

THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

September 2023 Newsletter

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

Call for LCDP Officers in 2024!

Elections for the 2024 La Crosse County Democratic Party Officers and Board are fast approaching!

Please consider joining us as we work in 2024 to ensure Democratic victories in this crucial election year. If you have any questions, or would like to be considered, contact any of the members of the Nominating Committee.

2024 Officers:

All officer and executive board positions will be up for election. These include four Officer positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary; as well as five At-Large Executive Board members.

There will be several open seats. Many on the board have served multiple terms and would like to take a break!

The 2024 Nominating Committee: Anyone interested in running for the 2024 Board should contact William Garcia at chair@laxdems.com or 512-660-2610. The committee consists of:

William Garcia

Terry Benson

Michael Smuksta

The Process:

September 18 - October 16: Anyone interested in serving on the 2024 Board should contact one of the members of this year's nominating committee. The committee will verify that you meet the qualifications for office and are interested in being on the ballot.

Monday, October 16: At the October LCDP Regular meeting, the Nominating Committee will present the names of all people interested in running for LCDP office to the full membership. The membership is also able to nominate members from the floor at this time. No nominations will be considered after the meeting is adjourned.

Upcoming Events



LCDP September LCDP Executive Board Meeting, Monday, September 4 from 6:30-8:00pm, LCDP Office and Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJlODZlZGZlZm01QU5nM1lr00zUT09>

LCDP September Meeting with Law Forward! Monday, September 18 from 6:30-8:00pm, LCDP Office and Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJlODZlZGZlZm01QU5nM1lr00zUT09>

LCDP Annual Fall Dinner and Fundraise, Saturday, October 21 Concordia Ballroom

Monday, November 20: At the November LCDP Regular meeting, all nominees will be given three minutes to speak to the membership about their reasons for joining the 2024 Board. These speeches will be followed by a vote using the Ranked Choice Election model. The Secretary will announce the results at the November meeting, as soon as the votes have been tabulated.

September Meeting Speaker: Law Forward!

The group who filed the lawsuit against our currently gerrymandered maps. Monday, September 18 at 6:30pm

Law Forward is a pro-voter, pro-democracy nonprofit that was created because Wisconsin needed a legal organization that could strategically develop the law in the progressive tradition Wisconsin is known for. We build cases and identify opportunities to protect the right to vote and strengthen free and fair elections. Our work engages policymakers, the legal community, and the public on legal issues, expanding both opportunities and demand for progressive change.

The meeting will be held in person at the LCDP Office and on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJlODZlZGZlZm01QU5nM1lr00zUT09>

Upcoming speakers:

October: David Pepper, former US Representative from Ohio and author of *Laboratories of Autocracy*, a book about the Republican-controlled state legislatures, like Wisconsin, hard at work hacking away at core principles and protections of our democratic system.

November: LCDP 2024 Officer Election

DPW Neighborhood Chats

The Democratic Party of La Crosse County is hosting a neighborhood chat and we want YOU to be there!! We're thrilled to invite you to a neighborhood chat that's sure to make a difference. Join us at our office for an energizing training session before hitting the streets with our amazing canvassers. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a first-timer, we've got you covered - and we can't wait to hear what our friends and neighbors have to say about the issues that matter most to them. From local policies to the direction of our community, we want to know it all! So come on down and let's make a real impact together. See you there!

Mobilize link: <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/573370/>

LCDP FALL DINNER & FUNDRAISER

Keynote Speaker: Madison
Assembly Representative
Francesca Hong



Saturday
Oct. 21
5:00-8:00 p.m.
Concordia
Ballroom

- Tickets are \$30 until Oct. 6, \$35 until Oct. 13. No tickets sold after Oct. 13.
- Jerk Chicken or Jerk Tofu (vegan and gluten-free), Rice and Peas, and Mixed Vegetables
- Cash bar
- Raffle
- Silent Auction

RSVP at <https://laxdems.com/23dinner>

La Crosse County Democratic Party



LaxDems.com

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Run for Office

We are looking for enthusiastic, progressive candidates for the 2024 local elections.

Are you interested in running for local office? We have an election coming up in April of 2024, and the time to start planning is now. We would love for you to consider running for County Board, area city councils and local school boards. We have a lot of help to offer you. If you have any questions or would like more information on any of our assistance programs, contact me at chair@laxdems.com

Help for Candidates:

DPW and other organizations are rolling out a lot of help for people interested in running for office at any level of government. Encourage people interested in running for a seat to attend some of these training sessions.

DPW Run For Office Toolkit:

Nominate yourself or another person through the WisDems Candidate Recruitment Form and they'll be in touch through this interest form. Help us spread the word online with our 2024 Candidate Recruitment Toolkit!

Wisconsin Coalition Candidate Summit:

We are proud to announce a Wisconsin Coalition Candidate Summit in partnership with the National Democratic Training Institute on Saturday, September 9 in Milwaukee! This training is designed to prepare candidates of color and LGBTQIA+

candidates to run for office and provide the tools needed from now to Election Day!

Emerge Wisconsin is an organization that recruits, trains and provides a powerful network to Democratic women who want to run for office. Their cohort-based, six-month training program is unique, and the national Emerge network is the first state-based training program exclusively focused on Democratic women, building the bench from the ground up. Applications will officially launch on Labor Day. Apply at <https://wi.emergeamerica.org/training/apply-to-a-future-class/> or nominate someone else at <https://wi.emergeamerica.org/nominate-a-woman/>.





LCDP FALL DINNER RAFFLE

- Drawing will be at the LCDP Fall Dinner and Fundraiser, Sat., Oct. 21, 8:00 p.m.
- You do not have to be present to win.
- Raffle Tickets are \$20 each or 3 for \$50. A maximum of 360 tickets will be sold.

1st PRIZE:

 CHOICE of ONE AVENTON Pace 500.3 or Level.2 Ebike from Wrench and Roll Collective, 1200 Caledonia Street, La Crosse (value \$1,800) OR \$1,000 cash



2nd PRIZE:

 One night for four people at the historic Bentley-Wheeler B&B in La Crosse AND \$250 in cash and gift cards from local businesses. The Bentley-Wheeler Bed and Breakfast in La Crosse includes two refurbished and finely detailed historic homes and is a two time winner of the La Crosse Preservation Alliance Historic Heritage Award and winner of the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation Award. Total value: \$600



Purchase of tickets represents a donation to the La Crosse County Democratic Party. To purchase tickets, email treasurer@laxdems.com OR call or text 608-315-2693. You may also purchase tickets from the LCDP office, 2318 State Rd, on Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 pm, Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to noon, or Saturdays from 10am-2pm beginning September 1

La Crosse County Democratic Party



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Labor Fest Parade

Come march with the La Crosse County Democrats in the LaborFest 2023 parade.

Monday, September 4. 9:30am meet time for a 10am launch. We will meet at the south end of Logan Middle School, by the sports field.

March with us then stay for the AFL-CIO's LaborFest Celebration.

More information at <https://westernwisconsinafclcio.org/labor-day-parade-fest-2023-all-are-welcome/>



Drop by the LCDP booth at Pride in the Park. Be sure to visit the La Crosse County Democratic Party Booth at this year's Pride in the Park. Saturday, September 9 from 11-6pm at Riverside Park.

If you would like to volunteer for an hour or two at the booth, let me know at chair@laxdems.com

More information about Pride in the Park at <https://www.7riverslgbtq.org/pride-in-the-park>



Committee Meeting Times

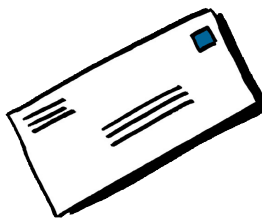
We really need help with our committees. Please consider joining one of our committees. Information is below!

Committee	Chair	Chair Contact	Meeting Time
Candidate Recruitment	William Garcia	chair@laxdems.com	3:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the Month
Communications	William Garcia	chair@laxdems.com	6:30pm on the 4th Monday of every month
Constitution and Bylaws	Carla Pena	secretary@laxdems.com	5:00pm on the 4th Monday of every month
Events/Outreach	Fred Giese	giese.white@gmail.com	6:30pm on the 2nd Monday of every month
Fundraising	Cathy Van Maren	treasurer@laxdems.com	2:00pm on the last Thursday of the month
Membership	Kristie Tweed	vicechair@laxdems.com	4:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.



Hannah Dull and Grant Mathu are working to create a Young Democrats group for La Crosse County! Follow their new Instagram @laxdems or email them at laxyoungdems@email.com for information.

Letters to the Editor Project



Inspired by Ron Malzer's excellent Letter to the Editor campaign last election cycle, the LCDP is trying to get a group of people willing to write and help edit Letters to the Editor. This group will work to:

- Write Letters to the Editors
- Help edit other people's letters
- Help distribute LTE ideas and talking points

This is a quick and very effective way for us to communicate with voters. We need a constant flow of Letters to the Editor, as local journalism is so strapped for resources that they do not have time to report what is happening in local communities. Currently, I am distributing 2 ideas a week for letters.

Email chair@laxdems.com to join the project.



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.

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)

1513 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC, 20515-4903
Ph: 202-225-5506

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
(512) 660-2610

Vice Chair: Kristie Tweed
(608) 317-1331

Treasurer: Cathy Van Maren
treasurer@laxdems.com

Secretary: Carla Peña
secretary@laxdems.com

At-Large Board Members:

Hannah Dull
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

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

@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/>

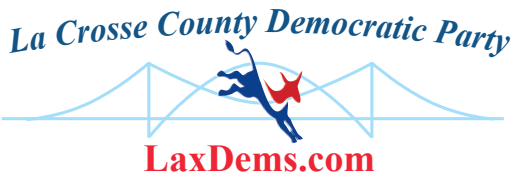
Some Facts On Your LCDP Membership

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 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 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.

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.

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.

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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