

Starbucks Union cont.

**Q. What were some of the key strategies or actions that helped your team successfully organize and form a union at your location?**

The biggest strategy that paid off was having a very active organizing committee. We had multiple people from each shift talking to everyone in the store about unionizing and a wide variety of people for partners to come to with questions. This allowed us to spread the word and get people educated quickly while also spreading the load in a way that didn't overwhelm the people on the organizing committee. We also had great people from the union helping us and educating us along the way. Don't know if we could have done it without them. It was always so uplifting and informative meeting with them. They really helped with our confidence in organizing.

**Q. How do you see unions as part of a larger mutual aid network, and what opportunities do you think exist for workers to support one another beyond traditional union activities?**

I think unions are a very important piece of larger mutual aid networks. We seriously lack community here in the US, which is vital to any sort of organizing. And since we're also so overworked, a lot of us find that sense of community at work, where we spend so much of our time. A union is a great way to funnel that sense of community into action that shows workers, and people at large, how much power and change we're able to cultivate together, from the bottom up. And I think we've already seen this type of organizing spread beyond the workplace with things like tenants unions, transit riders unions, etc. When we come together and organize like this, we not only get a sense of the power we cultivate together but we connect with those around us and form a sense of a real community that is seriously lacking these days.

**Q. Looking ahead, what are your hopes and goals for your newly unionized workplace, and what advice would you give to other workers in small towns who might be considering organizing?**

My hope is for unionizing to spread! Unionizing our workplace has been quite a ride, watching people go from hesitantly talking about the union to boldly and casually talking about it willy nilly, with not only each other but other workers as well. And since we're about to begin bargaining alongside the rest of the union, I'm excited to see how that will shape these discussions as well. But we are the strongest when we have a large network of worker power within the community. And I already hear talks of it spreading, so I'm also extremely excited to see how that pans out! The advice I would give to workers in other small towns is to ignore partisan politics and just go for it! It doesn't matter how conservative or liberal your area is, what matters is connecting with others in your community and coming together. Word spreads much more quickly out here, compared to a large city, because small change can be such a large shake up in a small community.



**SEE INSIDE: Rad Benefit Shows + More  
From All 'Round the Sound**

## *Kitsap's First Union Starbucks* *A Short Interview with a Worker*

This January **Sabotage Noise** interviewed a former Starbucks Workers United barista and organizer. We are now thrilled to present an interview with a worker at the first union Starbucks in Kitsap County: 3425 Wheaton Wy, Bremerton.

**Q. What motivated you and your coworkers to start organizing and eventually form a union at your Starbucks location in Bremerton?**

What motivated us to start unionizing was our issues with understaffing. This would create a snowball effect where everything that didn't get done during the day would fall on the mid/closers. And since our mid/closers would often be stuck in a 2 partner play, often during our constant promos, even more would fall on our closers. So our frustration over that sparked us to start unionizing. But what got it to catch on was the potential for a substantial raise and a secure schedule. Since Bremerton has such a high cost of living, a lot of partners have multiple jobs or have to live with family in order to survive because of our wage and lack of consistent hours. So a consistent schedule and a living wage would be life changing for a lot of partners at our store.

**Q. As the first unionized Starbucks in Kitsap County, how do you think being in a smaller town influenced the organizing process? Were there any unique challenges or advantages?**

I'm hoping being in a small town will actually be more of an advantage. We were afraid at first that since Bremerton/Kitsap county aren't as liberal as Seattle that that would cause an issue, but it really didn't. But because we're a smaller area and our labor is pooled together for all the stores in the district out here, we often end up covering shifts at other stores and they end up covering ours as well. This has already led to other stores asking us about our union and I'm hoping the tight-knit nature of small town living will cause the union bug to catch on more quickly.

# FOOD SHOWS + BENEFITS

## OLYMPIA

### The Mortuary

@olymortuary

EVERY Thursday 6-8pm - People's Cafe Open Mic free/ donation coffee + tea by Wobbly Cup Cooperative Cafe~~

EVERY 1st Sunday 1:30-4:30pm - Prisoner Letter Writing Night (Aug 4, Sept 1)~~

Aug 11 - Cybergrind Girles: I've Never Been Here Before/Lonelygirl 15/Oh Nothing

Aug 14 8pm - Fan Club/TT/Oder Eater \*\*

Aug 27 - Head Portals/Spacer + more

## BREMERTON

People's Exchange  
(639 Callow Ave)

@peoples\_exchange

EVERY Sunday 6pm - Queer Meetup~~

### The Charleston

@thecharleston333  
(333 N Callow Ave)

November 9 - Hunger Strike 3!!  
Bigass benefit for Kitsap FNB ft.  
Baptiaonn/MÄSSCRIEF/Aggro +  
MORE \*\*!!

## SEATTLE

@leftbankbookscollective

Left Bank Books  
(92 Pike St)

EVERY Last Thursday - VOLTA: A QTBIPOC  
Open Mic (Aug 29, Sep 26)~~

(Cohosting Aug 18 and 25 Author Talks @ Pipsqueak)

Pipsqueak @pipsqueak.seattle  
(173 16th Ave)

EVERY 1st Sunday 3-5pm - Prisoner Letter Writing~~  
(July 7, Aug 4)

EVERY 2nd Sunday 4:30-6:30pm - Queer Writers Meetup  
~~ (July 14, Aug 11)

EVERY Wednesday 6-9pm - Queer/Trans Art Jam~~  
August 6 6-8:30pm - Author talk "Safety through  
Solidarity" w/ Shane Burley and Ben Lorber in convo w/  
Diana Falchuk, Dalya Perez, and Dan Berger.~~

August 18 7:30-10pm - Author talk "Why are People Into  
That: A Cultural Investigation of Kink" w/ Tina Horn ~~  
August 25 10:30-3:30 - Queer sewing + meeting day~~

Vera Project (305 Harrison St.)

August 17 7pm - Benefit show for Cocoon House ft.  
Counterproductive/Drivers/Love So Deep/The  
Toolsmen

SAVE THE DATE: Seattle Anarchist

Bookfair September 28-29 @ Vera Project

Details: @seattleanarchistbookfair or sabf.info

## NEED HELP BOOKING A BENEFIT SHOW?

WANT TO LIST YOUR COOL SHOW OR BENEFIT EVENT FOR MUTUAL  
AID - LABOR SOLIDARITY - PRISONER SUPPORT - GENERAL ANARCHY?

CONTACT **SABOTAGE NOISE PRODUCTIONS!**

EMAIL: sabotagenoiseproductions@proton.me

@sabotagenoiseproductions

## TACOMA

### The Gravel Pit

@gravelpittacoma

Aug 24 11am - Pit Fest 2024 ft.  
Kuwaaisiana/The Rat Utopia  
Experiment/Fishy  
Mushroom/Those Damn  
Animals/Crowbar Morriegan  
/Soggy Possums/Queen  
Fisher/Infrahead/Porch  
Cat/Audrey Plath/Michael  
Turnini/The Phantom  
Pines/Boogie to Learn \*\*

Solidarity Center  
(1220 S 23rd St)

BOOKING: hilltopsolidarity@  
proton.me

Bi-weekly - Feed the People  
w/ Black Panther Party~~

This zine  
posted  
monthly!

KEY

!! = SNP Hosted  
\*\* = NOTAFLOP  
~~ - Free Entry



Kitsap County-Based Mutual Aid Benefit Show Booking

