

A Message from the Chair of the Board

When I was approached to serve as Chair of the Board, I thought back to some of our previous Chairpersons and remembered the speech that Scott Allison gave when he served in this role. He commented that he accepted the role as Chairperson because he loves Hibbing, loves this community, and wants to be a force in making the community strong. His words resonated with me that night. Sure, as most of you know, I am from Chisholm but eight and a half years ago, my husband and I left good jobs in the Metro to return to Northern Minnesota to pursue our business dreams and raise our family. It was a great choice, and I want to make sure that this community, for years to come, continues to attract and welcome new businesses and people, to maintain a vibrant and collegial business community, and to provide quality of life for those who call Hibbing home. In short, that is why I have accepted this position— to focus on the economic growth and community development of our City and our Membership.



As Chair, I want to focus our organization's talents to make sure that the Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce is focusing its energy and resources on developing a business community that fosters steady economic growth; which occurs not only through a cohesive business community that attracts new enterprises, but through a business community that also meets the needs of its existing commercial population. Hibbing has a core retail presence that needs support and expansion; Hibbing needs to maintain high quality medical and other professional services; it needs excellent infrastructure with access to air travel; quality schools; and jobs that pay more than just a living wage.

As Board Chair, I want to see that our Board of Directors and broader membership reflects each of these sectors: mining, retail, medical, commercial, professional services, transportation and other new areas such as technology. It is my goal to see that each activity sponsored by the Chamber ensures that we as a Chamber and community are focused on our mission, that being: "To create, protect, and enhance a healthy business environment for the benefit of our members and the entire community. We serve our members through promotion, education, information and advocacy." This should be at the heart of and the focus of each of our efforts.

The Chamber already does great work through its leadership class, energy retrofit project, support for our mining industry, support and mentoring for young professionals in our region, business development and simply providing many, many ways for professionals in our community to network and make connections with one another. I encourage everyone to spend some time going through our wonderful website—it is impressive and one look at it confirms that our Chamber is a true and necessary community resource.

I look forward to the upcoming year and the challenges and opportunities we all face together.

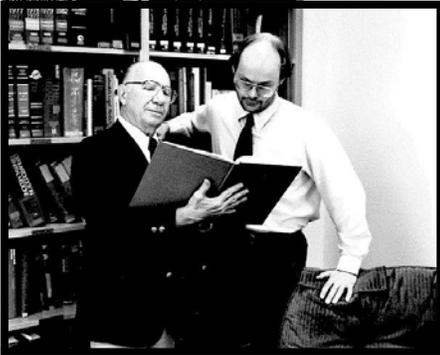
Rachel Sullivan is an attorney at Prebich & Sullivan, P.C. in Hibbing.

Rachel Sullivan
2015 Chair of the Board
Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce

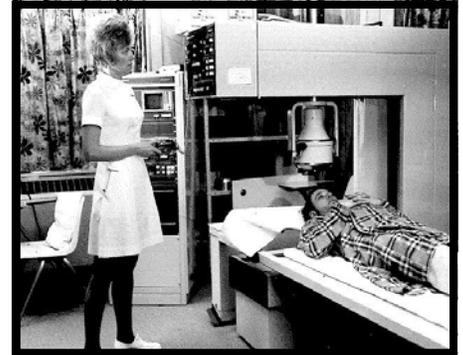


Special Thank You to our
 2014 Chair of the Board,
 Camille Nasi, for her
 year of service.

Business of the Year—Hibbing's Largest Employer



Over 120 Years of Quality Health Care



Criteria for Business of the Year Award:

Dedication and service to the community

Excellence and/or innovation in their field

Demonstrated growth and stability

Special contributions of leadership and mentoring others

Longevity of business and loyalty to employees and area

Support and promotion of the region, chamber and business community.



Deb Boardman, President & CEO, Fairview Range, accepting the Business of the Year award.

The hospital in Hibbing has undergone many different names over the years, but one thing has remained the same—the hospital has provided our community with quality health care ever since the first one-room Hibbing Hospital was opened by Dr. D.C. Rood in 1984. Today, the health care facility has grown to become one of the most advanced and well-designed medical campuses in the state of Minnesota.

Currently with over 1,000 employees, Fairview Range is Hibbing's largest employer.

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Continued from page 2.... Fairview Range is a family of medical providers based in Hibbing, and includes Fairview Range Medical Center, Fairview Mesaba Clinics (with locations in Hibbing, Nashwauk and Mountain Iron), home care, hospice and a medical supply provider. They offer more than 60 medical services and also own Fairview Range Greenview Residence, a memory care facility, located on the medical campus.

Though the main campus is located in Hibbing, Fairview Range services extend across Northeastern Minnesota. They recently partnered with Dr. Bridget Sundell of Virginia to create a joint venture outpatient surgery center—Northwoods Surgery Center—which was completed in 2014.

Deb Boardman currently serves as the President & CEO of Fairview Range and has been extremely involved in the chamber, as well as a great supporter of our community. Employees of Fairview Range are also involved in various community events throughout the year.

For over 120 years, the hospital has been committed to preserving and enhancing the quality of life in our communities.

The Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors congratulates Fairview Range on its selection for this prestigious award.

2014 Business Education Partnership Award— North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity

During the past seven years Habitat for Humanity has provided the ultimate work-based learning environment for over 150 students from Hibbing and Chisholm high schools. They have been a dependable partner in their effort to improve students' experiences by emphasizing the importance of academics as well as hands-on learning. They have provided the building site, the building materials and the construction experts that allow our students to build a three-bedroom family home from start to finish that meet all local and state building codes.



Jeanne Bymark, Hibbing High School, presenting the 2014 Business Education Partnership award to Nathan Thompson and Harold Wentland.

Special Recognition goes out to:

Nathan Thompson—Executive Director; Dave Alaspa—Construction Manager; Harold Wentland—Hibbing Job Site Coordinator; Kris Clover—Board Chair of North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity

Outstanding Leadership Alumni Award—Nicole Freeman

For demonstrating the principles taught in the Chamber's Leadership Program through her exemplary community work and achievements.



Lory Fedo, President, presenting the award to Nicole Freeman.

The Hibbing Area Chamber Leadership Program started in 1996. Since then the Chamber has trained over 500 community and professional leaders. Several years ago we decided to give an award to graduates of the program who have demonstrated exemplary community leadership. This awardee has big shoes to fill. Past recipients of the award are: Marci Knight, Mark Gardeski, Kelly Grinsteinner, Shaun Germolus, Scott Nehiba, and Rick Wolff. This year we honor Nicole Freeman as our Outstanding Leadership Alumni Award winner.

Nicole graduated from the Leadership Program in 2013-2014. She is a lifetime resident of Keewatin. In 2014 she won American Bank's Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award. The Award was given to the one employee who demonstrated a continued commitment to achieving excellence and success for her employer and the communities it serves. Nicole received that award and the Chamber's award for her volunteer efforts with the Salvation Army, United Way of Northeastern MN, local humane societies, local chambers, food shelves and just about anything she was asked to be a part of. She also is a volunteer for the Chamber's Range Young Professionals. She is committed to building better communities and raising awareness for everything she is involved in.

One of her greatest accomplishments is that she is a co-founder of the Mighty Mutts, which is a non-profit organization that raises money for local humane societies. To date this organization has raised over \$30,000 and continues to grow. She took a leadership role and met with the local shelters to determine their needs and then worked with her co-workers to come up with a fundraiser to raise awareness and money.

Nicole Freeman is the Marketing & Communications Specialist at American Bank.

Nicole was nominated by Marci Knight—past recipient of the award and past Chamber Board Chair.

Volunteer of the Year Award—Mark Thune

Whose volunteer efforts and contributions have had a lasting impact on the Chamber, the community and its people.



Krystle Glad, Board of Directors, presenting Mark Thune the Volunteer of the Year award.

The King of Clubs

The Hibbing Area has great clubs which do good things and greatly add to our quality of life. Think of them...the Rotary Club, the Mesaba Country Club, the Curling Club, the Elks Club — just to name a few. These clubs serve our community and their club members by helping to make this a great place to live, providing scholarships, events, sport and camaraderie. Keeping these organizations in business is sometimes a hard thing to do as many of you know! It requires countless volunteer hours, a passion and commitment to the organization, a love of community and sometimes just a great sense of humor.

This year we would like to honor a person who exemplifies these traits and has helped multiple clubs and organizations during his career. His sense of humor has buoyed our spirits at the chamber many times. And we honestly don't know what we would do without him.

He has helped with the Chamber's Golf Outing and Funspiel for years; he volunteered to help with the Girl's Night Out Pajama Party along with his brother Wayne and has served on our Board of Directors. Mark's servant leadership really started years ago when he volunteered for his son's little league team and contributed to the soup kitchen. Since then he has served on the Mesaba Country Club Board, the Hibbing Curling Club Board, the Elks Club and Moose Club, and the Algonquin Club. In his profession he has served on the Advisory Board of the Golbon Buying Group Distributors and on the Purchasing Advisory Council. Along with his brother Wayne he received the Rotary's business person of the year award. And this year he will receive the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year award. Congratulations, Mark, in our hearts you will always be the "King of Hibbing Clubs".

Mark Thune is President of Fraboni Sausage and Fraboni Wholesale Distributors.

Keynote Speaker— Ted Schick, Schick Corporate Learning

Residing in Esko, MN, Ted is a corporate trainer, professional speaker and a consultant with his own business, Schick Corporate Learning. A retired naval officer who rose up from the enlisted ranks, Ted has over 30 years experience leading people and more than 20 years in teaching. He has been a primary instructor for our leadership class for the past 8 years and does an amazing job. He is also a trainer for multiple companies in the region.

During the 110th Annual Dinner, Ted presented “The way we were — the way we are.” He wondered what the first annual dinner event might have been like in 1905. Who was there? What did they talk about? And if they were here — what would they think about us? And what would we think of them?

As different as we are from the business leaders of 1905, there are things that are the same for the business owners and community leaders of Hibbing and the Iron Range, things that have not changed.

- Courage—taking a chance, putting ourselves out there, facing uncertainty
- Work Ethic—the unwavering work ethic of the Iron Range and immigrants that settled here
- Community—always and forever, reinvesting into Hibbing and the communities of the Iron Range
- Relationships—and we could not do this without each other. There’s something about Hibbing and the Iron Range with its welcoming and accepting nature. It’s like no other place in Minnesota.



We couldn't have organized the Annual Dinner without our volunteers! Thank you!

...to our amazing Shari Erickson who chairs our committee, and to Rachel Sullivan, Jeff Sullivan, Krystle Glad, Pat Ives, Brenda LaMusga, Miranda Schwartz, Karine Woodman, & Kate Williams. Bravo!

Also, a very special thank you to

Chef Jack Soderstrom & The Crown Ballroom Staff for the fabulous food, beverages, and hospitality & Express Print One for producing all of our Annual Dinner printed materials!

2015 Board of Directors Recognized at the 110th Annual Dinner

Chair of the Board	Rachel Sullivan	<i>Prebich & Sullivan, P.C.</i>	
First Vice Chair	Wayne Kangas	<i>Thrivent Financial</i>	
Second Vice Chair	Troy Loeb	<i>Edward Jones</i>	
Treasurer	Bill Lowry	<i>Max Gray Construction</i>	
Past Chair of the Board	Camille Nasi	<i>Liquor Cabinet</i>	
Pam Angen	<i>L&M Radiator</i>	Pat Ives	<i>Kiddy Karousel</i>
Chris Bergum	<i>Triumph Twist Drill</i>	Jared Lubben	<i>Hibbing Taconite</i>
Aaron Bonelli	<i>Range Credit Bureau</i>	D'Arcie Malsam	<i>US Bank</i>
Rian Burkes	<i>Nelson Roofing/KBC</i>	Jeannie Nobens	<i>Minnesota Twist Drill</i>
Celia Cameron	<i>Republic Bank</i>	Jeremy Rodorigo	<i>Wells Fargo Bank</i>
Brad Castagneri	<i>Dom-Ex, LLC</i>	Bill Thurman	<i>Mesaba Heating</i>
Aaron Clusiau	<i>Security State Bank</i>	Tina Uhrbom	<i>Fairview Range</i>
Joan Cotton	<i>1st Realty Rangewide</i>	Bobbie Van	<i>Delta Air Lines</i>
Gary Flesland	<i>MDI</i>	<i>Schoonhoven</i>	
Krystle Glad	<i>Range Center</i>	Marvin Vuicich	<i>American Bank</i>

2015 Committee Leaders

Annual Dinner	Shari Erickson
Ambassadors	TBA
BR&E/ED	Marvin Vuicich
Government Affairs	Dan Erickson, Steve Potts
Grow MN	Lory Fedo
Funspiel.....	Mark Thune
Jubilee	Shari Erickson
Leadership.....	Dave Clusiau, Mary Brandt
Golf	E'Lena Maestas
Beautification.....	Bonnie Fena
Range Young Professionals (RYP).....	Krystle Glad, Stephanie Keppers, Mike Stefan, Miranda Schwartz
Women's Innovative Network (WIN).....	Camille Nasi, Pat Ives
Worksite Wellness	Jeannie Nobens, Peggy Arthurs

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Iron Mining Association – Mesaba Heating-AC-Plumbing -
Mining Minnesota - PolyMet Mining - Republic Bank

A final Thank You to those businesses and organizations who contributed to our diamond necklace drawing, and silent & live auctions to make this one of our most financially successful events!