

THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

April 2022 Newsletter

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

Who Do We Choose To Be?

By Ralph Knudson

I think we all admire the people of Ukraine, where we see the surprising power and depth of meaning that emerges when individuals make tough choices to come together and fight under the worst of circumstances.. especially when so much is at stake. Such choices raise critical questions for us: "who do I choose to be" during difficult times? None of us really likes such questions, much less the crisis that forces them...yet we all have to face them at times of loss or crisis in our lives. Such times put our values and priorities into sharp focus, and we often emerge more resilient and capable than before...and in the company of good supporters and companions.

We are now facing a crisis right now in our own state and country about our democracy. Voting and representation are at risk. Our economy has been cornered by a corrupt few who manipulate our institutions for their gain while sowing discord and confusion among those left out. Environmental decline is a growing threat, largely ignored by powerful corporations and institutions. The list grows. The next midterm election has been predicted by pollsters to hand more seats over to Republican power, and the hopes we held for a renewal of Democratic principles after last year's election are now presented as unrealistic by political pundits.

But that's only a top-down

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Upcoming Events



LCDP Monthly Executive Board Meeting

Time: April 4, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJOd2ZGWlZhSm01QU5nM1lrb00zUT09>

LCDP Monthly Membership Meeting

Time: April 18, 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

April Meeting Speakers



Peng Her

Pen Her is a candidate for Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor: <https://www.pengherforwisconsin.com/> Tom Nelson is a candidate for US Senate. <https://nelsonforwi.com/>.



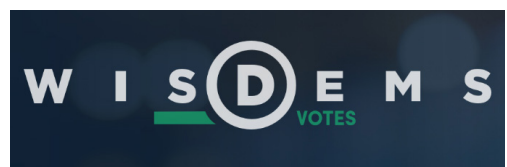
Tom Nelson

Thank You for the Grand Opening Event

Thank you to everyone who came out for the La Crosse County Democratic Office Grand Opening. It was a great event, and we heard from many, many candidates for office.

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.



WisDems Voter Assistance Hotline:

If you you have any questions or concerns about the April 5 election, please get help from the DPW's Voter Assistance Hotline: **608-336-3232**

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perspective; largely unaware of grass roots work now being done by people coming together to make fundamental change and renewal in communities of active Democrats across the country and here in Wisconsin.

Our LaCrosse County Democratic Party has become a great example of effective grassroots energy in the community and effectiveness at the polls. We've won elections, nurtured and supported new and old candidates and pushed for more creativity among our board and membership. And we're just getting started. This next year will be a critical one, and we're changing up the game to play offense and show the strength of our principles and purpose throughout the year. We have great leadership, hard-working board members, a year-round office, a sophisticated and updated Facebook and website (laxdems.com) and multiple initiatives underway. If you haven't done so, take 5-10 minutes to really explore laxdems.com and see for yourself. It's worth the time.

In 2020, 34,786 people in La Crosse County voted Democratic, yet right now we only number about 175 people who have joined the La Crosse County Democratic Party. We need to increase that number...a lot. What's wrong with that number? Our ability as a county party to prove pundits and pollsters dead wrong depends on the power of voters doing more; to join the party, to contribute time and skills to help accomplish this next year's goals. We need people power of all shapes and kinds, big and small in this time of many crises. As a member, you can join monthly meetings by Zoom or in person to be part of this effort, and participate further as you see fit. Ask yourself: "If not now, when? If not me, who else?" Who will you choose to be for yourself and your neighbor?

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 - 2:00 pm, 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.

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

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

Fundraising: To join, contact David Wulf at treasurer@laxdems.com.

Events: Fourth Monday of every Month at 6pm. To join, contact Terry Benson at 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.

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/2B3W4fjRqTZufFcA> (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>



Slava Ukraini (Glory to Ukraine)

Most of us are following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Clearly the majority of the world is with the people of Ukraine as are we. Their soldiers have been successful against all odds. The whole war seems like a throwback to earlier times when our fathers fought in Europe. NATO is supplying much needed weapons while their troops are sitting on the sidelines trying to avoid a nuclear war. The Ukrainians are fighting and dying in the cause of democracy and freedom. Let us all give them our prayers and hope that the senseless violence ends soon. Slava Ukraini!



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 10 - **Kim Cable**
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



The LCDP Involvement in Nonpartisan Elections

By William Garcia, Chair

The LCDP has been very involved in this year's local election cycle, and some have raised concerns over the party's involvement in non-partisan races. I quickly wanted to explain our thinking and describe the safeguards we have in place to ensure that these nonpartisan elections remain unaffiliated with the two-party system.

The LCDP consists of members who are passionate about ideals, not political parties. We care for quality education, a cleaner planet, social justice, and a better quality of life for all citizens. We join the Democratic Party because we think that is the best way to achieve these goals. Just because a race is nonpartisan, does not mean we should set aside our beliefs. The LCDP has the infrastructure, the commitment, and the resources to help enact our ideals, and we must not stand by while others attempt to hide nonpartisanship to elect candidates who will vote contrary to every belief we hold dear.

In order to ensure that our involvement does not affect the nonpartisan nature of local races, we have the following safeguards in place.

1) We do not endorse or support in any way a candidate until after the primary. This allows citizens of all beliefs to work to get onto the ballot. When the LCDP endorses, it is only saying that, of the two people on the ballot, one will better support Democratic ideals.

2) No candidate is required to be a Democrat in order to receive an endorsement. The endorsement is solely based on their priorities should they win office.

3) Candidates must request our endorsement. We will not endorse anyone who does not specifically request said endorsement.

4) Endorsements are voted on by the LCDP Executive Board and then by the general membership. All members can have a say in who we endorse.

If you have any questions about the endorsement process, please let me know. I am always happy to hear how we can do better.

DPW WEEKEND 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: 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 Use Same Day Voter Registration If You Are Not Yet Registered

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. If you go to this website (<https://myvote.wi.gov/DesktopModules/GabMyVoteModules/api/document/getproofofresidence doc>) it will download a PDF to your computer with a checklist to ensure you have the right documents to register.

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 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 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 or 608-769-5286.

La Crosse County Democratic Party



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.

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

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

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