

THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

December 2020 Newsletter

Note: if a link doesn't open, simply copy and paste in your browser.



Trump - "In the name of God, go."

It is not surprising that Donald Trump refuses to concede to President-elect Joe Biden, let alone do it as graciously as Presidents Carter and George H.W. Bush did in 1980 and 1992, respectively. It is not surprising that Donald Trump continues to make baseless claims about widespread election fraud and rigged elections. It is not surprising that Donald Trump, conspiracy believer-in-chief, endorses former campaign attorney Sidney Powell's allegations about a vast conspiracy of thousands of individuals working to overturn the election results via a dead Venezuelan communist leader, Dominion Voting Systems, and Democrats. It is not surprising that a senior Trump administration official criticized Rudy Giuliani's strategy as "Just roll everybody up who is willing to do it into a clown car, and when it's time for a press conference, roll them out."

Finally, it is not surprising that the majority of Republican elected officials at national and state levels, including Wisconsin U.S. Senator Ron Johnson, have remained silent about Donald Trump's continued efforts to undermine the legitimacy of the election and in doing so, damage a bedrock value of a democracy – the peaceful transition of power from one political party to another. But really, did we expect any other behavior from such a petulant little man as Donald Trump?

In the British House of Commons on May 7, 1940, M.P. Leo Amery, a member of the Conservative Party, criticized



Upcoming Events

Monday, January 4, 2021, Time TBA
LCDP Zoom Executive Board Meeting

Monday, January 18, LCDP Regular Zoom Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Guests: Candidates for Superintendent of Public Instruction

fellow Conservative Party member and Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, by quoting Oliver Cromwell's statement to the Long Parliament during England's civil war of the mid-17th century: "You have sat too long here for any good you have been doing. Depart, I say, and let us have done with you. In the name of God, go." Appropriate words and advice for Donald Trump.

Election Results for the 2021 LCDP Executive Board

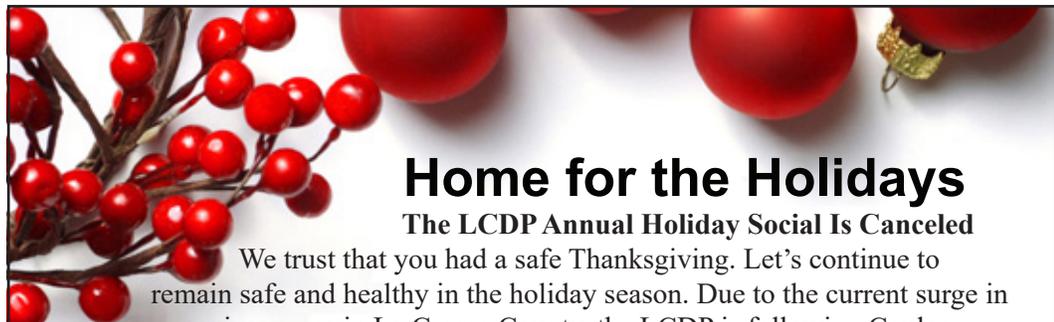
At the LCDP regular meeting on Monday, November 16, 2020, the following individuals were elected to the 2021 LCDP Executive Board. Thanks in advance for your willingness to serve.

Chair: William Garcia
Vice-Chair: David Wulf
Treasurer: Merry Kocar
Secretary: Diane Wulf

At-Large Representatives
Terry Benson
Ed Burgess
Fred Giese
Ralph Knudson
Ron Malzer

Michael Smuksta, as past chair, remains on the 2021 Executive Board, as does Savannah Zuzick, UW-L College Representative.

Thanks to current Executive Board members remaining on the Board – William Garcia, David Wulf, Ed Burgess, and Ralph Knudson. Thanks to the outgoing Executive Board members for their past service: Cathy Van Maren (Treasurer) and At-Large Representatives Obbie King, Peter Klitzke, and Avery Van Gaard.



Home for the Holidays

The LCDP Annual Holiday Social Is Canceled

We trust that you had a safe Thanksgiving. Let's continue to remain safe and healthy in the holiday season. Due to the current surge in coronavirus cases in La Crosse County, the LCDP is following Coulee COVID-19 Collaborative recommendations. Safe holiday gatherings are one important method to stop the spread of COVID-19. Celebrations and social gatherings among multiple households are not recommended. Therefore, the LCDP Annual Holiday Social that occurs instead of a December regular meeting is canceled for 2020.



Neither of Georgia’s Republican senators gained a majority on Election Day, November 3, 2020. The result is rematches on January 5, 2021 that will determine control of the Senate, currently with 48 Democrats and 50 Republicans. The two U.S. Senate run-offs in Georgia on January 5, 2021 provide an opportunity for the Democrats to pick up 2 seats that would provide a Democratic majority with Vice-President Harris able to cast any tie-breaking vote by her position as President of the Senate.

Jon Ossoff, a Democrat, will face off against incumbent Senator David Perdue. In the second run-off, The Rev. Dr. Raphael Warnock, a Democrat, will run-off for the Senate seat held by Kelly Loeffler, appointed in 2017 to complete the term of a retiring Republican senator. Warnock and Loeffler ran in a special election to fill out the remainder of the term until 2022. According to Luke Broadwater of the New York Times, “The outcome of the contests, which will play out two weeks before President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s inauguration, will either swing the majority to Democrats, handing the new president

broad power to carry out his policy agenda and push through nominations as he sees fit, or leave Republicans in charge, allowing them to influence his plans.” (NY Times, “What’s a Runoff, and Why Are There Two? Here’s Why Georgia Matters,” November 7, 2020)

At stake are judicial nominees, a needed pandemic stimulus bill, infrastructure and health care, criminal justice reform, immigration reform, and action on the existential threat of climate change. The most recent poll of Nov. 17 has Ossoff and Perdue tied and Warnock up by 1 point on Loeffler.

You can help by donating money or time to win the two run-off U.S. Senate races in Georgia and flip the U.S. Senate blue.

Money Donations:

Donate to Fair Fight, <https://fairfight.com/about-fair-fight/> Stacy Abrams’ GOTV organization in Georgia at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fair-fight-1>.

Donate to <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2020gasenaterunoff>.

The donation will be evenly split between Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff.

Donate to Raphael Warnock directly at <https://warnockforgeorgia.com/>

Donate to Jon Ossoff directly at <https://electjon.com/>

Donation of your time:

For letters and postcards to Georgia residents, or for phone banking or sending texts, go to <https://tinyurl.com/Dem-GOTV-Postcards> Another opportunity is Stand Up America at www.standupamerica.com/blog/write



GIVING TUESDAY

Although we can’t gather for the annual LCDP Holiday Social, we can act to make our community a better place to live, especially for those who have fallen on hard times. One way is to participate is Giving Tuesday, the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving to encourage generosity during the holidays. Giving Tuesday is especially important this year as the pandemic has closed many small businesses and unemployment has increased. This has created greater demand for services nonprofits provide, especially food banks. In the spirit of Giving Tuesday, you are encouraged to donate to local charities or non-profits in the Coulee Region. A list is available at <https://nonprofitlocator.org/organizations/wi/la-crosse> For more information, read Jamie Schloegel’s opinion piece in the Sunday, November 29 La Crosse Tribune entitled “Don’t forget local nonprofits.” <https://tinyurl.com/localnonprofits>

Thank You

**from Michael Smuksta,
LCDP Chair for one more month**

I wish to express my thanks to the LCDP members who allowed me to serve as chair from 2018 to 2020. I met many wonderful and passionate moderate and progressive Democrats. I would also be remiss if I didn’t acknowledge the hard work and support of the Executive Board members during these three years.

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

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

La Crosse County Clerk
Ginny Dankmeyer (Democrat)
(608) 785-9581

La Crosse County District Attorney
Tim Gruenke (Democrat)
(608) 785-9604

La Crosse County Treasurer
Amy Twitchell (Democrat)
(608) 785-9711

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
Ralph Knudson
Avery Van Gaard

College Representative: Savannah Zuzick (UW-L)

Follow the LCDP on



@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

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

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party. The contents herein are not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

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.

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)
2. Visit 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.

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party.

Received _____
Renewal Month _____

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'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