

THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

LAXDEMS.COM

March 2019 Newsletter

Message from Cathy Van Maren, LCDP Treasurer

I became politically involved when I went to college and joined campus demonstrations against the draft and the Vietnam War. In 1972, the first election in which 18 years olds were able to vote, I worked for George McGovern's campaign and cast my first presidential vote for him.

Since then I've volunteered for dozens of Democratic candidates along with many local state and national environmental and social justice campaigns. I also volunteer locally to help register voters, especially on election days. Since January I have been the acting secretary/treasurer of the DPW Progressive Caucus. I'll remain in that post until the June convention. In addition, I'm active in several Sierra Club campaigns and as a transit advocate. I volunteer on the LAPC advisory committee on transit and active transportation and am on the Sustainable La Crosse Commission.

Because I think activism is important and knowing what's going on is important to successful activism, I maintain a calendar of local events and actions at [https://](https://tinyurl.com/cpdaily-calendar)



Upcoming Events

LCDP Executive Board Meeting,
Monday, March 4, 2019, 6:00
p.m., Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers
House, 724 Main St., La Crosse, WI,
54601

LCDP Regular Meeting, Monday,
March 18, 2019, 6:30 p.m., Ho-Chunk
Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main
St., La Crosse, WI

**Wisconsin Conservation Voters
Conservation Lobby Day,**
Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 9:00
a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monona Terrace,
Exhibition Hall A, 1 John Nolen Drive
Madison, WI 53703
Conservation voters share their natural
resource values – and expectations –
with their legislators. Learn more at
[https://conservationvoters.org/events/
conservation-lobby-day](https://conservationvoters.org/events/conservation-lobby-day)

Spring Election, Tuesday, April 2,
2019. For key information unique
to you and voting, go to My Vote
Wisconsin at myvote.wi.gov
See p. 2 of this newsletter for
additional information.

tinyurl.com/cpdaily-calendar

Locally, I'd like to make
sure our party is welcoming and

open to new members, especially
younger people who will have to
live with the policies and priorities
our candidates and electeds fight
for (or don't). I'd like us to live
our values and work with others
on issues that will benefit people
and improve their lives as so much
Democratic legislation in the past
has done. I'd like to encourage
more members to be more active.
And I'd like to help update the way
we do things so more people will
be able to participate.

Nationally, I'll continue to
support candidates who are
“unbought and unbossed,”
compassionate, and bold in
pushing for and championing
FDR/LBJ style legislation that the
majority of Americans support
and that will help and protect our
planet, our vital natural resources,
the Green New Deal, Medicare
for All, fair elections, reform of
our legal system, fair immigration
policies, an end to endless wars,
and much more.

In the meantime if you have
any questions about our party's
finances, your membership, or the
online join-the-party site, please
contact me at [treasurer@laxdems.
com](mailto:treasurer@laxdems.com)



Absentee Voting- Deadlines for the April 2, 2019 Spring Election

All voters in Wisconsin can request an absentee ballot be mailed to them for any reason. Voters must be registered before they can request an absentee ballot. Voters may request their absentee ballot in writing. To request an absentee ballot on MyVote.wi.gov, go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee>. You must provide a photo ID with your absentee ballot request.

April 2, 2019 Spring Election Information

My Vote Wisconsin – myvote.wi.gov - is an inclusive search tool that provides key information unique to you and voting. You can verify your voter information, check your voter registration or register to vote, request an absentee ballot if registered to vote, find your polling place, and learn what is on your ballot.

Deadlines for April 2, 2019 Spring Election

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoterDeadlines>

Voters can register in the following ways. All voters must provide a Proof of Residence document when registering to vote by mail, in-person in the clerk's office, or at the polls on Election Day.

March 13, 2019 - Deadline to Register by Mail - Your voter registration form, along with proof of residence must be postmarked to your municipal clerk no later than March 13, 2019. Go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk> to find your Municipal Clerk's Contact Information.

March 13, 2019 - Deadline to Register to vote online - Voters who are able to match their name, date of birth, Wisconsin Driver License or State ID number, and address with the Wisconsin DMV can register to vote online through March 13, 2019.

March 29, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline to Register in Your Municipal Clerk's Office - Voters may register in-person in their municipal clerk's office during the clerk's business hours until 5:00 p.m. on March 29, 2019.

April 2, 2019 from 7:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. Register to Vote at Your Polling Place - Voters can register to vote at their polling place on Election Day, April 2, 2019. Find your Polling Place here.

March 28, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline to Request an Absentee Ballot by mail - Regular and Permanent Overseas Voters- If you are a regular or a Permanent Overseas Voters, your absentee ballot request must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019.

March 29, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline to Request an Absentee Ballot- Indefinitely Confined - If a voter is indefinitely confined, your absentee ballot request must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 29, 2019.

Possibly through March 31, 2019 - Deadline for In-Person Absentee - Voters can possibly request and vote an absentee ballot in-person in their municipal clerk's office through March 31, 2019. **Office hours vary by municipality.** Some municipal offices may not offer additional in-person absentee hours. Contact your municipal clerk for absentee voting hours.

April 2, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline for Hospitalized Voters - Voters who are in a hospital may request a ballot be brought to them by an appointed agent if they are hospitalized in the 7 days preceding the election. Hospitalized electors may request an absentee ballot between March 26, 2019 and April 2, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

April 2, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline to Request an Absentee Ballot - Military - If a voter is in the military, your absentee ballot request must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 2, 2019.

April 2, 2019 @ 8:00 p.m. - Deadline to Return Absentee Ballot - If you have already received an absentee ballot, you must return your absentee ballot by mail or delivery to your municipal clerk. Your ballot must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, April 2, 2019.



Reminder - Moving to Paperless Newsletters April 1, 2019

The Executive Board decided at the January 7, 2019 meeting that members who have a working email address on file will not receive a mailed paper copy of our monthly newsletter after the March issue. Individuals without listed email addresses, lack internet access to the LCDP website, or have requested a paper copy because of eyesight issues, will still receive a mailed, printed newsletter.



- Thanks to Avery Van Gaard and Cathy Van Maren for helping organize Progressitval 2019 in La Crosse.
- Thanks to LCDP members Dr. Mark Neumann and Kathy Allen for speaking at Progresstival on Healthy People - Healthy Planet.
- Thanks to Ed Burgess, Peter Klitzke, Obbie King, and Roz Brooks for working in various capacities at Progresstival.

“No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens.”

~ *Michelle Obama*

Resolutions Information and Guidelines

While the DPW State Convention is still three months away, the deadline for County Parties to adopt and forward resolutions that could be considered there is fast approaching. Each County Party may send up to 10 resolutions to their CD Conventions. The CD Conventions in turn will select up to 10 resolutions to forward to the DPW State Convention via the DPW's Platform and Resolutions (D&P) Committee.

The process for the La Crosse County Democratic Party is as follows. The LCDP by-laws state that any member of the LCDP may introduce a resolution at any regular meeting with a written provision provided to the Chair. Upon introduction and seconding, the proposed resolution is referred to the LCDP Executive Board for recommendation before being considered by the general membership.

Based upon past practices, the timeline is as follows. For a resolution to be considered at the 3rd CD on May 4, it must be proposed at the LCDP regular meeting on Monday, March 18, 2019, so that the LCDP Executive Board can discuss the proposed resolution at its meeting on April 1, 2019. This will allow for a recommendation and vote on the proposed resolution at the LCDP regular meeting on Monday, April 15, 2019. If approved, the resolution can be forwarded to the 3rd CD by April 18, 2019, for consideration at the May 4 CD Convention.

Resolutions are limited to 100 words, not including the title. Resolutions that address state or national issues have the best chance to be adopted at the DPW Convention. The format of a resolution follows this pattern:

TITLE

WHEREAS, (informational statement 1);

WHEREAS, (informational statement 2);

WHEREAS, (informational statement 3); and,

WHEREAS, (informational statement 4);

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, (resolved clause 1);

FURTHER RESOLVED, (resolved clause 2); and,

FINALLY RESOLVED, (final resolved clause).

Note that the resolution is structured like a compound sentence – each WHEREAS is joined by a semicolon, and the word “and” precedes the final WHEREAS statement. A similar pattern is followed in the RESOLVED clauses. The word “and” may be dropped to make the word count. The number of WHEREAS and RESOLVED clauses can be whatever you want, with a minimum of one each.

Resolutions are a critical yet often underappreciated part of the activity of our party. Please consider submitting a resolution. Send a proposed resolution to chair@laxdems.com or call 608-769-5286.



SPOTLIGHT



**Wisconsin
Conservation
Voters**

[\(https://conservationvoters.org/\)](https://conservationvoters.org/)

The Wisconsin Conservation Voters is an advocacy group that matches our LCDP principles to defend water resources and the environment from degradation, expand the use and development of renewable energy, and act to combat climate change. Moreover, the LCDP Events Committee is looking at ways in which members can participate in issue advocacy. Such an opportunity is the Wisconsin Conservation Voters Conservation Lobby Day, (<https://conservationvoters.org/events/conservation-lobby-day>) Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monona Terrace, Exhibition Hall A, 1 John Nolen Drive Madison, WI 53703. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m., advocacy at 10:00 a.m. On Conservation Lobby Day, you can learn about important issues, meet with elected officials, and network with individuals who share your views on environmental issues.

The motto of Wisconsin Conservation Voters is “Engaging Voters to Protect Wisconsin’s Environment.” This group advocates “for sound environmental laws and policies, holds elected officials accountable for their votes and actions, and elects pro-conservation candidates who will champion priority issues.”

A recent example the Wisconsin Conservation Voters highlighted was the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism's “Failure at Faucet” project, which examined threats to the quality of drinking water in Wisconsin from nitrates from fertilizer and manure, toxic waste from Badger Army Ammunition near Baraboo, WI, and water pollution from

arsenic, lead, radium, strontium, pesticides, and pathogens. As you may know, Governor Tony Evers proclaimed 2019 the year of clean drinking water in Wisconsin in his first State of the State speech back in January. Governor Evers has instructed the Department of Health Services to obtain federal grants to replace lead pipes in Wisconsin. He also wants to find solutions for contaminated private wells, as a 2013 Department of Health Services revealed that nearly 4,000 wells were below water quality standards.

The Wisconsin Conservation Voters also provides a scorecard for elected officials. In the 2017-18 legislative session, our LCDP elected officials, Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling and Assembly Representatives Jill Billings and Steve Doyle, voted consistently with the Wisconsin Conservation Voters positions on bills related to industrial acid mining, lead contamination, Foxconn, and protection of wetlands. In fact, the Wisconsin Conservation Voters Honor Roll singled out Senator Shilling and Representative Billings for introducing a bill that requires the Department of Natural Resources to notify private well owners and municipalities when water pollution exceeds permitted limits and poses a health risk.



Call for Delegates to the Democratic Party 3rd Congressional District Convention, May 4, 2019, at the Lunda Center, Western Technical College, La Crosse, WI.

The Democratic Party 3rd Congressional District Executive Committee voted to hold the 3rd Congressional District Convention in the Lunda Center on the Western Technical Campus in La Crosse on May 4, 2019. The 3rd Congressional District will pay for the event. The 3rd Congressional District Executive Committee is interested in holding future 3rd CD

conventions in La Crosse as well, given the city’s central location in the 3rd CD.

Volunteers are needed to assist with registration and other tasks. Other counties in the 3rd CD will also provide volunteer assistance.

La Crosse is allotted 61 delegates to the State and 3rd CD conventions. If you are interested in being a delegate, please contact chair@lax.dems or 608-769-5286. Delegates to the 3rd CD are automatically delegates to the DPW State Convention at the Potawatomi Hotel and Casino in Milwaukee on Saturday, June 1 & Sunday, June 2, 2019.

More details to follow.

Our Elected Officials

Governor Tony Evers

Office of the Governor
115 East State Capital
Madison, WI 53702
Ph: 608-266-1212

Senator Tammy Baldwin

717 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: 202-224-5653, Fax: 202-224-9787

Senator Ron Johnson (R)

328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. Office Building
Ph: 202-224-5323

Congressman Ron Kind

1406 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: 202-225-5506, Fax: 202-225-5739

State Senator Jennifer Shilling

State Capitol 106 South
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53703-7882
Ph: 608-266-5490, Local: 608-782-2785

94th Assembly District Representative Steve Doyle

Room 124 North, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Ph: 608-266-0631 or 888-534-0094
Fax: 608-282-3694

95th Assembly District Representative Jill Billings

Room 4 West, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Ph: 608-266-5780

LCDP Executive Board Officers

Chair: Michael Smuksta

608-784-4219

Vice Chair: Peter Klitzke

608-780-6037

Treasurer: Cathy Van Maren

608-315-2693

Secretary: David Wulf

608-799-8977

At-Large Board Members:

Sara Bentley

Ed Burgess

Obbie King

Mark Neumann

Avery Van Gaard

Past Chair: Peter Gorski

College Representative: Adam Vlach (UW-L)

Posting of Unapproved Minutes

A couple of LCDP members have expressed an interest in receiving regular minutes prior to the next regular LCP meeting. If you want to receive the minutes early, please contact the LCDP secretary, David Wulf, at davidpwulf@aol.com or 608-799-8977. He will mail them as a PDF with an UNAPPROVED watermark. No hard copies will be sent.

Some Facts On Your LCDP Membership

The best and easiest way to renew your La Crosse County Democratic Party membership is through your local county treasurer. Once you are a member of the county, you are automatically a member of the 3rd Congressional District (3rd CD) and the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW). You need to submit membership dues only once a year to be a member of all three. It is unnecessary to submit duplicate memberships through the county and also through the state. If you have questions about your membership, please contact Cathy Van Maren, your current LCDP treasurer, at 608-315-2693, or at treasurer@laxdems.com

We Welcome Your Input

Any thoughts or suggestions you may have for your Executive Board are greatly appreciated. You can express them by contacting any board member, either by phone or email.

Renewing Your Membership!

You can renew your membership using the membership form found at the end of this newsletter. If you are receiving this newsletter via mail, please look at your mailing label to see when your membership expires. Thank you for your continued support!

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail and would prefer to receive it via email instead, please contact David Wulf at 608-799-8977 or davidpwulf@aol.com.



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

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For the LCDP to build upon its success in 2018 and continue activities into 2019, we are going to need volunteers and funding. The party is only as strong as the engagement of its members and friends. And that is where you come in. We have many opportunities for you to volunteer your skills. Also, please consider a contribution of any amount to help support activities and events to broaden our base.

You may send a contribution to:
LCDP, P. O. Box 1861, La Crosse, WI,
54602-1861.
For online contributions go to our website
www.laxdems.com.

Thank you.

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

Received _____
Renewal Month _____

Please check the dues structure that applies:

- ☐ \$10 Senior, Student, Limited Income
- ☐ \$25 General Membership (1 member)
- ☐ \$35 Pairs (up to two members)
- ☐ \$45 yearly Activist (up to 3 members)
- ☐ \$75 yearly (family)
- ☐ \$120 Supporting Membership
- ☐ \$240 Friend
- ☐ \$600 Patron

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.

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party.

Name(s) _____
Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone () _____
Email _____
*Occupation _____

*Contributions are not tax deductible for federal tax purposes. State law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, and occupation of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

I recommend contacting as a possible member:

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____