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With FL Turn Blue! (A Meetup Group)

AGENDA

March 10, 2020, 5-7 PM

Perkins!
41 and Bonita Beach Road

(Times are subject to change and are approximate.)

5 PM – Gathering (Set up tables and chairs, meet Democrats, sign in, consider becoming a member of the Club, get precinct organizing volunteer form)

5:15 PM - Pledge of Allegiance (version of your choice)

<p>Pledge of Allegiance (Bellamy versions) (changes are <u>bolded and underlined</u>)</p>
<p>1892 (first version)^[1]</p> <p>"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."</p>
<p>1892 to 1923 (early revision by Bellamy)^[2]</p> <p>"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and <u>to</u> the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."</p>
<p>1923 to 1924^[3]</p> <p>"I pledge allegiance to <u>the</u> Flag <u>of the</u> <u>United States</u> and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."</p>
<p>1924 to 1954^[3]</p> <p>"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States <u>of America</u> and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."</p>
<p>1954 (current version, per 4 U.S.C. §4)^[4]</p> <p>"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one <u>Nation</u> <u>under God</u>, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."</p>

As a Club, we could write our own Pledge of Allegiance.

Why are you here?

That's a good place to start!

How about: "**We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.**"

Declaration of Independence, 1776

(<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript>)

Reading of the First Amendment

"Congress shall make no law respecting

- an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or
- abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or
- the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

(<https://editorials.voa.gov/a/the-importance-of-the-first-amendment-/3733070.html>)

Welcome to the Club – Steven Blumrosen, President

- Introduction of Officers and Directors
- Anyone not sign in?
- Roll call of attendees by conference call.
Dial-in number: (712) 770-4160
Participant Code: 888952
- Please contribute what you can to the donation jar.
- Bathrooms on the other side of the bakery display.
- Reminder, this is a good time to renew membership or apply to become a member. (only \$20/30!)
- Perkins is letting us use the room for free. Please, if you can, buy something from Perkins and leave our server a good tip. He was pleased last time and they welcomed us back this month. Thanks!
- The 150th Anniversary of the 15th Amendment, one of the Voting Rights Amendments: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”
- It is also the 144th Anniversary of the Republican Convention of 1876 when Frederick Douglas rose and exclaimed: “
- And, the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”
- As a reminder, the 1876 Republican Convention demanded to hear from Frederick Douglass. Rhetorically, he asked:

“Do you mean to make good to us the promises in your constitution? ... tell me, if your heart be as my heart, that the liberty which you have asserted for the black man in this country shall be maintained? You say, some of you, that you can get along without the vote of the black man of the South. Yes, that may be, possibly; but I doubt it. At any rate, in order to insure our protection hereafter, we feel the need, in the candidate whom you will place before the country, of the assurance that, if it be necessary, the black man shall walk to the ballot-box in safety, even if we have to bring a bayonet behind us. ... instead of electing your President without the black vote, you may count in the number of your victorious Republican states five or six, at least, of the old master states of the South.” (Proceedings of the Republican national convention, held at Cincinnati, Ohio: June 14, 15, and 16, 1876 ...Republican National Convention, Clancy, A. M., Nelson, William, 1847-1914, University of Michigan Library, <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa/AEW7097.0001.001?rgn=main;view=fulltext>).

Frederick Douglass' prophecy almost came true. The presidential election resulted in a brokered Electoral College. The Republicans, in a fit of short-sighted greed, kept the White House and withdrew Federal troops from the South, meaning the Southern Democrats won the Civil War by politics.

Secretary's Report – Will update over next couple of meetings.

Treasurer's Report – Mona Abdelall.

Membership Committee Report – Nancy Staub (Excused absence.)

Report of the Democratic Party of Lee County, Florida (see accompanying fun fundraising drives)

Precinct Organizing: Dan Rotigal.

Other unfinished business

New Business

6:45 PM – Adjourn for the Keynote Address.

Keynote Address: Wally Hedman on using the MiniVAN for Phone Banking and Canvassing.

LET'S EAT! (Not necessarily in this order.)

Thank you for attending tonight's meeting.

Next Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of April (3/14/2020).

Here, at Perkins!

Save the Date!