

KANSAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY

P.O. BOX 1914

Topeka, KS 66601

[www.kansasdems.org](http://www.kansasdems.org) 785-234-0425

***DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FOR DNC COMMITTEE MEMBER***

Name of Candidate\_Larry Dreiling\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: Email [larry@larrydreiling.com](mailto:larry@larrydreiling.com)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone (785) 623 7356\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted\_May 26, 2021\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this form to Jonathan Jones [jonathan@kansasdems.org](mailto:jonathan@kansasdems.org)

Brief biography and reason for running (please include separate jpeg file of head shot)

To The Members of the Kansas Democratic Committee:

My name is Larry Dreiling, and I want to make it OK to be a Kansas Democrat in a 105-county party.

Most importantly, I want to unite urban and rural Kansans under our party’s philosophy of social justice and charity, of seeking peace for all the world, under a government based on moral intergrity.

For some time, our party’s strategy has been to count on our largest counties to take us over the top in statewide elections, leaving rural areas to fend for themselves.

That’s not right.

That’s a bit on my philosophy, but now a bit about me.

In my over 40 years as a journalist, I have reported from more than 20 countries on subjects as diverse as government farm programs, rural trauma care, and antique tractor restoration.

I earned bachelors’ degrees in political science and communication from Fort Hays State University in 1980 and his Master of Science in Communication degree from FHSU in 1985. While on staff of The University Leader, I won the College Media Advisers National Award for Business and Economics Reporting. In 2011, I was presented with FHSU’s Nita Landrum Award, given for service to my profession, community, and the university.

I served as 2000-01 President of the American Agricultural Editors’ Association (AAEA) and as 2005-06 President of the association of North American Agricultural Journalists (NAAJ). In 1999, I received NAAJ's J.S. Russell Memorial Award for setting high ethical standards for his peers and his life of service to his profession. In 2020, I received AAEA’s Lifetime Achievement Award. I also hold a Rural Fellowship in the Association of Health Care Journalists.

A Fellow of the AAEA, I am one of just 15 recipients of the 600-member group’s Writer Of Merit honor and is an early winner in AAEA’s writing contest for Best Breaking News Reporting for the Internet. I am also the first U.S. reporter to win the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists Star Report Prize for outstanding foreign coverage.

In 2011, I received the Reuben Brigham Award from the Association for Communication Excellence (ACE), an association of communicators, educators and information technologists who extend knowledge about agriculture, natural resources and life and human sciences. The award cites Dreiling as “a communicator who has made a major contribution in the field of agriculture at the regional, national and international level.”

I have interviewed two (Democratic) presidents, and more secretaries of agriculture, members of Congress and seen more legislation than any layperson has likely ever seen. I’m a dedicated service to my community as the current president of a local Rotary Club, so service is nothing new to me.

After being laid off, I decided to stop being a fence rider and run for Kansas Senate in District 40. It’s big and very opposition oriented. I didn’t mind it, since we our area needs an advocate for health care and education.

Why me as your National Committeeman? I’m not a member of any clique within the party. I’m just a Kansas who is a Democrat. All I want is to bring urban and rural interests together, to mend whatever fissures there are that keep us from uniting against the continuing threats against those who do the working and paying and living and dying in our society, the people Hubert Humphrey said are in the dawn of life, the end of life, and in the shadows of life.

While, yes, I am a distant cousin of the former Kansas Democratic Chairman Norbert Dreiling, I currently am the caregiver to my 100-year old Dad, who lives with me in my home in Hays. It’s a full-time job, but I can make the job of service to Kansas Democrats and the National Committee work through the help of many friends in the area.

Let me bring Kansas Democrats together as your National Committeeman.

Thank you.

Nominated by:\_Eber Phelps\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: email\_[phelps.eber@gmail.com](mailto:phelps.eber@gmail.com)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_phone\_(785) 623-7575\_\_\_\_\_\_

Brief nominating speech:

I wish to submit this letter of nomination on behalf of Larry Dreiling who is pursuing the position of National Committeeman representing Kansas on the national committee.

Mr. Dreiling has been an active member of Ellis County Democratic politics for many years and most recently was a candidate for the Kansas State Senate for one of the highest Republican registered districts in the state. It was a daunting task, but Larry undertook the challenge with a high level of determination.

I believe Larry brings a great deal to the table with a background in journalism that included local, state, national, and international coverage with the main focus being agriculture which continues to be the driving economic engine for our state.

Larry Dreiling has been active in the community, especially with Fort Hays State University and is bullish on Western Kansas. Please accept this letter as my formal nomination of Larry Dreiling for the position of National Committeeman for the Democratic National Committee and to give positive consideration of his candidacy.

Nomination seconded by:\_Sandra Stenzel\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: email\_[sandrastenzel@rocketmail.com](mailto:sandrastenzel@rocketmail.com) phone\_(512) 470-2354\_\_\_\_\_\_

Brief seconding speech:

I second the nomination of Larry Dreiling for DNC Committee Member. I have known Larry since our college days and our service on the Student Senate together at Fort Hays State University. Larry proved himself to be a diligent public servant then, and over the last 45 years, I have seen him grow into an even more skilled and dilligent public servant now.

His national contacts through agricultural journalism and his contacts with poltical leaders both state and national will serve us well. He deeply understands the issues facing rural Kansas and he also has the skill to give all Kansas Democrats, both rural and urban, a larger voice in the DNC.

We talk about being a geographically diverse party, and sending Larry to the DNC would go a long way to showing Kansans our party not only serves the most populous counties in the eastern part of the state, but that we are willing to walk our talk about serving rural areas as well.

Larry has the willingness to put himself on the line for us. He proved that by being a candidate last year for the Kansas Senate. He will do whatever it takes to make sure the DNC doesn’t forget Kansas.