

The Power of the Pin!

Upon payment of membership dues to other organizations, you may receive a membership card. Instead of a card, LWV-Wake gives each member a pin. While other organizations distribute pins as pro-motional items, the League provides pins only to its members. Your pin is literally a badge of membership! It affiliates you with a 98-year old influential organization, and you become the face of the League when you wear it. With few exceptions, we encourage you to display your pin.

The League's long history of nonpartisanship is the foundation of its credibility and influence. Therefore, it's important that members avoid creating an inaccurate impression of League endorsement of partisan activities. What does it mean to be nonpartisan? A nonpartisan stance simply means that the League never endorses or opposes a political candidate or political party. Nonpartisanship does NOT mean that the League is neutral on public policy issues! The League has clear positions on numerous local, state, and national issues and regularly engages in advocacy activities.

New members are often unsure of when to, and when not to, wear the League pin. Ultimately, we ask that you exercise good judgment. The following will provide some guidance.

Wear your pin when:	No NOT wear your pin when:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attending League events• Attending events sponsored by other non-partisan organizations.• Attending nonpartisan political events, e.g. a nonpartisan panel discussion of an issue.• Observing public government meetings (unless you plan to speak as a private citizen).• Out and about in the community in the normal course of you daily life. If others ask about the pin, tell them about the League and encourage them to join us!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaking at a public event as a private citizen. (There is a process for requesting authorization to speak on behalf of the League.)• Attending an event supporting (or opposing) a candidate or political party, e.g. candidate rallies, party meetings, caucuses, fundraisers, etc.• Carrying signs supporting (or opposing) a candidate or party.• Engaging in civil disobedience.• Participating in a rally or March that is illegal (has no permit), clearly partisan, or becomes violent. Please remove your pin and/or remove yourself from the situation.•

The League has always encouraged members to be politically active. We only request that members not display the pin when engaged in partisan activities. Otherwise, we hope you proudly wear the pin!

League pins are provided to new members at orientations and other League events. If you don't yet have a pin or have misplaced it, please request one at the next League event you attend. Any member may also purchase a custom name badge for \$15 at www.lwvhcnc.org.