

**The original documents are located in Box 47, folder “President - Memberships (5)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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*Mrs. Ford.  
(Memberships)*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: Phil Buchen *P.W.B.*  
FROM: Bill Casselman *W.C.*  
SUBJECT: Memberships

The following memberships are referred for your consideration:

1. Annual Lombardi Memorial Golf Tournament (Tab A). Mrs. Lombardi requests that you serve with her as Honorary Co-Chairman of this event. You participated in the Tournament last year and accepted Honorary Chairmanship of the Lombardi Tennis Tournament to be held this April. Both tournaments are devoted to the same cause, the Georgetown Cancer Center. In view of your past support of events benefiting the Center, we recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

2. Ski Club Vail (Tab B). The club has invited you to become an Honorary Member. Because of your association with skiing and Vail, we recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

3. Explorer President's Congress for 1975 (Tab C). This Boy Scout organization has asked you to become Honorary Chairman for 1975. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_



4. National Bible Week (Tab D). The Laymen's National Bible Committee has requested that you serve as Honorary Chairman of the National Bible Week in November 1975. All Presidents since Roosevelt have served in this capacity. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

5. 15th Annual United Nations Concert and Dinner (Tab E). You and Mrs. Ford have been invited to serve as patrons for this event, and have participated in this capacity before. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

6. Air Force Ball (Tab F). You have been invited to serve as Honorary Chairman of the Ball which is sponsored by the Air Force Association with the proceeds going to scholarships for children of KIAs, MIAs and POWs. Recommend acceptance.

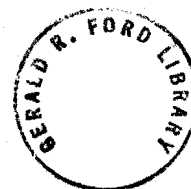
Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

7. Football Hall of Fame (Tab G). You are currently carried as a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the National Football Hall of Fame. Bill Kendall has received an inquiry as to your interest in continuing to serve on the Board. Considering your past participation in the Chapter and your acceptance of the National Award, we recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

8. American Horticultural Society (Tab H). The Society has invited you to serve as Patron for the organization's "Friend's Day." Former President Nixon served in a similar capacity. The group is a very well known and distinguished organization, having its headquarters in Alexandria (Mount Vernon). Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_



*Memberships*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 15, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: ✓ PHIL BUCHEN  
BILL CASSELMAN

FROM: JERRY H. ~~JOHNS~~

SUBJECT: Membership (Walter Hagen  
Invitational Golf Outing)

Your memorandum to the President of April 9 on the above subject has been reviewed and approved with the following notation:

-- This needs quick response. I can't attend but I do accept as Honorary Chairman.

Please follow-up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Don Rumsfeld

April 18, 1975

Brenda says Mr. Casselman took care of this on April 15.

Shirley





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*2/11/75  
(Membership)*

April 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THRU: PHIL BUCHEN *P.W.B.*  
FROM: BILL CASSELMAN *BC*  
SUBJECT: Membership

The following membership is referred for your consideration:

Walter Hagen Invitational Golf Outing (Tab A). You have been invited by Ron Kramer, General Chairman, to serve as Honorary Chairman of this event, which is held annually at the Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield, Michigan, to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The participants include many prominent individuals well known to you. Recommend acceptance.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_



# AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Oakland County Unit

March 25, 1975

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20013

Dear Mr. President:

The Walter Hagen Invitational Golf Outing, held annually in West Bloomfield, Michigan at Bay Pointe Golf Club, enjoys the prestige of being counted among the top ten charity golf events of the United States. It is the leading outing in the Greater Detroit area and has, in its seven year history, raised over \$150,000 for the American Cancer Society.

It has been our privilege to have had such past Honorary Chairmen as General Motors President, Edward N. Cole, Chrysler Corporation President, John Riccardo, William Clay Ford, and other distinguished leaders of the Detroit area. Other celebrities who annually appear are astronaut, James MacDevitt, Detroit Lion, Mike Lucci, Radio personality, J. P. MacCarthy, Detroit Tiger, Al Kaline, former Red Wing, Gordie Howe, and many others of equal stature.

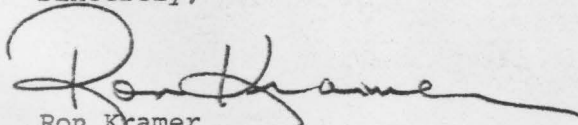
In keeping with the fine tradition which this outing has established, we would like to invite you to serve as honorary chairman of this year's outing, to be held May 16, 1975. Serving in this capacity would involve:

- 1) Permitting us to list your name as honorary chairman on our letterhead and program.
- 2) Hopefully, your appearance at the outing.
- 3) In the event it is impossible for you to be with us, the appearance of your representative at the outing.

It is the considered opinion of our volunteer planning committee, that you might enjoy playing golf in your home state.

It is our sincere hope that you can be with us for this most enjoyable day. I look forward to your response which may be directed to 295 Elm Street, Birmingham, Michigan 48008.

Sincerely,



Ron Kramer  
General Chairman  
1975 Walter Hagen Invitational

P.S. Gerry, I would certainly appreciate a quick response, as I must have stationary and other printing done within the next two weeks.

RK/cg



295 Elm Street, Birmingham, Michigan 48008

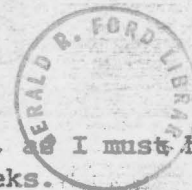
(313) 644-0770

DATE RECEIVED

MAR 27 1975

MESSAGE  
SPEAKERS BUREAU  
OTHER

APPOINTMENT OFFICE



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4/18/75

Shirley

Per our conversation

D. Wilson



April 16, 1975

Dear Ron:

Nothing pleases me more than to be able to return home to Michigan from time to time, and I only wish I were able to accept your invitation to attend the Walter Hagen Invitational Golf Outing on May 16. Unfortunately, my schedule for May has already been fully committed and it will not be possible for me to come for what I am sure will be an enjoyable as well as worthwhile afternoon.

I will be pleased to serve as Honorary Chairman for this year's outing and if there is someone in the Executive Branch whom you would like to act as my representative I would suggest you invite the official of your choice. When you do, be sure he knows he has my blessing -- it's bound to be an exciting afternoon, and it's even better when you know that so many people are gathered together in a spirit of goodwill that will do so much good for others.

With my best wishes for a successful day,

JERRY FORD

Mr. Ron Kramer  
General Chairman  
1975 Walter Hagen Invitational  
American Cancer Society  
Oakland County Unit  
295 Elm Street  
Birmingham, Michigan 48008

GRF:AVH:RLE/aby  
bcc: Bill Casselman, Bob Anderson



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: Phil Buchen  
FROM: Bill Casselman *BC*  
SUBJECT: Memberships

The following memberships are referred for your consideration:

1. 1975 Opera Ball (Tab A). You and Mrs. Ford have been invited to serve as honorary patrons of the 1975 Ball, which will benefit the Opera Society of Washington. There is a Presidential precedent for acceptance, and we recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

2. National Society of Scabbard and Blade (Tab B). This organization, comprised of ROTC cadets, has invited you to become an honorary member. Acceptance would enable you to reaffirm your support for a strong national defense and for the values of an all volunteer military force. Your participation might also help foster improved ROTC enrollments. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

3. Washington Urban League (Tab C). You have been asked to serve as honorary co-chairman for the 4th Annual Whitney Young, Jr. Memorial Dinner. Stan Scott recommends acceptance.

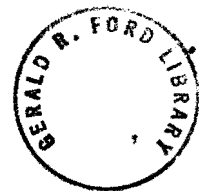
Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

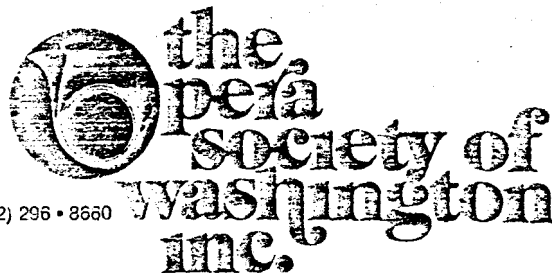


4. American Seniors Golf Association (Tab D). The Association has elected you to honorary membership. President Eisenhower was also a member of this organization. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures





IAN STRASFOGEL  
Director

March 25, 1975

DAVID M. BABER  
Managing Director

My Dear Mrs. Ford:

As Chairman of the 1975 Opera Ball, I am writing to ask you and the President once again to be honorary patrons. The Opera Ball has had the privilege and honor of having the President and First Lady as patrons for many successive years. Last year you wrote a most inspiring and thoughtful message. We do hope we can look forward to your help for the Ball this year. No.

As you probably know, ticket sales account for a very small part of the financial support the Opera productions require. For the most part the Society depends upon grants from private foundations and individual contributors.

The Opera Ball is a very important source of funds for the Society. This year we are specially fortunate that His Excellency the Ambassador of Spain and Mrs. Jaime Alba have agreed to have the Opera Ball at their beautiful embassy.

The Ball will be held on June 6th, but we must, of course, plan our programme well in advance. We will be delighted to send you any further information that you might like to have. I am enclosing a past programme for your reference.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

*Sicille Theberge*

Mrs. James D. Theberge  
3027 Foxhall Road, N.W.

Mrs. Gerald Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.  
Attention: Mrs. Nancy Howe



RONALD C. HILL  
NATIONAL COMMANDER  
2455 EAST YALE AVENUE  
DENVER, COLORADO  
80210

EDWIN E. GLOVER  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
P. O. BOX 1021  
308 FIRST NATIONAL BANK  
STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA  
74074

FRED I. JONES  
DEPUTY NATIONAL COMMANDER  
137 RAVINE ROAD  
HINSDALE, ILLINOIS  
60521

The National Society



Scabbard and Blade

FOUNDED 1904-1905, INCORPORATED 1955  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

22 April 1975

RE  
  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National Officers of the membership of the National Society of Scabbard and Blade, we wish to thank you for your generous gesture of sending us your picture and wishing the National Society of Scabbard and Blade good luck. This letter is also to let you know that we are concerned about the National defense of our nation and the support of the armed services in this endeavor. Our organization as you know is composed primarily of advanced course ROTC cadets of all three services, Army, Navy, and Air Force. We take pride in maintaining this three-service concept in our organization.

In recognition of your leadership and your active concern for the defense of our country, we wish to extend to you the honor of becoming an honorary member in the National Society of Scabbard and Blade. This will not only add great prestige to our Society, but will give the youth of the nation who are in our membership an indication that you support the ROTC program and the activities which Scabbard and Blade promotes.

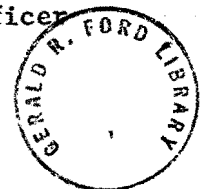
Again, thank you for your fine gesture. We will look forward to hearing from you on our proposal to you for honorary membership. Your picture and message will appear on the front of our magazine, the Scabbard and Blade JOURNAL.

Respectfully yours,

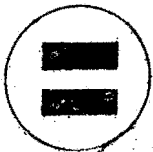


Edwin E. Glover  
National Executive Officer

EEG:pvc







# Washington Urban League, Inc.

1424 Sixteenth Street, N.W. Suite 604 Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 265-8200

ACTION \_\_\_\_\_  
 T/D \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCHEDULE BD. \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE RECEIVED  
**APR 21 1975**  
 MESSAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPEAKER **April 18, 1975**  
 OTHER *Richard E. Clark*  
 APPOINTMENT OFFICE

**TYRONE C. BROWN**  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**ROBERT A. WILLIAMS, JR.**  
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**ROBERT C. LARSON**  
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY

**STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY**  
TREASURER

**KIMBALL C. FIRESTONE**  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Washington Urban League will hold its Fourth Annual Whitney M. Young, Jr. Memorial Dinner on June 11, 1975. This occasion is held in perpetual memory of the late distinguished leader of the National Urban League.

During the past 3 years, our principal speakers have been the late Chief Justice Earl Warren and the Honorable William Tolbert, President of Liberia and we have presented Whitney M. Young, Jr. Awards to several national, local and community leaders for their contributions to the betterment of all Americans.

This letter is written on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Washington Urban League and its Planning Committee to invite you and Vice-President Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller, to serve as honorary co-chairmen of the Fourth Annual Dinner. The Washington Urban League recently appointed Mr. John E. Jacob, a former Acting Executive Director of the Washington Urban League, as its Executive Director. We are especially enthusiastic that he will bring dynamic leadership to the League and to the Washington community. We, therefore, respectfully seek your support of our major fundraising activity.

We have contacted the Honorable William T. Coleman, Jr., Secretary of Transportation with our invitation to deliver the keynote address. We will also honor the past Executive Director of the Washington Urban League, Mr. Sterling Tucker.

## ADVISORY BOARD

- MRS. MURIEL M. ALEXANDER
- JOSEPH A. BEAVERS
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- MRS. ALICE DAVIS
- CANON JOHN C. DAVIS
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- HON. WILLIAM S. THOMPSON
- FRANK E. WALL, JR.
- DR. CAROLINE F. WARE



**AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE**

Contributions to the Washington Urban League are tax deductible



United Way

The President  
Letter  
April 18, 1975  
Page Two

Mr. Vernon Jordan, Executive Director of the National Urban League and Mrs. Whitney M. Young, Jr. will participate in this occasion, when we expect representatives from a cross-section of the local, national and international communities which comprise the population of the nation's capital city.

We will, indeed, be honored if you will accept our invitation.

Sincerely,



Dr. Benjamin J. Henley  
President



(Mrs.) Valerie F. Pinson  
Chairman of the Committee

BJH/VFP:cs



JAMES B. BURR

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
575 Frey Building  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49502

April 16, 1975

Gerald R. Ford, President  
United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased indeed to tell you that the Board of Directors of the American Seniors Golf Association, by unanimous vote, have elected you to honorary membership in our Association. You are the first President since General Eisenhower to be a member. Congratulations!

I am writing to you not only to give you this information but also to ask how you would like the presentation of your membership card handled. This, of course, will be given no publicity unless you think you want some. We could either mail the card to you or arrange to have a presentation made to you in the fall of this year at a date convenient to you.

In talking with your brother, Dick, he thought it would be advisable that a copy of this letter be sent to Mr. Warren Rustand, your Appointments Secretary, in case you thought something should be arranged for a presentation by a committee of the American Seniors Golf Association.

I want to tell you how delighted I am that you are a member of the American Seniors and hope that one day you will be able to take part in the golfing and social activities with our fine group of men.

With my very best wishes, as always,

Sincerely yours,

*J. Burr*



*1 for  
Memberships  
file*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

*[Signature]*  
PHIL BUCHEN  
BILL CASSELMAN

FROM:

*[Signature]*  
JERRY JONES

SUBJECT:

Memberships

The President has reviewed your memorandum of May 7th on the above subject and approves all of your recommendations:

1. 1975 Opera Ball
2. National Society of Scabbard and Blade.
3. Washington Urban League.
4. American Seniors Gold Association.

cc: Don Rumsfeld



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1975

*Pres.  
(Memberships)*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: Phil Buchen *T.W.B.*  
FROM: Bill Casselman *BC*  
SUBJECT: Memberships

The following memberships are referred for your consideration:

1. 1975 Opera Ball (Tab A). You and Mrs. Ford have been invited to serve as honorary patrons of the 1975 Ball, which will benefit the Opera Society of Washington. There is a Presidential precedent for acceptance, and we recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

2. National Society of Scabbard and Blade (Tab B). This organization, comprised of ROTC cadets, has invited you to become an honorary member. Acceptance would enable you to reaffirm your support for a strong national defense and for the values of an all volunteer military force. Your participation might also help foster improved ROTC enrollments. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

3. Washington Urban League (Tab C). You have been asked to serve as honorary co-chairman for the 4th Annual Whitney Young, Jr. Memorial Dinner. Stan Scott recommends acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_



4. American Seniors Golf Association (Tab D). The Association has elected you to honorary membership. President Eisenhower was also a member of this organization. Recommend acceptance.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures



*Memberships*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5/12/75

Phil Buchen

Per your request.

Bill Casselman



MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCES FOR THE WASHINGTON  
METROPOLITAN AREA

Air Force Ball - Washington, D. C.  
American Horticultural Society - Mount Vernon, Virginia  
Army Ball, Bicentennial Celebration - Washington, D. C.  
Big Brothers of America - Silver Spring, Maryland  
Gallaudet College - Washington, D. C.  
Kena Shrine Temple - Washington, D. C.  
Lombardi Memorial Golf Tournament - Washington, D. C.  
Lombardi Tennis Tournament - Salisbury, Maryland  
Metropolitan Club of the City of Washington - Washington, D. C.  
National Geographic Society - Washington, D. C.  
Navy Ball - Washington, D. C.  
1975 Opera Ball - Washington, D. C.  
Salute to the USA, Women's Committee of the Washington  
Performing Arts Society - Washington, D. C.  
U.S. Sister Cities International Program - Washington, D. C.  
Walter Hagen Golf Tournament - Arlington, Virginia  
Washington Urban League - Washington, D. C.





MEMBERSHIP TURNDOWNS FOR THE WASHINGTON  
METROPOLITAN AREA

Atoms Booster Club - Annandale, Virginia

Blue Ridge Mountains Council of Honor - Altavista, Virginia

Chevy Chase Club - Chevy Chase, Maryland

Connecticut State Society of the District of Columbia -  
Washington, D. C.

Federal Professional Association - Silver Spring, Maryland

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of the City of Washington -  
Washington, D. C.

George Washington Birthday Celebration Banquet and Ball -  
Alexandria, Virginia

Kallipolis Grotto - Washington, D. C.

Montclair Country Club - Dumfries, Virginia

National Multiple Sclerosis Society - Washington, D. C.

Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club - Germantown, Maryland

Presidential Classroom for Young Americans - Washington, D. C.

Ski Club of Washington - Arlington, Virginia

Society of Philatelic Americans - Richmond, Virginia

Starlit Fairways, Incorporated - Fairfax, Virginia

United States Deaf Skiers Association - Rockville, Maryland

Washington Area Darts Association - Washington, D. C.

Women in NSA - Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

World Federation of the Deaf - Silver Spring, Maryland


World Peace Initiative - Washington, D. C.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: BILL CASSELMAN   
SUBJECT: Memberships

Per your request, attached is a copy of your memorandum to the President of October 31, 1974, regarding acceptance of honorary memberships by the President and his family.

The memorandum establishes a general policy of declining membership in all organizations except (a) public and quasi-public organizations with which Presidents and their families have traditionally been associated (Boy Scouts, Red Cross, United Fund, etc.), and (b) certain organizations that are personal to the President, including civic or professional associations predating his presidency and not inconsistent with the conduct of his office. The latter exception also recognizes that there may be some political or home town organizations that are distinguishable and that are to be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

With respect to these two categories of exceptions, established procedure provides that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection are to be reviewed by Roland Elliott. If Roland recommends acceptance (a determination which is usually made based upon protocol and a rather substantial body of precedents), then the matter is referred to Counsel's office for final review. However, before a final decision is made on accepting any membership so recommended, the matter is referred to the President for his review. (The latter step was added at the President's specific request, although previous Presidents have not regularly involved themselves in such matters).

With respect to the Chevy Chase Club, it has been traditional for the President to maintain membership on only one Washington area country club (usually Burning Tree). All other offers of country club membership

are uniformly rejected. (Depending upon the prestige of the club, the "turn down" may be made with a Presidential letter--as was the case with Chevy Chase). The reason for this practice is that to accept membership in one country club would be to discriminate against all other clubs; and to accept all memberships could result in the President being affiliated with clubs of questionable repute or with restricted admission policies. Accordingly, Roland recommended declining the Chevy Chase Club, and I concurred in that determination.

Enclosure



October 31, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN

SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships  
and Endorsements for the  
President and his Family

The President continuously receives offers of honorary memberships and requests to join this or that organization or endorse a cause. The policy adopted by the previous Administration after the first year of struggling with such decisions was to reject them all, with a few exceptions.

I. General Policy to Decline Memberships and Endorsements.

The principal hazards in accepting such offers are (1) the uneven extension of Presidential favors, creating an appearance of favoritism and proliferating even more such requests, and (2) linking the President's name to solicitation of funds and the like.

The reason for rejection stated in the answering correspondence is that "the President receives so many requests of this kind that the only fair course is to deny them all." The words "of this kind" provide a hedge for whatever exceptions are made.

Many offers of honorary memberships are accompanied by cards or certificates. These are kept, even though the membership is declined "as a token of your thoughtfulness" in making the offer. The rationale for retention is (1) to avoid a seeming slap in the face by return of the entire package, and (2) the human interest value in the accumulation of such tokens.



Fund raising and commercial offers have been rejected on principle as inappropriate for the President, except as noted below.

## H. Exceptions

### A. Public and Quasi Public Organizations

Presidents have traditionally consented to honorary titles and patronage of official and quasi official organizations. Examples include the American National Red Cross, the United Fund, the United Nations Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the like. A tradition of membership by past Presidents may sometimes be regarded as conferring a quasi-public character on an organization. For such organizations as the Red Cross and Boy Scouts, which have both national and local organizations, Presidential participation has been limited to the national organization.

### B. Other Exceptions

An occasional exception is made because of associations that are personal to the incumbent President, such as his own membership in a golf club, or civic or professional affiliations pre-dating his Presidency and not inconsistent with the office. There may also be some personal or political interest or hometown associations that are distinguishable and can be dealt with on a case by case basis.

It is recommended that the same policies be followed by the members of your family.

The above policies are

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_



### III. Recommended Disposition of Offers and Requests

We have accumulated offers received since you took office pending adoption of a general policy, except for a few that required immediate action. On the basis of the policies described above they have been divided into three general groups as follows:

Tab A: Public and quasi-public organizations for which acceptance is recommended.

Tab B: (1) Possible approvals as exceptions depending on guidance from you or a designated adviser.

(2) For consideration on the same basis, all Masonic offers have been segregated under this tab.

Tab C: (1) Proposed rejections under the general policy.

(2) Proposed rejections subject to review in case an exception should be made for political reasons.

My recommendation would be that you authorize acceptance now for all organizations listed at Tab A. I believe the remainder should be reviewed by an adviser from a political standpoint under whatever general policy you direct in response to this memorandum. Any acceptance which may be thus recommended should be forwarded to the Counsel's office. Hereafter, I would propose that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection be forwarded to the same person for political review, and then to the Counsel's office if acceptance is recommended.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Appoint responsible adviser.

DC:cg





THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: BILL CASSELMAN *BC*  
SUBJECT: Memberships

Per your request, attached is a copy of your memorandum to the President of October 31, 1974, regarding acceptance of honorary memberships by the President and his family.

*Tab A*  
~~The memorandum~~ establishes a general policy of declining membership in all organizations except (a) public and quasi-public organizations with which Presidents and their families have traditionally been associated (Boy Scouts, Red Cross, United Fund, etc.), and (b) certain organizations that are personal to the President, including civic or professional associations predating his presidency and not inconsistent with the conduct of his office. The latter exception also recognizes that there may be some political or home town organizations that are distinguishable and that are to be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

With respect to these two categories of exceptions, established procedure provides that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection are to be reviewed by Roland Elliott. If Roland recommends acceptance (a determination which is usually made based upon protocol and a rather substantial body of precedents), then the matter is referred to Counsel's office for final review. However, before a final decision is made on accepting any membership so recommended, the matter is referred to the President for his review. (The latter step was added at the President's specific request, *Tab B* although previous Presidents have not regularly involved themselves in such matters).

With respect to the Chevy Chase Club, it has been traditional for the President to maintain membership on only one Washington area country club (usually Burning Tree). All other offers of country club membership



are uniformly rejected. (Depending upon the prestige of the club, the "turn down" may be made with a Presidential letter--as was the case with Chevy Chase). The reason for this practice is that to accept membership in one country club would be to discriminate against all other clubs; and to accept all memberships could result in the President being affiliated with clubs of questionable repute or with restricted admission policies. Accordingly, Roland recommended declining the Chevy Chase Club, and I concurred in that determination.

Enclosure






THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 28, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: JERRY H. ~~JOY~~   
SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships and  
Endorsements for the President  
and his Family

Your memorandum to Don Rumsfeld of May 22 on the above subject has been reviewed. The attached letter is forwarded to you for appropriate handling.

Thank you.

cc: Don Rumsfeld



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

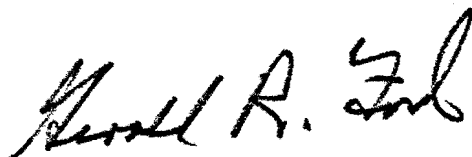
May 8, 1975

Dear Mr. Cobb:

It was most kind of you, on behalf of the Board of Governors, to extend an invitation to me to become an Honorary Member of the Chevy Chase Club.

I was deeply gratified by this thoughtful gesture, and while it is not possible for me to formally accept your gracious invitation, I hope you will express my sincere appreciation to all the members of the Chevy Chase Club.

With my thanks and best wishes,



Mr. Calvin H. Cobb, Jr.  
President  
Chevy Chase Club  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Pres -  
Memberships*

May 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

PHILIP BUCHEN *P.B.*

SUBJECT:

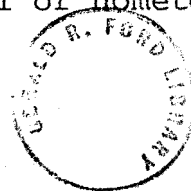
Honorary Memberships and  
Endorsements for the  
President and his Family

After you sent me the President's note indicating that he wished to accept the offer of an honorary membership in the Chevy Chase Club, you asked me to check back on the approved procedures in this regard.

Therefore, I enclose the following:

1. A copy of my memo to the President of October 31, 1974, (Tab A).
2. Jerry Jones' reply to me of November 14, 1974, (Tab B).
3. My memo to the President of November 19, 1974, (Tab C).
4. Jerry Jones' memo back to me of November 26, 1974, (Tab D).

Tab B establishes a general policy of declining membership, or endorsement of, all organizations except (a) public and quasi-public organizations with which Presidents and their families have traditionally been associated (Boy Scouts, Red Cross, United Fund, etc.), and (b) certain organizations that are personal to the President, including civic or professional associations predating his presidency and not inconsistent with the conduct of his office. The latter exception also recognizes that there may be some political or hometown



organizations that are distinguishable and that are to be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

With respect to these two categories of exceptions, established procedure provides that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection are to be reviewed by Roland Elliott. If Roland recommends acceptance (a determination which is usually made based upon protocol and a rather substantial body of precedents), then the matter is referred to Bill Casselman for final review. However, before a final decision is made on accepting any membership so recommended, the matter is referred to the President for his review. (The latter step was added at the President's specific request, (Tab D), although previous Presidents have not regularly involved themselves in such matters.)

In the case of the Chevy Chase Club, Roland Elliott recommended declining the offer of membership in accordance with the general policy of Tab A, and Bill Casselman concurred in the determination and prepared a letter for the President's signature declining the invitation to become an honorary member, (Tab E).

The President already has his personal membership in Burning Tree which he had joined much earlier, and acceptance of the Chevy Chase Club offer does not come within the exceptions set forth in paragraph II.B, of Tab A. Also, conferring by the Chevy Chase Club of full membership privileges on the President for his lifetime represents a substantial benefit, in that the Club ordinarily requires payment of a \$5,000 initiation fee and substantial annual dues.

I am also returning to you the President's handwritten note in reference to the Chevy Chase Club, (Tab F).

Attachments



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1975

FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: DONALD RUMSFELD

Attached is a note I received from the President on this Chevy Chase Country Club matter. Let's discuss it.



CHEVY CHASE CLUB  
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015

April 30, 1975

Dear Mr. President:

The Board of Governors of the Chevy Chase Club has the honor to extend to you, as President of the United States, Honorary Membership in our Club.

We hope that you will accept this Honorary Membership, which would continue for your lifetime, and render all facilities of the Club available to you and your immediate family.

It is our sincere hope that your busy schedule and the heavy burdens of your office will permit you a few occasional hours of relaxation at our fine Club.

Most sincerely,

*Calvin H. Cobb Jr.*

Calvin H. Cobb, Jr.  
President

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.



October 31, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN

SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships  
and Endorsements for the  
President and his Family

The President continuously receives offers of honorary memberships and requests to join this or that organization or endorse a cause. The policy adopted by the previous Administration after the first year of struggling with such decisions was to reject them all, with a few exceptions.

I. General Policy to Decline Memberships and Endorsements.

The principal hazards in accepting such offers are (1) the uneven extension of Presidential favors, creating an appearance of favoritism and proliferating even more such requests, and (2) linking the President's name to solicitation of funds and the like.

The reason for rejection stated in the answering correspondence is that "the President receives so many requests of this kind that the only fair course is to deny them all." The words "of this kind" provide a hedge for whatever exceptions are made.

Many offers of honorary memberships are accompanied by cards or certificates. These are kept, even though the membership is declined "as a token of your thoughtfulness" in making the offer. The rationale for retention is (1) to avoid a seeming slap in the face by return of the entire package, and (2) the human interest value in the accumulation of such tokens.



Fund raising and commercial offers have been rejected on principle as inappropriate for the President, except as noted below.

## H. Exceptions

### A. Public and Quasi Public Organizations

Presidents have traditionally consented to honorary titles and patronage of official and quasi official organizations. Examples include the American National Red Cross, the United Fund, the United Nations Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the like. A tradition of membership by past Presidents may sometimes be regarded as conferring a quasi-public character on an organization. For such organizations as the Red Cross and Boy Scouts, which have both national and local organizations, Presidential participation has been limited to the national organization.

### B. Other Exceptions

An occasional exception is made because of associations that are personal to the incumbent President, such as his own membership in a golf club, or civic or professional affiliations pre-dating his Presidency and not inconsistent with the office. There may also be some personal or political interest or hometown associations that are distinguishable and can be dealt with on a case by case basis.

It is recommended that the same policies be followed by the members of your family.

The above policies are

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_





### III. Recommended Disposition of Offers and Requests

We have accumulated offers received since you took office pending adoption of a general policy, except for a few that required immediate action. On the basis of the policies described above they have been divided into three general groups as follows:

Tab A: Public and quasi-public organizations for which acceptance is recommended.

Tab B: (1) Possible approvals as exceptions depending on guidance from you or a designated adviser.

(2) For consideration on the same basis, all Masonic offers have been segregated under this tab.

Tab C: (1) Proposed rejections under the general policy.

(2) Proposed rejections subject to review in case an exception should be made for political reasons.

My recommendation would be that you authorize acceptance now for all organizations listed at Tab A. I believe the remainder should be reviewed by an adviser from a political standpoint under whatever general policy you direct in response to this memorandum. Any acceptance which may be thus recommended should be forwarded to the Counsel's office. Hereafter, I would propose that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection be forwarded to the same person for political review, and then to the Counsel's office if acceptance is recommended.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Appoint responsible adviser.


DC:cg



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 14, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP BUCHEN  
FROM: JERRY H.   
SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships and Endorsements  
for the President and his Family

Your memorandum to the President of October 31 on the above subject has been reviewed and the following decisions were made:

- I. General Policy to Decline Memberships  
and Endorsements
- II. Exceptions

All policies for the above were approved.

- III. Recommended Disposition of Offers and Requests  
Responsible adviser was approved.

The following notations were made:

Tab B -- Possible Discretionary Approval

Grand Rapids Bar Association -- ok  
Kent County Farm Bureau -- ok  
Honorary Chairman of Doral Eastern Open for 1975 -- ok  
University Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan -- ok; already a member  
for 30 years.  
Grand Rapids Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police -- ok



Tab C. -- Rejection Recommended

Royal Order of Jesters (Grand Rapids, Michigan) -- I am already a member  
United States Ski Association -- Why not?  
Vail Racquet Club -- Why not?

Please follow-up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Don Rumsfeld



October 31, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN

SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships  
and Endorsements for the  
President and his Family

The President continuously receives offers of honorary memberships and requests to join this or that organization or endorse a cause. The policy adopted by the previous Administration after the first year of struggling with such decisions was to reject them all, with a few exceptions.

I. General Policy to Decline Memberships and Endorsements.

The principal hazards in accepting such offers are (1) the uneven extension of Presidential favors, creating an appearance of favoritism and proliferating even more such requests, and (2) linking the President's name to solicitation of funds and the like.

The reason for rejection stated in the answering correspondence is that "the President receives so many requests of this kind that the only fair course is to deny them all." The words "of this kind" provide a hedge for whatever exceptions are made.

Many offers of honorary memberships are accompanied by cards or certificates. These are kept, even though the membership is declined "as a token of your thoughtfulness" in making the offer. The rationale for retention is (1) to avoid a seeming slap in the face by return of the entire package, and (2) the human interest value in the accumulation of such tokens.





Fund raising and commercial offers have been rejected on principle as inappropriate for the President, except as noted below.

II. Exceptions

A. Public and Quasi Public Organizations

Presidents have traditionally consented to honorary titles and patronage of official and quasi official organizations. Examples include the American National Red Cross, the United Fund, the United Nations Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the like. A tradition of membership by past Presidents may sometimes be regarded as conferring a quasi-public character on an organization. For such organizations as the Red Cross and Boy Scouts, which have both national and local organizations, Presidential participation has been limited to the national organization.

B. Other Exceptions

An occasional exception is made because of associations that are personal to the incumbent President, such as his own membership in a golf club, or civic or professional affiliations pre-dating his Presidency and not inconsistent with the office. There may also be some personal or political interest or hometown associations that are distinguishable and can be dealt with on a case by case basis.

It is recommended that the same policies be followed by the members of your family.

The above policies are

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_



### III. Recommended Disposition of Offers and Requests

We have accumulated offers received since you took office pending adoption of a general policy, except for a few that required immediate action. On the basis of the policies described above they have been divided into three general groups as follows:

Tab A: Public and quasi-public organizations for which acceptance is recommended.

Tab B: (1) Possible approvals as exceptions depending on guidance from you or a designated adviser.

(2) For consideration on the same basis, all Masonic offers have been segregated under this tab.

Tab C: (1) Proposed rejections under the general policy.

(2) Proposed rejections subject to review in case an exception should be made for political reasons.

My recommendation would be that you authorize acceptance now for all organizations listed at Tab A. I believe the remainder should be reviewed by an adviser from a political standpoint under whatever general policy you direct in response to this memorandum. Any acceptance which may be thus recommended should be forwarded to the Counsel's office. Hereafter, I would propose that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection be forwarded to the same person for political review, and then to the Counsel's office if acceptance is recommended.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

DC:cg



Tab A Approval Recommended

Gallaudet College  
The National Foundation-March of Dimes  
People-to-People International  
The Navy Ball  
Washington Performing Arts Society, Honorary Patrons for  
Salute to U.S.A. (President and Mrs. Ford).  
United Service Organizations, Inc. (USO)  
National 4-H Service Committee  
Big Brothers of America  
Sister Cities International  
United Nations Association  
Army Relief Society  
State Bar of Michigan  
Partners of the Americas (Gov. Milliken request, inter-American  
Governors group)  
United States Capitol Historical Society (Suggests designating a member  
of the President's family)

NOTE: The Counsel's Office has received framed certificates from each of the following organizations, indicating that the President has already accepted:

National Geographic Society, Life Membership  
Michigan Retired Officers Association  
Distributive Education Clubs of America, Brandywine Chapter,  
Wilmington, Delaware



Tab B(1) Possible Discretionary Approval

Saginaw Club of Saginaw, Michigan  
Boy Scouts of America (Denver Area Council)  
Army Navy Country Club (Arlington, Virginia)  
Army and Navy Club (Grand Rapids, Michigan)  
The Forest Park South Suburban Cook County Illinois Council of  
the Navy League of the United States  
Recording for the Blind, Inc. (New York, N. Y.)  
Distributive Education Clubs of America (Rootstown, Ohio)

Note: John Nidecker has already accepted  
on the President's behalf an honorary  
membership in the Brandywine Chapter  
of Wilmington, Delaware.

People-to-People Sports Committee, Inc.  
The New York Association for the Blind  
USO (Los Angeles Area)  
Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation  
Grand Rapids Bar Association  
Colorado Couples for Carih (Childrens Asthma Research Institute and  
Hospital) Note: Visit requested Nov. 2  
A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans (Former President Nixon  
declined, but the President served on the Board of Advisors  
when Vice President. Mike Farrell is familiar with this one).  
J.C. Alhambra Telethon for the Mentally Retarded, Westland, Michigan,  
(Senator Griffin request)  
Kent County Farm Bureau (Honorary Life Membership; The President  
has belonged for 24 years)  
The New York Historical Society (Claims as honorary members all  
Presidents since John Adams, with two unidentified exceptions).  
Hellcatchers Club (President belonged as a member of Congress)  
Honorary Chairman, United States Ski Association Fund Raising Benefit  
(for the U.S. Olympic Ski Team. Rustand notes  
invitation must be regretted, but honorary chairmanship  
could be accepted. President approved choice of  
Michigan as chairman).  
Honorary Chairman of Doral Eastern Open for 1975. (Prior acceptance  
indicated)  
The Americas Foundation (Former President said to have held  
this honorary title)  
University Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Grand Rapids Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police (Plaque received.  
Already accepted?)





Tab B (2) Possible Discretionary Approval--Masonic

Zem Zem Pipes & Drums (Erie, Penna.)  
National Sojourners, Inc. (Golden Gate Chapter No. 18, San Francisco, Calif.)  
Topper Brothers Invertments (appointed by the Al Malaikak Temple of the  
Los Angeles Jurisdiction to head drive to raise funds to erect building  
for the Youth of DeMolay in the California Jurisdiction)  
Sphinx Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. (Hartford, Connecticut)  
Al Amin Temple (Corpus Christi, Texas)  
High Noon Luncheon Club of Dallas  
Wahabi Temple (Jackson, Mississippi)  
High Twelve Club (San Mateo County, California)  
Saladin (Northwest Shrine Club - Rapid City, Michigan)  
Pioneer Lodge No. 70 F. & A. M. of Hackensack, N. J.  
Anezeh Temple of Mexico and Guatemala  
Sarasota Shrine Club (Sarasota, Florida)  
El Jebel Temple (Denver, Colorado)  
Jamil Temple U. D. (Columbia, S. C.)  
Hollywood Shrine Club (Hollywood, Calif.)  
Moslem Temple, Detroit, Michigan  
Ararat Temple, Kansas City, Missouri  
Woodlawn Chapter, Order of De Molay, Mother's Club  
Quincy Lodge - No. 161 (Bicentennial theme)  
Greuter Cincinnati Fire Department Masonic Club

Note: Framed Certificate indicates already accepted:

Crescent Temple of Trenton, Jew Jersey



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

PHILIP BUCHEN *P.W.B.*

SUBJECT:

Responsible Adviser to Decide  
on Memberships and Endorsements

You approved my earlier recommendation (attached) that a responsible political adviser be appointed to decide requests for honorary memberships and endorsements that cannot be answered by a routine letter of rejection. I believe that Bill Casselman is well qualified to do this and recommend that you appoint him.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_



536  
12/12

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 26, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP BUCHEN  
FROM: JERRY H. JONES  
SUBJECT: Responsible Adviser to Decide  
on Memberships and Endorsements

Your memorandum to the President of November 19 on the above subject has been reviewed and your recommendation approved with the following notation:

-- But I would like opportunity  
to review decisions before final  
action.

cc: Don Rumsfeld



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1975

Dear Mr. Cobb:

It was most kind of you, on behalf of the Board of Governors, to extend an invitation to me to become an Honorary Member of the Chevy Chase Club.

I was deeply gratified by this thoughtful gesture, and while it is not possible for me to formally accept your gracious invitation, I hope you will express my sincere appreciation to all the members of the Chevy Chase Club.

With my thanks and best wishes,

Mr. Calvin H. Cobb, Jr.  
President  
Chevy Chase Club  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Don R)

I honestly see  
no bad in accepting,  
in fact I believe ill  
will is created.

The times I would  
not would be nearly  
zero.

