

# 2011 BALLOT BOOKLET

## BE AN ENERGY SUPERHERO IN YOUR OWN HOME.

*Learn how at . . .*

OPALCO's 74<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Meeting on the Ferry  
**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2011**



- Free meal for member families
- Learn how to save energy and money
- Elect the Board of Directors
- Receive a \$5 credit on your bill
- Win great prizes
- Take home energy efficiency tools

Meeting Time:  
9:45 - 11:15 a.m.  
travel schedule on back



**SAVE ENERGY. SAVE MONEY.**  
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Dear OPALCO Member-Owner:

**This is your 2011 Ballot Package.** Within this booklet, you will find information on the candidates for election to the Board of Directors, as well as your ballot, ballot envelope and reply envelope. If your OPALCO membership is through a partnership or corporation, please complete the appropriate forms as included and return them with your ballot. Please **SIGN THE FRONT OF YOUR REPLY ENVELOPE**. Without your signature, your vote will not count. Absentee ballots are due to the Eastsound office by noon on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Your Co-op is doing its part to save energy and money.** Instead of mailing the Annual Report to our 11,000 members, it is available at [www.opalco.com](http://www.opalco.com). Printed copies of the report will be available in OPALCO offices, county libraries and senior centers. If you are not able to access the annual report otherwise, please give us a call at 376-3500 and we will send one out in the mail.

In limiting the number of reports we print and not mailing the annual report to our whole membership, OPALCO calculates it will save 25% on printing costs and an estimated 40% on postage—in addition to eliminating tons of paper waste.

**Voting remains the same.** You can vote by absentee ballot, or cast your vote in person at the annual meeting. Election results will be announced at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on the ferry **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** and also online at [www.opalco.com](http://www.opalco.com).

We realize that our membership represents a diverse population of people with varying needs and preferences. We apologize if in our efforts toward greater efficiency and cost savings we have inconvenienced you.

Please go to the website ([www.opalco.com](http://www.opalco.com)) and give the electronic publication a try—and then let us know what you think. Your feedback is important to us!

Sincerely,

*Your OPALCO Member-  
Owner-Employees*

**The 2011 Annual Meeting is EARLY  
due to the spring ferry schedule**

Check out the travel  
schedule on the back page  
of this booklet

Brunch served  
on the ferry



# 2011 BOARD ELECTION: DISTRICT 1

OPALCO's governing board consists of seven directors from four districts who are elected for three-year terms, with the elections staggered. Each director is elected by a vote of OPALCO members and **all** members may vote in every election, regardless of their home district.

Present directors are:

- **District 1** (San Juan, Brown, Henry, Pearl and Spieden Islands): David Hylton and George Mulligan
- **District 2** (Orcas, Armitage, Big Double, Blakely, Fawn, Little Double, and Obstruction Islands): Winnie Adams and Chris Thomerson
- **District 3** (Lopez, Decatur, Center and Charles Islands): Jim Lett and Bob Myhr
- **District 4** (Shaw, Bell, Canoe and Crane Islands): John Bogert

Two board positions in **District 1** are up for election in 2011.

Absentee Ballots are enclosed with this report and must be received at OPALCO's Eastsound office no later than noon on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Ballots can also be cast in person at the annual meeting on the ferry, Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. The election results will be announced at the annual meeting and subsequently published at [www.opalco.com](http://www.opalco.com) and in local papers.

Please vote for any two candidates for District 1. Each membership gets one ballot regardless of how many meters or accounts a member may have.

Candidates for the Board are nominated by committee or by petition. The 2011 candidates nominated by committee are: Dave Hylton (incumbent), Mark Madsen, George Mulligan (incumbent) and Ron Zee. Nominated by petition is candidate Vincent Dauciuanas.

**Why Vote?** OPALCO members are owners of their electric cooperative. You have the POWER to elect your Co-op Board of Directors who make the policies that affect all Co-op members.



Cast your vote for the OPALCO Board of Directors  
by mailing in your absentee ballot (deadline is noon on  
Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>) or by attending the  
**74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on the ferry**  
**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**  
9:45-11:15 a.m.

# DISTRICT I CANDIDATES

## VINCENT DAUCIUNAS

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Vince Dauciunas and his wife Vikky have been residents of San Juan Island since 2002. After 30 years in Silicon Valley, the beauty and quality of life in the San Juan Islands beckoned! Vince currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Animal Shelter, serving six years as their treasurer. He is a commercial pilot, and is currently designing a wind and solar grid-tie system for their home.

Vince holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and UC Berkeley. After working at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, he spent 26 years with Hewlett Packard and Agilent Technologies in R&D, General Management, and Business Development. His experience included development of systems for measurement, computation and control in a wide variety of industries, including Power Generation, Environmental Science, and Water Quality. He was responsible for Strategic Planning in the Chemical and Life Sciences Group. Next, Vince was Vice President of Business Development at Symyx Technologies; a company focused on high-speed materials discovery in fields such as Fuel Cells and advanced battery technologies.

Vince believes that OPALCO can succeed in its mission by:

- Continuing to improve its infrastructure and procedures to assure availability, reliability, affordability, and sustainability of supply
- Enhancing community interaction, with the goal of slowing demand through conservation and increasing supply with locally generated renewable energy
- Establishing a comprehensive roadmap to meet future energy needs that takes advantage of emerging technologies, renewable sources, and the skills and knowledge of the community.

## DAVE HYLTON (INCUMBENT)

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Dave Hylton was raised on San Juan Island and graduated from Friday Harbor High School in 1957. During this time he worked the family farm and fished commercially. In the early 1950s, Hylton would visit OPALCO's Friday Harbor generating plant to marvel at its huge diesel engines. He also remembers watching as the first OPALCO cable was laid to San Juan Island. After graduating from Washington State University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1961, he began a 35-year career with

Chevron Corporation where he managed operations, maintenance and construction of oil refineries and cross-country pipeline systems.

Hylton is now retired and lives at the north end of San Juan Island. In addition to serving as a Director of OPALCO, he is a Director of Limestone Point Water Company, Inc.

Hylton was first elected in May, 2005. If re-elected, he will continue to direct OPALCO toward five fundamental objectives:

- Deliver reliable electricity to all OPALCO Member-Owners.
- Purchase and distribute electricity at the lowest cost using good business practices.
- Maintain safe facilities and apply safe operating practices.
- Ensure our Cooperative remains financially healthy.
- Encourage Members to make wise choices about using electrical energy.

According to Hylton, “OPALCO is facing several issues which will require Board consideration:

- OPALCO’s member demographics have changed. A significant number of seasonal and part-time occupancy dwellings use below-average amounts of energy on an annual basis. Because of this, the board must re-evaluate how the Cooperative’s fixed costs are recovered so that all Members share this cost fairly.
- Currently the Northwest enjoys low-cost, renewable, federal hydro power which is managed by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). The demand on this system will soon be greater than its capacity. Choosing a long-term incremental power source will take years of study and deliberation.”

## **MARK MADSEN**

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Mark Madsen has been a resident of San Juan Island since 2006, having moved from Seattle, where he was born and lived for many years. Madsen worked for several decades in the telecommunications, networking, and software industries, having spent time in the late 1980’s working at English and American Camps as an archaeology graduate student. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the San Juan Island Library District, and on the board of the San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild.

Prior to moving to the islands, Madsen co-founded Allrecipes.com, and was part of the early engineering teams at RealNetworks and Internap Network Services, in addition to roles in six other technology companies. At Internap, he was responsible for leading the systems and software engineering teams responsible for buildout, network management, and performance monitoring of 30+ high-performance networking facilities worldwide.

Madsen’s interest in participating in the Board is to bring knowledge and perspective concerning broadband Internet and network engineering, given that OPALCO operates a large fiber-optic network throughout our islands. He believes that OPALCO is more than just our power utility; OPALCO is member-owned infrastructure for island residents.

The unique geographic position that makes our county a wonderful place to live also creates challenges for private industry to bring us state-of-the-art infrastructure. “If we do not want to be left behind as technology evolves and becomes ever more critical for business, education, and even entertainment,” said Madsen, “we will need to come together and invest in our own future. And what better way than the assets that we, as member-owners, already had the foresight to build.”

## **GEORGE MULLIGAN** (INCUMBENT)

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With his wife Pauline, George Mulligan has lived in Friday Harbor the past fifteen years. Previously, in Washington, DC, Mulligan was engaged in commercial real estate development. He received degrees from Harvard College and Harvard Business School. With Dave Hylton, for the past three years, Mulligan has represented San Juan Island members on the OPALCO Board. As a candidate for reelection, he would like to share with you the perspectives he brings to that job.

According to Mulligan, “OPALCO is in very good shape:

- Our \$75 million distribution plant recently earned an A report card from Federal regulators; a ten year maintenance and improvement plan is in place and funded, assuring members continuation of reliable service well into the future.
- Our contract with BPA assures us economical and clean hydro energy in sufficient quantity to meet most all our needs for the foreseeable future.
- Storms this past winter reminded us our line crews, the heart and muscle of our system, always get the job done.
- Our finances are bullet proof and provide a more than adequate financial base for any possible future need.
- Financial reporting, governance, accounting, and control functions have been dramatically improved over the past several years; your Board is well informed and management is firmly in control of the cooperative.

Areas of concern:

- The management team responsible for this fine enterprise for the most part will be retiring in the foreseeable future: replacing Randy Cornelius and his senior team will be the most important challenge facing future Boards.
- OPALCO’s fiber optic system to date has been made available to limited public and private institutional users. I am hopeful we might find a way, in concert with others, to extend access to this system more broadly.
- Ethical responsibility, not economics, requires improvement in our community’s use of energy. I am hopeful OPALCO can enhance its efforts in this area of concern.”

## RON ZEE



“I would enjoy serving my community as an OPALCO Board member,” said Ron Zee, “and, if elected, I would bring a general background in government (federal, state, and local) and specific experience in energy policy to the Board.” Zee has been an advocate for energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy development for many years. “The emphasis that OPALCO has placed on these energy areas is most commendable, and I expect OPALCO to continue to provide leadership in the wise use of energy resources.”

Zee’s background in government includes serving on the San Juan County Agricultural Resources Committee for the past six years, three of those as chair, and he is a past District Manager of the San Juan Islands Conservation District. Seven years ago, Zee helped found Leadership San Juan Islands, our countywide community leadership development program that continues to build civic leadership capacity in the islands. Early in his career, Zee worked on the staff of a U.S. Senator in Washington, DC; served as an energy assistant to the Governor of New Mexico helping to organize the Western Governors Energy Policy Office; worked in intergovernmental relations for the U.S. Department of Energy, reporting to the Deputy Secretary; and was employed as deputy managing director of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes in Denver.

“Most importantly,” said Zee, “my wife Elaine and I have been blessed to live on San Juan Island for the past fourteen years, where we are co-owners of Sweet Earth Farm, along with our two daughters and granddaughter.”



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MY MONEY.  
AIRTIGHT.**

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## Travel Schedule:

### ORCAS

Register at Landing: **8:00 am**

Board Ferry: **8:45 am**

Return to Orcas: **11:40 am**

### SHAW

Board Ferry: **9:05 am**

Register on board

Return to Shaw: **12:25 pm**

### LOPEZ

Register at Landing: **8:40 am**

Ferry Leaves: **9:30 am**

Return to Lopez: **11:25 am**

## SAN JUAN

Because of the spring ferry schedule, people coming from San Juan Island will sail to Orcas by chartered boat and get on the ferry.

**RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED.**

Call 376-3549 to reserve the limited space. The chartered boat is **not** wheelchair accessible. Please call 376-3549 if you need special accommodations to participate. Riders must be able to walk up the ramp from the Orcas county dock to the Orcas ferry landing.

Arrive at Spring St. Landing: **7:00 am**

Register for Annual Meeting

Board Charter: **7:20 am**

Disembark at Orcas Dock: **8:30 am**

Board Orcas Ferry: **8:45 am**

Disembark at Orcas Landing: **11:40 am**

Board Charter: **11:50 am**

Return to Friday Harbor by **1:00 pm**



If you are disabled or need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call Bev at 376-3549

**For more information:**  
[www.opalco.com](http://www.opalco.com)

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