

Sustaining Member Program

The League of Women Voters of Ventura County is an all-volunteer organization that depends on its members and others for contributions to carry out its mission of Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. In the past, there has been no organized plan by our local League to request donations from members. This is an effort to change that.

The Fundraising Committee is initiating a “Sustaining Member Program” to help reduce the deficit between income and expenses in the adopted budget.

SUSTAINING MEMBER

A Sustaining Member is one who contributes monthly to the LWVVC in any amount. However, Sustaining Members who contribute \$50.00 per month or more, or who donate \$600.00 or more per fiscal year in tax deductible contributions, will receive **complimentary registration** for League events throughout the fiscal year (July 1 – June30). These include the Program Planning Meeting, Winter General Meeting, Annual Meeting, Autumn Membership Meeting, Holiday Luncheon, New Member Orientation, Volunteer Recruitment, and any other meetings where a registration fee may be charged.

Annual membership dues do not count towards Sustaining Member totals. Regular annual membership dues are still payable on the individual’s anniversary and are counted separately.

All donations are very much appreciated, but members who do not wish to participate in the Sustaining Member Program, or who participate with a smaller amount, would continue to pay the usual amount for each event during the year.

WAYS TO DONATE

There are multiple ways to donate to the League. They include:

- ChapterSpot – at the time of joining or renewing, continue to the “Contributions Page” on the website and make your donation there. **Note:** Increasing the amount paid for dues when joining or renewing results in the donation being divided between the national league, state league, and local league. *After paying dues*, a separate page will appear for contributions that will go directly to the LWVVC chapter.
- LWVVC Website – Use the “Donate” button.
- Your Financial Institution – Use the “Bill Pay” system at your bank or credit union to set up a recurring payment to the LWVVC.

METHODS OF PAYMENT

While LWVVC is grateful for donations in any amount and by any method, these preferred tools do not charge transaction fees, and may be used to set up recurring payments:

- Checks sent via an on-line banking system
- Venmo

Other methods are also acceptable, but service fees of 3%-4% diminish the amount received by LWVVC. They Include:

- PayPal (LWVVC Website)
- Credit Cards

It is also possible to transfer equity stocks from an existing brokerage account directly into the LWVVC Fidelity brokerage account. This eliminates the payment of income taxes if the stock is currently held in a qualified account.

Payments from a Required Minimum Distribution and from Corporate Matching Funds are usually issued by check made payable directly to LWVVC and mailed to P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006.

PAYMENT DESIGNATIONS

Payments may be designated for special funds such as the Scholarship Fund or the Voter Registration Fund. All payments that are not designated to a specific fund will be accrued to the General Fund which is used for Voter Services, Membership, Advocacy, and other League activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Unless you decline and want to remain anonymous, Sustaining Members will be listed in the *Voter* by name. The amount of the contribution will not be disclosed.

SUGGESTED DONATION

Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated. Here are some suggested donation levels:

- \$25.00 monthly – Supports operating costs such as liability insurance, post office box, and web services.
- \$50.00 monthly – Supports education activities and community outreach.
- \$100.00 monthly – Supports voter services and membership activities.
- \$500.00 or more one-time – Helps underwrite an event.