

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

"I'm sorry." With those simple words Hillary Clinton spoke of her loss and our loss.

Thank you to all who put in so much time and effort on this campaign. Thank you to Emilie Pollack, Stevan Stankovich and Dan Hanover who were our Field Organizers. Thank you to Taylor Goodine, Kate Constalie, Margie Berkowitz, Ryan Cornett and Devin Remiker from the Shilling, Doyle and Kind campaigns.

This is my last Message from the Chair. I thank you all for your encouragement and support in the five years (2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016) I served as chair. I could not have done it without the help of some special Democrats. I want to personally thank Kris Troyanek who served as LCDP treasurer during 4 of those years. I also want to thank Carolyn Smith who was always there and is a tireless worker.

I think the La Crosse County Democratic Party is strong even in the defeat of Hillary Clinton and Russ Feingold. Congressman Ron Kind, State Senator Jennifer Shilling, State Representatives Steve Doyle and Jill Billings were reelected. Our La Crosse County officeholders were reelected without opposition: They are District Attorney Tim Gruenke, County Clerk Ginny Dankmeyer, and County Treasurer Shawn Handland.

We look to the future and what we can do to make our party more inclusive and stronger. We must sharpen our message and continue to be dedicated to the principle Secretary Clinton spoke of in her speech. (Center column). Thank you.  
Moving Forward, Vicki Burke

## December 2016 NEWSLETTER



### Sec. Clinton On Her Loss

"To all the women and especially the young women who put their faith in this campaign and in me, I want you to know that nothing has made me prouder than to be your champion," Clinton said. (Pictured above with President Bill Clinton and Senator Tim Kaine, VP candidate)

"I know we have still not shattered that highest and hardest glass ceiling, but someday, someone will, and hopefully sooner than we might think right now." Clinton continued.

Sec. Clinton was not bitter. She stood by those ideals so necessary in preserving our democracy.

Sec. Clinton said, "Our constitutional democracy enshrines the peaceful transfer of power and we don't just respect that, we cherish it.

It also enshrines other things: the rule of law, the principle that we are equal in rights and dignity, freedom of worship and expression. We respect and cherish these values too and we must defend them."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 12, Debriefing of Election-LCDP and 3<sup>rd</sup>. CD leaders, and campaign volunteers Northside Policing Station, 713 St. James St., La Crosse 5-8 p.m.

Holiday Party Monday, Dec. 19 5 p.m. Earl's, 401 Third St. S., La Crosse Bring an appetizer to pass

MLK Jr. celebration Monday, January 16, 2017 TBA 7 p.m. Viterbo Fine Arts Center Speaker-Nucleus Jackson

LCDP Jan. Meeting TBA

### President Obama and Sen. Sanders on Trump Election

Both Sec. Clinton and President Obama stressed that those who are disappointed should not give up on their dreams. President Obama said that he and he President George W. Bush had major differences eight years ago, but they still had a successful transition.

Pres.. Obama reminded us that we "are all on the same team" and characterized politics as an "intramural scrimmage."

"Sometimes you lose an argument, sometimes you lose an election, But the path this country has taken has never been a straight line. We zig and zag."

Sen. Sanders said "To the degree that Mr. Trump is serious about pursuing policies that improve the lives of working families in this country, ... To the degree that he pursues racist, sexist, xenophobic and anti-environment policies, we will vigorously oppose him."

## **LCDP Executive Board Disregards LCDP Constitution and By Laws and the Opinion of the Wisconsin Democratic Party Constitution and By Laws Committee On Election of Co-Chairs**

Elections were held on Monday, Nov. 21, 2016 for Officers and At-Large Bd. Members. There was no nominee for chair on the ballot. Write-ins were allowed by the LCDP Constitution and By Laws. Although a majority of people wrote-in co-chairs, the LCDP by laws do not provide for co-chairs. Many of those voting were told co-chairs were allowed. Many casting ballots had been members for just a short time and were not familiar with the rules governing elections. Kris Troyanek was also a write-in for chair. She challenged the election results at the meeting and in formal letters to J.D. Wine and Susan Goeldner who had organized the write-in for co-chairs. She also sent the letter to the LCDP Chair Vicki Burke. The Executive Board denied her challenge.

Prior to the meeting LCDP Chair Vicki Burke had requested a ruling from the Wis. State Democratic Constitution By laws Committee chaired by Lisa Herman, Third Congressional District Chair. The Committee ruled that co-chairs were not provided for in our constitution and by laws and that the election was invalid. The Ex. Bd. voted to disregard the opinion of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin Constitution By Laws Committee and keep co-chairs. Those voting to disregard the opinion of the Wis. Dem. Party Constitution and By Law Committee were the following: J.D. Wine, Diane Oldani Wulf, Harvey Witzenburg, Jeff Wildt, Tom Krajewski, and Susan Goeldner (on phone). Those voting to uphold the constitution and by laws and the opinion of the State Constitution and By Laws Committee were the following: Vicki Burke, Kris Troyanek, and Sarah Semrad (UW-L College Representative). The At-Large Board members will be Sara Bentley, Obbie King, Carolyn Smith, Paula Stanek, and Kris Troyanek. Vicki Burke will serve as Past Chair. The college representative is yet to be selected by the UW-L College Dems.

Since it is the responsibility of the chair to uphold the constitution, I have asked that this decision be put on the January general meeting on January 16, 2017 for an explanation and discussion by the membership. Vicki Burke

### **Message from Martha Lanning-Chair Democratic Party of Wisconsin**

We are grieving now. The shock of what happened on Nov. 8 is not something that we can just push aside. It's real. It's scary and we need to acknowledge that.

This reminds me of a serious trauma where one moment your life is normal and the next you learn you have a serious challenge to deal with. While we are shocked at how our world has changed in such a short time, we also recognize that there are things we need to do while we adjust to our new reality. We need to learn how we can work within the new environment to influence the change, or in our case limit the damage, that can be done.

...I suggest we need to do three things. We need to stick to our values, stay committed to helping our community, and evaluate what has happened so we can learn from our mistakes and take appropriate action to win in 2018. Here are a few ways we can do all of that.

Stick to our Values: ...First we need to support those that are most at risk in a Trump presidency: immigrants, women, LGBTQ, people with disabilities and members of our communities of color. There is an easy way to help these community members right now – find an organization in your community that supports them and volunteer or donate to them.

Stay Committed: The loss we have experienced and the challenge we are facing to rectify the situation have left some people considering giving up, but my question to them is: if not you then who? We need everyone to stay engaged, actually up their game, because it is another way to let at risk community members, future generations, working class community members and seniors know just how committed we are to them.

Learn from our Mistakes: We are going to do a deep dive into this race. What went wrong, what we did well, and what we need to change. Our administrative committee, congressional and county party leadership, our candidates, candidate's staff and volunteers will all be represented in the process.

This election was like no other and the tragic ending is heartbreaking. ...I keep reminding myself ...that I am proud to be on the Democratic team. I am proud of the incredible Democratic elected officials we have in the state who refuse to give up the fight. I am proud of the amazing grassroots network we had and the impressive candidates who worked so hard to create a better future for Wisconsinites.

LCDP Phone 608-769-5286  
117 5<sup>th</sup>. Ave. S., La Crosse

**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>

## **LOST AND FOUND AT OFFICE**

Several items were left at the campaign office by volunteers. If any of the following is yours please call Vicki at 608-792-5854.

Blue Nylon Scarf  
Plaid large tote  
Three insulated coffee mugs

## **Our Elected Officials**

**White House website contacts**  
[https://www.whitehouse.gov/adminis-  
tration/eop](https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop)

**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)266-2785  
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)

## **Message From Rep. Ron Kind**

The results of last Tuesday's election left many Wisconsinites feeling scared and uneasy about what the future holds for their lives and the lives of their loved ones. I want everyone to know that they are not alone.

I plan to operate under the assumption that, until proven otherwise, the statements Donald Trump made during the campaign are exactly what he plans to do as President, and I am more dedicated than ever to standing up and fighting to protect Wisconsin and America's most vulnerable. I will lead my Democratic colleagues in acting as a check against Mr. Trump enacting any of his darker impulses.

While things seem scary and uncertain on a national level I encourage all Wisconsinites, now more than ever, to show their neighbors the kindness and support that are the trademarks of our way of life. Change starts in our local communities.

Anyone looking for ways to help can volunteer their time for causes that help create positive change. I for one plan to continue to look for opportunities to expand my "Kind Communities" volunteer efforts to reach more projects that need help in Wisconsin. Together we can also provide safe spaces for women, communities of color, Muslims, and LGBT individuals to feel accepted.

At a time when so much feels uncertain, you are not alone. Together we will keep up the good fight and ensure that our Wisconsin way of life endures.

Rep. Ron Kind

**THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE**  
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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](http://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](mailto:laxdems@yahoo.com) or visit us online at [laxdems.com](http://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)
- \$45 yearly Activist
- \$75 yearly Martin Luther and Coretta King, Jr.\*
- \$10 a month John and Jackie Kennedy\*
- \$20 a month Harry and Bess Truman\*
- \$50 a month Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt\*

\*Includes all family members

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 54602-1861

You may also donate online: [www.LaxDems.com](http://www.LaxDems.com)

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

