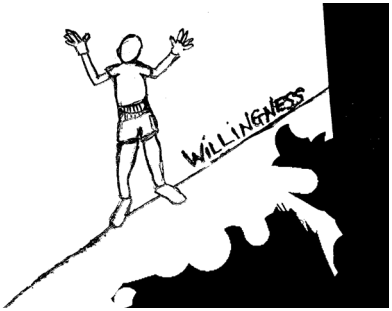
# DISTRICT 8 TELEGRAM

the newsletter for district 8 summer 2026 edition


## Please help District 8 Host the 2026 Area 72 Assembly

This coming October 2-4, 2026, District 8 is hosting the Area Assembly at the Little Creek Casino in Shelton, and on the digital zoom streets. We want to host our area well, so we need your help! There are many ways to be of service over the weekend, and we are looking for folks to sign up for 3 hour shifts. We need greeters, registration desk workers, tech and zoom support, sobriety counters, food monitors, timers, parking support and general helpers to make this weekend a success. This is a very fun weekend, and a great way to be of service. Please help spread the word. For more information, please contact Jason G at 360.480.1777

District 8 is of service to AA members in and around Thurston & Mason Counties. To find out more, including a meeting directory, please visit www.aadistrict8.org
District 8 is part of Western WA Area 72
area72aa.org

## The Third Legacy is Service

by Jedidiah H.

The Third Legacy of Alcoholics Anonymous — Service — is our lifeline. Shaped by anonymity and humility, service keeps our doors open for the next suffering alcoholic.

In AA's upside-down structure, the group holds ultimate authority. Every level exists to support our primary purpose. When a group elects a Third Legacy Chair, they bridge the gap to District 8, connecting with the District Chair to find service opportunities and inspire member engagement.

At the district level, the Chair supports trusted servants by helping them assemble committees and connecting them with volunteers for specific activities. Excitingly, the upcoming Area 72 Assembly will likely discuss a motion for an Area Third Legacy Chair to align districts and better serve individual members.

Did you know the entire slate of district positions is up for election this September? Reach out to learn about district service, volunteering, or the Area Assembly.

If you have questions please reach out thirdlegacy@aadistrict8.org

## Volunteering at District 8 South Service Center: You Can Be the Hand of AA

by Vince, Volunteer Coordinator

When I was desperate and defeated enough to pick up the phone and call Alcoholics Anonymous, a woman, whose name I don't know, answered the phone and gave me the information I needed to get to my first meeting. At my first meeting I got a schedule with all the meetings on it and a bunch of phone numbers (which, while I didn't call them, told me I wasn't on my own). When I was ready for my first Big Book, I was able to get it from my home group – who got it through the South Sound Service Center at cost. When I needed the Hand of AA to be there, the SSSC was. And for that I am eternally grateful.

While I had done service work in my home group and helped bring meetings into the Thurston County Jail, something felt missing. When I retired four years ago and had more time on my hands, I said *yes* when my GSR said there was a need for help at the South Sound Service Center. I really didn't know what I was doing, but I got great mentoring from Lea Ann and then Deb W on how to do things.

**So what do volunteers do at SSSC?**

- Answer the phone and e-mail (mostly folks looking for meetings or newbies asking how this AA thing works with questions like "is it a class?" or "how much does it cost?"). If someone is struggling or needs more than a referral to a meeting, we connect them to someone on the 12 -step phone list.
- Sell AA/Grapevine Approved Literature and distribute schedules which are free.
- Provide fellowship.

I wish I could say the phone is ringing off the hook and there is a steady parade of folks coming into the office for assistance. The reality is that there are a lot of folks who just aren't ready for AA, so often things can be pretty slow. But every so often you get a call from someone needing to find a meeting or to connect with AA, or someone has a question, or a person or a group needs literature and I am reminded why I am there.

**So what do you need to be a volunteer?**

- Two years of sobriety (volunteers do handle money).
- Willingness and ability to ask for help and a few very basic computer skills. We provide shadowing, training and support.
- Patience for the slow times and the occasional balky technology.

**What will you gain?**

- A chance to be the hand of AA
- An opportunity to learn how AA works at the District and Area (Western Washington) level
- Fellowship with a good group of volunteers and customers
- And a pretty good chance you won't drink or use a substance 1 day at a time

**How to Volunteer**

- Stop by South Sound Service Center and fill out a volunteer application
- Email sssc@aadistrict8.org or officevolunteer@aadistrict8.org

## Our Stories Disclose... There's a Brand New Meeting in Town, Whiskey in Milk

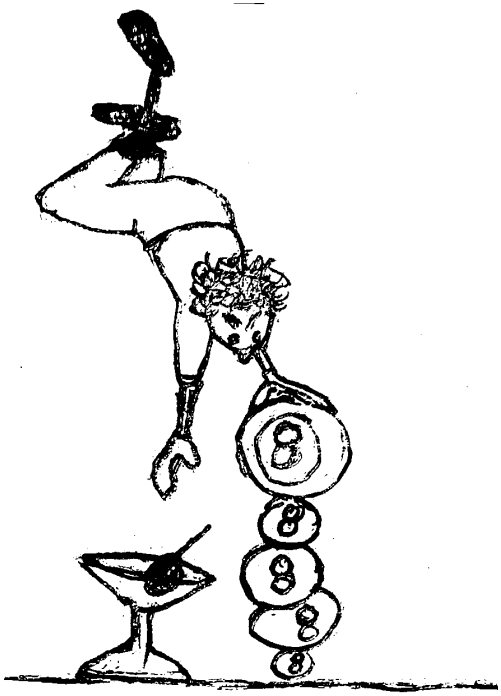
by Johnny A

Whiskey in Milk was created from a desire to have another meeting in a downtown third space. We are a closed literature study that meets in Orca Books Cooperative Saturday nights 7:30-8:30. There are cats!

Whiskey in Milk is a queer, trans, and BIPOC friendly space. We acknowledge there can be many obstacles to accessing recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous. Our intention is for this space to be accessible to any alcoholic with a desire to stop drinking.

Whiskey in Milk shares a deep love for literature. We have a library of translated literature available so our immigrant friends and family can access AA literature and recovery with ease. This library is also helpful for AA members learning a second language!

Image: Shop Cat *Uncle Julian Feinberg* playing meeting chair.



art by Jude

## DISTRICT 8 24-HOUR 12 STEP HOTLINE

Call 360-352-7344 to speak to a local, sober alcoholic 24 hours a day. The District 8 phone line is often the first place the general public acquires information about AA in Thurston and Mason counties. If you need support, please call us. Would you like to be of service and support the hotline? Please contact our Hot Line Chair, Nicole at phones@aadistrict8.org

## DISTRICT 8 BUSINESS MEETING

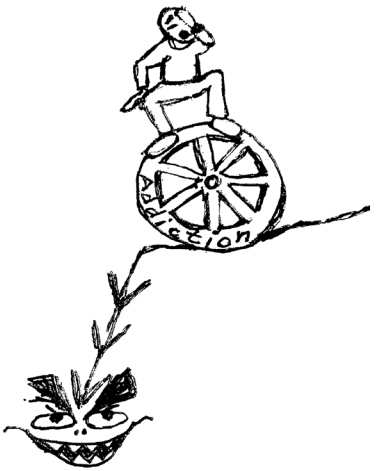
The District 8 Business Meeting meets on the second Thursday of every month from 6-8pm, and is hybrid - both on zoom and in person at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Lacey. All members of AA are welcome to attend. Please visit our website for more information aadistrict8.org

## SOUTH SOUND SERVICE CENTER

at 344 Cleveland Ave SE, Suite K, Tumwater, is open Mon-Fri from 2-6pm & Saturday 10am-2pm.

## DISTRICT 8 TELEGRAM - quarterly newsletter

Are you interested in contributing or getting involved with the District 8 Telegram? Please contact Lisa G newsletter@aadistrict8.org




District 8
Website

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

JAIL SUPPORT We need AA members to bring meetings to incarcerated AAs in our local jails and prisons. If you are interested please contact our Corrections Chair Cathy (919) 609-8863

DISTRICT 8 SUMMER PICNIC Sunday, July 26th 3-7pm District 8 Summer Picnic & Potluck at the Tumwater Historical Park, 802 Deschutes Way SW, burgers & dogs provided

AREA 72 ASSEMBLY October 2-4th, 2026 District 8 will be hosting the Area 72 Assembly at Little Creek Casino in Shelton and on the digital zoom streets! To register and for more information visit area72aa.org