

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

LAXDEMS.COM

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

Happy New Year! And what a new year this is going to be! There are nine campaigns we must win. We will be opening an office and looking for many volunteers. Are you ready?

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as chair. The new officers and their contact information are listed on page 3.

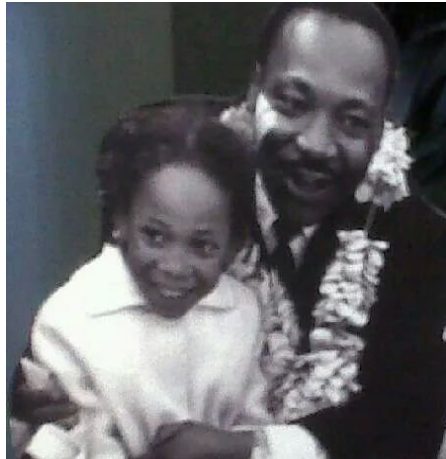
Thank you to J.D. Wine and Marcia Wine for serving as Chair and Vice Chair in 2015. Thank you to Kris Troyanek for her 8 years as treasurer. Thank you to Harvey Witzenburg, Secretary, and at-large members, Jeff Wildt, Barb Clark, Paul Kruse, Susan Goeldner and Ed Burgess. Thanks also to Sarah Seguire-Hall our college representative.

We will be holding our January LCDP meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, January 18, so that members may attend the MLK Jr. celebration. See the article in center column.

The Democratic National Convention will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on July 25 to the 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be selecting delegates to the National Convention in the next few months. An article on page 3 explains the process and where to go for information.

Vicki

## JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



### MLK Jr. Celebration

(MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. and Sheyann Webb pictured above.) We have scheduled our LCDP meeting at 6 p.m. to allow our members to attend the celebration honoring Martin Luther King Jr. The celebration will be held on Monday, January 18, at the Viterbo Fine Arts Center, 929 Jackson St., La Crosse at 7 p.m.

The featured speaker at the event is Sheyann Webb. Sheyann was named the "Smallest Freedom Fighter" by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She was the youngest participant to take part in the historically first attempted Selma to Montgomery march known as "Bloody Sunday." She is the nationally known co-author of *Selma, Lord, Selma: Girlhood Memories of the Civil Rights Days*.

**"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."**  
MLK, Jr.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday, January 12**-President Barack Obama's Last State of the Union Address 8 p.m. CDT

**Sunday, January 17**, Democratic Debate NBC 7 p.m.

**Monday, January 18** LCDP January Meeting, Ho Chunk Three Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse, 6 p.m. NOTE TIME CHANGE to accomodate MLK Jr event at Viterbo

**Monday, January 18**, MLK Jr. Event 7 p.m. Viterbo Fine Arts Center, 929 Jackson St., La Crosse See "MLK Jr. Celebration" article this page.

**Saturday, April 2** Third CD Convention Host Pierce County in River Falls SIGN UP WITH CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR BY MARCH 15 TO BE A DELEGATE

**Sunday, April 17**, First Tier at County level for National Delegate Selection 1 p.m. See article page 3 held in La Crosse

**Sunday, May 1** National Delegate selection at Congressional District Caucus held in La Crosse 1 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4**, SAVE THE DATE Wisconsin State Democratic Convention Green Bay Radisson Hotel and Conference Center Green Bay, 2040 Airport Dr. 920-494-7300

### Walker's Poor Job Progress

"Wisconsin ranked 32nd in private-sector job growth among the 50 states in the five-year period that ended in June, new government figures show..."  
Milwaukee JS 12-17-15

## The Shrinking Middle Class-What It Means For America

In the following article from the Dec. 10, 2015, *Atlantic City Lab* the author Tanvi Misra discusses the shrinking middle class, supported with statistics from a new Pew Research Center analysis.

She writes that, “America’s middle class has been steadily shrinking since 1971, and now this segment of the U.S. population is around the same size as the layers above and below it combined.” She continues looking at a new analysis by Pew Research Center which finds that this demographic shift could signal a tipping point.

Misra cites the following statistics. “In 2015, middle-income Americans (adults in a three-person household with annual income between \$42,000 and \$126,000) made up about half of the U.S. population, down steadily from 61 percent since 1971. In absolute numbers, this middle-income band now contains around 120 million people, which is almost the same as the total number of Americans in the other economic tiers combined (121 million).”

She continues to say, “The bands at the two extremes are growing the fastest, indicating a widening income inequality.” (See chart on right.)

Web link for this article: <http://www.citylab.com/work/2015/12/pew-america-middle-class-shrinking-tipping-point-wealth-income-inequality/419796/>

### Gov. Walker Continues To Weaken Public Education in Wis

Wisconsin’s cuts to public education have been deeper than nearly all other states. According to an article on Wisconsin Public Budget Blog Thursday, December 10, 2015, by Tamarine Cornelius ““Wisconsin cut general funding for K-12 schools by 12.7% per student between 2008 and 2016 after adjusting for inflation, with only Oklahoma, Alabama, and Arizona making larger cuts.” Web link for this article is

<http://www.wisconsinbudgetproject.org/wisconsins-cuts-to-k-12-schools-still-deeper-than-nearly-all-other-states>

Now legislation (AB581) is coming forward that lowers standards for teachers of vocational education. Betsy Kippers, President of the Wisconsin Education Association Council said this “would begin to erode Wisconsin’s high standards for teacher certification.”

She continues “Teachers need classroom management skills and the ability to teach to a wide variety of learning styles. ... Teachers need to know how to develop curriculum and how to provide differentiated instruction for students with a variety of learning levels. “

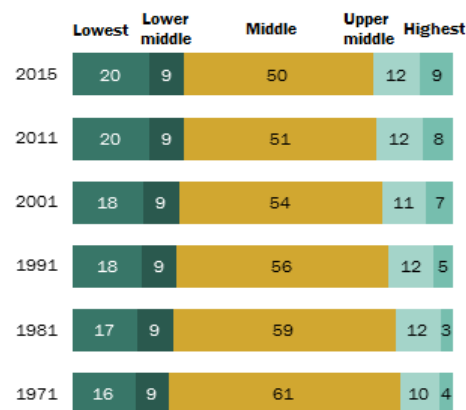
Read her complete statement at <http://weac.org/2015/12/17/bill-loosening-standards-for-teaching-technical-education-would-lead-to-erosion-of-quality-kippers-testifies/>

### Message from Congressman Kind

Back in December Congress passed a budget that contained very important changes for the La Crosse area and that I worked hard to make sure were included. **Continue p. 3 Kind**

## From Pew Research Center Share of adults living in middle-income households is falling

% of adults in each income tier



## Huebsch Ordered Cabinet members to Use Private Emails

In the Saturday, Dec. 19, *La Crosse Tribune* an article by Dee J. Hall of the Wisconsin Center For Investigative Journalism again shows the arrogance and the increased desire of Gov. Walker, his cronies, and Republican elected officials to keep their activities secret. Wisconsin has always demanded and expected openness and transparency.

In the article Hall reports that, “Peter Bildsten, former secretary of the Department of Financial Institutions, and Paul Jadin, former head of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp., said they were instructed in Walker’s first term by then-Administration Secretary Mike Huebsch not to use official email or state telephones to relay important information or documents.”

Republicans in Wisconsin continue to stand for closing public records, denying voting rights, rigging voting districts,

**Continue Huebsch p. 3**

LCDP Phone 608-769-5286

### Executive Board Officers

**Chair: Vicki Burke**

608-792-5854

[Vburke0737@aol.com](mailto:Vburke0737@aol.com)

**Vice Chair: Kris Troyanek**

608-782-3135

[kristroyanek@gmail.com](mailto:kristroyanek@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: Diane Oldani Wulf**

(608) 780-7007

[Eap11111@aol.com](mailto:Eap11111@aol.com)

**Secretary: Harvey Witzenburg**

608-385-5422

[harvpella@gamil.com](mailto:harvpella@gamil.com)

### At-Large Board Members

**Susan Goeldner**

[waynegoeldner@msn.com](mailto:waynegoeldner@msn.com)

**Tom Krajewski**

[krajewskit@gmail.com](mailto:krajewskit@gmail.com)

**Carolyn Smith**

[smithcjna3i@charter.net](mailto:smithcjna3i@charter.net)

**Paula Stanek**

[paulastanek@aol.com](mailto:paulastanek@aol.com)

**Jeff Wildt**

[jwildt6701@aol.com](mailto:jwildt6701@aol.com)

**Past Chair: J.D. Wine**

[jwine@charter.net](mailto:jwine@charter.net)

### College Representative

**Sarah Semrad**

[Semrad.sarah@uwlax.edu](mailto:Semrad.sarah@uwlax.edu)

### Democratic Party of Wisconsin

<http://www.wisdems.org>

### Candidates

Recent polls show former Senator Russ Feingold in good position against Senator Ron Johnson. To help Russ, go to the following link: [russfeingold.com](http://russfeingold.com)

Contact Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders and Martin O'Malley by going to [laxdems.com](http://laxdems.com) and hit on candidates link.

## Our Elected Officials

### Senator Tammy Baldwin (D)

717 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington D.C. 20510

Ph. 202-224-5653

[www.baldwin.senate.gov/contact](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov/contact)

Local: 608-796-0045

205 5<sup>th</sup>. Ave. S., La Crosse

### Senator Ron Johnson (R)

328 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington D.C. 20510

(202) 224-5323

### Congressman Ron Kind (D)

1406 Longworth House Office Building,

Washington D.C. 20510

Local: 205 Fifth Ave. S., Suite 400 Ph.

(608)-782-2558

### Governor Scott Walker (R)

Office of the Governor

115 East State Capitol,

Madison, WI 53702

(608)266-1212

### State Senator Jennifer Shilling (D)

State Capitol 106 South

P.O. Box 7882, Madison, WI 53708

Ph. (608)266-5409

Local: (608)788-9854

[Sen.Shilling@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sen.Shilling@legis.wisconsin.gov)

### District 94 Assembly Rep.

#### Steve Doyle (D)

Room 126 North, State Capitol

P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708

Ph. (608) 266-0631

### District 95 Assembly Rep.

#### Jill Billings (D)

Room 4 West State Capitol

P.O. Box 8952, Madison WI 53708

Ph. (608) 266-5780

### Tim Gruenke County D. A. (D)

(608)785-9604

[Gruenke.tim@mail.da.state.wi.us](mailto:Gruenke.tim@mail.da.state.wi.us)

### Ginny Dankmeyer-County Clerk (D)

[gdankmeyer@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:gdankmeyer@lacrossecounty.org)

(608)785-9581

### Shawn Handland-County Treas. (D)

(608)785-8711

[shandland@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:shandland@lacrossecounty.org)

## Huebsch con't from p. 2

doing away with John Doe investigations, taking away local control, and destroying the Government

Accountability Board.

This is NOT what Democracy looks like.

## Want to be a Delegate?

Delegates are chosen for the Third Congressional District Convention (April 2), the Wisconsin State Democratic Party Convention (June 3 and 4), and the Democratic National Convention (July 25-28).

If you would like to be a delegate give your name to Chair Vicki Burke or Vice Chair Kris Troyanek by March 15, 2016, for the Third CD Convention and May 18, 2016 for the State Convention.

“Wisconsin will select a total of 96 delegates and 7 alternates for the 2016 National Convention.” The Third CD will have 7 CD level delegates-4 men and 3 women. Information on this process at <http://www.wisdems.org/Delegates> and watch the newsletter for more information. If you have questions, call the Vicki at 608-792-5854.

## Kind continued

I am happy to announce an increase in federal rail safety funding that will help make sure that our communities are prepared for any accident or spill that may occur—especially important when at least 1 million gallons of oil from North Dakota roll through La Crosse County every week.

You can read more about the budget, including some other provisions I worked to get included.

Link: <http://bit.ly/1TAf8OR>



We need contributions to help with the many things the LCDP does. This year, 2016, is a very important year for the United States and Wisconsin.

We ask that you consider a donation of any size for the LCDP as we provide for events, an office, and the support of the nine campaigns we will help coordinate from our office.

Please send a contribution to:

LCDP
P.O. Box 1861
La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

You may also go to our website to make a contribution.

For information on candidates or to volunteer go to our website at www.laxdems.com and click on the Volunteer or Candidates link.

La Crosse County Democratic Party
P.O. Box 1861
La Crosse WI 54602-1861

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Authorized and paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party, Vicki Burke, Chair; Diane Oldani Wulf, Treasurer. The content herein is not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.

Attention All Party Members!

The newsletter is also on line. If you are not receiving the email updates on line, please update your address by sending an email to laxdems@yahoo.com or visit us online at laxdems.com

Become a member of the La Crosse County Democratic Party. Clip bottom of page and send to LCDP.

Please check the dues structure that applies:

- \$25 General Membership
\$10 Senior, Student, Limited Income
\$35 Pairs (up to two members)
\$75 Family
\$120 Supporting Membership
\$250 Friend
\$600 Patron
\$2400 Benefactor

I would like to support the LCDP with a donation of \$

Total Amount Paid \$

Make checks payable to
La Crosse County Democratic Party
P.O. Box 1861
La Crosse, WI 54002-1861

You may also donate online: wwwLaxDems.com

Received
Renewal Month

Name(s)

Address

City

State

Phone ( )

Email

\*Occupation

\*Employer Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Your contribution may be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

\*Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

I recommend contacting as a possible member:

Name

Phone

Email

