

# UMRA Salon

## What is the UMRA Salon?

The UMRA Salon is a part of the UMRA website where members can carry on conversations in the form of posted messages. The idea for the Salon came out of our conversations about wanting to find ways to help UMRA members connect outside of the monthly meetings, or facilitate formation of interest groups.

## What can you do on the UMRA Salon?

The Salon is a place where members can share anything they think would be of interest to other members: opinions, reviews, photos, information requests, questions requests for rides, ratings of service, volunteer opportunities and more. And most importantly, members can comment on each other's posts. Example: Ron uses biking salons to share ideas and learn from other bikers. Cathy uses tech forums to find solutions or request assistance from other techies. They are widely used for social, support, and educational purposes. In particular, the Salon could potentially be of considerable value in bringing into our community those who are homebound or have mobility or other health issues.

## How does the Salon differ from Facebook, chat rooms, and blogs?

As an internet forum site, the Salon is different from social media like Facebook and Twitter in that it has more structure. Messages and replies are posted in a hierarchical structure of defined categories. It is different from a chat room in that messages can be longer, and they are archived. You can reply to someone's message from a day or week or month ago. It is different from a blog in that it shows several people's messages and comments at once. It is like having multiple blogs in one spot. More information about internet forums can be found here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_forum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_forum)

## Sample forums/salons:

A general forum for older people, similar to what the UMRA Salon would be:

<http://www.seniorforums.com/>

Nextdoor, a neighborhood forum, available for many Twin Cities neighborhoods:

<https://nextdoor.com/>

## Instructions for use

The next few pages describe the various parts of the Salon.

To post you will need to login using your UMN x500 userid and password.



## There are three category levels of the UMRA Salon:

**Salon home page:** Here you will see a list of all Salon Forums (Fig 1). Selecting a Salon Forum will show you the Topics in that Forum.

**Salon Forum:** Each Salon Forum contains various Topics (Fig 2). You can add a new Topic for discussion under any Salon Forum.

**Topics:** Topics contain all the responses to the selected Topic (Fig 3). Reply are only made on Topics pages.



Figure 1: UMRA Salon home page -- Categories

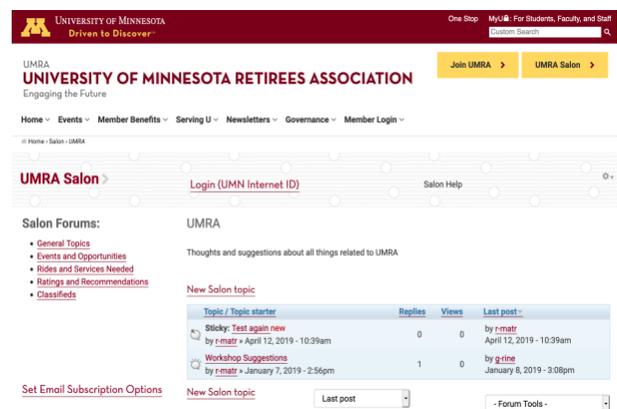


Figure 2: UMRA Salon Forum list of Topics

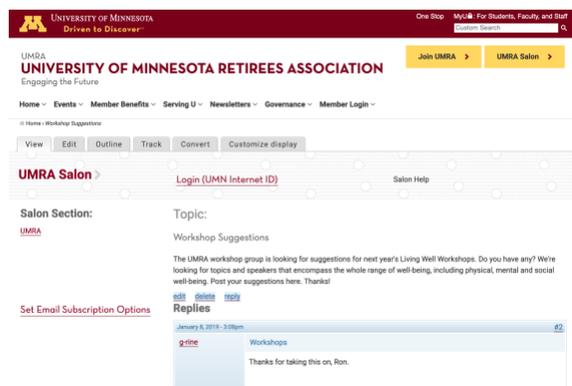


Figure 3: UMRA Salon Topics page

1. Log in to the Salon by clicking on **Login (UMN InternetID)** at the top of the page.
2. From each Salon Forum page the menu on the left column can take you to another Forum.
3. Replies can be made from the Replies page of a Topic only
4. To Reply to a Topic, click on **Reply**
5. If you **subscribe** to various sections or topics, you will be notified when new posts are added

## How do I post a reply?

On the Salon home page, select a Forum, then a Topic under that. On the Topic page, select Reply and enter your comment (Figs 1-3).

Note the toolbar above the Comment field (Fig 4). Holding your cursor over each icon, you will see the name of the icon, indicating how it is used.

Your name [leegi001](#)

Send subscriptions notifications

Subscriptions notifications are not sent for unpublished comments, except to users who have the *administer comments* permission, and you can even suppress the latter here.

Subject

Comment \*

Testing how to use [posts](#)

[Disable rich-text](#)

Figure 4: Enter your reply here. Note the text toolbar

The toolbar includes: formatting, bullets, text alignment, links, cut/copy/paste, superscript, subscript, remove formatting, paste as plain text, paste from Word, insert/edit table, insert media, etc.

Your reply will appear after the posting you replied to, on the Topics level page.

## What are all these parts in the Topics list?

[New Salon topic](#)

Topic / Topic starter	Replies	Views	Last post
<a href="#">sort by Topic / Topic starter</a>  <a href="#">Books and Films</a> by <a href="#">mbsavage</a> » January 8, 2019 - 6:47pm	2	0	by <a href="#">leegi001</a> February 27, 2019 - 11:18pm

[New Salon topic](#)  
Figure 5: Topics list

1. Click on Topic/Topic starter to sort Topics. Each of the column headers can be clicked on to sort Topics by that column's content.
2. Book and Films is the name of the Topic
3. mbsavage is the UMN InternetID of the person who created this Topic. Each Topic and Reply has an author's name associated with it – there are no anonymous posts. You can use this UMN InternetID to contact the poster directly by appending "@umn.edu". This author's email address will be "mbsavage@umn.edu". You can also see the date this posting was written.
4. Under Replies, you see the number of replies top this topic: 2. This tells you how active the topic is.
5. Under Last Post, you see the date of the most recent post, and author of the post. This tells you how recently the post has been active.

### Can I post links, videos, sound, photos?

You can post a link to anything. The link will not look hot, but it will be hot when saved. Large files cannot be uploaded, but if the media is online you can post a link. If you want the media to open in a new window, use the Link Tool to select a Target of New Window.

You can also upload files, photos or other media using the toolbar (Fig. 4).

### Email Subscription Options

You can subscribe to Salon Forums, allowing you to be notified by email when posts are added or updated in those areas. Click on "Set Email Subscription Options", to make your subscription selections. Check the top checkbox, "SUBSCRIPTION" to subscribe to all Forums (Fig 6). You will receive a weekly digest by email of all changes to the Forums you have chosen.

Current subscriptions:

▼ **FORUMS**

<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSCRIPTION
<input type="checkbox"/> UMRA Salon General discussions
<input type="checkbox"/> -- General Topics
<input type="checkbox"/> -- UMRA
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Events and Opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Rides and Services Needed
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Ratings and Recommendations
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Classifieds
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Interest Groups
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Photography SIG
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Finance & Legal SIG
<input type="checkbox"/> -- Books

Figure 6: Subscriptions options