

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

## March 2022 Newsletter

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

### La Crosse GOP Makes Unprecedented Moves Ahead of the April Local Elections

by William Garcia

Buoyed by frustrations with mask mandates, continued lies about the presence of Critical Race Theory in schools, and false conspiracies about the outcome of the 2020 election, the La Crosse County Republican Party is making an all out propaganda blitz hoping to influence the County Board, municipal and school board elections in La Crosse.

By donating huge amounts of money to their hand-picked candidates, funding smear campaigns against their rivals and paying for local media advertisements, the local GOP is making a huge financial investment in what they see as their best shot in years at taking over local bodies of government.

Between November 11, 2021 and December 08, 2021 the GOP issued the following disbursements to local candidates, adding up to \$6300. It is important to note that this is ONLY funds issued in 2021. We will not know how much they spent in 2022 until the next filing deadline. This information comes from the Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System (<https://cfis.wi.gov/>)

#### County Board:

District 5: Megan Pauley: \$300  
District 7: Ellie McLoone: \$500 (Lost her primary on February 15)  
District 10: Richard Korish: \$500  
District 18: Mike Baroni: \$500 (No other candidate on ballot)  
District 19: Hubert Hoffman: \$500 District  
20: Jordan Briskey: \$500  
District 21: Rob Abraham: \$500  
District 25: Dennis Jacobsen: \$500 District  
28: Guy Valiquette: \$500

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### Upcoming Events



#### LCDP Monthly Executive Board Meeting

Time: Mar 7, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJ0d2ZGWlZhSm01QU5nM1lr00zUT09>

#### LCDP Monthly Membership Meeting

Time: Mar 21, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)  
<https://zoom.us/j/91879624296?pwd=Yi9uYTJmZHQ2YlBGVW96eUJiVGRKQT09>  
Meeting ID: 918 7962 4296  
Passcode: 893733  
One tap mobile: 312-626-6799

#### LCDP Office Grand Opening

Saturday, March 26  
1:00-4:00pm  
2318 State Rd.

### LCDP Offices Grand Opening!

We will be hosting the Grand Opening of our new office space on Saturday, March 26 from 1:00-4:00pm. We will be joined by local elected officials, DPW officials, and candidates for local and state-wide offices. Snacks and drinks will be provided as well. Please come join us as we inaugurate what will be a crucial piece of our 2022 campaign strategy.

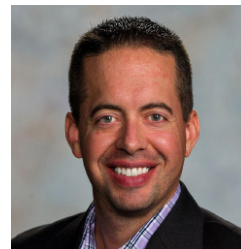
There are lots of bus stops very close to the office, including the #2, #4 and the Circulators.

We need your help to keep the office up and running. Consider volunteering for an hour or two a week. Email [edwburgess@gmail.com](mailto:edwburgess@gmail.com) to sign up. Also, consider giving a monthly donation to help fund the office at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/lcdp2022office>.

We also need donations of a foldable chairs, office supplies, and other materials. Contact [edwburgess@gmail.com](mailto:edwburgess@gmail.com) if you have something the office could use.

**Vaccines and masks are required at the office.**

### March Meeting Speakers



**Mark Neumann** 3rd CD Congressional Candidate  
**Mark Neumann** (<https://markneumannforcongress.com>)  
and Wisconsin State Treasurer candidate  
**Aaron Richardson** (<https://aaronforwi.com>).

### 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.

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### La Crosse School Board:

Kim Krejchik: \$500

Mary LaMothe: \$500

Kent Stein: \$500

In addition to large amounts of money issued directly to candidates months before the primary election, The La Crosse GOP has been sending mailings and fliers out, both in support of their candidates and in attempts to smear progressive candidates with lies and mischaracterizations of their voting records. In one such flier, the GOP revives a controversy from two years ago whereby local conservatives and the La Crosse Police Union harassed a member of the La Crosse County Criminal Justice Management Council so much that she was doxed and had to resign the council for her safety.

In a more recent incident, local conservatives tried to falsely link a horrendously racist fake ad about some Holmen School Board candidates to the local and state wide Democrats, despite no evidence the flier even existed outside of a photoshopped image on reddit, much less was the responsibility of La Crosse moderates and progressives.

The local GOP has also been paying for ad time on local media, especially WIZM News, in order to get conservatives out to vote in the local elections.

Adding to the money, fliers and advertisement is the local GOP's continued propaganda about the big lie that former President Trump won the 2020 election, both in Wisconsin and nationally. The local and statewide GOP continue to use this false narrative to drum up conservative rage and motivate them to the polls. Even as several of La Crosse GOP chair Bill Feehan compatriots are called before Congress for their participation in the fake Wisconsin elector scheme, which helped fuel the January 6 insurrection, the GOP refuses to come clean about the 2020 election because telling the truth does not get out their vote.

### What can we do about all of this? Several things:

- 1) Vote! This is the only real way we can stop this GOP encroachment.
- 2) Get Out The Vote! Talk to your family, friends and neighbors about this important election, make sure they are registered, and encourage them to get to the polls.
- 3) Support the La Crosse County Democrats in their work to support local progressive candidates. More information at [laxdems.com](https://laxdems.com)

## Be a Delegate to the DPW 3rd CD and State Conventions

As a member of the La Crosse County Democratic Party, you are eligible to be a delegate to the 3rd CD Convention, held online on Saturday, April 23 from 9:00am - 2:00pm, and the DPW State Convention, this year to be held in La Crosse on June 4th and 5th, 2022.

Being a delegate to the conventions means you can vote on DPW platforms, resolutions, policy decisions and officers, as well as interact with Democratic candidates and party members from all over the state.

To become a delegate, fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/Bq8Hremxwe619RtE7>

# 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.

**Candidate Recruitment:** The third Saturday of the month at 10am. To join, contact William Garcia at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com).

**Communications:** The second Monday of the month from 7pm - 8pm. To join, contact Ron Malzer at [ronsaturday@gmail.com](mailto:ronsaturday@gmail.com).

**Community Outreach (including Labor):** Fourth Monday of every Month at 6pm. To join, contact Ed Burgess at [edwburgess@gmail.com](mailto:edwburgess@gmail.com).

**Fundraising:** To join, contact David Wulf at [treasurer@laxdems.com](mailto:treasurer@laxdems.com).

**Events:** Fourth Monday of every Month at 6pm. To join, contact Terry Benson at [tltree1921@gmail.com](mailto:tltree1921@gmail.com)

**Membership:** Meets Quarterly on the third Thursday of the month (March, June, September, December). To join, contact Diane Wulf at [secretary@laxdems.com](mailto:secretary@laxdems.com).

## The 3rd CD - Central Region Congressional Debate

The 3rd CD - Central Region, the La Crosse County Democrats and the UWL Democrats will be hosting the first debate between the five Democratic Contenders for the 3rd CD House seat on Tuesday, April 12 from 6:30-8:00pm.

Go here for tickets to watch the event live: <https://forms.gle/2B3W4fjkRqTZufcA> (Tickets will be first come, first serve).

Streaming details to come soon.

To submit a question for the debate, go here: Questions will be selected by the moderator. <https://forms.gle/pSmP2LigHZwwLoFz9>

## Platform Amendments to the 2022 3rd CD Convention

The LCDP will be voting on sending five DPW Platform amendments to the 3rd CD Convention on Saturday, April 23. We will debate and vote on these platform resolutions at the Monday, March 21 General Meeting. The proposed platform amendments can be found at this link: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1211VNhrZtonXDotYiyqh\\_6FC2NmeSrIFPbtbS0-O4I/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1211VNhrZtonXDotYiyqh_6FC2NmeSrIFPbtbS0-O4I/edit)



# **LCDP ENDORSEMENTS:**

## **County Board of Supervisors**

District 1: **Joe Konradt**

District 2: **Tracy L Littlejohn**

District 3 : **David Pierce**

District 5: **Grant Mathu**

District 7: **Sharon Hampson**

District 9: **Dawn Wacek**

District 15 : **Monica Kruse**

District 19: **Rick Cornforth**

District 22: **Pam Viner**

District 24: **Kristie Tweed**

District 26: **Troy Gunderson**

District 28: **Karen L. Keil**

District 30: **Dillon Mader**

## **Holmen School Board**

Barbara Wuensch

## **La Crosse School Board**

Katie Berkedal

Merideth Garcia

Juan F. Jimenez

## **Onalaska Common Council**

District 1: Leanne Stokes

District 2: Diane Wulf

# **UPCOMING ELECTIONS:**

**April 5, 2022 : Spring General Election**

**August 9, 2022: Primary**

**November 8, 2022: General Election**





# We The People

by Ed Burgess

I watched Tony Evers' State of the State speech that he gave last week. I confess that I haven't watched many of these in the past. The news was great and our governor's delivery was excellent. What initially struck me was that none of the Republicans were wearing masks. I suppose that they were staying true to form. They have downplayed the pandemic and obstructed Tony Evers' attempts to mitigate the crisis. It is no accident that the vast majority of currently hospitalized Covid cases are unvaccinated followers of these people.

The other thing was their lack of response to our Governor's plans to use the 3.8 Billion dollar surplus to support small businesses and to return money to the taxpayers. He had many other proposals to help ordinary people. It looked like they were attending a funeral. They squirmed in their chairs as they perceived all he said as bad news for the Republican Party. This will, no doubt, gavel in and gavel out the special session that the Governor called, to determine the best use of two billion dollars of the surplus. They are hoping that Evers will lose in November and then it will be their money. They probably will want to pump money into charter schools.

We have always had our differences of opinion, that is human nature. In the founding of this country it was decided that in rejecting the control of England we would use their model of government but give control of the country to the will of the majority, excluding women and slaves. Over time the franchise was made more equitable so that all citizens had the right to vote but still the central feature was majority rule. Our laws reflect this and our elected representatives understood that after votes were cast in chamber, the winners were able to get their preferred legislation enacted.

The Republican Party of today is rejecting this basic tenet of the constitution. They are a minority party using whatever tactics allow them to remain in control where they have it. In order to do this they are relying on gerrymandering and voter repression to weed out Democratic voters. They have become flat earthers as they seek to overturn the last election and sow distrust in our electoral process all without a shred of evidence that anything improper took place. Their use of anger and hate to manipulate their base is appalling. In the end I believe that the Republican Party will need to reinvent themselves. They will need to broaden their appeal by really delivering for the middle class. They will need politicians of principle who value the needs of the country ahead of their partisan interests.

This next election will test the strength of our democratic form of government. Republicans are busy passing laws that will allow legislative bodies that they control to overturn the election results that they don't like. We can't count on the judicial branch of government to hold them in check. The only check on their ambitions is for voters of good will to turn out and deliver a message that will cause Republicans to reflect on their values.

# DPW WEEKENDS OF ACTION!

get involved



DPW is hosting a HUGE Get-Out-the-Vote effort ahead of the April elections. This includes several Weekends of Action to knock on doors or phonebank for our candidates.

Sign up for a shift and really help launch our candidates to victory! Below are the times and sign-up!

**Weekend of Action #1**, Saturday & Sunday, March 19th & 20th

**Weekend of Action #2**, Saturday & Sunday, March 26th & 27th

**Weekend of Action #3**, Saturday & Sunday, April 2nd & 3rd

The Final Push! Monday & Tuesday, April 4th & 5th

**Sign up at this link:**

<https://forms.gle/HmeV8DiksGYX49o49>

## Verify Your Registration and Request Absentee Ballot

You can check your voter registration at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Register-To-Vote>. Just fill out your name and birthday and you will see your registration status. If you are NOT registered, Wisconsin allows same day voter registration with a picture ID and proof of residence. Use this checklist to ensure you have the right documents to register.

You MUST request absentee ballots every year, regardless if you used absentee ballots the year before. Use <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Vote-Absentee-By-Mail> to check your absentee ballot status and to request an absentee ballot for 2022.

## Volunteer Canvassers and Drivers needed for local elections

Want to help out with local elections? We have LCDP members and (soon-to-be) endorsed candidates who need help with door knocking and, especially in this cold weather, driving candidates to knock on doors themselves.

If you would like to help, please contact Chair William Garcia at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com) or call 608-769-5286.

## 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>.



## 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)**

## Follow the LCDP on



twitter

@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems



## 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/>

[wizmnews.com/the-democratic-voice-with-william-garcia/](https://www.wizmnews.com/the-democratic-voice-with-william-garcia/)

## 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



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

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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.

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