin Woolbright 12/5 - 7 NEWSERRY, S.C.A. DEUGHENTY, SEE LANSDALE, PA. Ruth Young 12/3 & 9 - RUSTY'S WIFE IFZX. WHAS, BILL-0

AMERICAN FLORAL SERVICES, INC.

P.O. BOX 12309 • 3401 N.W. 50th at Grand Blvd. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73112

PHONE (405) 947-3373

October 16, 1974

Mr. Rusty Young % The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Rusty:

Here is the list of people we have contacted and suggested they be used by you for the Christmas decorations.

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Carroll % Bill Carroll's Florist 1 South Chester Pike Glenolden, PA 19036 (215) 586-2780

Mrs. Betty Howard % Betty's Flowers 10546 Florida Ave. Tampa, FL 33612 (813) 935-2184

Mr. Lyndon E. Holt % Holt's Florist, Inc. 2017 Greenville Ave. Dallas, TX 75206 (214) 827-3221

Mrs. Stoflita Stewart & Linda Bordwine % Stellita's Florist 201 9th St. Etowah, TN 38331 (619) 263-2238

Mr. Julian Berry % Crumpton's Florist, Inc. 965 Summer Ave., N.E. Orangeburg, SC 29115 (803) 534-3204

Have a Good Christmas Season!

Harry J. Killian, AAF Director of Administration AMERICAN FLORAL SERVICES, INC. Mrs. Juanita McKinney % Magnolia Flower & Gift Shop P.O. Box 532 Fort Campbell, KY 42223 (502) 439-3507

Mr. Don C. Hoppe (10 yrs. Air For % Shaw Florist 1305 S. Broadway Carrollton, TX 75006 (214) 242-5213

Mrs. Jean Williams % Jean's Flowers & Gifts 1428 N. MacArthur Springfield, IL 62702 (217) 544-7477

Mr. Lee Cantley % Casa de La Flores Del Mar Plaza Del Mar, CA 92014 (714) 755-9364

Mrs. Lee Woolbright % Woolbright's Flowers 1305 Main St. New berry, SC 29108 (803) 276-6080

Mr. Ronald Lee Payne 6137 Burnett St. Alexandria, Virginia 22310

or-oray wand Cleared for 1973 Regect Will envite for 74 Repect Neil Bassin 59-0013 Buckinglam Flows, alugton, Ver. 8-9 Donald Davies 31-1281 Davis Florist, La Klata, Mid. 8-9 Frances Hogen 31-1797 Hogan's Floring, Camp Springe, Mcl. Melliam Pare 61-6242 Thee's Flower Shop, Washington, D.C. Frank Mc Murthay 31-0903 Starthersburg Floral Cuts, Starthersburg, * C. Michael Blychromer 59-2316 Michaels Flowers, Springfield, Use Jack S. Stevens, Tillefloria, Sic. Rep. - Botomac, Mil. D'Individuales letho have lessue desire to participate Not cleance for security V Mr. Oliver Demester 33-1588 Demestan's Flowers, Hontice, Mudigan 480 V Mrs. Ruby S. Demester 33-1588 Demestan's Flowers, Hontice, Mudigan 480 313-681-0100 V Sydney J. Dowen } 31-1156 Dowen's Flours, Prince Frederick, Mil. 10-8-4 V Darlance Bornen } 31-1156 Dowen's Flours, Prince Frederick, Mil. 10-8-4 301-535-2567 Lefay atte & Warkington * Rosemary Turner 55-1101 Bill's Flower Shap, Bolivar, Tennesse 9-13 38008 901-658-3518 1270 HWY. A-1-A 3-17 V Judith H. Richards 336 V Janus Dieterica J 19-2/15 Greations By Judy, Nelbor Dieterica Jos 773-9494 * Will envite To Work on Christmas the specifically 536 Careations By Judy, Melbours, Filoude 2-19-V Security Cleanne forms submitted to Rey Scouten 10-25-74



1974 FTD florists for White House Xmas decoration

Ms. Virginia James (203) 563-0323 Laurette's Flower Shop, Inc. 1881 Silas Deane Highway Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067

Ms. Jane Bull (301) 426-2050 The Flower Cart, Inc. 5230 Harford Road Baltimore, Maryland 21214

Mr. Robert Carr (616) 773-3264 Bos Floral House 1333 Apple Avenue Muskegon, Michigan 49442

Mr. Jim Mailloux (317) 743-2102 Wright Flowers 705 Evergreen Street West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Mr. Claude Harwood (704) 982-2137 Harwood's Florist & Greenhouses Box 878 Albemarle, North Carolina 28001

Ms. Lucy Hille (414) 786-1040 Welke's House of Roses 890 Elm Grove Road Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122

Mr. Bill Harper (816) 436-1202 Trapp's Inc. 6571 N. Oak Traffieway Kansas City, Missouri 64118

Mr. Branson Baker (405) 223-2066 Baker's House of Flowers 901 Grand Avenue Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401

Mr. Phil Rulloda (602) 258-7875 Country Club Florist 1915 East McDowell Road Phoenix, Arizona 85006

Mr. Bob Bigham (206) 472-3361 Brown's Flowers 4734 S. Tacoma Way Takoma, Washington 98409 Ms. Juanita McKinney (502) 439-3507 Magnolia Flower Shop P. O. Box 306 Oak Grove, Kentucky 42262

Mr. Edward Von Bargen (201) 433-0233 Entermann-Gotthardt Florists 311 Ocean Avenue Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

Mr. Al Easton (618) 242-0616 Easton's Flower Shop 126 N. 9th Street Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864

WASHINGTON Natty Malson 2193 List of Prospective Volunteers for decorating for Christmas 1974 as of 14/22/74 Thomas Baker 12/3 & 4 ARDHORE, OKLA. Norwood Leet. 12/8 & 9 Louisville, Ky. Jeanne Leet 12/8 & 9 Neil Bassin 12/8 & 9 arlington Julian Berry 11/30 - 12/70RANGERUNGS Claire Leishman 12/2 - 19-SACRAMENTGCALINE Darvin Bigham 12/6 - 97ANONA, WASH North Willie Nell Ligon 12/5 - 9 WICHITA FALLS, TET Linda Sordwine 12/7 - 9 James Mailloux 11/30 - 12/4 WEST LAFAYETTE, MA Sidney Bowen 12/8 & 9 Prince Virginia Bowen 12/8 & 9 Frederich, Md Susan Mauck 12/2,8 & 9 - SILVER SPRING, HD. Dick Moore 11/30 - 12/9 - AFS FKarlton Morris, Sr. 12/8 -ANNAPOLIS, MD. James Boukas 12/5,7 & 9 Wash DC Jane Bull 12/8 & 9 Bactimore Juanita McKinney 11/30,12/1 - 10 FT. CAMADELL, F Bruce Buntin 12/6 - 8 wash Frank McMurtray 12/87 Janet McMurtray 12/8) GAITHEAS BUAG, MD. Lee Cantley 12/2 - 9 DEL HAR, CALIF. James Cwens 12/4 - 9 LAWRENCE, KANS. Robert Carr 12/5 - 11 Muskegor (Kathryn Carroll 12/3 - 56154) - 7 t Ron Payne 11/30,12/1,12/7 & 8 ALEXANDAIA, VA William Carroll 12/3-5 6 & D Mike Polychrones 12/7 - 9-SPAINGFIELA, UA Walter Charron 11/30 - 12/9 Wash OC Judith Richards 12/8 & 9-HELBOURNE, FLA. Elynor Robertie 12/8 & 9 FAIRFRY, VA Mike Costa 12/2 - 14 Sagramento Phil Rulloda 12/7 - 9 PHOENIX, ARIZONA Bob Costin 12/9 - Dal Kay Seath, Flouden Perry Russ 11/30 - 12/9 - SAF. William Cutting 12/2 - 7 FTD Dick Salo 12/7 - 9 WORCESTER, MASS. Don Davis 12/8 & 9 Shirley Davis 12/8 & 9 da Plato, Mce. George Sampson 12/7 - 9 NEW YORK, N.Y Bruce Sandin 11/30 - 12/9 FTD -Stars Dieterich 12/7 - 9 MELBaunte, FLAS Oliver Dunstan 12/7 - 9] PautiAc, HICH Ruby Dunstan 12/7 - 9 PautiAc, HICH Fain Sandin 11/30 - 12/9 \$ Jim Saxton 12/7 - 9 FT. WAYNE, IND Allison Easton 11/30 - 12/5 MT. VEANON, Marlene Scherer 12/7 - 9 FT. WAYNE, MD David Enge 11/30 - 12/9 Constance Shulack 12/7 - 9 MANVILLE, N.S. Don Flowers 12/9 - BALTIMONE, HO. Francis Simonds 12/6 - 9 Omaha, NEB. Dorothy Friedenberg 12/2,9 & 10 - Alliels Bob Sokolowski 11/30 - 12/9 ARLINGTON, WA . B111 Harper 12/1. 8. 5. Claude Harwood 12/6 - 9 ALBE HAALE, N.C. Jack Stevens 11/30,12/6 - 87 TELEFLARA, Jak Lucille Ann Hille 12/3 - 6 ELH GROVE Junge Jan Stevens 12/8 POTOMACHIO. Frances Hogan 12/9-CAMP SPAINES, HAD. Stellita Stewart 12/7 - 9 Lyndon Holt 12/5 - 9 DALLAS, TEY. Pauline Ann Tedesco 12/7 - 10 KENMORE, M. Y. Donald Hoppe 12/5 - 9-6- DALLAS, TEV BOLIVAR, TENU. Betty Howard 12/7 - 9 - TAHPA, FLA Rosemary Turner 12/7 - 9 Jack Van Cleve 11/30 - 12/9 FLORAFAX Mac Hughes 12/7 - 9 COLONIAL HTS., VA. BALTIHORE, MO SVirginia Jares 12/5 - 8 AOCKY HILL, CONN Janet Van Cleve 12/8 Bouinda Jones 12/6 & 7 VIAGINIA BENCH, F Wayne Jones 12/6 & 7 Bill Venuto 12/8 - WASH. D.C. Edward Von Bargen 12/7 - 9 JERSEY CITY, N.J. Frank Lazzaro, Jr. 12/7 - 9NEW. YORKALY Joe Vinolas 12/6 - 9 OHAHA, NER. Patricia Lebanik 12/8- ALLIED. Bob Wietholter 12/7 - 9 BLUF FTON, IND. Jean Williams 12/7 - 10 SAANNEFIELD, ILL. Bill Lee 12/9 Winnie Lee 12/9 WASH. D.C. Lee Martin Woolbright 12/5 - 7 NEWBERRY, S.C.A. DOUGHENTY, SEE LANSDALE, PA. Ruth Young 12/8 & 9 - AUSTY'S WIFE FLY Wass, Bill-12 0 12 12

NEW YORK WASHINGTON LOS ANGELES CHICAGO PARIS

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818 - 18th STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

GORDON L. SMITH

(202) 331-7520 CABLE ADDRESS: EDGOTTLIEB

November 20, 1974

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sheila:

The attached letter explains the overall operating procedures for Christmas decorations at the White House as it involves the florist delivery services. Part of the understanding is that each service is free to do special feature or photo stories in its own publications, provided they meet with your approval.

FTD NEWS, a monthly publication circulated to some 14,000 FTD members, is planning to do a photo story and color cover for its January issue. In order to meet the deadline, it is necessary to make pictures on Saturday, November 30, and rush the film to the magazine's headquarters in Detroit.

I have arranged for three of our FTD contingent to be available on that date, and we would need photographs in the house, which should take no more than an hour during the afternoon. I will have decorations of the kind to be used made up in advance for the purpose of photography. As mentioned in the other letter, Morris Semiatin of Ankers Photographers, who has Secret Service clearance, would be the photographer.

We would very much like to have Mrs. Ford or a member of the family in this photograph. At the same time, I do not want to prejudice any appearance she might make later when a larger group of florists are in the White House. Let's talk about this when we have the meeting I requested in the other letter.

Sincerely,

Inalla

Gordon L. Smith

GLS: jac

NEW YORK WASHINGTON LOS ANGELES CHICAGO PARIS

WAD-TOTH-STREET. N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20080

818 - 18TH STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

GORDON L. SMITH

(202) 331-7520 CABLE ADDRESS: EDGOTTLIEB

November 20, 1974

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sheila:

For the past several years, the florist intercity delivery services have assisted Rusty Young in the flower room during the decoration of the White House for the Christmas season. The system has developed to the point where the four delivery services offer assistance on a coordinated basis, each arranging for participation by a number of its members. Similar assistance is also provided by the Allied Florists Association of Greater Washington, Inc.

The representatives of Florists' Transworld Delivery; Teleflora; Florafax International, Inc.; and American Floral Services, Inc. met with Rex Scouten, Chief Usher, and Rusty Young about six weeks ago to plan for the project this year. Among other things, it was agreed that I would act as coordinator, that I would work with you in connection with any information you may wish to issue from your office, and that I would coordinate local, trade, and home town information released by us with your approval.

As you know, the decorating will take place from November 30 through December 9 or 10. During that period, approximately sixty florists will work with Rusty at different times. Some are coming only for a day or two while others will stay longer. As far as FTD is concerned, we are bringing primarily regional winners in this year's Americas Cup floral design contest, and I will be doing publicity with respect to their efforts in their home town papers. We counted the other day and found that there will be florists involved in this exercise from about 24 states.

In addition to home town newspaper publicity, with respect to which we make every effort to see to it that the florist does not improperly exploit his service at the White House, we release information to the florist trade press. All of the services and the Allied publish their own magazines, and of course these carry quite extensive Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld November 20, 1974 Page two

photo coverage. In this connection we have used Ankers Photographers as a pool photographer, and plan to have Morris Semiatin of that agency at the White House to take some pictures each day between November 30 and December 9. In the past the First Family has been gracious enough to appear in photographs with florists during this period, but this is done at their convenience and would therefore include only the florists who happen to be in the White House at that time. We very much hope that President and Mrs. Ford or members of their family would have pictures with our group some time during the decorating period.

I will be in the White House quite often from now through December 9 and would like to talk with you personally about this at your convenience. Would you please let me know when it would be handy for you?

Sincerely,

You dans

Gordon L. Smith

GLS: jac

CC: Mr. Rex Scouten Mr. Bruce Sandin, FTD Mr. Jack Stevens, Teleflora Mr. Jack Van Cleve, Florafax Mr. Richard Moore, AFS Mrs. Dorothy Friedenberg, Allied

818-18TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006



£)

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500 FLORENCE TEMKO 2 PLUNKETT STREET LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS 01240

December 15, 1974.

Mrs. Betty Ford, The White House, W ashington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I saw your Christmas tree on television, being decorated with handcrafted ornaments.

I write a weekly newspaper crafts column THINGS TO MAKE and would like details of the organizations that made the ornaments for you, as I may be able to mention them in my column.

Merry Christmas to you and your family and good health for the coming year.

Sincerely,

orence Tempo.

Florence Temko.

Sent Press Release 12/31/74

Berkshire Eagle THINGS TO MAKE Tuesday Column





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









January 3, 1975

Dear Mrs. Smiths

Thank you for your recent letter inquiring about buying some of the White House Christmas eranments.

Hrs. Ford very much appreciates your interest, but these ornaments are part of the White House collection and will be used again.

We are grateful for your concern over the cost of the decerations and sorry we can't fulfill your request. However, I have enclosed an instruction sheet which shows how to make some of the ornaments. I hope you can use it.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Denald S. Smith 3118 Oakhill Drive Troy, Michigan 48084

SRN: ncc

Enclosure - Christmas Decoration Instruction Sheet

January 21, 1975

Dear Mrs. Shoffner:

Thank you for your recent letter inquiring about buying some of the White House Christmas ornaments.

Mrs. Ford very much appreciates your interest, but these eranments are part of the White Nouse collection and will be used again.

We are grateful for your concern over the cost of the decorations and sorry we can't fulfill your request. However, I have enclosed an instruction sheet which shows how to make some of the ermanents. I hope you can use it.

Sincerely,

Sheila Jabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Balph H. Shoffmer 15556 Northwest Oak Hills Drive Beaverton, Oregon 97005

Enclosure - Christmas Decoration Instruction Sheet

SIN :ncc
Mrs. Ralph M. Shoffner 15556 N. W. Oak Hills Drive Beaverton, Oregon 97005 January 17, 1975 Mes Shela Needenfeld Press Secretary to Mas Tord White House Stashington D.C. Dear Mrs. Derdenfeld, In a recent newspaper article I read about the Christmas tree aments ordered by Mrs. Jord. I feel many families in the country would be happy to Jurchase one on two guitted the Schite Douse hee. It is a custom among many friends that I have known to jurchase one new "special" anament

each for their fiee and sometimes one for each child that they would have in later years. myself, would be delighted to one for each of my two children, dags and Derek. This indeed, would depay The rost of the ormaments. Certaps Mus. Ind would like to consider this suggestion. I would appreciate your interest in this matter, Sincerely alice Bhoffner

Dear Mrs. Richards

In reference to your letter of February 18th, I have enclosed photos taken of the White House Christmas decorations.

I believe the photos selected will give your editor a good idea of the use of American handicrafts selected as the these for the 1974 Christmas decorations.

As you can see, these photos are official White House photographs, and I would like them returned to me after they have been shown to Ms. Frances.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Nrs. R. B. Rickard 216 Sunset House Marco Island, Florida 33937

SIN :DCC



216 Sunset House Marco Island, FL 33937 February 18, 1975

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford THE WHITE HOUSE Washington, D.C. 2000

Dear Ms. Weidenfeld:

Thank you so very much for your complete reply to my request for information regarding the White House Christmas decorations, which you wrote on January 17th. The patters and the thought of an American crafts Christmas struck me as being very much in keeping with the endeavors of "Lady's Circle" magazine, for which I have written frequently.

A letter outlining the article I have in mind, in which the nation's White House shares its patterns and ideas for Christmas decorations with the people of the land, ad home crafts taking us back in America's history, seemed to strike the new editor of "Lady's Circle" magazine favorably. But now she is asking to see some pictures of what the White House decorations looked like.

So now I must request from you any pictures of the rooms decorated for Christmas, the Christmas tree decorated in the pentagon balls, etc., or the decorations themselves in any stage of their making. The pictures can be colored, black and white or even newspaper chippings of which you have an excess supply -anything that will give Evan Frances, the editor, some idea of what the White House Christmas looked like.

I do appreciate all you have already given me, and hope this additional request won't put you to too much additional work.

Thanking you, I am

(Mrs. R.B.Rickard)

50 roily Rickard.

Most cordially.

January 17, 1975

Dear Mrs. Richard:

Your letter of January 6, 1975 to Mr. Non Hessen has been referred to me for handling.

In reference to your request for material regarding this year's White House Christmas decorations, I have enclosed our press release and instruction sheet for making some of the Christmas tree decorations.

Unfortunately, we have no black and white photos of the Christmas decorations. I suggest you contact Associated Press or United Press International wire services nearest you. They covered the preview of the Christmas decorations on December 10th and perhaps can be of assistance.

Your readers may be interested in obtaining the instruction sheet. They can do this by writing to Mrs. Ford's Correspondence Section.

Sincerely,

Sheila Mabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Nrs. R. B. Rickard 216 Sunset House Marco Island, Florida 33937

c.c. Liz O' Meill

SRN :ncc

216 Sunset House Marco Island, Florida 3393 January 6, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen Presidential Press Secretary THE WHITE HOUSE Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Nessen:

As a free lance writer I would like to enlist your help in completing an article I have researched on "Christmases in the White House." It is for publication in the United Methodist magazine, TODAY.

I would very much appreciate accopyeof any press release you may have issued on the White House decorations or changes in Christmas customs under the Fords. I hear on TV that Mrs. Ford had hand made decorations on the Christmas tree, and would like to know more of this, and any other innovations in the Christmas theme.

I would also like to have a picture -- black and white gloss; showing something of the Christnas decorations in the White House in 1974.

If you sent out no press releases, perhaps you can refer me to the best news magazine story and date of publication.

Thanking you and long may the Ford regime last!

Most cordially,

Teckad. 50-0164

(Mrs. R.B.Rickard)

Junuary 22, 1975

Dear Mr. Olson:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding a feature story you are doing on semior citizens.

As much as we would like to assist you with your story, we don't have the pictures you requested available. I have, however, enclosed a copy of our press release that may be of help to you.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mr. Richard S. Olson Camby News 125 First Street West Camby, Minnesota 56220

SIN :ncc

| Canby Nel | WS 3 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Offset and Letterpress Job Printing | Richard S. Olson, Publisher |

Nancy Chridon, Staff Member Mrs. Ford Press Office White House Washington, DC.

Dear Ms. Chirdon: We are writing a feature on senior citizens and want to include an area senior citizens club(Porter Senior Citizens Club, Minnesota) because of their activities which include providing quilt blocks for White House Christmas decorations.

We have contacted Seline Mahler, but would like some information from you if Possible.

We have local pictures of the senior citizens, but were any taken of the White House decorations, The Fords looking at them, etc.? If so, would it be possible for us to use them with proper credit lines given or if there is a charge, please let me know.

Thanks so much: for your time and assistance and have a nice day.

Sincerely,0 Richard S.

mlz

March 12, 1975

Ann,

Enclosed are enlarged prints of the Christmas decorations.

The Photo Office tells me there are no transparencies available, but that this size print reproduces easily.

Again, let us know if you plan to use them; if not, the Photo Office would like them returned.

February 28, 1975

Ms. Nancy Schirdon Press Office The White House Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Nancy:

Enclosed are the seven prints of the White House Christmas decorations that you lent me. To confirm of telephone conversation, we would like to see transparencies of all but the long hall. We will be considering these for a story in House Beautiful, and will confirm with your office which, if any, we would like for publication. At that time, we will ask for the release form and will inform you of the date of publication.

Thanks so very much for your help.

FOUSE BEE

Sinderely.

Anne Ogden Art/Crafts Editor

AO/rc

717 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y, 10022 • (212) 935-5900

House Boaut: ful 10 Ann Ogden Nov + Dec 2434 -17 2435-11 tree 2434 - 10 2435-32 2434-05 2435-29-Creche Kathy Broman No's Wije Blackton Jenny - Riverdale LOD LA 213 981-2929

April 3, 1975

Dear Anne:

I just received your letter and the enclosed prints of the Christmas decorations.

I'm really sorry you can't use them. If we can ever be of help to you in the future please let us know.

Sincerely,

Mancy Chirdon Mrs. Ford's Press Office

Ms. Anne Ogden Art/Crafts Editor HOUSE BEAUTIFUL 717 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10022 March 26, 1975

Ms. Nancy Schirdon Press Office The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

LOUISE Bear

Dear Nancy:

Thank you so much for sending the enclosed six prints of the White House Christmas decorations. We are only able to reproduce color from transparencies, not from prints (no matter how large or clear they are).

Again, I appreciate your efforts and am sorry that these are not available in a form we can use.

Sincerely, Anne Ogden Art/Crafts Editor

AO/rc

A 2435-32 A 2435-29 A 2435-11 A 2435-11 A 2434-05 A 2434-10 A 2434-17



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4954 Mac Arthur Boulevard, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007 Telephone 265-7115 Matilda Young, Director

Conduit Road Schoolhouse The last one-room schoolhouse in the Nation's Capital

February 17, 1975

Dear Mr. Scouten:

Thank you for your letter of January 24, 1975 and for the beautiful hand-crafted toys, donated by Bill Mueller, of Wooden Toys, Inc.of Telford, Pennsylvania, used on the 1974 Blue Room Christmas Tree.

These are being placed on permanent display at "The Schoolhouse" of the Children's Museum of Washington, and are the subject of much interest. Please convey to Mrs. Ford our deep appreciation for this thoughtful gift. It especially befits the simple decor of "the last one-room Schoolhouse in the Nation's Capital."

Sincerely yours, natide your Matilda Young, Director

Mr. Rex Scouten Chief Usher THE WHITE HOUSE Washington, D. C.

(Tathi I have sent a little to each he suggest Thanking them on behalf of the White House. Don't see a real need to do any more TR files



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GORDON L. SMITH

(202) 331-7520 CABLE ADDRESS: EDGOTTLIEB

December 27, 1974

Patti Londe

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sheila:

Now that we have got through Christmas successfully, I want to make one suggestion concerning florist industry participation in the decoration of the White House.

In past years a letter has been sent to the heads of each of the inter-city delivery services which participated. I believe in some cases it was over the signature of the First Lady. If such a letter is planned in this instance, I would like the letter to FTD to be addressed to Mr. Robert Costin, President, Florists' Transworld Delivery Association, 900 W. Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan 48226. Rusty or Rex will have the names of the principals of the other delivery services or if you like, I will find out from their representatives to whom such a letter should be addressed.

It was a real pleasure to work with you again, and I look forward to seeing you some time soon. I have an idea I would like to talk over with you. Meantime I want to wish you the very best and most successful New Year.

Sincerely,

Ando

Gordon L. Smith

GLS: jac

CC: Mr. Rex Scouten

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Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford The White House Washington, D. C. 20500