



November 2022 Chapter Report

North Metro - Met November 2, 2022, at Little Venetian Inn in Little Canada 11:30-1:30. attendance 22 Norm Hanson and Julianne Johnston presenting on why people vote as they do. Focused on the impact of the early childhood environment cementing conservative and liberal opinions or filters, if you will, as to how people perceived or saw the world around them. Discussed some research found indicating that the brains of those leaning towards conservatism versus liberalism might be different in how a person might react to the same situation or events. Discussed the significant changes in focus, purpose and emphasis of the two major parties since their beginnings. For example, the Jefferson Democrats wanting small government and slavery while the Republicans after they officially began in their current mode were anti-slavery before electing their first candidate for the office of the POTUS, Abraham Lincoln.

Rochester - Our chapter sent out 550 postcards.

The Mankato Area - had two sessions in October for postcard writing and then completed postcards at home as well. No meeting planned for November.

East Central - Bonnie Lokenvitz chair and other officers have announced their retirement. November 10th meeting was attended by Kay Hendrikson and Don Slaton. A January meeting is scheduled for Kay's Depot in Mora for January 12. At the November meeting there was discussion of possible other chapters -.Osakis Minnesota is in Douglas and Todd counties. It is about 2 hours west of Mora and about 1 hour north west of St Cloud. St Cloud would be a good place to start a new chapter. The Democrats there re-elected Dan Wolgamott to the MN House 14B and Aric Putnam to the MN Senate. Both may have been endorsed by the Senior Caucus. The St Cloud DFL worked hard for their candidates. St Cloud has an active League of Women voters.

South Metro - met at noon on Wednesday7, November 9 at the Pizza Ranch in Lakeville. Thirty-four members attended. We had three speakers; David Wilske, Hastings Police Chief on Senior scams, Eagan Council member, Gary Hansen his monthly National Politics Report and re-elected Representative Robert Bierman 56A - hooray!

Police Chief Wilske warned about the phone calls alerting one to a relative (grandchild, great -grandchild or nephew) needing bail or medical dollars to keep them out of jail or alive. He gave an example of a recent incident when a Hastings resident was bilked out of \$10 thousand to pay for an operation and then asked for \$25,000 more. At that point, his department was notified and the perpetrator was caught but not all the money returned.

Call the police whenever you feel uncertain. If your relative does need help, you will feel more comfortable with the actions you take. If not, you will be saved heart and wallet ache. He recommends a family code word that can be used as a check on scammers - they won't know it. Also, advice from several members about passwords (make each different, store in a safe app, and use nonsense combinations Bill M.) informed us all. Don S. met Chief Wilske at an event (he was not under arrest) and invited him to speak to us because he was so engaging.

Gary Hansen, City Council member from Eagan does a National Politics Report for us every month that goes out to members along with the meeting notice. Gary described his method for accumulating his report - which is excellent.

DFL Rep. Robert Bierman spoke of the future for the Minnesota Legislative session(s) and which issues he will put before the House for consideration. Education is one: with hope to deal with Special Educations costs which seem often to strap ISD budgets. Pharmaceutical costs is another: he was working on several bills to hold dharma companies accountable for prices before the GOP walked on last year's session. And Special Session? Perhaps, if there is indication that the two parties can come to consensus on issues of concern to Minnesota voters. Time will tell.

The group's Veterans were recognized and thanked for their service -they received a reduction in meal costs in addition to the Senior Discount which we all receive. We welcomed five new members

Anoka County - Some f-of the best political minds in Anoka County got together and we talked for a good hour and a half about the 2022 election. Jody Anderson is going to organized a retired Teachers group Ken McIniiis Already has a former union members Group. We decided to **not** take December off but to meet again December 14th It was suggested not to just write letters to the editor before an election, but do them often on issues important to us

Saint Paul -Saint Paul Chapter members were active with a variety of Get Out The Vote measures. Senate District 64 had over 80% turnout of DFL voters targeted. We are still gathering voter turnout data from SD65. I am confident our 1000 postcards urging turnout helped these outcomes. We added one new member in November.

East Metro – Held post elation evaluation on November 10.

Representative Steve Sandell presented.

Next East Metro meeting is Jan 12 at Jerry's Foods in Woodbury. Topic TBD