**LWV KENT ALL MEMBER MEETING 1/6/25 – HEAD’S UP ABOUT CHAPTER SPOT**

ON FEBRUARY 1ST, LWVUS, OUR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, WILL LAUNCH A NEW DUES PROCESSING SYSTEM. MY PURPOSE TONIGHT IS JUST TO GIVE YOU A HEAD’S UP THAT THIS CHANGE IS COMING AND TO ALERT YOU TO WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. YOU WILL RECEIVE DETAILED INFORMATION FROM US IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS AND THEN, TOWARDS THE END OF JANUARY, AN EMAIL FROM LWVUS WITH A LINK TO ACCESS THE NEW SYSTEM WHICH IS CALLED CHAPTER SPOT.

AT A THE 2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION, DELEGATES APPROVED CHANGING THE COLLECTION OF LWV DUES FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL TO THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

THIS CHANGE WILL NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT OUR MEMBERS UNTIL JULY 1ST WHEN OUR DUES ARE DUE FOR RENEWAL. HOWEVER, ALL MEMBERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN IN AND UPDATE THEIR DATA IN THE NATIONAL DATA BASE AFTER THE PROCESSING PLATFORM – CALLED CHAPTER SPOT - GOES LIVE ON FEBRUARY 1ST. YOU WILL RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM US AND LWVUS ON HOW TO DO THAT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU SIGN IN IN A TIMELY MANNER.

WHY IS THIS CHANGE HAPPENING? THE BENEFITS OF THIS CHANGE ARE THOUGHT TO BE:

1. THIS PROCESS WILL INCREASE AND DIVERSITY OVERALL MEMBERSHIP AND ACOCRDINGLY WILL INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO FULFILL OUR MISSION.
2. RESTRUCTURING THE DUES MODEL WILL INCREASE THE FUNDING AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS WHERE IT IS NEEDED.
   1. LOCAL LEAGUES WILL RECEIVE 20% OF THE DUES. LOCALLY, WE WILL BENEFIT AS CURRENTLY WE ONLY KEEP ABOUT 5% OF OUR $60 DUES. (47% STATE AND 33% NATIONAL)
3. THIS TECHNOLOGY WILL STREAMLINE THE MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING PROCESS WHICH WILL FREE UP TIME TO FOCUS ON OTHER TASKS.

A COUPLE OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES I’LL BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION NOW.

1. GOING FORWARD, MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WILL BE ON A ROLLING, ANNIVERSARY DATE BASIS. FOR CURRENT LWV KENT MEMBERS, OUR RENEWAL DATE WILL CONTINUE TO BE JULY 1ST. HOWEVER, THE RENEWAL DATE FOR ANYONE JOINING US AFTER FEBRUARY 1ST WILL BE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DATE THEY JOINED
2. DUES WILL BE PAY-WHAT-CAN. IN KENT, WE HAVE HAD THIS FEATURE LOCALLY FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD NOT PREVENT PEOPLE FROM JOINING THE LEAGUE. WE ARE PLEASED THAT IT WILL NOW BE THE PRACTICE ACROSS THE COUNTY.
   1. THE RECOMMENDED DUES RATEWILL BE $75, BUT MEMBERS MAY PAY ANY AMOUNT MORE THAN THAT, OR ANY AMOUNT LESS THAT THAT TO A MINIMUM OF $20.

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PAY DUES BY CREDIT CARD, ACH, OR, IF NECESSARY, BY CHECK WHICH WE WILL CONTINUE TO COLLECT LOCALLY BUT THEN SEND ON TO LWVUS.

AS I SAID EARLIER, MORE DETAILS ABOUT THIS CHANGE WILL BE COMING FROM US SOON. PLEASE WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR IT. AMIE CAJKA AND HER CREW WILL OFFER ONE OF THEIR HELPFUL TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS BEFORE OUR FEBRARY ALL MEMBER MEETING ON FEBRUARY 13TH TO ASSIST THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE GUIDANCE IN SIGNING IN TO THE NEW NATIONAL DATA BASE. IT WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU SIGN INTO THE NEW SYSTEM!!!

IF THERE ARE ANY GENERAL QUESTIONS AT THIS POINT, I WILL BE GLAD TO TRY TO ANSWER THEM.