

to pay tribute to the people of New York and to the people of New York City who have suffered great loss, but persevered in the face of adversity. In doing so, we pay tribute to the American spirit.

It is altogether appropriate that we meet here today in Federal Hall. After all, it was here that the First Congress met to ratify the Bill of Rights and to inaugurate our first President of the United States, George Washington.

As in 1789, when ordinary Americans did extraordinary things to create a new Nation conceived in liberty and dedication to freedom, on September 11, ordinary Americans exhibited extraordinary courage in fighting a horrific evil. . . .

We elected Members of the 107th Congress, like those Members gathered in this location of the First Congress, simply reflect the desires of a people who cherish liberty and are willing to fight for freedom.

Let us always remember those we lost on September 11, and may God continue to bless America.

Thank you.
(Applause.)

“GOD BLESS AMERICA” SUNG BY CHAMBER CHOIR, STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY.

The SPEAKER. The Stuyvesant High School Chamber Choir will now sing “God Bless America.”

The Chamber Choir, Stuyvesant High School, sang “God Bless America.”

(Applause.)

The Members and guests sang “God Bless America.”

The SPEAKER. Ladies and gentlemen of the House and the Senate, this

concludes the special ceremonial meeting of the Congress. Members are asked to remain in their seats and make their exit with the colors.

The Chair will assure that the record of these proceedings will be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The proceedings are closed.

The Colors were retired by the Color Guard composed of members of the New York City Fire Department, New York City Police Department, New York State Unified Court System Officers, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police, and the United States Capitol Police.

[Whereupon, the Commemorative Joint Meeting of the Congress was adjourned.](⁶)

§ 17. Former Members’ Day

The House traditionally has received the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in the House Chamber to submit its annual report⁽¹⁾ to Congress.

6. See § 4.5, *supra*, for the first instance in which Congress engaged in a ceremonial function outside the seat of government.
1. As a federally chartered corporation established under Title 36 of the United States Code, the Association is required to submit an annual report to Congress. See 36 USC § 70312.

The program of events has been relatively consistent over the years. The House by unanimous consent authorizes the Speaker to declare a recess subject to the call of the Chair for the purpose of receiving the former Members. Prior to the start of legislative business on the appointed date, the Speaker announces that the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair to receive the former Members. The Speaker generally opens the proceedings by welcoming the former Members and recognizing members of the House leadership for remarks. The Speaker then recognizes a member of the Association to preside over the meeting. The presiding officer directs the Clerk to call the roll of former Members of Congress and, following the roll call, announces the result. The presiding officer then generally recognizes the president of the Association to speak and yield time for appropriate remarks. When the program is concluded and the recess has expired, the Speaker calls the House to order and a Member moves that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the *Congressional Record*.

The Association presents its Distinguished Service Award to honor an outstanding congres-

sional career during the proceedings. Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award have included, among others, former Speakers of the House Thomas (Tip) O'Neill, Jr.⁽²⁾ and Thomas Foley,⁽³⁾ former Minority Leader Robert Michel,⁽⁴⁾ former Representative Bill Richardson,⁽⁵⁾ former Senator Sam Nunn,⁽⁶⁾ Chaplain of the House Emeritus James David Ford,⁽⁷⁾ and former House Parliamentarian Lewis Deschler.⁽⁸⁾

§ 17.1 The House, by unanimous consent, authorized the Speaker to declare a recess for the purpose of receiving former Members in the Chamber.⁽¹⁾

2. See 133 CONG. REC. 11660–68, 100th Cong. 1st Sess., May 7, 1987.
3. See 148 CONG. REC. 7325–33, 107th Cong. 2d Sess., May 9, 2002.
4. See 142 CONG. REC. 11325–29, 104th Cong. 2d Sess., May 15, 1996.
5. See 143 CONG. REC. 9045–48, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., May 21, 1997.
6. See 150 CONG. REC. 7373–75, 7399–401, 108th Cong. 2d Sess. Apr. 22, 2004.
7. See 146 CONG. REC. 8111–19, 106th Cong. 2d Sess., May 17, 2000.
8. See 122 CONG. REC. 15082–85, 94th Cong. 1st Sess., May 21, 1976.
1. *Parliamentarian's Note*: This traditional unanimous-consent request supplements the Speaker's ability to

On Apr. 25, 2006,⁽²⁾ the following proceedings took place:

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Mr. [Rick] RENZI [of Arizona]. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order on Thursday, April 27, for the Speaker to declare a recess subject to the call of the Chair for the purpose of receiving in this Chamber former Members of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽³⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

On Apr. 27, 2006,⁽⁴⁾ the proceedings to receive former Members during a recess of the House pursuant to the previous order by unanimous consent occurred as follows:

RECESS

The SPEAKER.⁽⁵⁾ Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, April 25, 2006, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair to

declare a “short” recess under Rule I clause 12(a), *House Rules and Manual* § 638 (2007).

2. 152 CONG. REC. 5925, 109th Cong. 2d Sess.
3. Thelma Drake (VA).
4. 152 CONG. REC. 6268, 6269, 6286, 109th Cong. 2d Sess.
5. J. Dennis Hastert (IL).

receive the former Members of Congress.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 12 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The Speaker of the House presided.

The SPEAKER. On behalf of the House, I consider it a high honor and distinct personal privilege to have the opportunity of welcoming so many of our former Members and colleagues as may be present here for the occasion. We all pause to welcome you. . . .

The Chair now recognizes the Honorable Jim Slattery, vice president of the association, to take the chair.

Mr. [Jim] SLATTERY [of Kansas] (presiding). Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's great to see you. On behalf of the association, we certainly wish you good health and continued wonderful service to our country, also. It's great to see you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you.

The Clerk will now read the roll of the former Members of Congress.

The Clerk called the roll of the former Members of Congress[.] . . .

The Chair again wishes to thank all of those former Members that are here today and give you all another opportunity to record your presence if you did not do that at the beginning of the events here today. The Chair also wishes to thank all the former Members of the House for their presence.

I am advised that the House will reconvene 15 minutes after the bells ring.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 27 minutes a.m.), the House continued in recess.

□ 1055

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY)[.] . . .

On the same day,⁽⁶⁾ by unanimous-consent, the proceedings had during a recess of the House to receive former Members were inserted in the *Congressional Record*:

Mr. [David] DREIER [of California]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the *Congressional Record* and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the recess have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁷⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

§ 17.2 The Speaker was authorized, by unanimous consent, to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, to receive former Members of the House in the Chamber.

On Feb. 25, 1971,⁽¹⁾ the following proceedings took place:

6. 152 CONG. REC. 6290, 109th Cong. 2d Sess., Apr. 27, 2006.
7. Jo Bonner (AL).
1. 117 CONG. REC. 3834, 92d Cong. 1st Sess.

AUTHORITY FOR SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, MARCH 4, TO RECEIVE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. [Hale] BOGGS [of Louisiana]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it shall be in order for the Speaker to declare a recess on Thursday of next week, March 4, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in this Chamber former Members of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER.⁽²⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

On Mar. 4, 1971,⁽³⁾ the following proceedings occurred during ceremonies to receive former Members of the House during the first observance of Former Members' Day:

RECESS

The SPEAKER.⁽⁴⁾ Pursuant to the authority granted the Speaker on Thursday, February 25, 1971, the Chair declares a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, to receive the former Members of the House of Representatives.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

2. Carl Albert (OK).
3. 117 CONG. REC. 5137-41, 92d Cong. 1st Sess.
4. Carl Albert (OK).

RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER of the House presided.

The SPEAKER. On behalf of the Chair and of the Chamber, I consider it a high honor and a distinct personal privilege to have the opportunity of welcoming so many of our former Members and colleagues as may be present here for this occasion. We all pause to welcome them. This is a bipartisan affair, and in that spirit the Chair is going to recognize the floor leaders of both parties.

The Chair now recognizes the distinguished gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOGGS).

Mr. [Hale] BOGGS [of Louisiana]. Mr. Speaker, this is a happy duty for me. Today, we inaugurate a custom which I trust will become an annual event of recessing the proceedings of the House in order to extend a warm and a friendly welcome back to Members who have served in this great body. . . .

I hope all our former Members and all of our present Members will equal that record.

The SPEAKER. The Chair is now pleased to recognize the distinguished minority leader of the House of Representatives, the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. GERALD R. FORD).

Mr. GERALD R. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I am indeed happy to welcome so many friends and former colleagues back to the Chamber. We hope and trust, as the gentleman from Louisiana, the distinguished majority leader, has said, that this will be an an-

nual affair, and on each and every occasion you will be as welcome in the future as you are here today. . . .

The SPEAKER. The Chair now directs the Clerk to call the roll of former Members of the House of Representatives.

The Clerk called the roll of former Members of the Congress[.] . . .

The SPEAKER. The Chair announces that 83 former Members of the House of Representatives have answered to their names.

The Chair desires to announce now that it will be his purpose to recognize for 1 hour for the purpose of controlling time the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. Hays, on behalf of the majority and the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. Judd, on behalf of the minority.

Before recognizing the gentleman from Arkansas, the Chair desires to state that the Chair would like to recognize several Members whose names have been called but, unfortunately, they are not all present. However, I think it is significant that this is the anniversary of the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, March 4, 1789.

In that first Congress, the first person ever to be elected Speaker was the Honorable Frederick A. Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania. In 1947, when the present occupant of the chair came to the Congress, Frederick A. Muhlenberg IV, a direct descendant of the original Speaker, was present.

The Chair would also, before recognizing the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. Hays, to call to the chair to represent from the chair former Members, a very distinguished former Member, the Honorable Colgate Darden, not

only a former Member of the House but a former Governor of the great State of Virginia and a former president of the University of Virginia.

The Chair now recognizes for 1 hour the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. HAYS. . . .

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

The Chair wishes to reiterate his own gratitude at the response our invitation has had from those of you who have come here and participated and lent your presence to this occasion. It has been a memorable one. We will expect to repeat it next year.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS
HAD DURING RECESS AND
PERMISSION TO REVISE

Mr. BOGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD and that all speakers have the privilege of revising their remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

§ 18. Birthday Felicitations

The House has often extended formal greetings to a President or

former President on his birthday through the adoption of a congratulatory resolution⁽¹⁾ considered by unanimous consent or under suspension of the rules.

The House has also extended birthday wishes to Speakers of the House,⁽²⁾ Members,⁽³⁾ and the Parliamentarian.⁽⁴⁾

Presidential Birthdays

§ 18.1 Form of resolution extending the congratulations of the House to the President on his birthday.

On Jan. 30, 1934,⁽¹⁾ the House adopted a resolution congratulating the President on his birthday. The proceedings were as follows:

1. See § 18.1, *infra*.
2. See § 18.2, *infra*.
3. See § 18.3, *infra*.
4. See § 18.4, *infra*.
1. 78 CONG. REC. 1636, 73d Cong. 2d Sess.

See also, *e.g.*, 151 CONG. REC. 17162-64, 109th Cong. 1st Sess., July 25, 2005 (H. Res. 329, honoring former President William Jefferson Clinton on the occasion of his 59th birthday); 150 CONG. REC. 21196-99, 108th Cong. 2d Sess., Oct. 6, 2004 (H. Res. 798, honoring former President James Earl Carter on the occasion of his 80th birthday); 150 CONG. REC. 15104-106, 108th Cong. 2d Sess., July 12, 2004 (H. Res. 702,