

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

## August 2021 Newsletter

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

### The 2022 Democratic Senate Race is heating up!

In case you would like to research the candidates thus far, we have compiled a list of the candidates and their websites: We hope to be hearing from even more candidates in the coming months at our monthly membership meetings. The LCDP does not endorse in Democratic primaries, but we will continue to work to get our members updated information on all candidates.

- Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes: <https://mandelabarnes.com/>
- Dr. Gillian Battino: [www.battinoforsenate.us](http://www.battinoforsenate.us)
- Treasurer Sarah Godlweski: [www.sarahforwisconsin.com](http://www.sarahforwisconsin.com)
- St. Senator Chris Larson: [www.voteforlarson.org](http://www.voteforlarson.org)
- Milwaukee Bucks Executive Alex Lasry: [www.alexlasry.com](http://www.alexlasry.com)
- Milwaukee Alderwoman Chantia Lewis: <https://www.chantialewis4senate.com/>
- IT Businessperson Adam Murphy: <https://murphyforwi.com/>
- Rep. Tom Nelson: [www.nelsonforwi.com](http://www.nelsonforwi.com)
- Non-profit founder Steven Olikara: [www.stevenolikara.com](http://www.stevenolikara.com)
- Attorney Peter Peckarsky: <https://www.peckarskyforwisconsin.com>

### Upcoming Events



#### LCDP Monthly Meeting

Time: Aug 16, 2021, 6:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/94140042855?pwd=OEFXOEElYjJlZDZlZ0ZlZuRTI3OVIQT09>

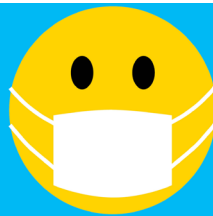
#### LCDP Executive Board Monthly Meeting:

Monday, September 6 at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/96620303875>

#### LCDP Fall Dinner

Saturday, October 30, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Newly remodeled, historic Concordia Ballroom. Tickets available soon.

**State Senator and Democratic Senate candidate Chris Larson to speak at this month's LCDP Membership meeting. Join our meeting on Monday, August 16 to hear from Senator Larson about his vision for Wisconsin.**



### Updated CDC recommendations

Due to the fast spread of the Delta variant, as well as lower than desired immunizations rates across the country, the CDC is recommending masking up any time you are indoors in a public space, even if you have been vaccinated. Please continue to stay vigilant as we fight another outbreak of this terrible virus.

### LCDP to return to In-Person meetings in September

Beginning Monday, September 20, the LCDP will begin holding in person meetings in conjunction with the Zoom meeting. This means that members will be able to participate in person or via Zoom. For the remainder of the year, meetings will be held at the newly remodeled, historic Concordia Ballroom, beginning at 6:30 pm. Members will be able to vote and speak in-person or via Zoom. The LCDP is paying close attention to CDC guidelines and we do ask that everyone meeting in-person be vaccinated and wear a mask. Rules for in-person meetings will align with CDC protocols.

### Fall Dinner Update

We are excited to announce details for the LCDP Fall Dinner. This is our biggest event of the year and a great opportunity to get geared up for the 2022 election.

The LCDP Fall Dinner will be held Saturday, October 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the newly remodeled, historic Concordia Ballroom. The event will be catered. Tickets should be \$25 and will become available soon. We will have special guest speakers, elected officials, activities and fundraisers to the Democratic Party. Please mark your calendar for this important event.

# Ron Johnson Confesses to His Own Weakness and Failures

by Ron Malzer

Republican Senator Ron Johnson, talking about next year's Wisconsin US Senate race, acknowledged: "I may not be the best candidate." He went on to admit: "I feel really bad that I've been here now probably 11 years. Obamacare's still in place, and we've doubled the debt. I don't feel like my time here has been particularly successful."

Note that Johnson's statement names as his number one priority for his eleven years in Congress, the attempted repeal of an act that has provided healthcare access to tens of millions of Americans.

Johnson's confession is striking, but badly understated. A failure to be "particularly successful" hardly captures the track record of a man who has used his Senate platform to guinea-pig America away from anti-COVID vaccinations and masking; to support the unfettered flow of fossil fuels into the atmosphere while continuing to this day to call climate change "bulls\*\*t"; to providing a national platform to an attorney who had sought a court order to discard the ballots of 240,000 Wisconsin voters; and, on January 2, announcing his intent to commit an act of sedition by voting to nullify the election results of one or more states.

Democrats have a plethora of candidates who are committed to replacing Johnson, and ready to join Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin in supporting healthcare for all, a green America, and democracy. In alphabetical order, the declared and potential candidates include:

- Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes
- Radiologist Gillian Battino
- State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski
- State Senator Chris Larson
- Milwaukee Alderwoman Chantia Lewis
- IT business owner Adam Murphy
- Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson
- Nonprofit Organization Founder Steven Olikara
- Attorney Peter Peckarsky

What is it that supporters of truth and democracy can do to prevent the catastrophe of six more years of Ron Johnson in office? First, we can call his Senate office frequently, and demand that he not run for re-election.

Call 202-224-5323. Most of the time you will get his voicemail box rather than a staffer. Either way, the messaging is:

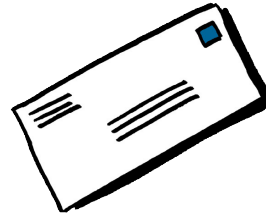
- Ron Johnson pledged in 2016 that if he won, it would be his final term;
- Ron Johnson has been a public health menace and a supporter of the Big Lie;
- Ron Johnson has no right to ask Wisconsin voters for another term.



## La Crosse has been selected to hold the 2022 Democratic State Convention!

La Crosse will be hosting the 2022 Democratic State Convention and will be the launching point for the final push to victory in the 2022 election. Stay tuned with more information on how you can get involved.

## Letter Writing Initiative



LCDP Executive Board Member Ron Malzer is spearheading an Op-Ed/Letter to the Editor initiative with LCDP. We will be having weekly (at a minimum) articles that discuss news and opinions about La Crosse and Wisconsin politics. See the articles on our social networks or at <https://laxdems.com/category/news>.



## LCDP Podcast

Have you checked out The LCDP podcast, The Democratic Voice, produced in conjunction with WIZM news? Listen and subscribe for opinions and updates of what is happening in La Crosse. <https://www.wizmnews.com/the-democratic-voice-with-william-garcia/>



Our group will transition to the regional community read of Debby Irving's book, *Waking Up White*. Beginning August 16, you will be able to get the book and sign up for small discussion groups at the public library and local businesses.

More about this can be found at [laxwakingupwhite.com](http://laxwakingupwhite.com). In September, a series of public programs about racism and antiracism will begin. In early December, there will be a regional white privilege symposium in La Crosse.

Thank you for participating with the readings and talks this year. If you have ideas about how we can go from having less than one percent of our county party interested in gathering to discuss the problems of racism and importance of antiracism to 100% committed, please let us know.

The article linked below, to me, is one main reason I think Democrats need to be more racism-aware and actively antiracist:

<https://www.rawstory.com/white-domestic-terrorists/>

Upcoming  
**Volunteer**  
Opportunities



**The Holmen Korn Fest parade:** Saturday, August 21 at 11 a.m.  
Please contact William Garcia at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com) or call 608-769-5286 for more information.

## 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



twitter

@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 [lcdpwi@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:lcdpwi@gmail.com) or 608-769-5286.

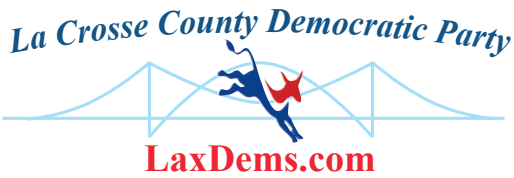
## We Welcome Your Input

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](mailto: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](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.

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](http://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