

Boys State and Girls State

On Sunday, my Sweetie, Bev and I had the honor of attending the annual membership dinner for the American Legion in Moorhead. A high point of the evening was a presentation by the Legion sponsored Boys State and Legion Auxiliary sponsored Girls State attendees. What a wonderful group of young men and women. All four are Moorhead High seniors.

The two Boys State attendees were Jacob Borman and Sam Grove. Jacob is involved in Moorhead high knowledge bowl competition and on the Inspire Innovation Lab Youth Advisory board. Sam is on the Moorhead High football team, Wrestling team and Track and Field, serving as captain of each sport. Jacob will be attending Minnesota State University Moorhead next fall while Sam will wrestle for South Dakota State University.

Abby Borman, Jacob's twin sister and Hannah Hendrickson were chosen by the Legion Auxiliary to attend Girls State. Hannah was also selected to attend Girls Nation in Washington, D.C. which she did in July. Abby is part of the FM Area Youth Symphony, the Chamber Orchestra and Moorhead High Knowledge Bowl competition. Hannah is also a member of the FM Area Youth Symphony and Moorhead Speech.

From the MN Boys State website "Minnesota American Legion Boys State is a week-long experience of learning about Minnesota government at the local, county and state levels by "doing". It is a week of intensive study and involvement. The participants will actually organize and participate in the various levels and branches of government in addition to participating in athletics, music, writing for the newspaper or holding leadership positions across all levels of the program. Every boy will participate in the process of city, county and state government. Minnesota Boys State is a program for young men who have just completed their junior year of high school. Highlights of the week include political speakers, mock trials, campaigning, elections, and announcement of the Boys State Governor and State Constitutional Officers."

From the Girls State website "High school girls, who have completed their Junior year, spend an intensive week of study, working together as self-governing citizens at Auxiliary-sponsored Girls State programs in every state (with the exception of Hawaii). Participants learn how to participate in the functioning of their state's government in preparation for their future roles as responsible adult citizens. Two girls are selected from each Girls State program to attend Girls Nation, a national government training program. Girls Nation "senators" meet for a week in Washington, D.C., where they run for political office, campaign for the passage of legislation and possibly meet with state Representatives and Senators."

Hannah, Abby, Sam and Jacob, thanks for sharing you experience with us. We are all very proud of you. As an attendee of Boys State in 1962, it bought back memories.