

# THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## January 2022 Newsletter

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

### The 2022 Game plan: **We Need You**

from William Garcia, chair of the  
La Crosse County Democrats

- 2022 is packed with crucial work to better our communities. The GOP is working hard, but we will work harder. Your donations and willingness to volunteer will make the difference this election cycle.
- **Winter:** The election season starts now as the local races take center stage. The GOP has made winning local races a top priority for 2022 but we have been matching their drive every step of the way. LCDP has been working hard to recruit, train and assist candidates for municipal, county and school boards races across the county. We will need all hands on deck to support our local candidates and keep La Crosse County moving in the right direction.
- **Summer:** Important decisions as we select our candidates in statewide primaries. LCDP will be working to make sure you hear directly from all the candidates and that you have all the information you need to pick the best candidate to go against the GOP in November. We will be helping all primary candidates communicate with voters, share their message and prepare for the general elections.
- **Fall:** Our list of goals for the Fall election is long, but worth the work. We need to re-elect Governor Tony Evers, defeat Senator Ron Johnson, maintain our sweep of state-wide offices and defend the 3rd CD for Democrats.

### Upcoming Events



#### LCDP Regular Monthly Meeting

Time: Jan 17, 2022 05:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada) Speakers: 3rd CD Democratic Candidate Rebecca Cooke and area elected officials.

<https://zoom.us/j/94140042855?pwd=OEFXOEEdlYjJld0Z0SjZuRTI3OVITQT09>

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 941 4004 2855

Passcode: 166352

#### LCDP Monthly Exec Board meeting

Time: Monday, February 7, 2022 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

<https://zoom.us/j/96620303875>

### What Is At Stake In 2022?

#### Federal:

**Control of the US House:** Wisconsin's 3rd CD is our best chance to stop a GOP takeover of the US House. We must protect Ron Kind's seat and keep the GOP in the minority.

**Control of the US Senate:** The US Senate is tied 50-50 with Vice President Kamala Harris as the tie-breaker. Defeating Senator Ron Johnson is our best chance of holding (and expanding) our control of the US Senate.

**Build Back Better:** We need to give President Biden the tools to continue growing the economy, rebuilding US infrastructure, and protecting voting rights across the country.

*Continued on page 2*

### LCDP Office We have an office!!

We have secured a two year lease on an office at 2318 State Rd, just across from JavaVino.

We intend to use this space for meetings, canvassing, organizing, candidate assistance, community outreach and much more. This space is key to LCDP plans going forward as we work to ensure progressive values continue to thrive in La Crosse County.

If you have any thoughts on ways the office could be used, ideas on ways to improve the office space or anything else, please email me at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com)

Look for a grand opening soon. We will be recruiting volunteers to work the office in the coming months. Please look out for further details.

This space is a large investment and we need your help. Please consider helping to fund the office by contributing to LCDP.

Contribute at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/lcdp2022office>

### How to sign up for monthly contributions

Did you know that you can easily set up a monthly donation to LCDP? This is a fast and easy way to help our party, our candidates and our volunteers. Just go to <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/lcdp2022office> and select Yes, Count Me In! under the Make It Monthly tab on the donation page. Even \$5 a month is of real help as we work to win in 2022.

**Wisconsin:**

Re-Electing Governor Evers. Governor Evers has single-handedly fought back state GOP attempts to censor what is taught in schools, limit a woman’s right to choose, hand out tax cuts to the ultra-rich, and cut public education funds. Without Governor Evers’ veto, the GOP will have full control over election procedures in the state, and they will work tirelessly to deny free and fair voting to all Wisconsinites.

Expanding Democratic presence in the Wisconsin Legislature: We are ONE vote away from a veto-proof Republican majority in the state Senate. Electing more Democrats to the legislature, even if we do not win an outright majority, makes it harder for the GOP to push through their extremist agendas.

**La Crosse County:**

Stopping the current attempt to pack school boards, municipal councils and the County Board with far-right conservatives who plan to use the platform to wage the American Culture Wars at the local level.

**Volunteer  
with the  
LCDP**



The LCDP invites you to participate in one (or more) of our committees as we energize the county for 2022. Working on a committee is a wonderful way to get engaged with the party and to have fun with our wonderful volunteers.

Below are the committee assignments, meeting times and the Exec Board member to contact to get started or to learn more information.

**Candidate Recruitment:** Charged with identifying and recruiting viable candidates for various positions within local, state and national government. This committee also organizes the LCDP Voter Information Guide and handles candidate endorsement requests. To join, contact William Garcia at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com).

**Communications:** Charged with crafting the party message, coordinating dissemination efforts and getting LTEs, radio call-ins, electronic media use, social media, Letters to the Editor and The Democratic Voice podcast. This committee offers many different types of ways to help the party. To join, contact Ron Malzer at [ronsaturday@gmail.com](mailto:ronsaturday@gmail.com).

**Community Outreach (including Labor):** Establish relationships with various segments of the community and generate interest in the LCDP and our activities; and establish and maintain a relationship with unions to set up legal communications during election years. To join, contact Ed Burgess at [edwburgess@gmail.com](mailto:edwburgess@gmail.com).

**Fundraising:** Charged with planning and staging various fundraising events. Often works closely with events that overlap into fundraising. To join, contact David Wulf at [treasurer@laxdems.com](mailto:treasurer@laxdems.com).

**Events:** Responsible for planning, staging, and encouraging participation in events to publicize the LCDP. Disseminate the party message and establish the party brand. Examples include but are not limited to Progesstival in February, June picnic, July Interstate Fair, Fall Dinner, issue events, etc. To join, contact Terry Benson at [tlree1921@gmail.com](mailto:tlree1921@gmail.com).

**Membership:** Tasked with maintaining and building the membership of the LCDP. Membership has a dual function. One is internal – working with current members and lapsed members. The other is establishing relationships to the larger community via outreach. To join, contact Diane Wulf at [eap11111@aol.com](mailto:eap11111@aol.com).

**Scott  
Arnold**



*In*

*Memoriam*

Scott Arnold, the beloved Regional Organizing Director for the Democratic Party of Wisconsin over the last three years, passed away on December 26 due to an unexpected health issue. Scott was an incredible leader and a passionate advocate for progressive and Democratic ideals and, more importantly, a dear friend to many in the La Crosse community. He will be greatly missed.

You can post a remembrance of Scott on this page: <https://www.weremember.com/scott-arnold/6k8c/memories>

In his honor, please consider donating to the immigrant scholarship fund Scott and his team established. Go to [fspa.org](http://fspa.org), select Immigration Task Force in the “use my gift as follows” section. Make sure to note that your fund is in memory of Scott Arnold.

**Transit Equity Day 2022**

January 31 - February 4, La Crosse - more details to follow

For the past four years, social justice, equity, and transportation advocacy groups have been celebrating Transit Equity Day (TED) on Feb. 4, Rosa Parks' birthday. Started by the Labor Network for Sustainability, TED is a chance to bring to the fore the important role public transportation plays in ensuring everyone, no matter age, income, ability, or color, has access to jobs, education, services, necessities, entertainment, health care, and more. "Public Transit provides basic mobility for many in our communities. It is also essential urban infrastructure—just like roads, bridges, tunnels and utilities—that is crucial to the economic, social and environmental well-being of all our regions."

<https://www.labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-2022/>

# 2021: The Year Democrats Worked to Clean Up the Ruins

by DPW Chair Ben Wikler and

LCDP Executive Board Member Ron Malzer

We were less than one week into 2021 when a violent coup, launched by then-President Trump almost succeeded in getting to Vice President Trump and Speaker Pelosi, leaving a police officer and four civilians dead, and more than 130 police officers injured. The Capitol was in ruins, as was America's reputation in the world.

President Joe Biden and the Democrats restored sanity to government in Washington. A great deal was accomplished; much work lies ahead. Meanwhile, in Madison, a right-wing extremist Republican Party used fear and intimidation to strike back at those who conducted honest election oversight. Both Republican-controlled-via-gerrymandering houses of the Wisconsin legislature passed outrageous, big-fist-of-government legislation denying local and individual liberty, all of which was thankfully vetoed by Gov. Tony Evers.

## Here is 2022 in review:

January began with the insurrection. A day of horror. Heroism, too—remember Officer Eugene Goodman. And then Congress did its job. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris won. An inauguration to remember. A WisDems campaign to ensure that every Wisconsinite knew Ron Johnson had fanned the flames—with the first TV ads of the 2022 election cycle.

In February, Governor Evers unveiled the Badger Bounceback agenda; Biden made his presidency's first official trip—to Wisconsin!—and Wisconsin Republicans like Mike Gallagher voted against impeaching Trump. We held him to account. If he'd been convicted, he would be ineligible to run today.

March: the American Rescue Plan! Stimulus checks. Vaccine support. Child tax credits. Huge.

April: The GOP's divisive tactics on education failed, and a massive surge in voter turnout—powered by a wave of grassroots energy—elected Dr. Jill Underly to Superintendent of Public Schools! What's more, Governor Evers announced \$420 million for small businesses.

May: Kamala Harris visited Wisconsin, and Governor Evers awarded \$100 million in stimulus funds to rural broadband, part of his drive to connect 300,000 homes and businesses.

June: Governor Evers announced his reelection bid

at the virtual WisDems virtual state convention—also featuring President Biden, Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, and Jaime Harrison! Later that month, Joe Biden visited Western Wisconsin, Ron Johnson earned boos at the 50th Juneteenth celebration in Milwaukee.

July: the expanded Child Tax Credit started flowing, and we made sure Wisconsin knew it. We hit the doors. Governor Evers signed a bipartisan budget, restoring 2/3 funding to schools.

August: Governor Evers vetoed a half-dozen voter suppression bills. The WisDems Rural Caucus and team launched Rural PowerUp trainings across the state. ProPublica ran an expose showing how Ron Johnson ripped off America to give himself and his biggest donors a giant tax giveaway. And we publicized it with a viral video.

September: Radical Rebecca Kleefisch launched her campaign, and we launched a special website just for her: [radicalrebecca.com](http://radicalrebecca.com). Soon, she was talking about the website on the campaign trail. And we celebrated the 20th anniversary of Voces de la Frontera.

October brought a WisDems tour with stops at Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Merrill, Rhinelander, Wausau, the Oneida reservation, Green Bay, Milwaukee, and Madison; three AAPI roundtables; and conversations and listening sessions with rural and urban Dems alike.

November: Rebecca Kleefisch's fear-mongering attempt to bolster school board recalls in Mequon-Thiensville fell flat. And the WisDems mega #1Year2Win weekend of action soared. Governor Evers and dozens of other elected leaders joined 1000 members, activists, staff, and partners in reaching out to more than 100,000 voters all over Wisconsin. We beat our goals—and our records! Watch the recap video. Oh—and then we passed the historic bipartisan infrastructure bill into law, despite “no” votes from every Wisconsin Republican. A huge month. But also a month when we contented with tragedy—the Waukesha massacre, the Rittenhouse verdict, the ongoing scourge of COVID.

And now we're here in December. Republicans are bent on dismantling our democracy, from renewed gerrymandering to McCarthyite witch-hunt investigations and threats of jailing mayors and election commissioners for helping people vote. We've got Governor Evers—the “sea wall” for democracy—standing firm.

We have 1001 reasons to be motivated to turn out a large blue vote in 2022. Let's do it.



## The Mountaintop

The La Crosse Community Theatre is producing The Mountaintop, by Katori Hall, a fictionalization of Martin Luther King Jr.'s last night on earth. Read more information and get tickets at <https://lacrossetheatre.org/shows/2021-2022/mountaintop>.

## Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration

Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, 7 pm,  
Viterbo Fine Arts Center

Speaker: Dr. Sylvia Hood Washington, well-known environmental justice speaker on the topics environmental racism, environmental justice and climate Justice. Dr. Washington is the founder and chief environmental research scientist at Environmental Health Research Associates LLC.



## UPCOMING ELECTIONS:

**February 15, 2022:**  
**Judicial primary**

**April 5, 2022 :**  
**Judicial general election**

**August 9, 2022:**  
**Primary**

**November 8, 2022:**  
**General election**



## Please Note Time Change for Regular LCDP Monthly Meeting

In order to allow members to participate in the MLK Jr. Day celebration, the LCDP monthly meeting has been moved up one hour.

Time: Jan 17, 2022 05:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada) Speakers: 3rd CD Democratic Candidate Rebecca Cooke and area elected officials.

<https://zoom.us/j/94140042855?pwd=OEFXOEEdlYjJld0Z0SjZuRTI3OVITQT09>

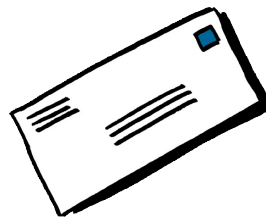
Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 941 4004 2855

Passcode: 166352

## Letter Writing Initiative



LCDP 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>.

## Afghan Refugee Assistance



Catholic Charities of La Crosse is collecting volunteer information for the influx of Afghan refugees. Visit: <https://cclse.org/afghanistan-refugee-assistance> for more information.

## 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 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: Ed Burgess**  
608-799-1944

**Treasurer: David Wulf**  
608-799-8977

**Secretary: Diane Wulf**  
608-780-7007

**At-Large Board Members:**  
Terry Benson  
K.C. Cayo  
Fred Giese  
Ralph Knudson  
Ron Malzer

**College Representative: Grace Florence (UW-L)**  
florence0874@uwlax.edu

## Follow the LCDP on



twitter

@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

## 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! Or just visit <https://laxdems.com/join-the-party/> and fill out the form (it is the same form to join or renew) and pay online.

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



LaxDems.com

As the LCDP prepares for 2022 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.

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.

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

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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