

# Straight Talk

A publication of Fairview Riverside AA  
U of M Medical Center

Meeting  
Listings  
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Visit us online  
<http://www.aafairviewriverside.org/>

May—June 2017



**“Willing To Go To Any Length”**

## **GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP XLIV MAY 26, 27 & 28, 2017**

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel**  
7800 Normandale Boulevard,  
Bloomington, MN 55439

- **MEETINGS** \* **SPEAKERS** \* **FELLOWSHIP**
- **A.A. FILMS** \* **HOSPITALITY ROOMS**

- Enjoy 70+ Hospitality Suites many with **FREE** food and beverages!

- Register now at **[www.gopherstateroundup.org](http://www.gopherstateroundup.org)** to get the pre-registration rate of **ONLY \$17 Contribution**. On-site \$20 (ages 13 & over).

**[www.gopherstateroundup.org](http://www.gopherstateroundup.org)**

### Fun Facts!

- Gopher State Roundup's attendance in 2016 was **7,069**.
- Gopher State Roundup takes **500+** volunteers to make the weekend happen.
- Gopher State Roundup has been at the same location for **43** years.
- Gopher State Roundup has **speakers from all over the country**.
- Gopher State Roundup is a Non-Profit Organization. All excess funds go to the service entities, to **carry the message**.

**Visit Fairview Riverside AA Hospitality Suite 115  
Poolside**

**Great food and fellowship!**

**Thanks to volunteers from Hope's AA in Richfield helping us this year!  
An Attitude of Gratitude!**



**"I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MY OWN SOBRIETY"**

## With Complete Abandon

### After many relapses and false starts she heard something in a meeting that changed everything -

I've been introducing myself as, "I'm Mary and I'm an alcoholic" for 27 years, yet I have just begun my fifth year of continuous sobriety. My journey has been amazing, and my life is more joyful and hopeful than ever before.

This is my story.

Sometime in my early twenties, I recognized that I did not drink like other people. I drank to oblivion; the quicker, the better. In the 1970s, we had other substances that enhanced the effects of the alcohol; much in the same way a chef might tell you that a certain wine will enhance his culinary creation.

As long as I could obliterate any sense of emotion, I was "cool." My drinking and use of other substances accelerated as I moved toward 30. My life was a series of failed relationships, alternating with periods of serious attempts at self-destruction in the most literal sense.

Like many of us, I focused almost entirely on the one area of my life where I was a total failure and never really took any satisfaction from the areas of my life where there was some measure of success. For example, despite my alcoholism, I was at that time still able to work effectively. I had an addiction to praise, and if I worked hard and did well, I was promoted and given great raises. Yet, despite any seeming material success, I only knew that I was a total failure at relationships.

I could not be a good daughter to my parents, because I was too selfish and self-centered to really care what they might be going through. Even when my mother became terminally ill when I was 23, my attempts at caring for her were half-hearted at best.

It was my drama, not her death that mattered. I considered her death a blight on my social life and my drinking accelerated as I tried to obliterate my grief. I was so stoned throughout the funeral process that I barely remember it.

Obviously, I wasn't much of a sister either. If my siblings weren't interested in listening to the trials and tribulations of my life, I didn't really want to talk with them. I was incapable of friendship. My inability to form attachments led to such passive/aggressive behaviors that no one could sustain a relationship with me as I constantly moved from loving to hateful; depending on how much booze I had or didn't have. My relationships were predicated on one of two things – either you had something I wanted (usually booze or drugs) or you didn't. It was that simple.

I married for the third time at age 29 and quickly became pregnant. Having lost seven children in prior pregnancies, I was determined to become a mother. Being a mother was the one dream I'd held onto since I was four years old. I was going to treat my children differently than I had been treated. No one understood me. I had been abused – in every possible way.

I knew I would be a better parent because, after all, I had spent years analyzing how awful my parents had been to me. I would be loving, patient, and I would encourage my children to dream. I would understand their most complex feelings and I would love them as no one else ever could. How arrogant of me.

It never occurred to me that my Higher Power might have been protecting the seven children I lost. It never occurred to me that I might repeat any or all of the abuse to which I had been exposed as a child. All that mattered was what I wanted and what I wanted most in the whole world was a child to love.

Our son was born just after I turned 30. A week before he was born, my husband took me to a parking lot and gave me an ultimatum. I had not been able to stop drinking or using during the pregnancy and he was very fearful that our child might be born with significant defects. If that were to happen, he told me, we would immediately give up the child for adoption and I would have to seek treatment.

*To be continued...*



Join us for a  
Speaker Meeting

Brennan Center  
East Building  
Sunday @ 7:15pm

AA  
Sunday  
Night



The General Meeting on  
Sunday nights @ 7:15pm is  
looking for **Trusted Servants**  
who will help set up and facilitate  
this Speakers Meeting.

If interested, please contact us at  
[feedback@aafairviewriverside.org](mailto:feedback@aafairviewriverside.org)

**Squad 1—Saturdays @ 8pm  
East Building/Brennan Center**

A *Grapevine* Meeting—uses articles from AA's In-  
ternational Journal *Grapevine* to facilitate discussion  
and sharing at its meeting.

<http://www.aagrapevine.org/>

**12-step Opportunities**



**Fairview Riverside AA – U of M Medical  
Center**

*To keep the program, we must give it away!*

**General Meeting** – Sunday speakers –  
7:15pm – Brennan Center – East Building

**AA Wing Meeting** – Saturdays – 6:30pm –  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Treatment Center – Cafeteria

**Fairview Riverside – U of M Detox  
Center** – Sundays – 8:30pm

**Annual Gopher State Round Up –  
AA Hospitality Suite 115—Memorial Day  
Weekend - Double Tree Hilton Hotel**

**We need your help!!!**

**Fun Food Fellowship!**

For more information, please email  
Fairview Riverside Board of Trustees  
at

[feedback@aafairviewriverside.org](mailto:feedback@aafairviewriverside.org)



**7th Tradition**

**Every AA Group Ought To Be Fully Self-Supporting**

**Trustees Financial Report  
Summary**

**February 2017**

|       |      |           |            |
|-------|------|-----------|------------|
| Sq. 1 | \$2  | Expenses: | \$ 94.62   |
| Sq. 2 | \$29 |           |            |
| Sq. 3 | \$6  | Closing   |            |
| Sq. 9 | \$37 | Balance:  | \$2,943.22 |

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| Sq. 20 | \$65  |
| Sq. 43 | \$18  |
| Sq. 47 | \$66  |
| Sq. 51 | \$23  |
| Sq. 57 | \$39; |

Sq. 70 \$27; GM \$63 = TOTAL: \$375



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# U of M Medical Center Fairview Meeting Listings

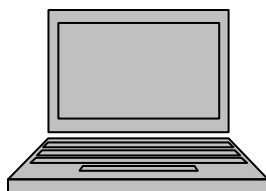
## AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)

| Day       | Group           | Time                         | Location   |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| Monday    | 3               | 5:30pm                       | East Bldg - Dining Room E  |
|           | 43              | 7pm                          | North Bldg/Ground Level NG48   |
| Tuesday   | 57/36           | 1pm                          | West Bldg - Fifth Floor F571   |
|           | 62              | 7pm                          | Bethany Lutheran Church—Franklin Avenue<br>@ 25th Avenue                     |
|           | 9               | 8pm                          | North Bldg/Ground Level NG42   |
| Wednesday | 32              | 5:30pm                       | East Bldg - MB114 (Dining Room F)  |
|           | 20              | 7pm                          | West Bldg - 5th Floor F541   |
|           | 71              | 7:30pm                       | West Bldg - 5th Floor F572<br>(signing meeting- American Sign Language only) |
|           | 51              | 8:15pm                       | North Bldg/Ground Level NG42 (Big Book Meeting)                              |
| Friday    | 46              | 7pm                          | East Bldg-MB114 (Dining Room F)  |
|           | 70              | 8:30pm                       | North Bldg/Ground Level-NG42   |
| Saturday  | 1               | 8pm                          | East Bldg/Brennan Center   |
| Sunday    | 47              | 5:30pm                       | East Bldg-MB114 (Dining Room F)  |
|           | General Meeting | 7:15pm                       | East Bldg/Brennan Center   |
|           | 2               | 8:30pm                       | East Bldg /Brennan Center  |
| Trustees  |                 | 2nd Sunday each month 6:15pm | East Bldg/Brennan Center lobby   |

Monthly Treasurer's & Secretary's Reports on website

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### Trustees

Bruce M. – Sq. 62  
Lynn – Sq. 1  
Stephanie F.-General Meeting  
Jim M. – Sq. 70  
Patrick R. – Sq. 47

### Looking for Reps from:

Sq. 2 Sq. 3 Sq. 9 Sq. 20 Sq. 32 Sq. 43  
Sq. 46 Sq. 51 Sq. 57/36 Sq. 71

Please send a representative from your Squad!

*People who don't go to meetings aren't there to see what happens to people who don't go to meetings.*

- Is your group not listed? Is it listed incorrectly?

Please leave a note with any changes or your writing submission in:

AA group #70 mailbox—located in the West Building — Room F537