

# **Western Washington Area 72**

**Annual Assembly  
October 2-4, 2026**

**Assembly Materials including  
Motions and Discussion Topics**

### **Purpose of the Pre-Assembly and this document**

The purpose of a Pre-Assembly is to prepare GSRs (and through them their Groups) for the Annual Assembly. GSRs are provided the background information [this document] and answers to their questions regarding the motion(s) and discussion topic(s) on the Assembly agenda. GSRs then carry all the information back to their Groups for full discussion. Through thorough discussion, the Group comes to an informed Group Conscience which the GSR carries to the Annual Area Assembly.

*Area 72 Handbook*

Questions?

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## 2026 PRE-ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Western Washington Area 72

Multiple Dates and Times – August 2026

- **Serenity Prayer**
- **Opening Comments**
  - Host Announcements
  - Introductions
  - How to Access the Information
- **Purpose of the Assembly**
  - GSR Handbook
  - Voting Members
  - Robert's Rules of Order "Modified"
  - Floor Motions and Discussion Topics
- **The Informed Group Conscience, the Concepts, and the Importance of who you Elect**
  - Delegated Authority (Concept II)
  - Right of Decision (Concept III)
  - Right of Participation (Concept IV)
  - Right of Appeal and Minority Opinion (Concept V)
  - Who you elect is a matter of serious concern! (Concept XI)

**Add the Area 72 Assembly App to Your Phone  
For Easy Access to Info and Reports**



Step 1) Click on this linked image OR point your phone camera at the above QR code and click on the link it generates

**iPhone/iOS (Chrome or Safari)**

**Android (Chrome)**

Step 2) Click on the share button:



Step 2) Click on the three dots button in the top right:



Step 3) Choose "Add to Home Screen" then "Add"

Step 3) Choose "Install App" and then "Install"

- **Assembly Weekend Schedule**
- **Microphone and Zoom Etiquette**
- **GSR Survival Tips**
- **Third Legacy Voting Procedure; Electronic Voting App; and Elect a Coffee Maker**
- **Motion #1: Sound Chair Appointment Process**

*Move to supplement Motion 22.3 that the Tech Steering Committee will select the Sound Chair for the next rotation subject to approval by the electeds during their appointed selection process and ratified by the Area Committee at the first Area Quarterly Meeting of each rotation.*

- **Motion #2: Amend Motion 23.2 to No Geographic Boundaries within Conference Area**

*Move to amend Motion 23.2 to read: In the spirit of unity, we affirm that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.*

- **Motion #3: Special Online Assembly for Proposed Agenda Items Only**

*Move that, if the Area Committee approves a motion that qualifies as a Proposed Agenda Item for the Conference to be voted on at the Assembly, that the Area hold a one-day Special Assembly online in September on just the Proposed Agenda Item Motion(s) in time to submit to the General Service Board by the deadline date. The Motion and all background information are to be included in all pre-assembly materials and in the August edition of the Newsletter, with the Annual Assembly to continue to be held in October.*

### **Motion #4: Move Assembly to last weekend before September 30 PAI Deadline Date**

*Move that, going forward, the Area Assembly be moved to the last full weekend in September that is before September 30, as soon as feasible, so that future Assemblies are before the Proposed Agenda Item Deadline Date.*

- **Discussion Topic #1: Area Third Legacy Standing Committee**
- **Area Inventory Report**
- **Closing Comments:** Floor Discussion Topics & Motions are due by 12:00 pm Saturday, October 3.
- **Close with Responsibility Statement**



## Western Washington Area 72

# 2026 Area Assembly

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Little Creek Casino, Shelton, WA and via Zoom

### Weekend Schedule

#### Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

|             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 11:00 a.m.: | Registration Opens               |
| 1:00 p.m.:  | Panels Begin                     |
| 4:00 p.m.:  | GSR Orientation, DCM Orientation |
| 5:00 p.m.:  | Dinner                           |
| 6:30 p.m.:  | Past Delegate Panel              |
| 7:30 p.m.:  | Dessert Social                   |
| 8:00 p.m.:  | GSR Sharing                      |
| 9:30 p.m.:  | End of Friday Events             |

#### Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

|              |                                                       |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30 a.m.:   | Doors Open, Registration Opens                        |
| 8:00 a.m.:   | Zoom Room Opens                                       |
| 8:30 a.m.:   | Call to Order, Serenity Prayer                        |
| 10:00 a.m.:* | 15 Minute Break                                       |
| 12:00 p.m.:  | Lunch                                                 |
| 1:00 p.m.:   | Resume Business                                       |
| 3:00 p.m.:*  | 15 Minute Break                                       |
| 4:30 p.m.:*  | 10 Minute Break                                       |
| 6:00 p.m.:   | Dinner                                                |
| 7:30 p.m.:   | Resume Business                                       |
| 9:00 p.m.:*  | 15 Minute Break                                       |
| 10:30 p.m.:* | 10 Minute Break                                       |
| 11:30 p.m.:  | Hard Stop, unfinished business carries over to Sunday |

\* Denotes time is approximate.

#### Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

|              |                                                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.:   | Doors open, Zoom room opens                          |
| 8:30 a.m.:   | Breakfast                                            |
| 9:30 a.m.:   | Unfinished Business, if any, then Sobriety Countdown |
| 10:00 a.m.:* | Candice C., Pacific Region Trustee                   |
| 11:30 a.m.:* | Closing Prayer                                       |

\* Times to be adjusted to accommodate unfinished business, if any.



# Western Washington Area 72

## Alcoholics Anonymous

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### 2026 Pre-Assembly Documents (ENG)

- [Pre-Assembly Schedule](#)
- [Pre-Assembly Agenda](#)
- [Pre-Assembly Background Packet](#)
- **Motion #1 – Sound Chair Appointment Process**
  - [Motion #1 and Background](#)
  - [Sound Chair Presentation at April 2026 Quarterly](#)
  - [Technology Steering Committee Policies & Procedures as of 2026](#)
  - [Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on Sound Chair Discussion](#)
  - [Minutes from the Jan. 2026 Quarterly on Sound Chair Discussion](#)
- **Motion #2 – Amend Motion 23.2 to No Geographic Boundaries within U.S. & Canada Conference Area**
  - [Motion #2 and Background](#)
  - [F-30 New Group Listing Guidelines/Form](#)
  - [WSC Minutes on International Groups and Geofence](#)
  - [Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on International Groups Discussion](#)
  - [Minutes from the January 2026 Quarterly on International Groups Discussion](#)
- **Motions #3 & #4: Special Online Assembly for PAI(s) Only AND Move Assembly to Last Full Weekend in September**
  - [Motions #3 and #4 and Background](#)
  - [Area 72 PAI History last 30 years](#)
  - [Minutes from the July 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion](#)
  - [Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion](#)
  - [Ad Hoc Committee Report from April 2024](#)
- **Discussion Topic #1 – Area Third Legacy Standing Committee**
  - [Background](#)
  - [Letters in Support](#)
  - [Minutes from July 2026 Quarterly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Committee Discussion](#)
  - [Minutes from April 2026 Quarterly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Committee Discussion](#)
- **Other Documents**
  - [GSR Handbook](#)
  - [Robert's Rules of Order Modified for A.A.](#)
  - [The Informed Group Conscience](#)
  - [Concepts Cheat Sheet](#)
  - [Assembly/GSR Survival Skills](#)
  - [Microphone Etiquette](#)
  - [Third Legacy Voting Procedure](#)

### **Assembly Motion #1: Area Sound Chair selection process**

*Move to supplement Motion 22.3 that the Tech Steering Committee will select the Sound Chair for the next rotation subject to approval by the electeds during their appointed selection process and ratified by the Area Committee at the first Area Quarterly Meeting of each rotation.*

**The Tech Steering Committee recommends that the appointed position of Sound Chair for each rotation be by recommendation of the Tech Steering Committee before selection by the Electeds and approval by the Area Committee.**

**Recommendation was advanced to the Assembly Agenda by the Area Committee at the April 2026 Quarterly Meeting.**

### **Current Appointment Process for Sound Chair (known as “Sound System Operator”):**

From the Area Handbook Page 19:

After being elected, the incoming Western Washington Area 72 officers meet to select appointed officers and standing committee chairpersons for a two-year term. These selections are made from past DCMs or trusted servants who have made themselves available by submitting service résumés for consideration. The Area Archivist is selected by the Archives Steering Committee and submitted to Area Elected Officers for approval/disapproval. All of these selections are affirmed by the Western Washington Area 72 Committee at the first January quarterly meeting of the new committee.

### **Background:**

In 2022, Area 72 voted to establish the Technology Steering Committee due to the technological complexity in providing hybrid functionality to Area Quarterlies and Assembly with the addition of online District 25 and to promote cooperation amongst the different technology focused committees. A process has been developed over the last five years that requires a rotation of training before one is qualified to chair the technology operation of an area quarterly. Very similar to the Area Archivist, the Technology Steering Committee believes the Area Sound Chair is now a position that requires more and more technical expertise than what may be available through the standard appointed selection process by the electeds. It recommends at least one rotation of training before being qualified to serve in the positions. Therefore, the Steering Committee is in the best position to make a recommendation of who is most qualified to serve in the Sound Chair position following rotation.

### **Concept 10**

Concept 10 states that the scope of every service responsibility and authority should be well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description, etc. The Tech Steering Committee believes the foregoing should be reflected in a motion to provide direction and guidance for future rotations.

### **Conclusion**

Accordingly, the Tech Steering Committee would like this recommendation process to be in the form of a motion for rotations going forward and in the spirit of Concept 10.

### **Presented by the Technology Steering Committee by Group Conscience 11/15/25:**

Anthony G.- Area Sound Chair; Patrick M. - Area Web & Tech Chair; Shu D. – Area Webservant; Mary T. - past Area Sound Chair and Webservant; John B. - Member; Emma S. - Member; Chris E. - Member; Chuck H. - past DCM D8

**CONCERNS: From the January 2026 Quarterly Minutes** (see link below for copy of the minutes):

1. Questioned whether a formal motion was necessary or if the process could be implemented administratively. Sought clarification on whether this represented a change in Area procedure.
  - a. Derek, Area Chair clarified that the precedent is Archives and that it was done by motion and for future rotations reference.
2. Requested clearer definition of what the proposed structure would look like (committee membership, term lengths, and qualifications). The TSC Committee provided updated policies and procedures at the April Quarterly. See TSC Policy & Procedures link below.
3. Raised broader questions about increasing technical complexity and long-term sustainability with the possibility of hiring individuals with technical abilities.

**CONCERNS: From the April 2026 Quarterly Minutes** (see link below for copy of the minutes):

1. Expressed concern that the proposed role resembles an archivist-type position rather than a rotating chair; questioned structure prior to motion.
2. Asked whether the position could allow longer-term service similar to archivist for continuity.

Anthony G., Area Sound/Zoom Chair: Clarified proposal combines elements of archivist and an archives chair; emphasized training pipeline to ensure experience before serving. Two years of training, two years of doing, two years of being available for the next sound chair.
3. Concern whether proposal would limit tenure or participation of existing committee members. Seems we already that in place. Asked how candidates would be selected among multiple qualified committee members; questioned selection criteria.
4. Questioned necessity of proposal; suggested improving inclusiveness within existing process instead.
5. Suggested clarifying four-year expectation within motion language.

Anthony G., Area Sound/Zoom Chair: Wasn't sure whether it needed to be expressed explicitly, we could say the person being selected must be trained. He felt the background material already covered what the motion is expressing through implication.
6. Suggested utilizing entire trained committee as candidate pool rather than fixed pipeline; raised concern about rigid multi-year commitment.

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**Additional Background Materials:**

The following background materials can be found through the Area website at:

<https://area72aa.org/2026-pre-assembly-documents-eng/> and are hyperlinked here as well:

- Sound Chair Presentation at April 2026 Quarterly
- Technology Steering Committee Policies & Procedures as of 2026
- Minutes from the Jan. 2026 Quarterly on Sound Chair Discussion
- Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on Sound Chair Discussion

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**Documents:** <https://area72aa.org/2026-pre-assembly-documents-eng/>

**Assembly Motion #2: Amend Motion 23.2 to No Geographic Boundaries within Conference Area**  
*Move to amend Motion 23.2 to read: In the spirit of unity, we affirm that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada*

**Proposed by Patty S., Third Legacy Chair, District 25. and advanced to the Assembly Agenda at the April 2026 Quarterly Meeting by the Area Committee**

**Background:**

**1. This motion seeks to realign Area 72 with the U.S. and Canada Conference geographic boundaries.**

The question is raised, does Area 72, as 1 of 93 geographic areas of the U.S. & Canada Conference,<sup>1</sup> have the autonomy, authority and/or resources to support online groups outside the U.S. and Canada Conference Boundaries? The question was raised this rotation by online groups with members outside the U.S. & Canada seeking access to the Area 72 website protected by a geofence limiting access to the U.S. and Canada. It proved a difficult, time-consuming and complicated task for the Web Steering Committee who sought guidance from the Area Committee and by group conscience concluded that this was a Conference issue, not a Delegate Area issue. It also raised the question whether a geographic Conference structure is even set up to support global international online groups.

**2. Patty's Letter to District 25 Groups:**

District 25 groups:

Regarding the idea that we are a global district has me wondering where that thought came from and what all this talk is about.

Since I was involved in the actual creation of District 25 from roundtable beginning; please allow me to share what our vision was and mission statement was for District 25.

When covid hit there were so many of use finding our way to virtual/online meetings. We found that our homegroups had GSRs and yet no way for us as groups to participate in the area 72 business and have a voice within our General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.

2020 brought us to the Area Assembly in October with a floor motion to create a virtual district. The motion was sent on to the January 2021 quarterly as a discussion topic. We advanced through the quarterly process with a motion (21.3) to create District 25 within Area72 and our general service conference area of the United States and Canada.

District 25 was created and we started the journey of learning how to make this all work in the virtual world. Trial and errors abound, but we now had a working district just like the rest of Area 72.

There arose the question to whether District 25 was going to admit those folks from outside of the Area 72 geographical area. So, motion 23.2 came into being. This was always about groups within the United State and Canada General Service Conference area.

Understand that District 25 was created within Area 72, which resides within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.

And now, all this global talk is disruptive and causing disunity, both within our district and at the Area. Thus an "us versus them" mentality over this fire wall.

So, in the spirit of unity for all of us, I am proposing District 25 bring forward a motion to the Area April

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<sup>1</sup> By Advisory Action at the 1955 General Service Conference and by Resolution at the 1955 International Convention.

Quarterly to amend Motion 23.2 to read:

[“In the spirit of unity, we affirm that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries within the General Service Conference area of the United States and Canada.”](#)

I believe this will go a long way to ease any confusion and possible disunity that has arisen over the geofence and international groups.

Patty Smith, District 25 Third Legacy Chair

### 3. Background Information from Jan. 2026 Quarterly:

#### Should Area 72 Welcome International Groups to District 25?

- **October 2021:** Area 72 passes **Motion 21.3**, creating a district for online groups and defining its boundaries as “all of Area 72.” Concerns are raised about authority and the inclusion of members from outside the Area.
- **October 2022:** A group from another Area (Florida) joins District 25. The Assembly discusses whether out-of-Area groups should participate in Area 72. Some express concern about voting and representation.
- **October 2023:** Area 72 passes **Motion 23.2**, affirming that District 25 is an online district with no geographic boundaries. Some members express concern that including groups from outside the U.S./Canada may exceed Area 72’s authority.

#### Current Status:

- **District 25 has 52 groups**, with an average of **45–47 GSRs, Alt GSRs, or stand-ins** attending business meetings.
- **Two groups are based internationally**—one in **Spain**, one in **Ukraine**—and are primarily composed of **American A.A. members** (ex-pats, military), with some local members.
- A third group from **Colombia** has attended District 25 business meetings as a **visitor**, but has **not officially joined**.
- These international groups joined District 25 to participate in A.A. service due to the **lack of online districts or online Areas** in their regions.
- District 25 identifies fully as part of **Area 72** and does **not seek to form an online Area**. Prospective groups are encouraged to attend a business meeting and understand that participation means contributing to Area 72, not just their own group.

#### Purpose of This Discussion:

- This discussion provides an opportunity for the Area to: Discuss whether the participation of international groups in District 25 aligns with the Area 72’s group conscience.

### 4. Additional Background Materials:

- **F-30 New Group Listing Guidelines/Form** – Referenced in Discussion at the January and April 2026 Quarterly. SF-30 is the Form in Spanish. It provides GSO guidance on International Groups.
- **Web Steering Committee Minutes, February 22, 2026** – Solve International Groups issue before addressing geofence issues.
- **Minutes from April 2026 Quarterly on the Discussion** – For reference in determining developing conscience of Area Committee.
- **Minutes from January 2026 Quarterly on Discussion** – For reference in understanding the developing conscience of the Area Committee.

## **Motions #3 & #4: Special Online Assembly for PAI(s) Only AND/OR Move Assembly to Last Full Weekend in September**

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### **INTRODUCTION:**

These motions are presented together because they are both designed to address the same issue: Provide a way for Area 72 to be able to:

1. submit a Proposed Agenda Item to the General Service Conference by the deadline date of September 30; or
2. to support and/or join another Area in support of their Proposed Agenda Item by the deadline date of September 30.

**Both Motions were advanced to the Assembly Agenda by the Area Committee at the July 2026 Quarterly Meeting.**

### **SUMMARY OF THE MOTIONS:**

**Motion #3** calls for a Special Online Assembly in September if there is a PAI or request from another Area to join in their PAI submission

**Motion #4** calls for moving the Assembly up into the last full weekend in September before the September 30 Deadline Date as early as possible (estimated at 5 years).

### **ACTUAL MOTIONS:**

#### **Motion #3: Special Online Assembly for PAI(s) Only**

*Move that, if the Area Committee approves a motion that qualifies as a Proposed Agenda Item for the Conference to be voted on at the Assembly, that the Area hold a one-day Special Assembly online in September on just the Proposed Agenda Item Motion(s) in time to submit to the General Service Board by the deadline date. The Motion and all background information are to be included in all pre-assembly materials and in the August edition of the Newsletter, with the Annual Assembly to continue to be held in October.*

#### **Motion #4: Move Assembly Up to Last Full Weekend in September**

*Move that, going forward, the Area Assembly be moved to the last full weekend in September that is before September 30, as soon as feasible, so that future Assemblies are before the Proposed Agenda Item Deadline Date.*

### **FOUR POSSIBLE OUTCOMES:**

1. **NO on #3 and NO on #4:** Your group doesn't see the need to change anything.
2. **YES on #3 and NO on #4:** Your group wants a Special Online Assembly but doesn't want to move the Assembly.
3. **NO on #3 and YES on #4:** Your group wants to move the Assembly into September but doesn't want a Special Online Assembly.
4. **YES on #3 and YES on #4:** Your group wants to move the Assembly into September as soon as possible (estimated at 5 years) and wants a Special Online Assembly until then so the Area has a way to submit a PAI or join another Area's PAI in the meantime.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Beginning in 2021, the General Service Board moved the Proposed Agenda Item Deadline date up from December 15 to September 15. This created an issue with a number of Areas, including Area 72, whose assemblies occur after September 15. If the Assembly Body voted to submit a Proposed Agenda Item for

the General Service Conference, it now falls after the deadline date for the next General Service Conference and will have to be submitted the following year for the Conference after next.

This issue was discussed at the July 2023 Quarterly. The Area Committee decided to have an ad hoc committee to research and provide recommendations. An Ad Hoc committee was formed and presented its recommendation at the April 2024 Quarterly. It recommended changing the Area business schedule as follows: move the April Quarterly to March, the July Quarterly to June, and the Assembly to early September. This would accommodate the September 15 Deadline Date.

At the 2024 General Service Conference, the Conference voted by substantial unanimity to make the PAI Deadline Date no earlier than September 30. The Ad Hoc Committee did not reconvene given the new deadline date and the original recommendation was discussed at the July 2024 Quarterly and the October 2024 Assembly. The commentary at the microphone from the October 2024 Assembly suggested a few possible alternatives:

1. Since deadline date has moved to Sept 30, its unnecessary to move the entire business schedule.
2. Have a special online assembly on just the PAI Motions, if any, keep Assembly in October.
3. Move the Assembly up into late September.
4. Don't change anything, A.A. moves slowly so Area 72 isn't really at a disadvantage.

Further Discussion at the 2025 Area Assembly resulted in three main alternatives:

1. Have a special online assembly on just the PAI Motions, if any, keep Assembly in October.
2. Move the Assembly up into late September.
3. Don't change anything, A.A. moves slow so Area 72 isn't really at a disadvantage.

#### **NEW INFORMATION – APRIL 2026 QUARTERLY**

One of the main concerns supporting this discussion is that without some way to obtain a full Area 72 conscience on a PAI before September 30, Area 72 cannot be responsive to an action taken at the Conference within the Conference cycle, i.e. if Area 72 wanted to submit a PAI in immediate response to a Conference action, that submittal would have to wait a full year before having missed the deadline date for the very next conference.

New information from our Past Pacific Region Trustee, Kathi F. during her visit here in January, states that the Trustee's Conference Committee typically will not forward to the next Conference agenda any PAI's that are in response to the previous conference, preferring instead to let the Advisory Action stand for a couple of years before forwarding PAI's that are in response to a Conference action.

This new information does not address:

1. If Area 72 wanted to join in another Area's PAI in support; or
2. If Area 72 wanted to submit its own PAI, it would have to wait to submit until the following year for consideration at the Conference after next.

#### **NEW INFORMATION – JULY 2026 QUARTERLY**

Based on the Area 72 Ad Hoc Committee Final Report from 2024, one of the main reasons given by the General Service Board (GSB) for moving the PAI Deadline Date up from December 15 to September 30<sup>2</sup> was the 2021 Advisory Action adopting the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) Process on a 3-year trial basis beginning in 2022. EDW has continued past the three-year term (the 2025 Conference). By Advisory Action at this year's Conference, EDW will end with the 2028 Conference (PAI Submissions through September 30, 2027). It is too soon to tell whether the GSB will move the deadline date after the 2028 Conference.

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<sup>2</sup> The deadline date was originally moved up to September 15 but was then moved to "no early than September 30" for the 2025 General Service Conference by a Floor Action at the 2024 General Service Conference. It has remained September 30 since.

**DISCUSSION TIMELINE:**

July 2023 Quarterly – Discussion Topic raised, Ad Hoc Committee formed  
April 2024 Quarterly – Ad Hoc Committee report and discussion  
July 2024 Quarterly – Further Discussion  
August 2024 Pre-Assemblies – Topic presented with time for Q & A  
October 2024 Assembly – Further Discussion, no clear direction for a conscience  
January 2025 Quarterly – Discussion postponed due to time constraints  
April 2025 Quarterly – Discussion postponed due to time constraints  
July 2025 Quarterly - Discussion postponed due to time constraints  
August 2025 Pre-Assemblies – Topic presented with time for Q&A  
October 2025 Assembly – Discussed, see 2025 Assembly Minutes Page 67-70  
January 2026 Quarterly - Discussion postponed due to time constraints  
April 2026 Quarterly – Discussed. Example Motion 1 moved and tabled until July Quarterly.  
July 2026 Quarterly – Discussed. Example Motion Nos. 1 and 2 moved to Assembly Agenda

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**Additional Background Materials:**

The following background materials can be found through the Area website at:

<https://area72aa.org/2026-pre-assembly-documents-eng/>

- Area 72 PAI History last 30 years
  - Minutes from the July 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion
  - Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion
  - Ad Hoc Committee Report from April 2024
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## **Discussion Topic #1 – Area Third Legacy Standing Committee**

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Presented by the Third Legacy Chairs from Districts 10, 11, 14, 25, 27, 28, 36 and 42 and DCMs from Districts 7, 10, 12, 14, 25, 27, 28, 35 and 42.

### **Proposed Motion For Discussion Purposes:**

*Move that Area 72 create an appointed Third Legacy Chair position to support the District Third Legacy Chairs. The Committee chair will be selected using the established process for appointed officers. The committee shall function like other standing committees at the Area level.*

*(Format based on text of Motion 19.1 – Area Young People’s Standing Committee )*

### **The Case for an Area Third Legacy Standing Committee...**

**Service is A.A.'s Third Legacy**, and it is how our message travels to the alcoholic who still suffers. The work of a Third Legacy Committee is straightforward: encourage members to try service at the group level and help grow that participation into district and area service over time. It is the work of building and sustaining the service pipeline that makes everything else in A.A. possible.

*That pipeline needs tending. Filling service positions at the group and district level is more challenging than ever. Members are busy. Life is full. And for many, including newer district members, the concept of 3rd Legacy work is often unfamiliar. You cannot fill a role people have never heard of. Awareness has to come first, and awareness requires dedicated, focused effort.*

*At the district level, that effort is already underway. District Third Legacy Chairs across our Area are doing meaningful work, and doing it well. This is not a case built on failure. It is a case built on possibility.*

*Today, Third Legacy Chairs are active in roughly 40% of our Area's districts, a number that has grown organically, district by district, over time. Our goal is to reach all of them. But the challenge is two-fold: first, establishing awareness of the role itself, and then finding someone to step into it.*

*With Area-level standing, we gain greater visibility and legitimacy across the full body, the kind that helps a district DCM say with confidence, "this matters, and here's someone who can help you get started." A recognized committee, formally "stood upright" and supported by this body, carries greater weight than ad hoc effort alone. A Standing Area-level committee is how we accelerate both.*

*We also gain representation, greater access to the Area's collective knowledge, experience, and historical context, and a connection to the broader service conversation, and the ability to work deliberately and consistently across district lines.*

*We are not here because we are struggling. We are here because we believe in this work, and we want to do more of it, with your support behind us.*

*We ask that this body recognize a Standing Third Legacy Committee at the Area Level. We are ready to serve.*

*John K., DCM 35*

### **What problem would this help to solve?**

- Low participation by groups at district and area levels.
- Help to alleviate the fear of service.
- Support for our existing District Third Legacy Chairs.
- Encourage, educate and advise those entering or interested in our Third Legacy.
- A place for existing District Third Legacy Chairs to share ideas across districts.
- Committee work to support the Area.

Across the US and Canada, approximately 30-35% of the groups participate in our General Service Structure. In Area 72 we average about 40%. That means 60% of our groups are not here today. Outreach to our groups to encourage participation in our general service structure starts at the local level.

**ANNUAL BUDGET: Area Third Legacy Standing Committee Chair:**

|                                           |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ○ Quarterly Travel, Meals, Lodging:       | \$ 1,060               |
| ○ Assembly Travel, Meals, Lodging:        | \$ 700                 |
| ○ Standing Committee Quarterly Travel:    | \$ 400                 |
| ○ Standing Committee Chair Discretionary: | \$ 200                 |
| ○ Printing:                               | \$ 150                 |
| ○ Zoom Account:                           | \$ 240                 |
| <b>Total Annual Cost:</b>                 | <b><u>\$ 2,750</u></b> |

*(Based on 2026 Budget allocation per Appointed Trusted Servant)*

**Proposed Duties and Responsibilities: Area Third Legacy Standing Committee Chair**

1. Facilitate Area Third Legacy Standing Committee Quarterlies to improve communication between District Third Legacy Chairs and provide summaries of these meetings to the Area Committee.
2. Communicate with the Area Committee the needs of the districts and groups regarding service opportunities for new members.
3. Help coordinate service workshops and roundtables at the District level as requested.
4. Attend all Area Business Quarterlies and Area Assembly.
5. Give written and verbal reports at Area Business Quarterlies and the Area Assembly.
6. Submit monthly newsletter articles.
7. Expenses/Reimbursement same as/equal to other appointed committee officers.

**Example District Solution:**

As the Third Legacy Chair for District 25, I have seen the value this service position can provide to a district during a rotation change and throughout a rotation. Districts can sometimes struggle after a rotation change in acclimating to the level of service work at the district and area level, navigating the personalities and understanding this whole new world of an upside down, spiritually driven general service structure, all designed to support the groups in carrying the message. A District Third Legacy Chair can play a vital role in this process. And the hard work our Alternate Delegate and Past Delegates do across our Area in sharing their experience, strength and hope with incoming GSRs and DCMs is often not enough for a struggling district in their day-to-day journey. Enter the Third Legacy Chair.

**Example District Third Legacy Chair Duties and Responsibilities:**

The purpose of the Third Legacy Chair is to encourage, educate and advise those entering or interested in group or district service. The Third Legacy Chair assists DCMs, GSRs and committee chairs in understanding their roles and responsibilities. Other examples of Third Legacy Chair responsibilities may be to coordinate with GSRs and committee members to encourage service within the District or work on special projects; coordinate workshops and roundtables; and attend all district meetings and be available for questions. They are familiar with the Traditions, Concepts, Service Manual and District Handbook. It is preferred but not required that the Third Legacy Chair be filled by the preceding District Committee Member (DCM) or have experience at the Area committee.

**Final Thoughts**

As of date, 17 out of 44 districts now have Third Legacy Chair positions, up from 14 districts since discussion began at the October 2025 Assembly. Several of these chairs and DCMs are attending a monthly roundtable hosted by District 25's Third Legacy Chair. The roundtables are intended to create a supportive environment where District Third Legacy Chairs can share their experience, strength, and hope with each other as they fulfill their responsibilities, i.e. encouraging service work within their districts and assisting its committee members with the various challenges of general service work. Many District Third Legacy Chairs are past DCMs with experience at the Area Committee level that can benefit an incoming District rotation. We believe the District Third Legacy Chair can be a valuable position for any district. We ask that the Area support our existing District Third Legacy Chairs with its own standing committee.

*FAQs and Additional Considerations on next page ....*

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

1. **How will this help current District Third Legacy Chairs?** Job duties and experience for the District Third Legacy Chair position varies across districts with some districts filling the position with a past DCM for their experience. Tasks and challenges varied across districts. A quarterly committee meeting for all Third Legacy Chairs would provide a place for connection, shared experience, ideas and direction so anyone serving in this position would have more access to information, education and resources.
2. **Would the creation of the committee replace or reduce the role of service sponsors?** NO. The experience of districts with experienced Third Legacy Chairs indicates they are more likely to introduce the concept of a service sponsor. Demand for service sponsors has often increased in these districts.
3. **I am concerned that the District Third Legacy Chair may duplicate existing support provided by past delegates, service sponsors, elder statespersons ... and is therefore redundant.** It is true there may be redundancy, especially in urban Districts with higher populations who have easier access to multiple Past Delegates, service sponsors and area officers. The fact remains that most districts, even with access to this support, still suffer from low participation at the district level. The District Third Legacy chair is one of many ways to inspire participation in our structure and through the barriers to service such as fear.
4. **Is there is a demonstrated Area-wide need, considering existing GSR schools and DCM roundtables and the fact that service sponsorship already exists.** Currently there are 17 Districts with Third Legacy Chairs positions. There were 16 District Young People's Chairs when the Area Young People's Standing Committee motion was passed in 2019. Now they have 24.
5. **Why is there nothing in the A.A. Service Manual on Third Legacy Chairs.** Our limited research of other areas indicates that this position may only exist in a few Areas. In Area 72 it originated primarily in rural districts out of necessity due to challenges with inconsistent participation, experience and continuity across district rotations. The vision is that this service position could be a way to inspire participation in general service across all districts.
6. **Isn't this premature until more than 16 districts adopt a Third Legacy Chair?** A responsive question to this is: How will districts know about the benefits of a District Third Legacy Chair without an Area Third Legacy Standing Committee? Just since this Discussion Topic began last year two areas have created a third legacy chair position in their district with two others in discussion. Another example is that in 2019, this Area voted to form the Area Young People's Standing Committee to support the then 16 Districts that had Young People Chairs. Now, 24 districts have Young People's Chairs and momentum and enthusiasm is growing.
7. **Our District is already struggling to fill our existing committee positions, how are we going to sustain filling this position?** That depends on your District. Assuming your District is at least consistent in filling the DCM position and your District has past DCMs still available for service, one option is to fill the Third Legacy position with the outgoing or a past DCM who knows the district and could assist the DCM in outreach. This position is designed to educate and inspire service. A Third Legacy Chair could be helpful to a district with low participation.

### **Additional Considerations:**

1. **Area 72 Motion History on forming an Area Third Legacy Committee**  
*84.4 Moved and passed that the Washington Area establish a Third Legacy Committee with an appointed Chairperson to travel throughout the Area to discuss service structure and A.A. as a whole; and to allow \$50.00 for new props.*  
*86.1 Moved and passed to rescind the motion that created the Third Legacy Committee at the 1984 Washington Area Assembly at Pasco, Washington.*  
*95.13 That an ad hoc committee be established to look at the need for third legacy work within the Washington Area 72. Committee work shall conclude by July 1996 Quarterly.*  
*18.A Create an Area 72 Third Legacy steering committee.*

**2. Background for 2018 Assembly Motion #1 [Motion Failed]**

- a. Area 72 membership requires continual and ongoing educational/informational efforts to learn about a myriad of service work positions, duties, and processes ranging from the home group to the general service board.
- b. Area 72 has historically addressed this need in many ways, including service sponsorship, GSR and DCM workshops, concept studies and traditions workshops. These are frequently and happily managed at the district level. (This steering committee has no intention of inferring elimination of District level events whatsoever but would naturally be available to help support such events if requested.)
- c. For the last many rotations, the alternate delegate has taken it upon themselves to organize and facilitate GSR workshops, and more recently DCM workshops as well.

**Steering Committee Duties**

- a. This steering committee would be responsible for organizing and facilitating GSR and DCM workshops, much in the way the alternate delegate has in the past.
- b. This steering committee could host “Third Legacy Roadshows” designed to teach members of the fellowship about the general service structure and be available for other third legacy informational activities as able.

**Composition**

- a. This committee would be co-chaired by the Alternate Delegate and most recent Past Delegate (in the event that the most recent Past Delegate is unavailable, the Alternate Delegate will recruit a replacement co-chair).
- b. Additional membership would need to be flexible based upon people’s schedules and lives, but we encourage at least four dedicated members.
- c. Beyond this we encourage outreach and inclusion regarding who would attend and present at various workshops on the steering committee’s behalf. IE the committee should have the flexibility to invite different DCMs, GSRs, Appointed and Elected to participate at different events in order to ensure broad inclusivity and participation.

**Scheduling and Specific Events**

We leave this entirely to each rotation’s steering committee.

**Funding**

- a. Travel Costs for Steering Committees are covered under motion 06.3.
- b. If this becomes a motion, adding “\$300 credit lined to be reviewed annually by Treasurer” may be desirable to cover printing costs.

**Considerations:** Step 12, Tradition 9 & 11; and Concept 3 & 12

“Hence, an AA service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer—ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to AA’s General Service Head-quarters for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy.” Bill W. Grapevine, July 1955