

THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

April 2021 Newsletter

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

Call to Convention

The LCDP needs YOU as a Delegate to the 3rd CD Convention and the State Convention this summer.

The LCDP is allotted 56 delegates for these conventions, and we would love to fill as many spots as possible. Delegates vote on Party Platforms, resolutions, Party Business and elect officers at both the 3rd CD level and the State level. The more Delegates we have, the more say we have in party affairs!

Both Conventions will be held virtually this year.

The 3rd CD Convention will be held Saturday, May 8. Exact times to be announced.

The State Convention will be held June 5th and 6th.

Delegate requests MUST be made by Friday, April 24.

Delegates to the State Convention are automatically registered as delegates to the 3rd CD Election.

If you would like to attend the State Convention as a delegate, please fill out the following form: <https://wisdems.org/2021-state-convention-delegate-request-form/>

If you would ONLY like to attend the 3rd CD Convention, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/RJ4zZDM7EDUpUrhF7>

For more information on the entirely virtual State Convention, <https://wisdems.org/2021-dpw-convention/>

As a reminder, you may email delegates@wisdems.org with any questions about the delegate selection process, and may direct any other Convention-related questions to stateconvention@wisdems.org.

Upcoming Events



LCDP Monthly Executive Board Meeting, Monday, April 5 at 6:30 pm
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/94686543184?pwd=RnRCVUdUVGVHQ092VkJSXBMD0FCZz09>

LCDP Monthly Membership Meeting, Monday, April 19 at 6:30 pm
Register in advance for this meeting: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAtcu6vrDwjHNEicIsT7jEjouY9MlzREYgc>

LCDP Exploration of Racism Discussion Group and Book Club, Monday, April 26 at 6:30 pm
Register at laxdems.com/2021bookclub



VOTING INFORMATION



Tuesday, April 6 is Election Day! Please make sure you have plans to get out and vote if you have not voted early.

Early Voting ends Friday, April 2.

If you have not requested an Absentee ballot yet, the LCDP recommends you vote in person, if you feel safe to do so, because if your ballot arrives to the County Clerk AFTER Tuesday, April 6, it will not be counted.

Polling places: <https://www.lacrossecounty.org/countyclerk/docs/PollingPlaces.pdf>

Sample Ballots: <https://www.lacrossecounty.org/countyclerk/docs/Web%20page%20sample%20ballot%20Apr%202021.pdf>

Absentee hours and locations by Municipalities and any other voting information: For all voting information, see <https://www.lacrossecounty.org/countyclerk/elections.asp>

If you have any voting problems or questions, call the WisDems Voter Assistance Hotline at 608-DEM-3232, or 608-336-3232. This hotline is staffed from now until Election Day.

LA CROSSE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY



www.laxdems.com
Proudly endorses



Dr. Jill Underly
for Wisconsin Superintendent
of Public Instruction

LA CROSSE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY



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Proudly endorses



Mitch Reynolds
for La Crosse
City Mayor



EXECUTIVE BOARD SPOTLIGHT



Ralph Knudson
At-large Board Member

I'm a 74 year old retired family practice doc. My wife, Nancy, is a retired PA. I had practiced in Iowa City, Iowa as an assistant professor of Family Practice from 1985 until 1993 when Nancy joined me in a Family Practice until 2003. We then worked together at the Tomah Gundersen clinic from 2004 'til 2013, when we retired. After retiring, we moved to La Crosse. I had grown up in Decorah, Iowa and also practiced there for 10 years before moving to Iowa City, so I've been a lover of the Driftless area, the Mississippi and La Crosse since childhood. We've been delighted to live here, where we are close to so much: outdoor activities (birding, bicycling, hiking, kayak, ski, etc), music and art venues, involved and engaging people who are curious and motivated to learn and work for a common good. We quickly became involved with CARS (Citizens Acting for Railway Safety), joined the board for Friends of the Marsh years ago, and have been active with Creating a Healthier Multicultural Community over the past 1½ years. Nancy has found a supportive community of fellow visual artists, and I've been lucky to find plenty of musical friends with whom I play fiddle, viola and mandolin.

We've both been quite progressive, politically, over

the years, starting with our votes for Shirley Chisolm for President in 1972 while living in Michigan, and have enjoyed the company of fellow-visionaries and activists ever since. While in Iowa City, I cared for people with HIV/AIDS and helped to start an HIV/AIDS clinic plus a community-based support organization (ICARE) with members of the LGBTQ community in Iowa City. I learned valuable lessons about human marginalization, courage, loss and compassion during those epidemic years; which deeply affected patients, loved ones and physicians alike. Over our years working as medical providers, Nancy and I have both witnessed the erosion of key values within our medical system, in which service and compassion have become secondary to profit, image and industrial competition. Nancy and I strongly support universal health care and condemn the wasteful profit-oriented fragmentation of medical care that we all now endure.

Many years ago, I had been active in Iowa Democratic caucuses, and then drifted away from active Democratic Party membership; frustrated by what seemed to be top-down tone deafness by national and state leadership. When we moved to La Crosse, I rejoined the party, and gained a new passion for being a voice for serious awakening and change within the party; not afraid to criticize but also to support Democratic leadership towards a better democracy and social awareness. I'm acutely aware of the uncommon privilege I've had throughout my life as a male, white physician raised in a safe, middle class home in Decorah, and which has now landed me into a secure retirement in a fascinating and approachable city. I feel a clear responsibility to turn that privilege into action for marginalized people who have been systematically denied equal justice and opportunity, and see membership on the executive board as part of that responsibility in the two-party political system we have inherited. I see the need for our party to develop deeper knowledge of systemic racial marginalization history, structure and practice as a key towards building a strong party base for now and the future.

3rd CD Elections

Are you interested in running for an elected position at the 3rd CD Convention on Saturday, May 8? If so, you must fill out the Intent to Run for Office form and return it to Bobbi Green, Chair Third Congressional District Democratic Party, by 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, 2021 to be a candidate. Email to 3rddemswi@gmail.com or mail to Bobbi Green, 1508 Eddy Lane, Eau Claire, WI 54703

The Declaration of Intent to Run for Office can be found at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SyrMM5WuTKvN1LZVbnEdtc-h9Ak0MNxb/view?usp=sharing>



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

32nd District State Senator Brad Pfaff
State Capitol 22 South
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707
Ph: 608-266-5490, Sen.Pfaff@legis.wisconsin.gov

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: William Garcia
608-769-5286

Vice Chair: David Wulf
608-799-8977

Treasurer: Merry Kocar
608-512-5253

Secretary: Diane Wulf
608-780-7007

Past Chair: Michael Smuksta

At-Large Board Members:
Terry Benson
Ed Burgess
Fred Giese
Ralph Knudson
Ron Malzer

College Representative: Jenna Dinkel (UW-L)
dinkel4642@uwlax.edu

Follow the LCDP on



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and



Instagram

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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 lcdpwi@gmail.com or 608-769-5286. A PDF of the minutes with an UNAPPROVED watermark will be sent to you. 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 lcdpwi@gmail.com or 608-769-5286.

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 lcdpwi@gmail.com or 608-769-5286.



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.

As the LCDP prepares for 2021 and beyond, your membership and participation are more important than ever. Your membership fees help fund the LCDP office and infrastructure, community outreach, candidate recruitment and campaign assistance up and down the ballot. Membership also gives you a voice in the operations and policy of the Wisconsin Democratic Party and the National Democratic Party platform. There is always a need for volunteers, and we can always find a way for you to help.

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.

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

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 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.

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