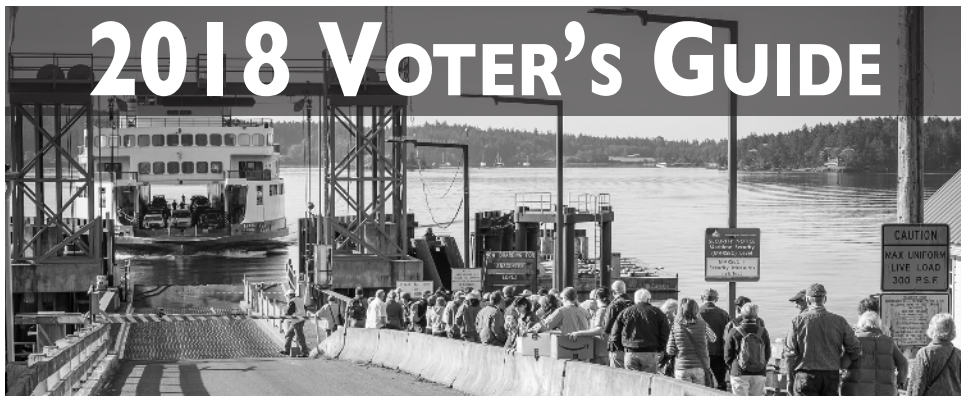


# 2018 VOTER'S GUIDE



## Orcas Power & Light Cooperative Annual Meeting

On the Washington  
State Ferry



April 21, 2018  
All aboard!!

Dear OPALCO Member-Owner:

This is your 2018 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](http://opalco.com).

**All ballots must be received by mail or online  
no later than 10:00 AM PT Thursday, April 19, 2018.  
Ballots will not be accepted at the annual meeting:**

**NO VOTING ON THE BOAT.**

# VOTING Q&A

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.

**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 in time to meet the deadline.

## **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 2 in 2018.

## **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.

# ON THE 2018 BALLOT

## 2018 BOARD ELECTION: DISTRICT 2

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 Dauciuinas 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):  
Peter Garlock and Brian Silverstein
- **District 4** (Shaw, Bell, Canoe and Crane islands):  
Dr. Jerry Whitfield

**Two board positions in District 2 are up for election in 2018.** Please vote for any two candidates from District 2. 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 2018 candidates are

- Richard Christmas
- Jeffrey Struthers

Go to [www.opalco.com/elections](http://www.opalco.com/elections) to view candidate statements on video.



Join the

## Elections & Governance Committee

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

*Learn more and apply: [www.opalco.com/elections](http://www.opalco.com/elections)*

## DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATES

### JEFFREY STRUTHERS

---



Jeff Struthers, a full-time islander, is committed to sustaining the reliable, low-cost supply of electric power essential for our island communities to thrive.

Jeff and his late wife Judith, joined the Orcas community full time in 1998. Since coming to Orcas, Jeff has remained actively involved as a volunteer, most recently including the County Parks Commission (member and former chair) and the Orcas Animal Shelter (Board Treasurer).

Before Orcas, Jeff was an executive in a small private investment company, evaluating business opportunities, structuring investments, crafting contracts, and managing the founder's family trusts. Earlier, Jeff was a career executive with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where he led a team of technical and financial experts providing non-partisan advice to three administrations over funding totaling approximately \$10 billion annually (e.g., NASA, the National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution). Jeff also represented OMB on various governmental policy panels and taught seminars on the budget process.

Earlier, Jeff was OMB's expert for renewable energy and conservation technologies and helped shape a Presidential Solar Energy initiative and related legislation, plus renewable energy funding for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Jeff also served as an Air Force Engineering Officer improving aircraft-based weather observation and a global network for digital satellite communications.

Jeff holds a degree in Electrical Engineering, Professional Engineer certification, and an MBA from Harvard.

Most recently, Jeff finished building a house of his own design using energy-efficient technologies, a commitment spanning more than a decade.

"I will work closely with management and other board members to:

- ensure that OPALCO remains safe, responsive, and efficient;
- secure the cheapest, greenest long-term supply of energy covering our members' needs while protecting our islands' culture and environment;
- further encourage energy efficiency measures that are affordable and cost-effective; and,
- foster cooperation with other organizations to advance and protect our members' interests."

## RICHARD CHRISTMAS

---



Rick has been a resident of Orcas Island dating back to 1998. He is an active member of the 2017 Vision for Eastsound process. He has served as Chief Information Officer and member of senior management at True Blue, which is a leading international provider of specialized workforce solutions. He was accountable for all activities related to the development and implementation of business applications; managing the relationships between the Information Management department and external and internal customers. Managed the

relationship and service levels from technology vendors and outsourcing partners to customers. Spearheaded re-engineering and best practices for all aspects of branch and corporate operations. Developed an analysis of new potential markets and provided recommendations on viability and profitability.

Previously, Rick was a founding member and CIO of Gentiva Health Services, the largest provider of home health care and related services in the United States. Rick brought more than twenty-seven years of executive experience leading business and technology re-engineering efforts for a variety of clients and vendors. He was responsible for directing all information management activities. As a key member of the senior management team, he directed the company's efforts to integrate business systems, enable productivity tools as well as promote electronic commerce for internal and external uses. Rick's leadership and his experience in deploying new business systems were invaluable as the Gentiva organization transitioned into a stand-alone public company. With his extensive background in technology and systems, as well as more than 30 years of experience in Operations and Marketing, Rick has been a valuable contributor to the many companies as they continue to invest in information technology to advance their efforts to further improve efficiencies in their core processes, and provide technology support to other key strategic initiatives.

---

### Cast your vote for OPALCO Board of Directors

Vote online or return your ballot by mail.



Deadline for ballot receipt is 10:00 AM (PDT)  
on **Thursday, April 19, 2018**

If you vote online, be sure to add the  
OPALCO Election Coordinator [noreply@directvote.net](mailto:noreply@directvote.net)  
to your approved senders list.



# COMMUNITY SOLAR

## POWERED BY OPALCO & THE SUN

OPALCO will build its first big community solar project in 2018 on Decatur Island. Community Solar gives OPALCO members a chance to generate clean, green local power - and get a production credit on their power bill!

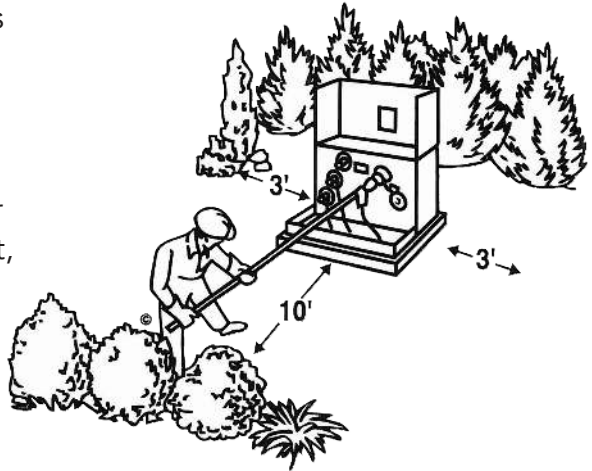
**What is Community Solar?** Community Solar, also known as a Solar Garden or Virtual Net Metering, is a power-generating solar array located in one area for the benefit of members with homes or businesses elsewhere.

Find out more at [www.opalco.com/solar](http://www.opalco.com/solar).

# 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](http://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 or 800-424-5555 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.



## TRAVEL SCHEDULE: M/V TILLIKUM

### SAN JUAN ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 7:00am  
Board ferry 8:15am  
Return to Friday Harbor 11:15am

### ORCAS ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 7:30am  
Board ferry 9:00am  
Return to Orcas 12:40pm

### SHAW ISLAND

Register on ferry  
Board ferry 9:20am  
Return to Shaw 12:20pm

### LOPEZ ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 8:15am  
Board ferry 9:45am  
Return to Lopez 1:00pm

### ANACORTES

Board ferry > Orcas 7:30am  
Board Tillikum 9:00am  
Register on Tillikum  
Disembark @ Lopez 1:00pm  
Board ferry > Anacortes 1:35pm  
Return to Anacortes 2:00pm



A bag lunch will be served to OPALCO members registered for the Annual Meeting at the Friday Harbor, Orcas and Lopez ferry landings. Shaw and Anacortes registrants will get their bag lunch on the ferry.



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