



THANK YOU

Thank you to all of you who participated in this historic election. In La Crosse County Barack Obama won 61% of votes cast, an unprecedented number. We are now a solid "blue" county in statewide races. Our challenge in 2010 and 2012 is to make this a blue county locally. Tara Johnson and Cheryl Hancock ran hard-fought and courageous races against two well-funded incumbents and made great strides. They deserve a great measure of gratitude for the sacrifices they made and for all they have done for our party.

Congratulations to Ron Kind and Jennifer Shilling, who won well-earned re-elections and to Tim Gruenke, who ran unopposed for La Crosse County District Attorney and thus has become the first Democratic candidate to win a courthouse position in La Crosse County since the mid-1980s.

The work is not done yet. I would ask all of you who joined this campaign this fall to continue to be involved through 2009. If recent history (1993) is any indication, Barack Obama, much like Bill Clinton, will be under attack from the Republican Party from the moment he takes office. We need the momentum generated by this unforgettable fall to continue — the 2010 midterms cannot have similar results to 1994. Both Governor Doyle and Senator Russ Feingold will be up for reelection in 2010 in addition to the critical Congressional and Assembly races.

Please join us at our General Party Meeting on November 17th to elect our 2009 board and to review this election season with Viterbo University professor Keith Knutson. We are also planning a La Crosse County Inauguration ceremony for January 20th. Again, thank you for your hard work and dedication this fall.

Fabio Burgos
Chair
La Crosse County Democratic Party

UPCOMING COUNTY PARTY EVENTS

**November General Party Meeting
(LCDP Officer Elections)
Monday, November 17th
Port O'Call
Cartwright Center, UW-L
1725 State St.
La Crosse
Keith Knutson, Speaker**

**La Crosse County Inauguration Party
Tuesday, January 20th
Location TBA**

Barack Obama's epic win

Excerpted from Salon.com

By Walter Shapiro

It took America 220 years to go from George Washington, a fourth-generation Virginian, to Hawaiian-born Barack Obama, the 47-year-old son of Kenya and Kansas -- and the newly elected 44th president of the United States. In just 11 weeks, Obama will place his hand on a Bible and swear to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution." No president since John Kennedy or Harry Truman will come into office facing graver crises. Such is George W. Bush's sad-eyed legacy to his successor -- from the Wall Street meltdown to an overstretched military fighting debilitating wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

But Tuesday night was a time of joy for Democrats and independents -- a glorious affirmation of America's capacity for rebirth as Obama rolled to an unequivocal victory over John McCain. With three states still undecided, Obama was guaranteed at least 349 electoral votes, winning a minimum of eight states carried by Bush in 2004 (Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Indiana, Colorado, Iowa, Nevada and New Mexico). The Democrats also picked up a minimum of five Senate seats, giving them a healthy (if not quite filibuster-proof) majority along with comfortable control of the House of Representatives.

In his outdoor [victory speech](#) before a rapturous crowd in Chicago's Grant Park, Obama erased the memory of Joe the Plumber by invoking a more powerful symbol of America: 106-year-old Ann Nixon Cooper, a black woman who Tuesday went to the polls in Atlanta. Employing his rhetorical power that can uplift and instruct, Obama used her life to summon up more than a century of individual Americans triumphing over economic adversity, world wars and the legacy of segregation. At each crossroads of this national journey, Obama repeated his campaign's refrain, "Yes we can."

McCain in a gracious [concession speech](#) returned to the bipartisanship that has often marked his Senate career, doing away with the harsh tenor of the closing weeks of the campaign that he waged along with Sarah Palin. The Arizona senator expressed the hope that the nation "would find ways to come together to find the necessary compromises to bridge our differences." While McCain seems poised personally to practice the politics of the olive branch, his defeat may have moved the GOP further to the right, by limiting its base on both the electoral map and in Congress to the Deep South, the rural Midwest and the underpopulated Rocky Mountain states.

For all the obsession with Obama's racial makeup and alarmist theories about a hidden racist vote, it is quite possible that the 72-year-old McCain's age was more of a political detriment. The unprecedented 25-year age gap between the two candidates gave fresh meaning to JFK's 1961 inaugural declaration that "the torch has been passed to a new generation." Tuesday was the night that the 1960s -- the divisive decade that defined American politics for 40 years -- finally died. Obama first won his party's nomination by defeating Hillary Clinton, the emblematic liberal baby boomer, in the primaries. And on Tuesday night he defeated McCain, who owes his political career to his suffering and bravery as a POW in Vietnam. The raucous Obama victory rally in Grant Park was the capstone of Democratic strength through unity. The riotous antiwar rallies in Grant Park during the 1968 convention and the brutality of the police truncheons accentuated the cultural fault lines in the Democratic Party that contributed to 28 years of GOP control of the White House, from Richard Nixon to George W. Bush.

It was poetic in a sense that McCain grimly awaited his electoral fate in the Barry Goldwater Suite at the Arizona Biltmore Hotel, the site of Goldwater's 1964 concession speech. It was from the ashes of Goldwater's

defeat that the modern right-wing Republican machine rose like a phoenix. Instead of "the conscience of a conservative," this was brass-knuckle politics that owed more to wedge issues -- from crime (Nixon) to Swift boats (Bush) -- than principle. But this was an election in which cries of "socialism" and the dread specter of that 1960s figure Bill Ayers failed to sway swing voters in the Midwest and traditional Republican bulwarks like Virginia.

Every time the lease on the White House shifts party, the glib assumption is that America has changed. But this may have been the first election since 1964 when the Democrats could with justice imagine the world turned upside down. Yes, Jimmy Carter won the White House in 1976, but that was more a belated rejection of Nixon than a political sea change. It is now half-forgotten, but Bill Clinton owed a huge debt on Election Night 1992 to the presence of Ross Perot in the race. But as Obama declared victory shortly before midnight on the East Coast, he was poised to become only the third Democrat since Franklin Roosevelt to win the White House with more than 50 percent of the vote.

Obama's triumph was also due to the largest, best-organized and most energetic grass-roots campaign in American political history. In Ohio, for example, 43 percent of the voters said in exit polls that they were personally contacted by the Obama campaign, compared with 36 percent who heard from the McCain campaign. The question did not distinguish between door knocking (the Obama specialty) and robo-calls (which the McCain camp heavily depended on). In hitherto reliably Republican Indiana, a state where Obama eked out a surprising 23,000-vote victory, the pattern was even more exaggerated. Even though the Democrats had last contested Indiana in 1964, 37 percent of voters in the exit poll said they had been contacted by the Obama campaign, compared with just 22 percent for McCain.

Barack Obama earned his ticket to the Oval Office by running a technically near-flawless campaign, dominating three debates and picking a vice president, Joe Biden, worthy of the office. It was, of course, Ronald Reagan's slogan, but as the sun comes up Wednesday on a land that has dramatically turned away from the Bush-Cheney years, it will feel for tens of millions like "morning in America."

PAC, PARTY & NATIONAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Wisconsin State Senate Democrats

<http://www.ssdw-wi.org/>

3rd Congressional District Democratic Party

Melanie Franklin, Chair
(715) 659-4964
www.3rdDems.net

Wisconsin Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee

www.AssemblyDemocrats.com

Democratic National Committee (DNC)

430 S. Capitol St. SE
Washington, DC 20003
(tel)202-863-8000
www.Democrats.org

Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW)

222 W. Washington Ave. Suite 150
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
(608) 255-5172 (tel) - (608) 255-8919 (fax)
w.wisdems.org

Ron Kind for Congress

P.O. Box 184 - La Crosse, WI 54602-0184
608.782.3444 (Tel) - 608.782.4433 (fax)
www.kindforcongress.org

Progressive Patriots Fund (Russ Feingold, Chair)

PO Box 628008 - Middleton, WI 53562

Coulee Progressives

www.couleeproggressives.org

2008 LCDP EXECUTIVE BOARD

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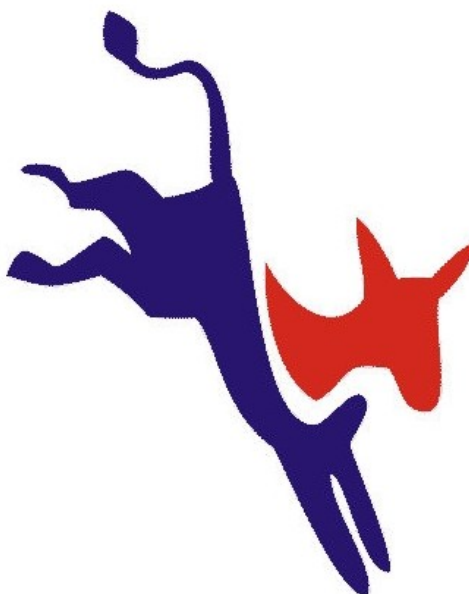
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LA CROSSE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Our Elected Officials

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State Senator Dan Kapanke

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email: sen.kapanke@legis.wisconsin.gov

2009 EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

Elections for the 2009 Executive Board will take place at the November General Party Meeting on Monday, November 17th at 7:00 P.M. at the Port O'Call Room of the Cartwright Center at UW-L. Viterbo University history professor Keith Knutson will be the guest speaker at the meeting.

The nominees are as follows:

- For Co-Chair: Vicki Burke & Pablo Ruiz
- For Vice-Chair: Isaac Rebout
- For Treasurer: Leandra Dahlin
- For Secretary: Richelle Zimmerman

For the at large members (Five to be elected): Graham Clumpner Rachael Collins, Bob Freedland, Matt Landi, Kris Troyanek & JD Wine.

There are no nominations from the floor at this meeting. Write ins are allowed. You must be a current (2008 or 2009) member of the party by November 12th in order to vote.

La Crosse County
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
P.O. Box 1861
La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

Authorized and paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party,
 Fabio A. Burgos, Chair; Kris Troyanek, Treasurer
 The content herein is not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

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Attention all Party Members:

The Newsletter is now online. If you don't receive the online newsletter and haven't received online updates through the campaign, please email laxdems.com.

REMINDER REGARDING MEMBERSHIPS

If you renew or sign up for membership **after October 1, 2008**, you are a member of the La Crosse County and State of Wisconsin Democratic Parties **through December 31, 2009**. If you haven't done so already, please fill out membership form below and send back in the return envelope provided.



IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2009!



*Yes please enroll me, and/or my family, as a member of the La Crosse County Democratic Party for 2009!!
 Enclosed is payment for dues according to type of membership requested.*

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Home/Cell Phone _____
 Work Phone _____
 Email Address _____
 Occupation _____
 Assembly District: 94th _____ 95th _____ Ward _____

Please Check Due Structure that applies

- ___ \$25 General Membership
 (\$10 each for up to 3 additional members)
- ___ \$ 10 Senior Citizen
- ___ \$35 Pairs (Up to Two Memberships)
- ___ \$45 Activist (Up to 3)
- ___ \$75 Family Membership
- ___ \$120 Supporting Membership
- ___ \$240 Friend
- ___ \$600 Patron
- ___ \$1200 Investor
- ___ \$2400 Benefactor

*Make checks payable to;
 The La Crosse County Democratic Party
 P.O. Box 1861
 La Crosse WI 54602-1861*

I recommend contacting as a possible member
 Name _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

YES! I am interested in volunteering for party activities!