

## DAUCIUNAS AND MADSEN WIN OPALCO ELECTION; 269 ATTEND 80th ANNUAL MEETING ON THE FERRY

OPALCO members boarded the ferry on Saturday, May 6th to participate in the 2017 Annual Meeting and learn the results of the Board of Directors' election. Voter participation was lower than 2016 with 1,992 total ballots (1,114 online, 878 by mail) representing about 17% of the membership. The successful candidates were Vince Dauciuнас and Mark Madsen. Guests joined the 173 members present aboard the WSF Yakima for a total of 269 people in attendance. Vote Counts (each member votes for two, top two vote getters win): Dauciuнас: 1,467 (74%); Madsen: 1,339 (67%); Severson: 901 (45%).

The 2017 Nouridine Jensen Cooperative Youth Scholars were announced and presented with a certificate: Haley Moss and Joanne Mietzner of Orcas High School; Jonathan Doherty of Lopez High School; Zach Fincher and Jayna Ott of Friday Harbor High School. Each will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to the Youth Rally Co-op Leadership Camp at the College of Idaho this summer. Friday Harbor High School senior Tenley Nelsen will return to the Youth Rally as a youth director.

Board President Vince Dauciuнас shared the OPALCO Board Vision for our future power supply and Foster Hildreth, General Manager gave a brief State of the Co-op update. Dauciuнас said, "Our vision as a Board is to provide safe, reliable energy at the lowest possible cost while making smart investments for a sustainable future." He went on to discuss the rapid change taking place in the utility industry and credited the OPALCO Board back in 1999 for their foresight to begin building a fiber-optic network at the backbone of our electric system. Dauciuнас assured the membership that the Board's vision is driven by the Seven Cooperative Principles, particularly Concern for Community. "In the next two years, we will re-examine our rate structures to make sure we can meet the evolving model of local distributed power and enhance programs for members on fixed incomes and from low-income households. We are here to meet the needs of San Juan County and recognize our role in sustaining quality of life and long-term livability in the islands."

Hildreth highlighted 2016 accomplishments and recognized the OPALCO team for their hard work and dedication. "We've come a long way in three years," said Hildreth. "This fall, we'll complete the submarine cable replacement in the Lopez-San Juan crossing, we are in the planning phase of our first big community solar project and our subsidiary, Rock Island Communications is well on it's way to break-even – expected in mid-2018." Hildreth gave kudos to EVP Gerry Lawlor and the team at Rock Island Communications for their progress. "We have solved the internet crisis in San Juan County – something that seemed an impossible task three years ago. By the end of this year, more than 90% of the County will have access yo Rock Island broadband and phone services." A member question and comment session followed.

The names of eight voting members were drawn for \$80 credits on their next OPALCO bills. The lucky winners are Barbara Brown, Orcas; Christene Noll, San Juan; Laura & Paul Roberts, San Juan; Madrona Murphy, Lopez; Mark Cohen & Eleanor Hoague, Orcas; Tom & Kathleen Roosma, Orcas; Anne Pallinger, San Juan; and Penelope Gilde, Lopez.

The door prizes were donated by OPALCO's vendors and partners and included a \$3,000 rebate on a Ductless Heat Pump - donated, in part, by Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC); an Electric Vehicle charger – donated by Ray at Campbell Nissan of Everett; and a number of electronic devices chosen to help members achieve greater efficiency and connectivity: Nest Learning Thermostats, ECHO Dot with Insight Switch, iPad Mini with mobile internet service through Rock Island and Apple TVs. Thanks to OPALCO's generous vendors and partners for funding these fantastic member door prizes: Rock Island Communications, Cooperative Finance Corp. (CFC), Ray at Campbell Nissan of Everett, EES Consulting, General Pacific, Eaton, Anixter, Braaksm Engineering, Inc., NW Public Power Assoc. (NWPPA) and Pacific NW Generating Co-op (PNGC]

Members who missed the meeting can read the 2017 Annual Report online:[www.opalco.com/annualreport](http://www.opalco.com/annualreport)  
A limited supply of printed copies are available at your local OPALCO office, as long as supplies lasts.



# NAME THE NEW SUBMARINE CABLE! WIN A GOLDEN TICKET to get UP CLOSE!

In 2017, OPALCO will replace the submarine cable between San Juan and Lopez islands. This is a historic moment for San Juan Islanders! The new cable will increase the reach and reliability of our power distribution and fiber optic communications for decades to come.



You can win one of eight golden tickets to witness the cable installation in person in September 2017 as the barge and construction crew carefully lay down the approximately 230 tons of cable.

## To enter:

1. Check out the photos and videos of our new Sumitomo submarine cable and come up with a name for the big cable.
2. Post your name submission on OPALCO's Facebook page (Orcas Power & Light) and tag it #MYsubmarinecable.
3. Send an email to [solson@opalco.com](mailto:solson@opalco.com) with your name idea along with your full name, OPALCO member number and email address.
4. Upon confirmation of your member status, Facebook post and complete entry, an email will be sent to the address you provide to confirm your contest entry.
5. Deadline is 9:00 pm PDT on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

See full rules at [www.opalco.com/MYsubmarinecable](http://www.opalco.com/MYsubmarinecable)



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT: [WWW.OPALCO.COM/POWER-SYSTEM/SUBMARINE-CABLE-PROJECT/](http://www.opalco.com/POWER-SYSTEM/SUBMARINE-CABLE-PROJECT/)