



THE IVORY TUSK

SENATE DISTRICT 40 REPUBLICAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 – October/November 2009

PRECINCT CAUCUSES FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Please mark your calendar now for the Precinct Caucuses which take place on February 2, 2010. Bloomington Caucus will be held Jefferson High School and Burnsville/Savage Caucus will be held at Nicollet Junior High. Caucuses will begin at 7:00 PM Registration Opens at 6:30 PM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET-2nd TUESDAY – SEPT 8th.

The regular meeting of the Senate District 40 Republican Executive Committee (EC) took place on September 8th at 6:00 PM at Oak Grove Middle School. Although the elections of 2010 may seem to be far out on the horizon, there are plans in the works for candidates who are planning to register. The EC Committee is organizing plans to initiate in October, to get the Precinct Chairs involved and to begin building a team of “boots on the ground” to assist in the Fall elections as well as energize activists in our effort to regain seats in the House and Senate in 2010. Remember the phrase from your childhood? “Many hands make light work.” EVERYTHING relies on this truth. We need your involvement.

Late in August there was an Endorsing convention to support a Republican candidate for City Council, Jim Algeo, who is running for the District (Ward) 1 seat. The Full Committee Convention unanimously supported his candidacy with their endorsement. At the convention there was also a change made to the By-Laws of the Senate District, which would allow persons who are running for a non-partisan office (such as city council, school board, or commissioners positions) to remain on the Executive Committee. The decision is subject to ratification at the next Senate District Convention in the spring of 2010.

BURNSVILLE FIRE MUSTER’S DRAWS CROWDS AND VOLUNTEERS

Friday, September 11th and Saturday September 12th volunteers from Senate District 40 were at the gates, wearing John Kline T-shirts in support of our Congressman. Volunteers were happily selling event buttons.



*Pam and Chuck Myhra,
Volunteers from Senate District 40.*

The carnival scene was enhanced by the demonstration of water-power by the pumper-trucks from various fire-houses in the area, shooting their water arches into the sky, creating a cooling mist in the air – and an awesome sense of the power of those giant water “pistols”!



*The Rueggs family - young Kline
Volunteers.*

Rides and fair food were available everywhere and families were holding hands as children gazed upward at the spinning Ferris wheel and the arching water from the fire hoses. Fireworks were the highlight of the evening each night, and a signal for parents that it was time to take the little ones home to bed.

The Fire Musters parade was part of the festivities on Sunday afternoon, September 13th – with the Kline Campaign showing a strong support from many of the volunteers, with many participants showing their pride in the community.



*Sunday’s Community Parade,
and the Kline Volunteers.*

Fire Musters volunteers shared how much fun it was to talk to the people as they came and went for the event, so if you want to volunteer next year – you are very welcome to be involved!!



*A few of the Gate Helpers: Joe Kohaut,
John “Stretch” Kjenstad, Bob Green,
Josh Rueggs, and Nancy Losier*

**PLEASE PUT
PRECINCT CAUCUSES
ON YOUR CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2010
6:30 registration - 7:00 begins**

**CD2 HOSTS GOP
 GUBERNATORIAL DEBATES**

The Second Congressional District sponsored a Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Debate on Monday, September 28, 2009. The primary goals of the event were to raise funds for the Congressional District and its House Districts and to inform delegates of their choices for the October 3, 2009 State Convention Gubernatorial Straw Poll.

The nine candidates present were Pat Anderson, Leslie Davis, Rep. Tom Emmer, Bill Haas, Sen. David Hann, Phil Herwig, Sen. Mike Jungbauer, Rep. Paul Kohls, and Rep. Marty Seifert. The debate was held on Monday, September 28th at Bethesda Church, of Prior Lake, starting with a meet and greet session from 6 to 6:45 PM, followed by the debate from 7 to 9 PM. The candidate order on the platform was determined by drawing, and questions came from multiple sources. Pam Myhra was chair of the debate planning committee and emceed the event. The presentation of the colors was done by the Civil Air Patrol, the invocation was given by Pastor Mark Matychuck, and moderators were Michael Bonafield, of MinnPost.com. and Michael Brodkorb, Deputy Chair of RPM. First, candidates gave a two minute opening statement, then questions were asked of the candidates in random order, and in conclusion, each candidate were given three minutes for a closing statement. Several questions during the night were asked of all the candidates. The Second Congressional District used a novel approach in promoting the event, by offering revenue sharing with the participating House Districts; the net proceeds were shared fifty/fifty between the Congressional District and participating House Districts based on the number of tickets sold by that House District, after expenses.

**SENATE DISTRICT 40 TURN-
 OUT AT THE STATE
 CONVENTION**

All allocated seats were filled in Senate District 40 delegation at the State Convention on Saturday, October 3, 2009. It was apparent early in the morning, that the alternates who were waiting at the back of the room would all be seated in time for the Straw Poll Vote.



*Pam Myhra and Nancy Losier
 Co-Chairs of SD40 – at the 2009 RPM
 State Convention – October 3rd*

A number of guests gave their speeches, decisions were made regarding the convention rules, and the changes to the Constitution were decided. Then a motion was made from the floor to suspend the agenda, for the purpose of moving the straw poll vote up to earlier place in the convention. So the nine candidates for Governor were then told the order of their appearance, which was determined earlier, by a drawing done by the leadership. Each candidates had their own unique style; some had a full contingent of supporters, playing drums, holding flags, and marching in line to stand behind the candidate; one had a video presentation followed by a personal speech; another came to the platform alone and made a speech filled with passionate rhetoric. The speeches gave an excellent opportunity for the delegates to make comparisons, and the differences were often stark and full of contrasts. Each delegate was given the chance to vote for their first choice candidate and their second choice candidate.

Here are the results of the straw poll:

Gubernatorial Straw Poll-First Choice

	Total votes	Rank
Anderson	174	3 rd
Davis	10	9 th *
Emmer	283	2 nd
Haas	10	9 th *
Hann	146	4 th
Herwig	14	8 th
Jungbauer	10	9 th *
Kohls	58	6 th
Seifert	454	1 st
Other	16	7 th
None	59	5 th

(*Note – three candidates were tied for 9th position with 10 votes each)

Gubernatorial Poll – Second Choice

	Total votes	Rank
Anderson	182	3 rd
Davis	30	9 th
Emmer	207	2 nd
Haas	46	7 th
Hann	216	1 st
Herwig	20	11 th
Jungbauer	37	8 th
Kohls	128	6 th
Seifert	171	5 th
Other	172	4 th
None	25	10 th

The results were interesting, and gave the candidates a clear idea of the level of support they could expect in the coming months. There was much speculation as to which candidates would be dropping from the race after finding their support was not as strong as was hoped.

The race for Governor will no doubt be narrowed to fewer candidates in the coming weeks, as some individuals evaluate the results and make decisions as to whether to continue to spend money on a campaign that might have lost momentum after the straw poll results.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS
 DECEMBER**

December 3, 2009 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Bloomington Solutions
w/ Tom Hulting, Councilman Elect
 North Lunchroom
 Jefferson High School

December 5, Saturday, 8:30 AM
State Central Committee
 Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN

December 7, Monday 6:00- 7:00 PM
Truth in Taxation
 City Council Chambers
 Bloomington City Hall

December 17, Thurs. 7:30– 9:00 PM
Campaign Kick-off/Fundraiser
Legislative Candidate Pam Myhra
 Godfather’s Pizza, Burnsville

January – First week of the 2010.
Fundraising phone calls made.
Volunteers are needed.
Get out your checkbooks and be ready – support our candidates!

IT'S TIME TO GET INVOLVED!

Your Senate District is truly the "grassroots" of the Republican Party. So much happens at this level of the organization, that the activists in the Senate District really have a lot to say about the direction of the party for the coming years. This is the place where you make a difference with your participation!

In the next few months, officers from the Senate District will be contacting the Precinct Chairs, to find out how they want to help the candidates in their successful bid for election. With three seats to take back from the Democrats in the Senate, and House, we have an important task in 2010. Several excellent candidates have registered and filed for these positions. One of them is our own Pam Myhra, recently the Co-Chair from House District 40A. Pam has been very active in the supporting the Presidential Candidates, in acting as the Burnsville Coordinator for the Presidential Campaign for George Bush in 2004 and John McCain in 2008. Recently Pam coordinated the Gubernatorial Candidate Forum which was held at the Bethel Church in Prior Lake. All nine candidates for Governor were present and over 250 people attended. Pam is running for the Legislature in 2010.

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NEW LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE for HD40B

A candidate has registered to run for the House District 40 B seat, challenging incumbent Democrat, Ann Lenczewski, for the representation of the Bloomington district. Rick Bohnen has declared his intention to run for that spot in the 2010 elections. Rick is a small business owner, operating two service stations in the Twin Cities. He is excited about the challenge of beating Ann in the 2010 elections, and you can help! Join him on Facebook!

Interested persons are encouraged to consider running for office. The endorsement process is a part of the February 27th, Senate District Convention. Newly elected delegates and alternates, from the Precinct Caucuses on February 2, 1010, will be selecting representation for the State and Congressional delegation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVES NEW MEMBER

The newest member of the Executive committee was voted into office at the October meeting, following a motion by one of the members. Jim Algeo will be the new member from the HD40B side, representing Bloomington. Jim has been a candidate for office in the recent election cycle, running for City Council for Bloomington. Jim was defeated by a very slim margin in the election, and earned 48.3% of the vote with Steve Peterson, the incumbent, receiving 51.48% of the vote. The actual vote number was a difference of 74 votes. Another new member from HD40A is Ed Horner, long time Republican supporter.

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REGARDING VOTER TURNOUT

Please remember this year's elections in the 2010 election cycle. We need ALL of our Republican voters to go to the polls on Election Day!! This cannot be stressed enough. The record shows that Bloomington had 53,757 registered voters (as of 7:00 AM on 11-03-09), possibly more, if we include same day registrations. If only 10% of the voters were to show up to the polls, we would have 5,375 people voting in Bloomington. This election cycle showed that 8,328 people voted for the at large position for City Council. That indicates about a 15% voter turnout, as a rough estimate. Republicans have to represent nearly 45% of voters in the City of Bloomington. In the last Presidential election the vote was Republicans 43% to Democrats 55% - using the statistics from the Presidential election between McCain and Obama respectively. In that highly contested election, there was a turnout of 51,376 voters. Some of you who stayed home and didn't vote in THIS election – please note that you could have changed things by VOTING- as a responsible citizen!! It is very disappointing for a candidate when the members of his own party do not get out and vote for him. The hours that are spent by the candidates and by their supporters in door knocking, handing out literature and calling the voters represents a huge commitment of hours for a small group of people. The very least you could do, as a voter, is go to the polls and vote!

Please honor our candidates in our next election, by doing YOUR part!

PLEASE VOTE ON ELECTION DAY!

YES, YOU CAN VOTE!! ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The Secretary of State for Minnesota is Democrat Mark Ritchie. You can go to his website and find out the statistics and records regarding the most recent election. Go to your browser and enter the following address:

<http://www.sos.state.mn.us>

The information you can find there will tell you about how to vote absentee. If you are away from your Precinct, such as the possibility that you are traveling to Northern Minnesota on Election Day for some reason, or you are in the military and deployed to Iraq, then you can vote by absentee ballot.

Here are some of the rules:

General Absentee Information

There are two ways to vote by absentee ballot:

1) In Person Absentee Voting

You may cast an absentee ballot in person, at your county auditor's office and in many cases your city or township clerk's office, starting 30 days prior to Election Day. This option is available on weekdays during business hours. In addition, the county auditor's office must be open for absentee balloting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Saturday before the election and until 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

2) Absentee Voting by Mail

You may have an absentee ballot sent to you by completing an Absentee Ballot Application and send it to your county auditor by mail, fax, or email. Your ballot will be sent to you when it is ready - at least thirty days prior to the election if you applied for an absentee ballot in advance. If you apply for an absentee ballot within thirty days of the election, your ballot will arrive within a day or two of your application being received. **Your completed absentee ballot must be received by your county auditor by Election Day, or it will not be counted.** The Secretary of State's office has improved the absentee ballots for the next election, making them more user-friendly. Please remember this important information for the 2010 election!

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