

# THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

January 2020 Newsletter

## Important Notice: Time change for January LCDP meeting

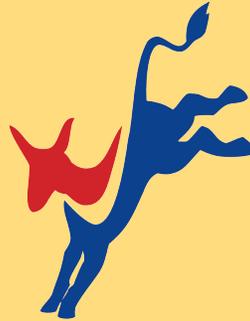
The LCDP meeting of January 20, 2020 will start at 5:30 p.m. at the Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St. in La Crosse in order to allow members to also attend the 2020 Martin Luther King Community Celebration at Viterbo university at 7:00 p.m.

At the LCDP meeting, Dr. Jeremy Arney, assistant professor of Political Science at UW-L, will speak to the members about the experiences of Lynda Blackmon Lowery in the early stages of the civil rights movement. Ms. Lowery, at age 15 in 1965, was the youngest person to complete the Selma-to-Montgomery Voting Rights March. Dr. Arney's comments will provide context for Ms. Lowery's keynote speech at the 2020 Martin Luther King Community Celebration.



To our state Electeds –

- Rep. Steve Doyle (Assembly District 94) for his article “Can bipartisan study mission to Israel bring peace home” in the La Crosse Tribune, December 22, 2019. The article is available at <https://tinyurl.com/uc4cesz>
- Representative Jill Billings (Assembly District 95) and Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling (Senate District 32) for advocating for a bill that would alert communities to tainted water. See Kyle Farris's article, “What's in your water?” in the La Crosse Tribune, December 22, 2019, at <https://tinyurl.com/yx7ltmrb>.



## Upcoming Events

**LCDP Executive Board Meeting**, Monday, January 6, 2020, 6:00 p.m., LCDP Office, 1323 Gillette St., La Crosse, WI

**Democratic Presidential Candidate Debate**, Tuesday, January 14, 2020, Time TBA, CNN and The Des Moines Register at Drake University

**LCDP Regular Meeting**, Monday, January 20, 5:30 p.m., **Note the time change**, Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse, WI

**LCDP Executive Board Meeting**, Monday, February 3, 2020, 6:00 p.m., LCDP Office, 1323 Gillette St., La Crosse, WI

Monday, February 3, 2020, **The Iowa caucuses**

FYI: Check when presidential candidates will be in Iowa @ <http://data.desmoinesregister.com/iowa-caucus/candidate-tracker/>



## Winter Glove Drive

Have you ever been so cold your hands are turning white and feel frozen? Many of the men and women who use the Catholic Charities Warming Center have that experience until they find respite there during the overnight hours. The Warming Center makes warm coats, scarves, hats, and gloves available. However the demand is great. Heavy waterproof gloves are especially needed in La Crosse, as our winter climate brings rain, sleet, and snow that challenges the homeless in their efforts to find shelter.

On February 8, 2020, local Democrats will be out canvassing as part of the 60 Days to Victory Day of Action sponsored by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. We can do that because we have the luxury of warm winter clothing. Let's share our good fortune by donating heavy waterproof gloves like those shown in the photo.

Gloves can be brought to the LCDP January meeting on Monday, January 20 @ 5:30 p.m., at the Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St. The earlier meeting time is to accommodate members who might want to attend the Martin Luther King Community Celebration event at Viterbo University @ 7 p.m. Gloves can also be donated at the LCDP Office open house (time and date TBA), or to the canvass staging sites on Feb. 8 (details to follow).



## LCDP Holiday Party

Approximately 45 individuals attended the LCDP annual Holiday Party that was held in the private party room at Big Al's Pizzeria on Third St. in La Crosse on Monday, December 16, 2019. The LCDP provided six large pizzas and some appetizers. Thanks to several individuals who donated \$50 to help cover the costs. As always, good conversations occurred whenever Democrats gather.



## 2020 LCDP OFFICE

The LCDP has a year lease (January 1 to December 31, 2020) on office space at 1323 Gillette St. in La Crosse. There are three rooms, a kitchenette, bathroom, and basement storage space for a total of 1600 sq. ft. Rent is \$600 per month, all utilities included. The office is on a high traffic street and is accessible by several MTU bus routes. The northside location provides quick access from Onalaska as well as the southside of La Crosse.



Space for computer and printer



Reception area with shelves

The office gives us a year-round presence and visibility. We envision using the office for more than just Executive Board meetings and canvass staging. The tentative plan is for an open house in later January (details forthcoming).

So, if you have a comfortable chair or small couch sitting in your basement and would like to donate furniture to the office, contact Cathy Van Maren, LCDP treasurer at 608-315-2693. We will start moving in on January 2. If you would like to assist with the move-in, contact the chair at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com).

**It's 2020 and the campaign is ON! Leanne Stokes, Linda Schams, Carol Klitzke, and Tina Pohlman scheduled a variety of opportunities to set the stage for success in the April Supreme Court election.**

**Tired of getting phone calls? Now you can sign up on your computer or phone and get all the details, including a map with the location. Please try it!**

### Phone Banks at LCDP Headquarters



P H O N E B A N K

The January phone banks are essential for filling shifts for the February 8 canvass. Our goal is at least 100 COMPLETED shifts between Onalaska, Holmen, and La Crosse.

Phone calls are more fun in a group (especially when snacks are provided!). We will be calling folks who have previously said they would like to volunteer for the Democrats and asking them to canvass on Feb. 8. Should be a friendly bunch. Come for as long or short a time as you can spare. Bring your cell phone. If you don't plan to make calls, we would appreciate a donation of snacks. Sign up using the links below.

Thursday, January 9, 5:30-7:30

<https://secure.ngpvan.com/6SZkVMORTUKZe1bFAj4SIQ2>

Thursday, January 23, 5:30-7:30

<https://secure.ngpvan.com/zqVio57COUCIDExUpDbCXw2>

### Canvassing Information Sessions

People new to canvassing will appreciate an orientation canvassing; more experienced canvassers will enjoy sharing techniques with others. All sessions led by local Democrats who have lots of experience knocking on doors in Onalaska and La Crosse. We offer two convenient times at different locations.



Thursday, January 29, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Canvassing Information Session at home of Linda Schams, 1405 Lake Street, Onalaska  
<https://secure.ngpvan.com/WIdxhOi2OUuoEE9ILONTNQ2>

Monday, February 3, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Canvassing Information Session at home of Carol Klitzke, 2323 King Street, La Crosse  
<https://secure.ngpvan.com/P9haxwOLKkehyQ1ZMWnVMA2>

### Saturday, February 8, 60 Days to Victory Day of Action

The Super Bowl will be over, and the winter blahs will be ready to set in as we wait for spring. Beat the blues by getting outside and doing something important: volunteer for the Day of Action. It is important that we elect a Supreme Court Judge who will represent progressive values and not corporate interests.

We have multiple staging locations, with shifts at 9:00 and noon. Our goal is to fill 100 canvasser shifts. If canvassing is not your thing, we want you to volunteer ANYWAY (please) and help with driving canvassers, organizing canvass sites, reporting to Madison, or providing snacks and hot drinks.



Chances are, February 8 will be cold and snowy. Please consider finding a friend who will be your driver and sign them up, too. Drivers save steps for canvassers, give them a place to warm up, and are good company! Please sign up using these links, or call Carol Klitzke 608-780-6038.

La Crosse Staging Location: LCDP Office at 1323 Gillette St.

<https://secure.ngpvan.com/vLZcMVgOj0KcgTzpDQqVHA2>

Onalaska Staging Location: home of Linda Schams, 1405 Lake St.

[https://secure.ngpvan.com/Vw6gj28NkUu5wuSivyY\\_6Q2](https://secure.ngpvan.com/Vw6gj28NkUu5wuSivyY_6Q2)



## Clean Water Lobby Day, January 30, 2020

Representative Jill Billings and Wisconsin Senate Minority leader Jennifer Shilling have consistently worked hard to make sure residents in Western Wisconsin, especially in rural areas, have good water quality. You have an opportunity to assist them in their endeavor by joining with the Wisconsin Conservation Voters (WCV) on their Clean Water Lobby Day on January 30, 2020, 12:30-5:00 p.m. (social hour afterward) at the Madison Concourse Hotel and State Capitol.

The WCV website states that “the three major threats to our water quality are nitrate from ag pollution, the ‘forever chemicals’ called PFAS, and lead. Unsafe drinking water is linked to cancer, diabetes, infant brain damage, lifelong learning and behavioral problems, and many more negative outcomes.”

For more information, go to <https://conservationvoters.org/events/clean-water-lobby-day>  
To sign up for the Clean Water Lobby Day, go to <https://secure.everyaction.com/y0meCM7J70ao6llaga79kQ2>

If there are LCDP members who are interested in participating in the Clean Water Lobby Day, we can coordinate carpooling at the January 20th LCDP regular meeting or by contacting Cathy Van Maren at [treasurer@laxdems.com](mailto:treasurer@laxdems.com) or 608-315-2693.



## Voter Registration Purge

In late December, AP news reported that “One of President Donald Trump’s top reelection advisors told influential Republicans in swing state Wisconsin that the party has ‘traditionally’ relied on voter suppression to compete in battleground states, according to an audio recording of a private event obtained by The Associated Press.” (<https://apnews.com/af2f0ede054d8baebbe1bb6ca47b4895>)

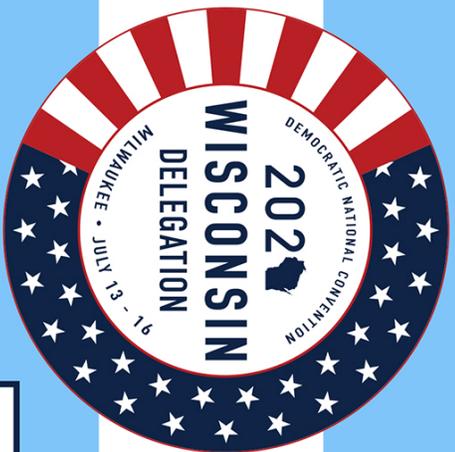
These comments followed a denial by Ozaukee County Judge Paul Malloy of a request by Elections Commission attorneys to put his decision on hold and ordered that the registrations of up to 234,000 voters be tossed out because they may have moved. The conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty originally filed the suit.

Republicans continue to do everything they can to suppress the vote ahead of the 2020 election, because they know that they must rig the system in their favor in order to win. To wit: voter ID laws, gerrymandering of Wisconsin legislative districts to ensure a GOP majority, and trying to postpone special elections or limit early voting.

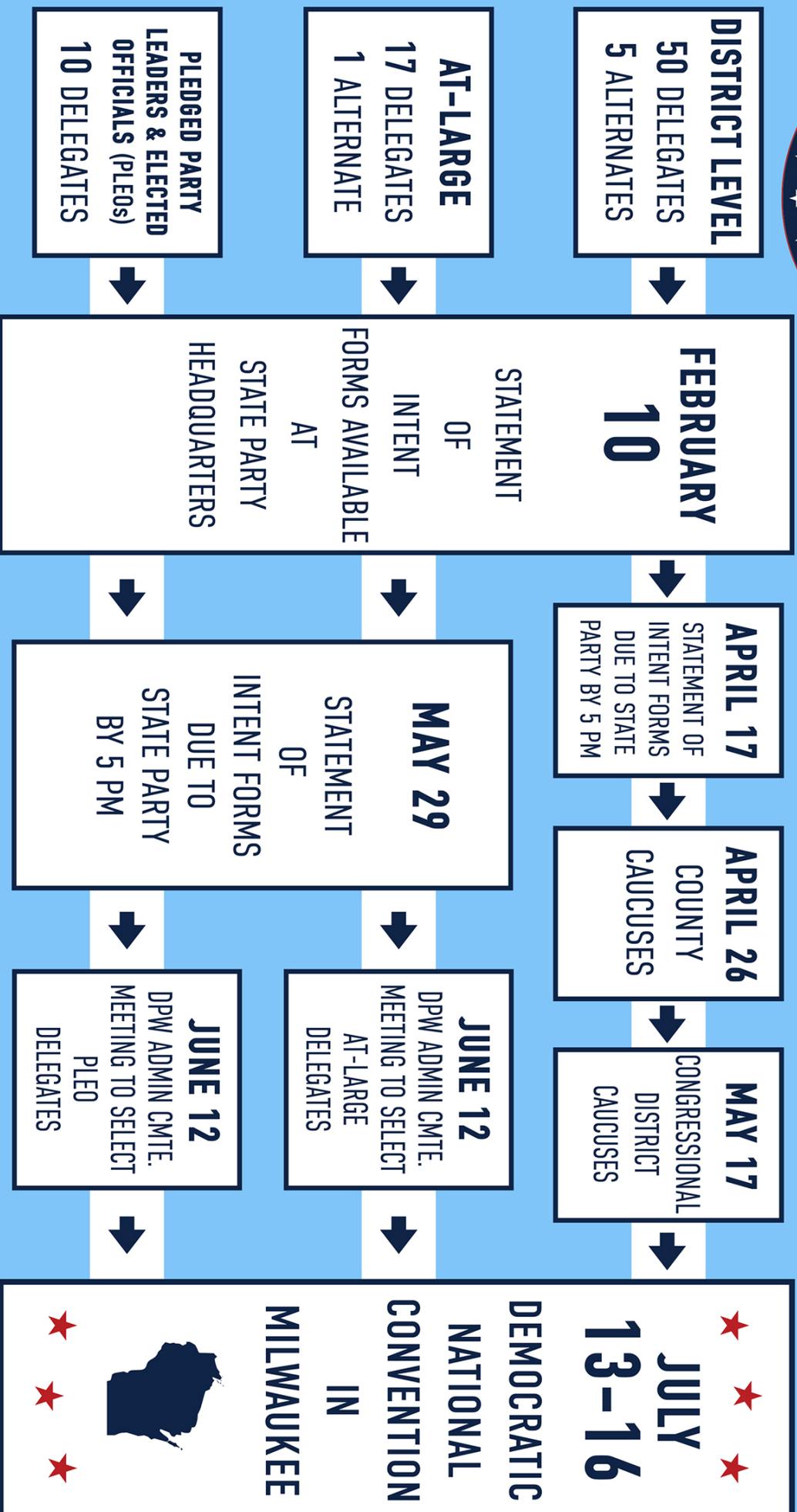
If the Republican voter purge is successful, in some communities up to 17% of voters, disproportionately young people and people of color, would be disenfranchised.

Wisconsin has same-day voter registration, but everyone should check their registration at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/RegisterToVote> to make sure it’s current. And Democrats will do all we can to make sure voters affected by the purge are re-registered.





# 2020 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS



# 2020 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE OVERVIEW

**DISTRICT LEVEL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**  
**50 DELEGATES 5 ALTERNATES**

District-level delegates and alternates shall be elected through a post-primary caucus system with two tiers or levels. The first tier caucuses for delegate selection will be held at the county level and are open to anyone who wishes to participate as a Democrat. The second tier caucuses for delegate selection will be held at the CD level.

**COUNTY LEVEL CAUCUSES**

Registration opens at 1:00pm CST on Sunday, April 26th, 2020 and closes at 2:00pm CST when the caucus shall begin

**CD LEVEL CAUCUSES**

Registration opens at 1:00pm CST on Sunday, May 17th, 2020 and closes at 2:00pm CST when the caucus shall begin

**DISTRICT-LEVEL MEETING AGENDA**

The order of business for the district level caucuses is as follows:

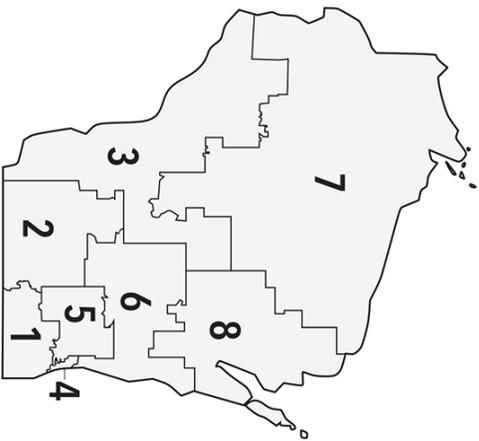
- Election of a chair
- Election of the allocated number of delegates based upon presidential candidate 2020
- Election of the allocated number of alternates based upon presidential candidate 2020
- primary performance in that given County / CD
- Adjournment

*Note: Each delegate and alternate shall be elected individually by majority vote. Only those elected at the county level caucuses are eligible to vote at the CD level caucuses. Whenever possible, a common ballot shall be used.*

**DISTRICT LEVEL DELEGATE BREAKDOWN**

DISTRICT	DELEGATES			ALTERNATES		
	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
# 1	3	3	6			
# 2	4	5	9	1		1
# 3	3	3	6		1	1
# 4	4	4	8		1	1
# 5	3	2	5			
# 6	3	2	5		1	1
# 7	2	3	5	1		1
# 8	3	3	6			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAP**



**AUTOMATIC DELEGATES**  
**13 DELEGATES 0 ALTERNATES**

Automatic delegates include members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in WI, all of Wisconsin's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, and the Democratic Governor.

**PLEGDED PARTY LEADER AND ELECTED OFFICIALS (PLEOs)**  
**10 DELEGATES 0 ALTERNATES**

Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions according to the following priority: big city mayors (Milwaukee and Madison) and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders.

**SELECTION OF PLEO DELEGATES**

Selection of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur at 1:00pm CST on Friday, June 12th, 2020 at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Administrative Committee meeting to be held prior to the State Party Convention in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

**AT-LARGE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**  
**17 DELEGATES 1 ALTERNATE**

The election of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established by the Affirmative Action section of the Delegate Selection Plan. Priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, and women. Priority of consideration shall be given to other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

**SELECTION OF AT-LARGE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

The selection of At-Large delegates and alternates will occur at 2:00pm CST on Friday, June 12th, 2020 at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin's Administrative Committee meeting to be held prior to the State Party Convention in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

## 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**

608-769-5286

### **Vice Chair: Ed Burgess**

608-799-1944

### **Treasurer: Cathy Van Maren**

608-315-2693

### **Secretary: David Wulf**

608-799-8977

### **At-Large Board Members:**

**William Garcia**

**Obbie King**

**Peter Klitzke**

**Ashley Skoczynski**

**Avery Van Gaard**

**College Representative: Savannah Zuzick (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 2019 and continue activities into 2020, 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](http://www.laxdems.com).

Thank you.

There are three ways to join through the LCDP:

1. Print and mail your check and the form (available also at [tinyurl.com/lcdpmbform](http://tinyurl.com/lcdpmbform))
2. Visit [laxdems.com/join-the-party](http://laxdems.com/join-the-party) and complete your application and payment online.
3. Come to a LCDP event and complete the process and payment in person.

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](http://www.laxdems.com).

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party.

Received \_\_\_\_\_  
 Renewal Month \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \*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'm interested in learning more about DPW caucuses:

- American Indian Caucus
- Black Caucus
- Environmental Caucus
- Labor Caucus
- Latinx Caucus
- LGBT Caucus
- Progressive Caucus
- Rural Caucus
- Veterans' Caucus
- Women's Caucus