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# THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE

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## Greetings!

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement.  
This War on Oppression will only be won as one  
mass movement.

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## Our Mission Statement

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

# Spotlight

## Women of Color and Suffragist Movement



By DonnaMarie Woodson

*Click on photo for mini-doc "The Black Suffragist"*



In honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment granting women the right to vote, I'm reposting this article from the Washington Post written by Liz Weber acknowledging and celebrating the vital role women of color played in the [Women's Suffrage Movement](#). The legal right of the woman vote was established

over the course of more than half a century; first in various states and localities, and then nationally in 1920. Ms. Weber's opening statements frame the history I was taught in school. Thankfully, her article presents a more inclusive backdrop.

"The story of the suffragist movement is usually woven with a single strand. Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Alice Paul: These are the women whose names are etched into the history books. They were tremendously influential in the effort to give women "the vote."

"But that's not nearly the whole story. The story we remember celebrating the 100th anniversary of Congress passing the suffrage amendment — ignores women of color and their contribution to the movement's success."

***This story is due for a reckoning!***

Dr. [Sally Roesch Wagner](#), who received one of the first doctorates in the country for women’s studies, while at the University of California at Santa Cruz recalls – “It didn’t start with white women; that’s not the point of entry into women having political voice. Indigenous women have had a political voice in their nations long before white settlers arrived.”

Not surprisingly, Indigenous women have a similar recollection of their historic roots. According to [Wakerakatste Louise McDonald Herne](#), the bear-clan mother of the Mohawk Nation, her community has a “whole different memory and experience from those of white women.”



*(Native American Suffragettes)*

As clan mother, Herne is charged with appointing leaders, naming members and working for the general welfare of her people. She said that despite the residual effects of colonialism, there is a huge reservoir of indigenous research, and indigenous scholars are beginning to craft their own narratives, including those of their ancestors.



*Wakerakatste Louise  
McDonald Herne*

Herne said, “It was our grandmothers who showed white women what freedom and liberty really looked like.” “They began to witness for themselves a freedom that they had never seen before.

The Native American influence on the movement can be traced to the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848, which is marked as when the effort began. For two days, activists gathered in the New York hamlet to draft the [Declaration of Sentiments](#). Signed by 68 women and 32 men, the document argued that anti-women laws held no authority, declared that men and women should be held to the same moral standards, and ultimately called for women's suffrage.

According to [Ellen DuBois](#), a history and gender professor emeritus at the University of California at Los Angeles, while this inspiration was filtering in from indigenous women, the organization of the suffrage movement emerged from the earlier abolition movement.

However, as the movement progressed, the two main suffrage organizations — the [National Woman Suffrage Association](#) and the



[American Woman Suffrage Association](#) — merged to form the [National American Woman Suffrage Association \(NAWSA\)](#) in 1890. This ultimately shifted the movement's trajectory.

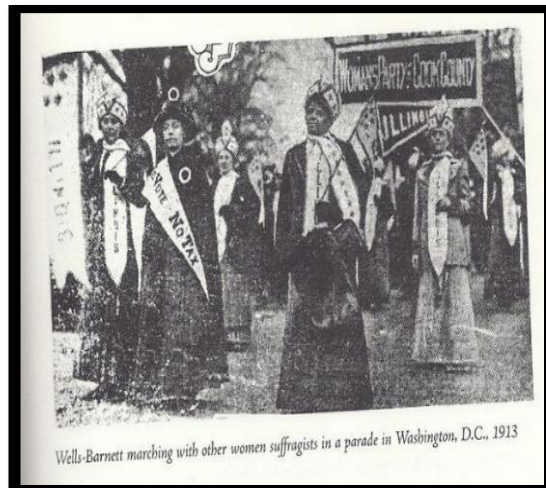
According to historian Dr. [Sally Roesch Wagner](#), "They said give women the vote, because it's a way to maintain white, native-born supremacy."

As the NAWSA expanded, the structure decentralized, and auxiliary organizations in each state were given more power to do what they wanted to gain support. "Under that policy, Southern states explicitly bar black women from participating," DuBois said.



Because of this policy, missing from the list of the matrons of the movement are [Ida B. Wells](#) and [Mary Church Terrell](#).

Ida Bell Wells-Barnett (July 16, 1862 – March 25, 1931) was an African-American investigative journalist, educator, and an early leader in the civil rights movement. She was one of the founders of the [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People](#) (NAACP) and arguably became the most famous black woman in America, during a life that was centered on combating prejudice and violence, who fought for equality for African-Americans, especially women. Wells also fought for racial equality on the international stage.



*Ida B. Wells (center) marching with suffragettes in 1913 DC parade.*

Mary Church Terrell (September 23, 1863 – July 24, 1954) was one of the first African American women to earn a college degree. Having been an avid suffragist during her years as an Oberlin student, Terrell continued to be active in the happenings within suffragist circles in the National American Woman Suffrage Association developing a friendship with Susan B. Anthony.



*Mary Church Terrell*

What grew out of Terrell's association with NAWSA was a desire to create a formal organizing group among black women in America to tackle issues of lynching, the disenfranchisement of the race, and

development of a new educational reform. As the one of few African-American women allowed to attend NAWSA's meetings, Terrell spoke directly about the injustices and issues within the African-American community.

Not surprisingly, the southern state societies of the [National American Woman Suffrage Association](#) continued to work against African American interests because they contended that it was the only way to win the South.

While we're seeing an increase in the coverage of the crucial role African American women played in the fight for the vote, we sincerely need a much broader and honest dialogue about the history of racism within women's movements.

In an email to The Washington Post, Tammy Brown, associate



professor of history at Miami University in Ohio remarked, "We must acknowledge our fraught and often tragic history if we want to build a stronger, more equitable society in the future."

**I wholeheartedly agree!**

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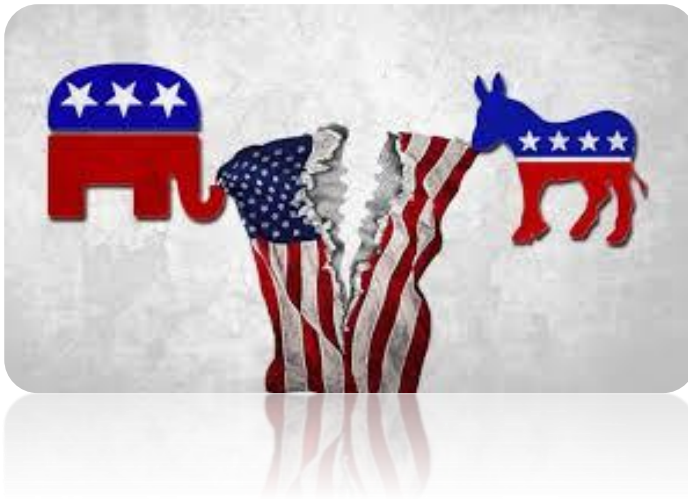
## Editorial

# **A House Divided: Partisanship and Polarization in American Politics**

**By**

**Tarik Kiley**

**January 26, 2020**



**In the United States of America, have our politics become uncivil? Do we lack the ability to speak with those who disagree with our opinions? Are we retreating into political tribes?**

**Well, America has always had a separatist tendency. There was the isolationism which existed until America realized that it could not retreat from foreign affairs and that war would end up on its doorstep regardless of the hope of staying out of the fight. There was also segregation in the US south, which culminated in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's.**

**But, at the same time America has had an internationalist tendency. There was Woodrow Wilson's 14 points and the idea of the League of Nations. Now, while the US rejected membership in**



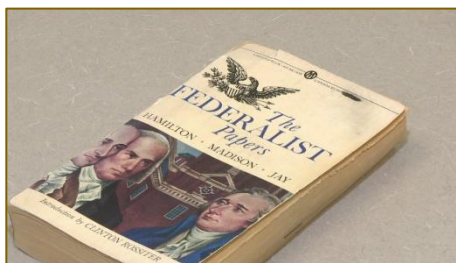
the League of Nations, the concept of an internationalist body of nations was revived with the concept of the United Nations later in history. Also, for the most part, racial segregation was replaced with racial integration, first gradually, and then more significantly in the 1960's.



But, while the USA has survived many issues of separation and integration, are we today, in 2020, now divided along partisan lines?

Well, some evidence of incivility has included government shutdowns. Gridlock, in the recent past has trapped the Federal government and forced shutdowns. The Federal government, although for brief periods of time, has left Federal workers without a paycheck.

We have also become bitterly divided with the issues we support. Some of these issues include, healthcare for all, gun control and the belief or non-belief in global warming. Additionally, the behavior of the current President, Donald Trump, has inflamed partisan tempers, first as he attempted to undo President Obama's Affordable Care Act, and other actions undertaken by President Obama, and now with the anger which has led to his impeachment.



Still, The Federalist Papers warned against factions. In Federalist #10, James Madison says:

“By a faction, I understand a number of citizens, whether amounting to a

majority or a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated

by some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse to the rights of other citizens, or to the permanent and aggregate interests of the community...The latent causes of faction are thus sown in the nature of man; and we see them everywhere brought into different degrees of activity, according to the different circumstances of civil society.

A zeal for different opinions concerning religion, concerning government, and many other points, as well of speculation as of practice; an

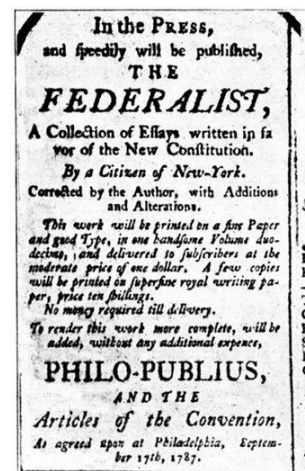
attachment to different leaders ambitiously contending for pre-eminence and power; or to persons of other descriptions whose fortunes have

been interesting to the human passions, have, in turn, divided mankind into parties, inflamed them with mutual animosity, and rendered them much more disposed to vex and oppress each other than to co-operate for their common good."

Yet, it is exactly civil society that we can use to combat extreme partisanship. When people unite in voluntary relationships based on common interests and speak freely, we can actually increase deliberation and civility. We simply need to beware of attachment to leaders and allowing our passions to degenerate into mutual

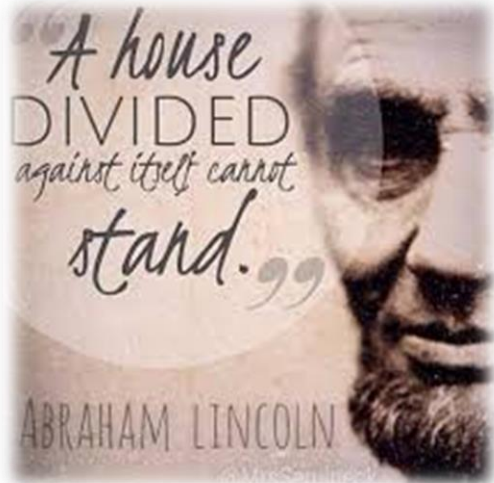
## Federalist Paper #10

- A well-constructed Union should develop a tendency to break and control Factions
  - "People feel that our governments are too unstable; that the public good is disregarded in the conflicts of rival parties; and that measures are too often decided, not according to the rules of justice, and the rights of the minority party; but by superior force of an interested and overbearing majority." (A21)
    - This is what Madison believes that "...factious spirit has tainted our public administrators." (A21)



animosity. We cannot be so attached to any leader to the point where we ignore and then defend character flaws and immorality.

We also must increase trust in our governmental institutions. The



Republic, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights are all things which both Democrats and Republicans should be actively upholding. Additionally, political corruption is something which both Democrats and Republicans should be actively fighting against.

Additionally, the USA also must reexamine its relationship with

political extremism. America has fought several wars against various forms of political extremism. The first was the US Civil War against slavery and to preserve the Union. The second was WWII against fascism. The third was the Cold War against communism.

Yet, today we see a resurgence of failed ideologies both in the poles of the Republican and Democratic parties. The far left has embraced socialism and the far right has embraced ethno-nationalism. Still slavery, fascism and communism failed for a reason. They failed because they were cruel and unjust ways of ordering society and more often than not ended up in human misery, suffering and death.

Can we return to the center? For example, President George H.W. Bush passed the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. President Clinton changed welfare as we knew it in 1992. Hopefully, the president we elect in 2020, will consider the common good which

James Madison spoke of. An effective president in 2020, will have to establish common goals for the entirety of the US community and then act on those goals for the benefit of everyone, and not try to establish a cult around him or herself. Then we can return to a culture of cooperation, and deliberation. We should be able to have differences of opinion but still constantly strive for a “more perfect Union.”

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# Announcements



## February 7<sup>th</sup> Last Day to Register for Primary

### Tuesday Morning Breakfast Forum

Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am

Belmont Regional Center, 700 Parkwood Ave

County Commissioners District 3 Candidates:

George Dunlap and Cade Lee

District Court Seat 2 primary candidates:

Aretha Blake and Lynna Moen.

### Swing Left 2020 Kickoff

Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

Free Range Brewing

2320 N. Davidson St.

Charlotte, NC

### N. Meck Democrats Monthly Meeting

Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

21126 Catawba Ave.

Cornelius, NC



# Announcements



## N. Meck Progressives Dinner

Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30 PM  
Famous Toastery 12715 Conner Dr.  
Huntersville, NC

(just off Gilead, across the parking lot from  
Earthfare)

## Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County February Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm  
Belmont Regional Center, 700 Parkwood Ave

## African American Caucus Black History Month Fundraiser

STATS Restaurant and Bar  
Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 9:00 pm  
3425 David Cox Rd. Charlotte

**(For Donation Packages see African American Caucus Facebook Page)**

# Announcements



## 2020 Precinct 135 Organization Meeting

Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am

Frankie's of Charlotte

10621 Bryton Corporate Center Dr.

## 2020 Dems of N. Mecklenburg Organization Meeting

Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm

Cornelius Elementary School

21126 Catawba Ave.



# Announcements



## North Carolina Democratic Party Blue Gala

Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm  
Hilton Charlotte University Place  
8629 J.M. Keynes Dr.

## League of Women Voters 100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm  
Le Meridien, 555 S. McDowell



Please submit your group events to [donnamarie93@gmail.com](mailto:donnamarie93@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.

# Happenings Gallery



**Women's March January 25, 2020**

**The Executive Corner:**

**Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson**

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson**

**Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle**

**Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson**

**Contributor: Tarik Kiley**