

Rotary

District 5580



CONFERENCE

Uniting People, Inspiring Action, Creating Lasting Change

Hosted by Duluth/Superior Rotary Clubs



Photo Credit – David Schauer

Duluth Loves Rotary District 5580!

Duluth, Minnesota | October 23–25, 2025

Dear Rotarians,

On behalf of the entire District Conference Planning team, we want to welcome you to the 2025 Rotary District 5580 Conference in Duluth. We hope that you will find this conference to be educational, entertaining, and rewarding.

As District leaders, you will benefit from the chance to renew Rotary friendships and make new ones as we gather to Unite for Good by serving our communities. As you have the opportunity to be here, take a moment to think about how fortunate we are to be inspired and motivated to find opportunities to grow Rotary.

The Rotary Vision Statement states – Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change, across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Your interest and dedication to Rotary is appreciated. Let us join together to have a lasting impact.

We would like to thank everyone, the participants, presenters, volunteers and facility staff, who have made this conference a success. We both look forward to seeing you and having conversations with you.

Kay Parries

24-25 Past District Governor



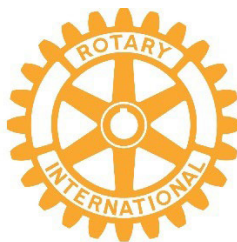
Elaine Hansen

25-26 District Governor



Rotary

District 5580



Duluth District Conference October 23-25, 2025 Holiday Inn & Suites Downtown Duluth Unless otherwise noted all sessions will take place at the Holiday Inn

- October 23** Arrival of District Leadership for meetings
- Noon-4:00pm **Kitchi Gammi Club** – Combined Executive Finance and PDG Meeting
- 5:30-7:30pm **Kitchi Gammi Club** – Leadership Gathering
- October 24** **Environment Projects – Sign up at the conference registration table**
- Option A – 9:30-11:00am - Friday, October 24**
Great Lakes Aquarium – Family friendly project outdoors helping to renovate the Nature Play Area. Limit of 25
- Option B – 9:30-11:00am – Sunday, October 26**
Incline Stairs – Fall cleaning, leaves and brush, of this historic Duluth feature. Tools, views and stories. Carpools provided. Limit of 15
- Morning Grants and Nominating Committees – **Kitchi Gammi Club**
- 10:30am Registration and House of Friendship – *Lyric Rooms Pre-Function Space*
- Noon Arrival Welcome Luncheon – *Great Lakes Ballroom*
Welcome, Past District Governor Kay Parries and District Governor Elaine Hansen

1:00-1:45pm Plenary Session RIPIC Patrick Harrison –
What is your Public Image?

Patrick Harrison is a seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in the entertainment industry, having worked in production, marketing, and media alongside renowned studios and individuals. As a trained actor in Los Angeles and New York, Patrick has developed a deep understanding of the dynamic entertainment landscape.



- 1:50-2:35pm Youth Exchange Program – *Great Lakes Ballroom*
Directed by Deb Maertens
- 2:35-3:00pm Break – Lyric Room Pre-Function Space
- 3:00- 3:50pm Breakout Sessions
- Rotary Public Image – How does our Club start? –
Great Lakes Ballroom Presenter Patrick Harrison
- Membership Panel – Why did I join Rotary? – *Lyric III*
Presenters Tom Gump and MacKenzie MacFarlane
- Rotary Grant Opportunities – Does your Club want a grant? – *Lyric I & II*
Presenters by Molly Herrington, Blake Crosby and Keith Brokke
- 4:00-4:45pm Plenary Session – Tony Dierckens – Great Lakes Ballroom



The History of Rotary District 5580

Tony is a renowned Duluth historian who has written more than two dozen books, from the fun and fascinating Duct Tape and WD-40 books to critically acclaimed illustrated histories celebrating the history of Duluth and the Western Lake Superior region. Tony is an engaging public speaker and has been specially engaged to write this unique, pictorial history of District 5580.

6:00pm Icebreaker Event hosted by Harbortown Rotary **Lake Superior Railroad Museum – The Depot**

Join fellow Rotarians from across the district for an icebreaker unlike any other! The Lake Superior Railroad Museum is one of the most acclaimed railroad museums in the country and you will wander among beautifully restored train cars while enjoying an hors d'oeuvres buffet from Bellisio's Catering. There will be a cash bar, craft beer tasting station and champagne in the Car Northland.

Harbortown Rotarians will be directing folks to the Depot for the ice breaker. Look for the friendly faces wearing Red Bandanas stationed in the Holiday Inn lobby and skywalk to provide directions and assistance.

- October 25** 8:00-8:45am Coffee and Conversation – House of Friendship –
Lyric Pre-Function and Lyric III
- Enjoy coffee and visit with the exhibitors and rekindle friendships before enjoying a hearty breakfast buffet
- 8:00-9:30am Breakfast Buffet and Networking – *Great Lakes Ballroom*
- 9:40am Plenary Session –26-27 RID Tom Gump – *Great Lakes Ballroom*



How to grow our Rotary Membership

Tom Gump is a member of Rotary International's Membership Growth Committee and a former Regional Leader/Rotary Coordinator for Zones 25B & 29. He founded, co-founded, helped form, and/or inspired dozens of new and creative clubs around the world, including forming the first club in the world to serve veterans and the first club in the world focused on ending human trafficking.

10:15am Breakout Sessions

Public Image - Session II - Presenter Patrick Harrison - *Great Lakes Ballroom*

Environment – How to be a Climate-Friendly and Sustainable Rotary Club
Presenters Marg Woods and John Stephenson - *Lyric I & II*

My Rotary – It is a challenge for everyone -Presenter Gloria Mink - *Lyric III*
Please bring a laptop or electronic notebook to this session for dynamic participation

11:00am House of Friendship and Networking – *Lyric Pre-Function Space*

11:30am Lunch and Speaker Bob Landwehr – International Relationships – *Great Lakes Ballroom*



Bob is a retired CPA and audit partner of Ernst & Young, Bob is originally from Duluth and a UMD graduate. He joined Ernst & Young in Minneapolis and moved to Europe, first in London, then Warsaw, Moscow and back to London, as well as a few years in Athens. He has worked with and in many different cultures around the world and his experience brings a unique and global perspective that he will share with us.

1:15pm District Business Meeting and Awards – *Great Lakes Ballroom*

2:15pm District Memorial Service – *Great Lakes Ballroom*

Directed by Branden Robinson and Dan Maki

Honor deceased Rotarians from the clubs in 5580 in this moving tribute

3:00pm Break – House of Friendship – *Lyric Pre-Function*

3:15pm Breakout Sessions

District Involvement – What do you want to know? - Presenter Jim??? - *Lyric I & II*

Membership Options; Service Beyond your Club –
Multigenerational Meetings - *Lyric III*

4:00pm Final thoughts before the evening entertainment – *Great Lakes Ballroom*

4:15pm

Pub Crawl hosted by Superior Rotary

5:30pm

Duluth Entertainment Convention Center DECC *Harborside Ballroom*

5:30-7:00pm

Heavy hors d'oeuvres, meet and mingle. Cash bar open all evening.

7:00pm

Entertainment and Celebration

Entertainment by Transit Authority. Transit Authority is the premier tribute band to the iconic group Chicago. Based out of St. Paul, Minnesota, this eight-member ensemble creates an accurate musical salute to the greatest horn driven rock band to ever hit the stage! Don't miss this amazing tribute band and rock out while looking out at the Duluth Harbor lights and ships gliding past and under the Aerial Lift Bridge.



Transit Authority



Rotary District 5580 Memorial Service

As we gather here today for the Rotary District 5580 Conference memorial service, we pause to honor and remember our fellow Rotarians who have passed away. Their commitment to service above self, compassion, and leadership have left an indelible mark on our district and the communities they served. In this moment of reflection, we celebrate their lives, cherish their contributions, and express our gratitude for the legacy they leave behind. Let us come together in unity and remembrance, drawing inspiration from their example as we continue the important work of Rotary.



Jamestown Rotary
David "Dave" Smette"
(District Governor 2013-2014)
March 18, 1942 - October 7, 2024



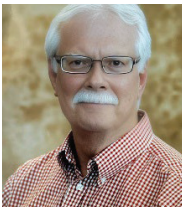
Dickinson Rotary
(District Governor 2007-2008 & 2014-2015)
Jim Ozbun
September 3, 1936 - August 3, 2025



Dickinson Rotary
Sonja Ozbun
(Spouse of PDG Jim Ozbun)
January 13, 1938 - September 15, 2024



Central Lakes Rotary
Susan Bricker
(Spouse of PDG Rick Bricker)
February 26, 1954 - January 14, 2025



Bismarck Rotary
John "Mike" McCormac
February 9, 1942 - August 28, 2024



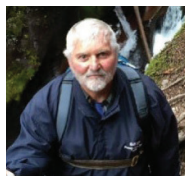
Brainerd Rotary Club
Floyd Jensen
January 30, 1960 - June 29, 2025



Cloquet Rotary
Mike McKinney
August 3, 1948 - May 13, 2025



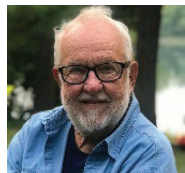
Grand Rapids Evening
Jerome ("Jerry") L. Kleven
Unknown (97 yrs) -
June 27, 2024



Cloquet Rotary
Bruce Walker
July 11, 1952 - November 29, 2014



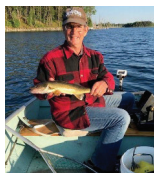
Iron Range Rotary
Marjorie "Marge" (Seldon)
McPeak
(District Literacy)
January 21, 1935 -
September 28, 2025



Detroit Lakes Breakfast
Richard "Dick" Hecock
January 9, 1939 -
November 8, 2024



Minot Noon Rotary
Sharon R. Erwin Johnson
November 28, 1935 -
February 20, 2025



Detroit Lakes Breakfast
Theodore "Ted" Heisserer
June 9, 1954 - January 31, 2025



Moorhead Rotary
Russell "Russ" Hanson
October 23, 1947 -
August 18, 2025



Duluth Harbortown Rotary
Mary Ann Durward
(District Youth Exchange)
July 8, 1952 - August 10, 2025



Park Rapids Rotary
David R. Konshok
September 25, 1926 -
May 3, 2024



Duluth Harbortown/Superior Rotary
Paul Damberg
March 16, 1965 - February 21, 2025



Thunder Bay (Fort William)
Joan Krisko
April 17, 1948 -
July 20, 2025

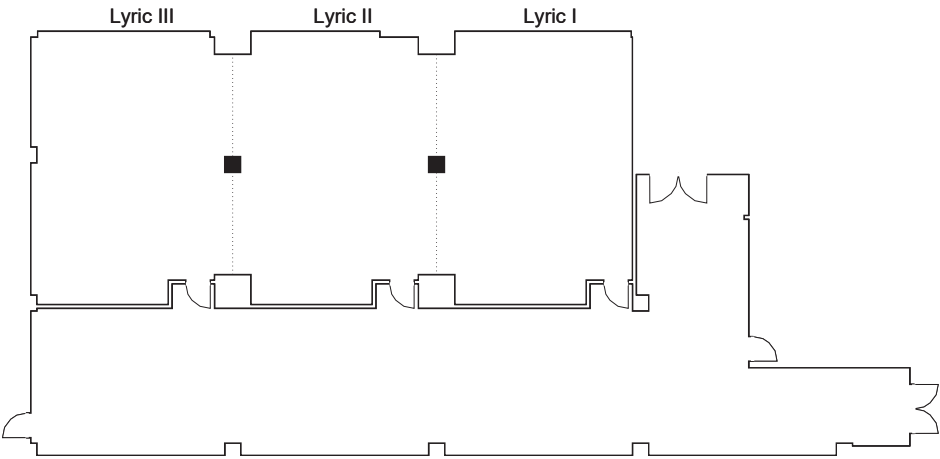


Fergus Falls Noon Rotary
Elaine H. Olson
April 24, 1929 - September 14, 2024



Wadena Rotary
Thomas "Tom" Kolden
January 1, 1952 -
September 29, 2024

Lyric Conference Center



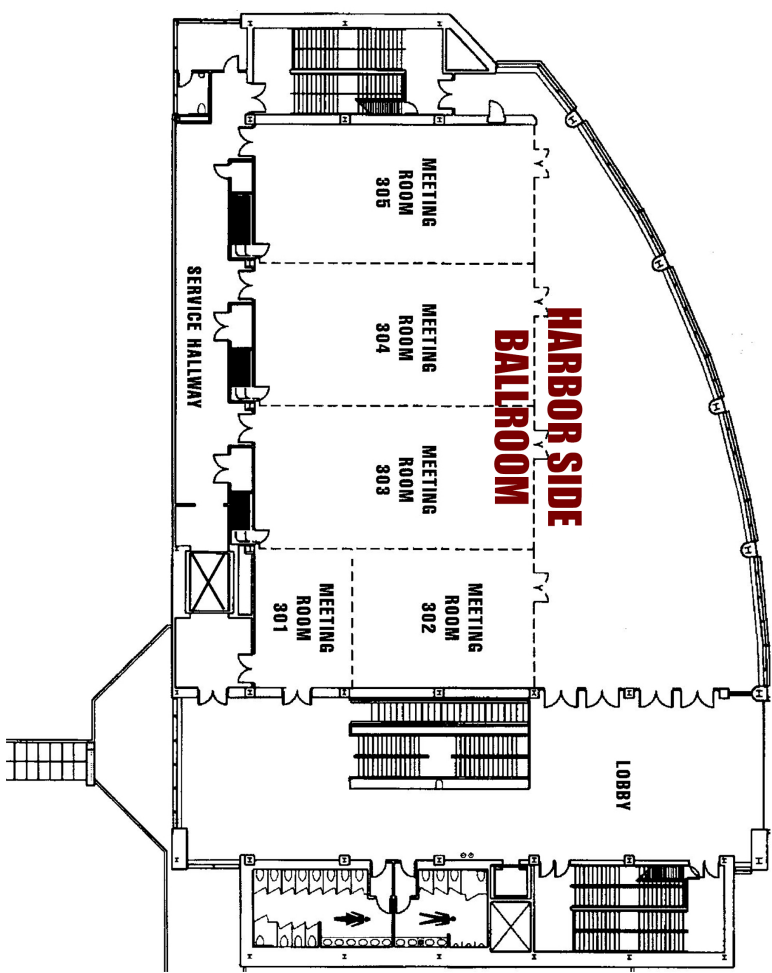
Great Lakes Ballroom



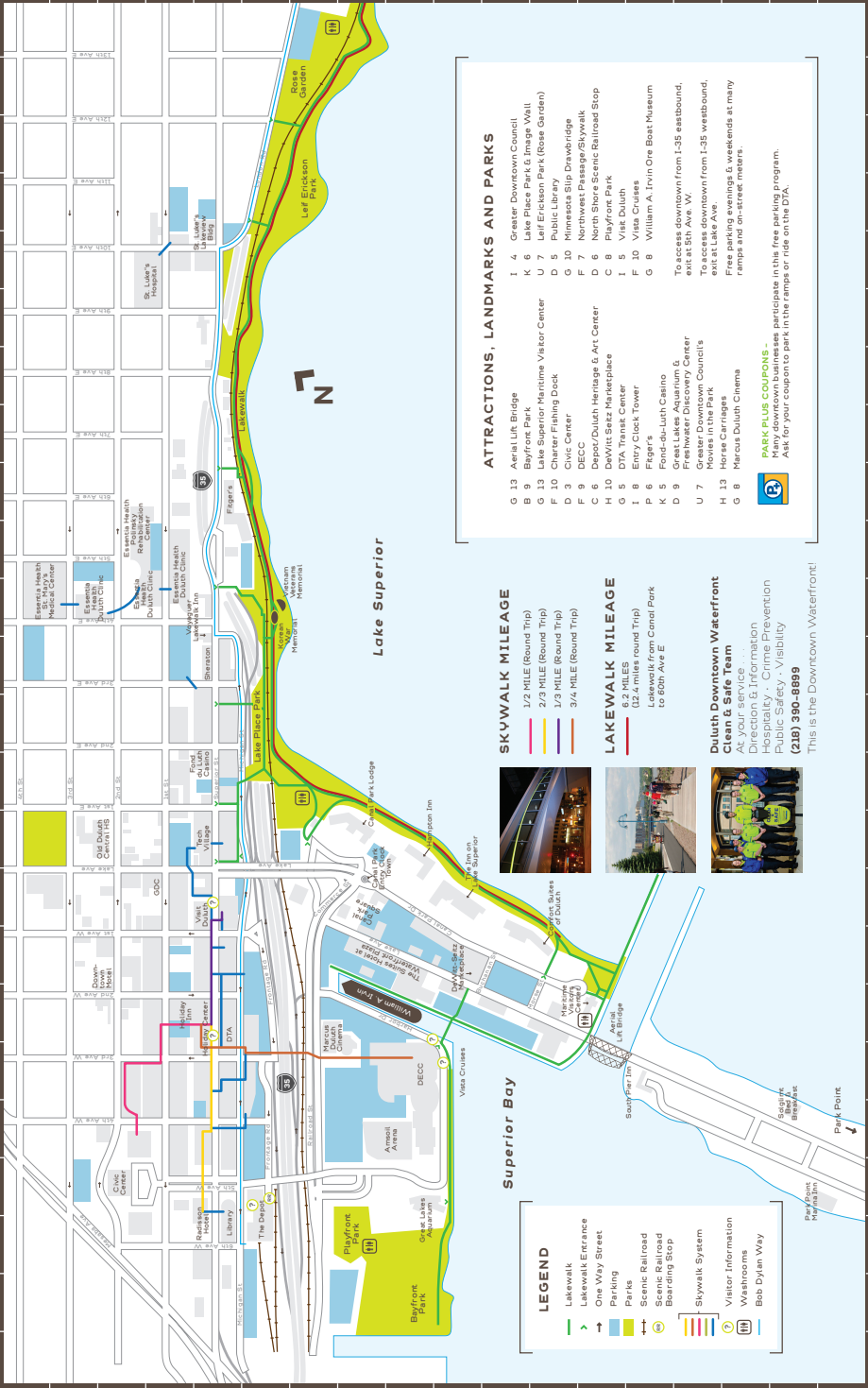


Duluth Entertainment Convention Center

Harbor Side Convention Center
Third Level



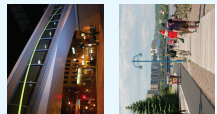
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V V X



LEGEND

- Likewalk
- Likewalk Entrance
- One Way Street
- Parking
- Park
- Scenic Railroad
- Boarding Stop
- Skywalk System
- Visitor Information
- Washrooms
- Bob Dylan Way

Superior Bay



SKYWALK MILEAGE

- 1/2 MILE (Round Trip)
- 2/3 MILE (Round Trip)
- 3/4 MILE (Round Trip)
- 3/4 MILE (Round Trip)

LAKEWALK MILEAGE

- 6.2 MILES
- 12.4 miles round Trip
- Likewalk from Canal Park to 600 Ave E

Duluth Downtown Waterfront

Clean & Safe Team
 At your service
 Direction & Information
 Public Safety - Visibility
 (218) 390-8899

This is the Downtown Waterfront!

ATTRactions, LANDMARKS and PARKS

- G 13 Aerial Lift Bridge
- B 9 Bayfront Park
- D 3 Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center
- F 10 Public Library
- D 3 Civic Center
- F 9 DECC
- C 6 DECC/Duluth Heritage & Art Center
- H 10 DeWitt Seitz Marketplace
- G 5 DTA Transit Center
- I 8 Entry Clock Tower
- P 6 Figers
- K 8 Ford-du-Luth Casino
- D 9 Greater Downtown Council
- U 7 Greater Downtown Council's Moves in the Park
- H 13 Horse Carriage
- G 8 Harco Duluth Cinema
- I 4 Greater Downtown Council
- K 6 Lake Place Park & Image Wall
- D 5 Lake Superior Park (Rose Garden)
- D 5 Public Library
- G 10 Minnesota State Drawbridge
- F 7 Northwest Passage/Skywalk
- D 6 North Shore Scenic Railroad Stop
- C 8 Playfront Park
- I 5 Vista Duluth
- F 10 Vista Cruises
- G 8 William A. Irvin One Boat Museum

To access downtown from I-35 eastbound, exit at 5th Ave. W.
 To access downtown from I-35 westbound, exit at Lake Ave.
 Free parking evenings & weekends at many ramps and on-street meters.



PARK PLUS COUPONS
 Many downtown businesses participate in this free parking program. Ask for your coupon to park in the ramps or ride on the DTA.

Thank You for Attending!

Rotary District 5580 Conference — Duluth

On behalf of Rotary District 5580, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you for joining us in Duluth for this year's Conference. Your presence, enthusiasm, and commitment to Service Above Self made this gathering truly special.

We hope you enjoyed the inspiring speakers, engaging sessions, and the opportunity to connect and collaborate with fellow Rotarians from across the District. Your passion for making a positive difference in your communities and the world is what makes Rotary so impactful.

Safe travels as you return home. We look forward to seeing you again next year and continuing our journey together to create lasting change.

With gratitude,

The Rotary District 5580
Conference Committee

Thank you for being the inspiration!

Enger Tower

The Enger Tower Lighting was a
Rotary Club #25 Service Project

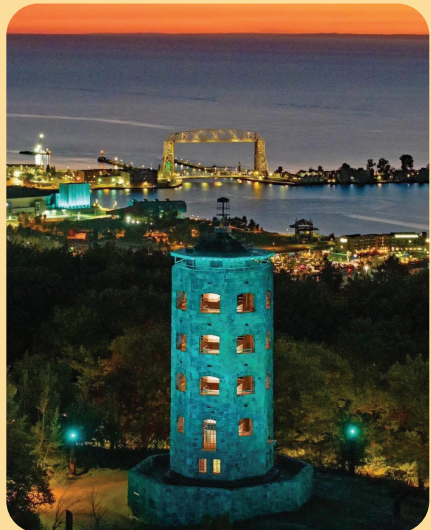


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