

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFORMATION

Guide for the members of  LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF KENT

In February 2025, the national League of Women Voters is transitioning to a new membership structure to get more people around the country involved in empowering voters and defending democracy.

This guide will help you understand what these changes mean for you — and what we'll need you to do. For most members for now, you'll just get an email asking you to [update your member profile](#).

You'll still be a LWV Kent OH and LWV Ohio member. While membership dues, types and tax deductibility are changing, benefits mostly remain the same. Check out the [summary of changes](#).



If you move, your membership can follow you wherever you go. While Kent OH will be sad to say goodbye, you can switch your membership to another local League.



Questions or problems? If something comes up, we're here to help! Contact Roster Manager Jane Preston Rose at janeprestonrose@yahoo.com or 330-678-9127 or the LWV Kent email at lwvkent@gmail.com. Our League also has a phone at 330-271-6188 which is answered by Barb Hipsman Springer.



Need help one-on-one? Here's our tech session schedule. LWV Kent's TECHLab Team has set up dates for members to bring their devices and get guidance on setting up the login or getting questions answered. Here's the schedule:

- **THURSDAY, FEB, 13, 6 p.m.** before the All Member Meeting, Kent Social Services, 1066 S. Water St., Kent

- **MONDAY, MAR 17**, 6 p.m. before the All Member Meeting, Kent Social Services, 1066 S. Water St., Kent
- **MONDAY, APR, 24**, 6 p.m. before the All Member Meeting, Kent Social Services, 1066 S. Water St., Kent

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Summary of changes

- Members will get an email in February about how to update their [member profile](#).
- As a current member of LWV Kent, your **dues** will [renew](#) each year on July 1.
- Your [member benefits](#) remain mostly the same.
- Everyone's **member dues** are changing. Suggested individual member dues are now \$75 a year, with a pay-what-you-can option. If you've been a household or student, your [membership type and dues](#) will be different.
- When it's time to [renew your annual membership](#), it will be somewhere new.
- The [tax deductibility](#) of membership **dues** have changed.
- **Donations** to LWV Kent, which remain [fully tax deductible](#), need to be made separately from your League membership dues.

- While it seems daunting, we'll walk you through it all and be available for calls, emails and one-on-one sessions before monthly meetings, which will be advertised in our VOTER.

Update your member profile

In February 2025, every LWV Kent OH member we have an email address for will get an email with instructions to log in to **ChapterSpot**, the new membership platform. [Watch for this email!](#)

The email will ask you to “claim your membership.” This just means you’ll create your ChapterSpot login and review your member profile. You’ll also be asked to take a short survey. This information helps us provide you with the best member experience.

Even if your renewal isn’t due soon, it's important you make sure your information is correct. You won’t change your [membership type or dues](#) until it’s time to renew.

Can’t access the internet or don’t want to use ChapterSpot? Contact Roster Manager Jane Preston Rose at janeprestonrose@yahoo.com or 330-678-9127 or the LWV Kent email at lwwkent@gmail.com. Our League also has a phone at 330-271-6188.

Questions about what happens with your information? Learn about your [data privacy](#).

Member benefits

Your LWV Kent OH member benefits remain mostly the same. You’ll still have many opportunities to support, vote and lead!

- Attend LWV Kent events.
- Help determine our areas of focus.
- Vote on our budget, board and other key decisions.
- Have the chance to take on leadership roles.
- Also join the Ohio and U.S. Leagues.

Membership [dues tax deductibility](#) has changed. [Donation](#) deductibility remains the same.

Membership types and dues



Want to give more? We appreciate you! For 100% of your **donation** above \$75 to go to LWV Kent OH, **do not choose higher dues**. Instead, make a separate donation to LWV Kent OH in the ChapterSpot “Contribution” step. The **PREFERRED** option is to pay online at our website, lww.org/ohio/kent/donate or by check. Checks should be made payable to League of Women Voters of Kent, PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

You don’t need to change your membership type or dues until it’s time to renew. Beginning in February 2025, the League’s annual membership types and dues are:

Individual member — \$75 recommended or pay what you can (\$20 minimum)

Dues are per year. You can add a second member (\$150 total for both recommended, \$40 for both minimum), but that second person needs a unique email address. 20% of dues supports LWV Kent OH, with the rest [split](#) by the state and national Leagues.

Life member

In appreciation of their dedication to democracy, a person who has been a member for 50 years or more is a Life member. Their dues are waived.

League membership **dues** only [partly go to LWV](#) Kent OH and are [partially tax deductible](#). If you’d like to **donate** to support our voter education and advocacy in Kent and the Portage County, Ohio area, be sure to give that as a separate fully tax deductible donation to LWV Kent OH at lww.org/ohio/kent/donate. Your options are PayPal with a PayPal account or credit card, Venmo and check.



Keep things simple by automatically renewing each year! That way, your League membership will never be interrupted. Just select auto renewal in ChapterSpot. Learn more about [auto renewals](#).

These membership types are no longer available: **Household** and **Student**.

- **Instead of a Household membership:** Join for yourself and a second member for \$150 (recommended for both) or pay-what-you-can (\$40 minimum for both). If more than two people in your household want to be members, the others need to join separately.

- **Instead of a Student membership:** Join as an [individual member](#) and pay what you can (\$20 minimum).

Membership dues split



Make your **donation** separate from paying **dues**! The PREFERRED options is to pay online at our website lww.org/ohio/kent/donate or by check. Online options are PayPal with a PayPal account or your credit card, Venmo and check. Checks should be made payable to the League of Women Voters of Kent and mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

Old structure: LWV Kent OH sent a fixed amount per member to the national and League of Women Voters of Ohio. People became members of those other organizations as well the Kent League. The remaining dues stayed with LWV Kent which amounted to about \$3. Dues were fully [tax deductible](#) then. Individual member dues were \$60 a year, with household, student, and pay-what-you-can options.

New structure: Each League member's dues are split between the national and state Leagues, and a local League selected by the member. In this case you have selected Kent OH and we are so glad! People become members of all those organizations. Dues are partially [tax deductible](#). Individual member dues are \$75 a year (recommended), with a pay-what-you-can option (\$20 minimum). *See the following chart for an easy way to understand the past and new dues structures.*

Old versus new dues split for individual members

	Old structure	New structure
Individual member dues (<i>recommended</i>)	\$60.00	\$75.00
LWV of Kent portion	\$3.00	\$15.00 (20%)
LWV of Ohio portion	\$28.50	\$35.25 (47%)
LWV of the U.S. portion	\$28.50	\$24.75 (33%)
Tax deduction	100%	20% <i>Local portion</i>

Amounts do not reflect processing fees, such as those charged for credit card transactions.



When [paying online](#), your membership **dues** will show up as three transactions — one each to Kent OH, Ohio and the national League.

When it's time to renew

Renewal reminders

You'll get several emails in the month before your membership expiration date reminding you to renew through ChapterSpot. You will have a 45-day grace period after your renewal date to follow up. You'll also find a link to renew at lww.org/ohio/kent/membership.

As a current member of LWV Kent, your dues will renew each year on July 1.

Remember, if you want to support our Kent OH work, please make a donation to LWV Kent OH separate from your membership dues. Visit lww.org/ohio/kent/donate. Your options are PayPal with a PayPal account or credit card, Venmo and check. Checks should be made payable to League of Women Voters of Kent and mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

Auto renewals

Keep things simple by auto renewing! It's a great option so your League membership is never interrupted. Just select auto renewal in ChapterSpot. You can choose to auto renew your annual membership and donations through ChapterSpot.

Payment methods: Online & Check

Online

ChapterSpot — membership dues and annual donations (not preferred at ChapterSpot)

★ **BEST METHOD!** ACH: This moves money electronically from your account. You'll need your financial institution's routing number and your account number, both of which are usually at the bottom of a checks or on a paper or electronic statement.

- Credit card
- Debit card

Check

While we prefer online payments, checks for dues or donations are welcome.

Beginning February 2025, membership dues and donations must be paid with separate checks.

- Membership dues checks: make out to **LWVUS**
- Donation checks: make out to **LWV Kent**

Checks should be mailed to LWV Kent, PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.



Your membership dues will show up as three transactions — one each to Kent OH, Ohio, and the national Leagues. You'll continue to be a member of all three!

Required Ways to Pay **DUES** Starting 2/3/2025

PREFERRED WAY to Pay DONATIONS

	Payment Methods	Recipient
<u>DUES</u>	Online at Chapter Spot Through Stripe ACH available	LWVUS 20% to LWV Kent 80% split LWVUS/OH
<u>DUES</u>	CHECK Made out to LWVUS	Sent to LWV Kent to process *** 20% to LWV Kent 80% split LWVUS/OH
<u>DONATIONS</u>	Online at Kent LWV website* PayPal** & Venmo	LWV Kent 100% to LWVK minus processing
<u>DONATIONS</u>	CHECK Made out to LWV Kent**	LWV Kent 100% to LWVK

* Website at lww.org/ohio/kent/donate

** Pay with Paypal using your PayPal account, your credit card or debit card. No ACH.

***Made payable to LWV Kent, mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

Please Note!

DUES PAYMENT METHODS NO LONGER AVAILABLE

Beginning February 2025, membership dues are no longer accepted through PayPal or Venmo on the Kent League website.

Kent LWV will still continue to gratefully accept **donations** at our website donation page, lwv.org/ohio/kent/donate, where you can pay online using PayPal with a PayPal account or credit card, Venmo and check. Checks should be made payable to the League of Women Voters of Kent and mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

*Want an easy way to pay your **dues** and/or **donations** to support LWV Kent OH's work?*

Pay with ACH, on ChapterSpot which has lower fees — and give a **donation** to LWV Kent OH separate from your League membership dues on the ChapterSpot page. You won't find ACH availability for a donation on the Kent League website donation page, lwv.org/ohio/kent/donate, only PayPal with a PayPal account or credit card, Venmo and check. Checks should be made payable to the League of Women Voters of Kent and mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

Tax deductibility

League membership **dues** and LWV Kent OH **donations** have different tax deductibility. Whether you can deduct a charitable contribution depends on your personal tax situation. Consult a tax expert or the IRS. You'll receive a tax receipt with details about tax deductibility. (SEE CHART BELOW.)

League membership dues tax deductibility

Your **membership dues are split** by three Leagues with different tax designations. Part, but not all, of your League membership dues may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

Tax deductibility of the three membership dues portions

	Organization type	Portion deductible as a charitable contribution?
LWV of Kent	501(c)(3)	Yes 20%
LWV of Ohio	501(c)(4)	No
LWV of the U.S.	501(c)(4)	No

LWV Kent OH donation tax deductibility

Donations made directly to LWV Kent OH are fully tax deductible as a charitable contribution. LWV Kent is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Your generous gift to LWV Kent supports our important voter education and advocacy work in Kent and the Portage County Ohio area. The **PREFERRED** option is to donate at lww.org/ohio/kent/donate. Your payment options are PayPal with a PayPal account or your credit card, Venmo and check. Checks should be made payable to the League of Women Voters of Kent and mailed to PO Box 302, Kent, OH 44240.

Privacy

This is not a privacy policy. It is information related to the League's national membership transformation. Please review the privacy policies of [LWV of the U.S.](http://lww.org/ohio/kent/donate) These policies may be modified during the membership transformation.

ChapterSpot

The national League's contract with ChapterSpot affirms that all data is owned and exclusively safeguarded for League purposes only. ChapterSpot is not authorized to use your information for anything other than fulfilling its service to the League. For more information see [LWV of the U.S.'s ChapterSpot Data Use FAQ](#).

Member contact information in ChapterSpot is shared by multiple Leagues. Please review each League's privacy policy, which may be modified during the membership transformation.

Member demographic information in ChapterSpot is only shared in aggregate when it can reasonably be kept anonymous. An individual's demographics are not shared with local Leagues.

Payment information in ChapterSpot is stored by Stripe, a trusted payment processor. Your payment information is not visible to anyone at the League. See [Stripe's privacy policy](#).

PayPal

Donor contact information and payment details entered in PayPal fall under [PayPal's privacy policy](#).