

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

## January 2023 Newsletter

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

### LCDP Plans for the New Year

For the La Crosse Democrats, 2022 was a busy year of campaigning, with a mixed bag of results. We were able to re-elect Governor Evers and Attorney General Josh Kaul. And, with the re-elections of Jill Billings and Steve Doyle, we were able to deny the GOP a veto-proof majority in the Assembly. These were momentous wins, and the La Crosse Dems played a crucial role in these victories. Now, we need to build on our momentum and move into 2023 with determination and focus. Here are some goals for the party in 2023:

- Help elect a progressive to the Wisconsin Supreme Court! Electing a progressive to the court will change the make-up from Conservative to Progressive, which will have a huge effect on many issues facing Wisconsinites, from ending Gerrymandering with Fair Maps to protecting a Woman's right to Choice. This April election will determine the direction of Wisconsin governance for a decade.

- Grow our Membership! We have a wonderful group of supporters and activists, but we need to do more to reach out to the different communities in La Crosse. We need to bring in more young people, people of Color, LGBTQ people, union members and more into a coalition that fights for the rights of everyone, not just the wealthy.

- Support the election of progressives up and down the ballot! We intend to continue to assist candidates in non-partisan elections who support our ideals and values.

- More Community outreach and activism. I want to help community members and organizations fulfill their missions, as that we are active parts of making our community better.

If you have any ideas, concerns, or questions, you can always reach me at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com). I would love to hear from you.

### Upcoming Events



**LCDP January Executive Board Meeting**, Monday, Jan, 2, 6:30-8:00

**LCDP Regular Meeting**, Monday, January 23, 6:30 - 8:00pm. In-person at the LCDP Office or on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3902738956?pwd=TnFjcGpxRWREek5NaVIOL1I2dDRndz09>

### New Meeting Time This Month

The January Regular meeting has been moved to Monday, January 23 from 6:30-8:00pm. This is to better allow members to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This will also allow our membership meeting to flow directly into the DPW Listening Session with Ben Wikler from 8pm-9pm.

### Meet Judges Everett Mitchell and Janet Protasiewicz, candidates for the Wisconsin Supreme Court at our regular January meeting



Judge Everett Mitchell



Judge Janet Protasiewicz

Both candidates will discuss their views on the race, their goals for running for Wisconsin Supreme Court and why they would like your support in the February Supreme Court Primary.

### A bit about the candidates:

**Judge Everett Mitchell:** Judge Mitchell is a graduate of Morehouse College, Princeton Theological Seminary, and University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School and is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Currently, he is an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School where he teaches courses on "Race, Racism and the Law" as well as the "Foundational Principles of the Juvenile Justice System."

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Mitchell has worked with colleagues to change courtroom policies to reflect trauma-informed practices, such as removing restraints and handcuffs on youth during hearings. He joined several judges in petitioning the Wisconsin Supreme Court to support changing the presumption to ensure that children in Wisconsin can attend their court hearings without restraints and handcuffs. Learn more at <https://www.judgeeverettmitchell.com/>

**Judge Janet Protasiewicz:** Judge Janet Protasiewicz is a community leader, a veteran prosecutor, and a lifelong advocate for victims of crime. In nearly a decade as circuit court judge, she has earned the respect of the community, developing a reputation for being fair and impartial.

Raised in a working-class family, Judge Protasiewicz worked her way through college and law school as a waitress and nonprofit administrator. She earned her bachelor's degree at UW Milwaukee and her law degree at Marquette University, where she later served as Adjunct Professor of Law. Before being elected to the bench, she served more than 25 years as Assistant District Attorney, where she prosecuted serious crimes, and successfully argued in front of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Learn more at <https://www.janetforjustice.com/>



## MLK Jr. Community Celebration at Viterbo

The 2023 Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, at Viterbo University. It will also be live-streamed at [www.facebook.com/viterboethics](http://www.facebook.com/viterboethics).

The MLK Celebration honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. while aiming to educate and inspire the community to work together to eliminate the oppression of all people.

This year's featured speaker will be Andre Johnson, an associate professor of rhetoric and media studies in the Department of Communication and Film at the University of Memphis. Johnson is an award-winning author, scholar and researcher. In addition, he is a curator and director of the Henry McNeal Turner project, a digital archive of Bishop Turner.



## LCDP Lending Library

Several LCDP Executive Board members have been working hard to create a Lending Library at the LCDP offices. We have books on politics, democracy, social justice, anti-racism and more. Visit the LCDP office to borrow any of our books. Or, consider donating books to expand our library and help other members and friends understand what is at stake.

## LCDP Membership Survey

As we begin the new year, please take a moment to complete a quick survey about LCDP and what we could be doing better.

Please follow this link and take the anonymous survey: <https://forms.gle/CA6524eYPZXV14d3A>

Thank you for helping us make LCDP the best county party in Wisconsin.

## 2023 LCDP Office Support

For the first time, the LCDP is keeping its office during the off year election cycle. We think a year-round office is vital to achieving our goals of more activism, more membership and more community engagement. But we can not do it without you.

For 2023, please consider a monthly donation that might go towards funding our office. Even \$10 a month would go a long ways towards building up the crucial infrastructure we need to support our local, state and federal candidates.

Just go to <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/lcdp2022office>, select an amount and then select Yes when asked if you would like to make the donation recurring, Thank you so much for your support.



## SUPREME COURT CANDIDATE FORUM 1.11.23

### Hi, La Crosse County Dems!

I'm excited to let you know that I'm the new Organizer for the Citizen Action of WI Driftless Area Co-Op. I look forward to working with many of you on important issues facing La Crosse County and WI. Feel free to reach out to me if you would like information on Citizen Action and our grassroots efforts in the area.

I would like to personally invite you to participate in our Supreme Court Candidate Forum. It will be virtual via zoom on January 11th, 2023 at 7pm. As we all know, this will be an extremely important race on the spring ballot. Please sign up to participate here.

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Thanks,  
Kristie Tweed  
La Crosse County Democratic Party Vice Chair &  
Citizen Action Driftless Co-Op Organizer

For more info on Citizen's Action of Wisconsin, visit <https://www.citizenactionwi.org/driftless-region-southwest/>



## Listening Session with DPW Chair Ben Wikler



Join DPW Chair Ben Wikler for an in-person listening session as he travels the state, learning about what needs to be done in 2023 and beyond.

Time: Monday, January 23, 2023, 8 – 9pm CST

Come join us as we discuss what went well and how we can improve to ensure victory this April.

For more information and to register, visit <https://www.mobilize.us/wisdems/event/544862/>

## 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 Derrick Van Orden (R)

#### 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

#### La Crosse Clerk of Courts

Tammy Padretti  
(608) 785-9590

## LCDP Executive Board Officers

**Chair: William Garcia**  
(512) 660-2610

**Vice Chair: Kristie Tweed**  
(608) 317-1331

**Treasurer: Cathy Van Maren**  
(608) 315-2693

**Secretary: Carla Peña**  
(608) 783-3981

#### At-Large Board Members:

**Bob Freedland**  
**Fred Giese**  
**Tara Johnson**  
**Paul Kruse**  
**Tina Pohlman**

**College Representative: Jake Williams**

## 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.

## 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 County. <https://www.wizmnews.com/the-democratic-voice-with-william-garcia/>

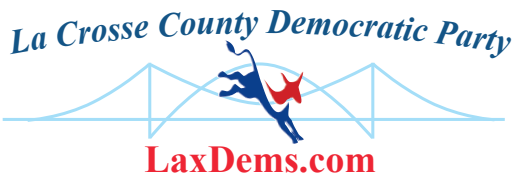
## Some Facts On Your LCDP Membership

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.

## 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  
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.

Membership in the La Crosse County Democratic Party ensures we have candidates who share our values, the infrastructure they need to campaign and the support they need to win elections. Consider joining the party today!

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).

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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