

2017 VOTER'S GUIDE

ORCAS POWER & LIGHT COOPERATIVE
80TH ANNUAL MEETING
ON THE WASHINGTON STATE FERRY
SATURDAY MAY 6, 2017

Dear OPALCO Member-Owner:

This is your 2017 ballot package. In this Voter's Guide, you will find:

- information on the candidates for election to the Board of Directors
- your official ballot (or a link to vote online)*
- ballot secrecy envelope (if voting by mail)
- reply envelope (if voting by mail)

* If your OPALCO membership is through a business partnership or corporation, please complete the relevant form as printed on your ballot. If your membership is not a partnership/corporation, you can ignore those forms.

Election results are announced at the Annual Meeting and online at opalco.com.

**All absentee ballots must be *received* by mail or online
no later than 10:30 AM PDT Thursday, May 4, 2017.
Ballots will not be accepted at the annual meeting:
NO MORE VOTING ON THE BOAT.**

VOTE ONE OF TWO WAYS

- 1. VOTE ONLINE.** OPALCO offers secure electronic voting in partnership with Survey and Ballot Systems (SBS). This is the preferred method of voting.
- 2. VOTE BY US MAIL.** See the enclosed ballot for instructions. Be sure to SIGN THE FRONT OF YOUR REPLY ENVELOPE. Without your signature, your vote will not count.

NEW IN 2017: NO MORE VOTING ON THE BOAT in order to have time for a more interactive and substantive annual meeting. We cannot accept ballots at the OPALCO offices. If you choose to vote on paper, please mail your ballot.

VOTING Q&A

WHO GETS TO VOTE?

Each *membership* gets one vote, no matter how many meters are attached to the membership, regardless of how many people are named on the membership. Each membership gets to vote in every election, regardless of their home district.

HOW MANY CANDIDATES CAN WE VOTE FOR?

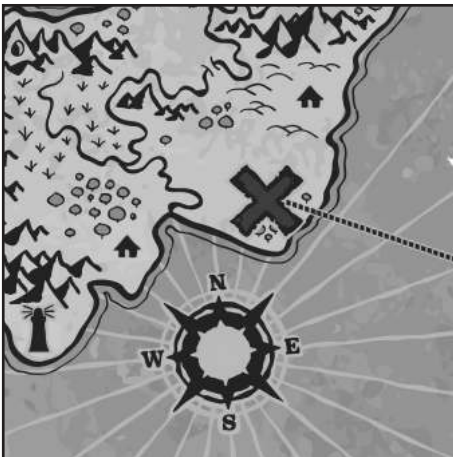
Each member may select TWO Board candidates running for two open positions in District 1.

WHY VOTE?

OPALCO members are owners of their electric cooperative. You have the power to elect your Co-op Board of Directors who set the rates and make the policies that affect all Co-op members.

HOW DO YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT?

Many of you have already opted out of paper ballots - thank you! For those who are still getting a paper ballot in the mail, there is a place on the ballot to opt out of paper for next year. This is a big cost savings for the Co-op and helps us to limit our carbon impact. A valid email address is essential for voting online. Please keep your email address current with OPALCO by calling 360-376-3500.



WHERE'S MY ANNUAL REPORT?

The annual report is available online at www.opalco.com

Printed copies of an *abbreviated* Annual Report will be distributed at the Annual Meeting. A limited supply will also be available in OPALCO offices following the Annual Meeting.

ON THE 2017 BALLOT

2017 BOARD ELECTION: DISTRICT I

The OPALCO 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, or appointed by the Board to fill out vacancies. 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):
Vince Dauciunas and Mark Madsen
- **District 2** (Orcas, Armitage, Big Double, Blakely, Fawn, Little Double and Obstruction islands): Winnie Adams and Randy J. Cornelius
- **District 3** (Lopez, Decatur, Center and Charles islands):
Jim Lett and Brian Silverstein
- **District 4** (Shaw, Bell, Canoe and Crane islands): Dr. Jerry Whitfield

Two board positions in District 1 are up for election in 2017. Please vote for any two candidates from 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 the Elections & Governance Committee, made up of co-op members, or by petition.

The 2017 candidates are

- Vince Dauciunas
- Mark Madsen
- William Severson

go to www.opalco.com/elections to
view candidate statements on video



Join the new

Elections & Governance Committee

- **Cultivate excellent Board candidates**
- **Recommend election slate each year**
- **Review governance issues periodically**

learn more and apply: www.opalco.com/elections

DISTRICT I CANDIDATES

VINCE DAUCIUNAS



Vince and his wife Vikky have been residents of San Juan Island since 2002. Vince currently serves as the President of the OPALCO Board of Directors, and is seeking a third term. He also serves on the Board of the Friday Harbor Animal Shelter, enjoys flying and holds a Commercial Pilot certificate.

Vince's education includes Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Electrical Engineering from Notre Dame and UC Berkeley. After working at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, he spent 26 years with

Hewlett Packard and Agilent Technologies in Research and Development, Management and Business Development.

His experience includes system development for measurement, computation and communication in a variety of industries, including Power Generation, Telecommunications and Environmental Science. He was responsible for Strategic Planning in the Chemical and Life Sciences Group, which has grown to be a \$4.2B business. In his last position, he was VP at Symyx Technologies, a company focused on discovering new materials for use in many areas, including fuel cells, advanced batteries and renewable fuels.

"I'm proud of the work OPALCO does and honored to be associated with the capable and hardworking people that make it happen. The industry is undergoing significant change. I am excited by the opportunities we have to improve the safety, reliability and affordability of our power system. We're completing work on our fiber backbone which will help reduce the number of outages, decrease time to restore power and improve efficiency. Increased local renewable generation and power storage will help us meet peaks, and decrease power purchases from the mainland. Conservation will continue to help reduce the long-term load growth. And, our subsidiary Rock Island will keep growing and providing excellent fiber and wireless broadband services to our county. Our Coop has an exciting future, and I hope to continue contributing to it as one of your Board members!"



Mark has served as an OPALCO director since September 2015, appointed to fill a vacancy. Mark is an active member of the community, serving as a Trustee for the San Juan Island Library District, the Town of Friday Harbor's Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, and as President of the San Juan County Economic Development Council. He is also past co-chair of the SJ Islands Agricultural Guild and was involved in the planning, funding, and purchase of the Brickworks.

Mark has lived on San Juan Island full time since 2006. He earned his B.A. from the University of Washington, and a M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is currently in a Ph.D. program at UW. Professionally, Mark has 25 years of experience in computer networking and software engineering, including helping found and build a nationwide Internet service provider business from one location to having a presence in 30 cities in the US (and in Europe).

Mark is a co-founder of AllRecipes.com, founded Network Clarity, worked briefly at Microsoft in technology licensing, and was one of the first engineers working on live streaming audio and video at RealNetworks. Currently, Mark is chief data scientist for Ibis Networks, which makes hardware and software to analyze and control energy usage in buildings at the level of individual outlets.

Given his background in Internet service provider businesses, Mark is especially focused on oversight and planning for OPALCO's subsidiary, Rock Island Communications. He is also actively participating in future energy supply planning through OPALCO's membership in the Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative, and strives to improve communication with members about some of the complex energy supply and pricing challenges the Co-op faces.

If re-elected, Mark pledges to continue strong oversight of Rock Island and work on ways to keep members better informed about the many projects OPALCO undertakes.

GO to www.opalco.com/elections to view candidate statements on video, watch a full candidate forum (from San Juan Island) and read OPALCO's Annual Report.



Bill is a long-time visitor and resident of San Juan Island dating back to a 1965 visit with the family. After graduating from the University of Washington he traveled extensively, returning with his wife Laura Jo to settle down, sail the boat and raise a garden. “I never found such a magical place like the San Juan Islands.”

Recently retired as an Electrical Engineer and Manager with the General Electric Company, Bill spent his 47-year career working in the field with industrial and utility customers. He finished his career as a commercial manager for distributed power, hydro, wind and solar businesses.

“In preparing for this election, I studied the Co-op’s Integrated Resource Plan. This is an excellent document that clearly describes where we are with energy today and the goal we should strive for. However, this plan does not layout the “how.” Well, the “how” is your enthusiasm and the money. I am confident I can win your enthusiasm and I am prepared to go get the money.

I believe we should:

- Take control of our energy future
- Start now rather than later
- Take advantage of my unique experience and skills to work with the members, management and board to implement the plan that will lead to the third generation of energy in our islands.

Let’s keep our energy dollars here instead of sending them to Eastern Washington, create good construction and technical jobs in our county and secure our energy future.”



Cast your vote for OPALCO Board of Directors

Vote online or return your ballot by mail.

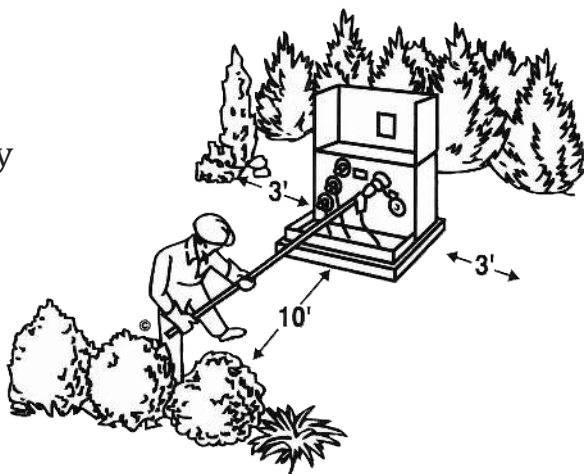
Deadline for ballot receipt is 10:30 AM (PDT)
on **Thursday, May 4, 2017**

If you vote online, be sure to add the
OPALCO Election Coordinator noreply@directvote.net
to your approved senders list.

SAFETY is always our TOP PRIORITY

Your OPALCO crews need room to work safely on devices in the field and those located on members' property.

Please keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from the front side and at least 3 feet away from all other sides of equipment, monuments, and cable facilities.



Check out OPALCO's new Outage Map for information updated 24/7: www.opalco.com/outages.

Please do not call 911 to report an outage.

CALL 376-3599 24/7

Updates also posted on Twitter: @OrcasPower

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Never take a chance when digging. Paint the area to be located with white paint and then call 811 to dispatch a locate crew - it's a FREE service. One small digging mistake can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you, and can potentially result in hefty fines and repair costs. It's the law and it's the right thing to do.

Need help paying your power bill?

OPALCO offers two programs to assist Co-op Members who are on fixed incomes, disabled or qualify as a low-income household.

Project PAL gives a grant during the heating season when bills are highest and **Energy Assist** provides a \$20 - \$50 credit on power bills EVERY MONTH for qualified members. Call 376-3500 to learn more or apply online at www.opalco.com.

Co-ops are Different: We Live by our Cooperative Principles

Independent, democratically-governed businesses, electric cooperatives are organized under the Rochdale Principles, also known as the Seven Cooperative Principles:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Why so early!?

The Annual Meeting schedule is driven by the Washington State Ferry schedule

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

Please arrive at your ferry landing with plenty of time to park and register for the meeting. Lunch is served on the ferry.





OPALCO Rebates for Fuel Switching:

- Ductless Heat Pumps
- Electric Vehicle Home Chargers

LOWERYOUR TOTAL ENERGY BILL and
REDUCEYOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT
when you leave propane, wood and gasoline behind.

OPALCO is offering new incentives for members who switch from fossil fuels (home heating and cars) to more efficient electric equipment. Members who switch from propane or wood furnaces to a ductless heat pump can get a rebate of \$1,500; members who install a home EV (electric vehicle) charger, can get a rebate of \$500. Rebates are limited to 30 EV Chargers and 20 Ductless Heat Pumps on a first-come, first-served basis. Get yours!

Learn more at www.opalco.com/rebates.



**Are you paying for wasted energy?
How much is that costing you?**

Schedule a Home Snapshot Energy Assessment and find out.

Get a **Home Snapshot Energy Assessment** with our Building Performance Institute Certified Contractors and get on the path to savings. The cost is only \$25 and includes 12 LED bulbs. Schedule yours today online at www.opalco.com/snapshot.

Need help paying for home improvements? Islanders Bank offers the **Get Connected** loan to make energy efficiency upgrades that will reduce your energy bills and make your home more comfortable.

80TH ANNUAL MEETING - SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017

ON THE WASHINGTON STATE FERRY



TRAVEL SCHEDULE

ORCAS

Register at landing 7:00 AM
Ferry departs 8:45 AM
Return to Orcas 11:50 AM

SHAW

Register on board
Ferry departs 9:00 AM
Return to Shaw 11:40 AM

LOPEZ

Register at landing 8:00 AM
Ferry departs 9:30 AM
Return to Lopez 11:25 AM

ANACORTES

Register on board
Ferry departs 7:30 / 10:35 AM
Return (via Orcas) 1:30 PM

SAN JUAN

Members coming from San Juan Island will sail to Orcas by chartered boat to get on the ferry at Orcas.*

Reservations Required

Call 376-3549 to reserve the limited space available on the chartered boat.

Registration begins at

Spring St. landing 6:45 AM
Board chartered boat 7:20 AM
Disembark at Orcas dock 8:30 AM

Orcas Ferry leaves 8:45 AM
Return to Orcas landing 11:50 AM

Chartered boat leaves Orcas NOON
Arrives Friday Harbor by 1:00 PM

** The ferry that leaves Friday Harbor at 6:10 AM is also an option.*

If you are disabled or need special accommodations to participate in the Annual Meeting on the ferry, please call Bev Madan at 376-3549.



***Note:** The chartered boat *is not wheelchair accessible* and requires a steep walk up and back down the ramp at the Orcas county dock to board the ferry. If this presents a challenge for you, please take the 6:10 AM ferry from Friday Harbor to Orcas that arrives Orcas at 7:35 AM.