

2019 VOTERS GUIDE



Orcas Power & Light Cooperative

Dear OPALCO Member-Owner:

This is your 2019 Voter's Guide. Within, 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)

NOTE: If your 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 on **Saturday, April 13th** and published online at www.opalco.com.

**All ballots must be received by mail or online
no later than 10:00 AM PST on April 10, 2019.
Ballots will not be accepted at the annual meeting.**



NO 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.

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.

HOW MANY CANDIDATES CAN WE VOTE FOR?

Each member may select TWO Board candidates for two open positions in District 3 and ONE Board candidate running for one open positions in District 4. Vote in every election regardless of your home district.

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.

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 2019 BALLOT: DISTRICTS 3 & 4

Two board positions in District 3 and one board position in District 4 are up for election.

The 2019 candidates for District 3 are (pick 2):

- Peter Garlock
- Brian Silverstein

The 2019 candidates for District 4 are (pick 1):

- Peter Hawkes
- Dr. Jerry Whitfield

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

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 all OPALCO members, or appointed by the Board to fill out vacancies. ALL members may vote in every election, regardless of their home district.

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES

PETER GARLOCK



Peter Garlock was appointed to fill a District 3 vacancy in January 2018.

Peter's professional career spans nearly 40 years of experience managing complex technology organizations in both the private and public sectors. He recently retired after serving 15 years as the Director of Information Technology for the Port of Seattle. Under his leadership, a wide range of innovative technology services and systems were developed and implemented to improve operations and serve the traveling public at SeaTac airport and the Port's numerous other lines of business.

In addition to Peter's extensive background in technology, his strengths include a strong focus on customer service, information security, financial management, strategic planning, public private partnerships, labor relations, and environmental stewardship. He is very well acquainted with the many challenges and rapid changes taking place in both technology and power generation, and how these two sectors are becoming increasingly integrated and interdependent.

He and his wife divide their time between residences in Seattle and Lopez Island. Peter is an NRECA credentialed Director. His education includes a Masters Degree in Business Management and he served 12 years as an officer in the US Air Force.

Participate in your Co-op by joining the
Elections & Governance Committee!

Contact communications@opalco.com to find out how!

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES

BRIAN SILVERSTEIN



Brian worked in the electric utility industry for three decades. He was elected to the OPALCO Board in 2016 and would like to continue serving our community. He and his wife Leslie became full time Lopez residents in 2013.

Brian has a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree from The Cooper Union and a Masters in Electric Power from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He worked for 33 years at Bonneville Power Administration, retiring as Senior VP for Transmission with responsibility for planning, operations, engineering, construction, maintenance and rates. One of his key

achievements was connecting over 5,000,000 kilowatts of wind energy to the grid.

He is a NRECA Credentialed Director (National Rural Electric Coop Association).

Brian's key objectives for OPALCO are:

- Keep electricity affordable for our members by carefully managing the budget and using a small portion of our revenues to assist members who need help paying their bill.
- Maintain reliability by taking care of our facilities and supporting our crews and staff.
- Pursue all cost-effective conservation.
- Consider innovative rate designs to stabilize revenues when consumption declines.
- Develop cost-effective broadband to support education and community development. Complete construction on schedule and within budget. Carefully manage Rock Island borrowing to protect OPALCO members.
- Take advantage of our fiber optic backbone to enhance crew safety, keep the lights on and enable customers to reduce energy use at peak times.
- Be part of the solution in modernizing communications for first responders.
- Transparent decision making.

Brian enjoys hiking, kayaking and cycling. He is a volunteer on the Communications and Logistics Team for Lopez Island Fire & Rescue, volunteers at Lopez Solid Waste and helps move hay for Leslie's horses.

SWITCH IT UP!

This Electric Life.

OPALCO is introducing a **NEW** opportunity for members to clean up their energy usage while saving money on their total energy spending.

Switch it Up offers on-bill financing for super efficient Ductless Heat Pumps, Heat Pump Water Heaters and Electric Vehicle Chargers for home or business. If you are heating with a high carbon fuel such as propane, wood or oil (or driving a gas-powered car), you will see significant savings (in \$\$ and carbon) on your overall energy bill. Go to www.opalco.com to see what you could save!

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 **Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

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

DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATES

PETER HAWKES



Peter has been a part of the Salish Sea Community for 20 years including frequenting the San Juan Islands in his youth. He has designed and built a home on Crane Island where he enjoys time with his family and community. Peter currently is in his 2nd term on Crane Island Association's Board of Directors. You will often find him on the water paddle boarding through Wasp Passage or trolling a line for salmon anywhere in the islands, just as his mother and grandfather did when his family lived on Orcas during WWII.

Peter currently consults with various companies helping businesses develop strategic and operational planning leveraging his 25-year tenure in mobile/wireless telecommunications, most recently at AT&T. He has led many wireless network acquisitions and partnerships, delivered new network products & services solutions for the customer and is regarded as an excellent builder of teams, organizations and communities.

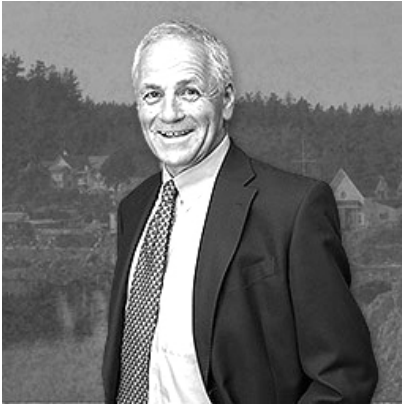
Peter's wireless background well suits OPALCO's Rock Island internet services and OPALCO's future.

"I wish to share my technology experience in strategy, planning and engineering with the OPALCO community to further realize the future of OPALCO and see the community benefit further from the offerings technology has to offer. To help keep cost low, I'll work to build efficiencies and encourage transitions of energy use to balance the best use of our valuable assets focusing on renewables. I want to incorporate infrastructure modernization, as well as solar capabilities, to support safety of OPALCO's work force and maintain reliable-delivery to the island's critical care facilities and services."

I encourage carbon-reduction initiatives where the community can explore ways to reduce our overall footprint. I'd like to see an increase in the implementation of wireless technologies available for lowering consumer cost to preserve and add value to the current fiber-optic and wired networks.

DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATES

DR. JERRY WHITFIELD



Jerry has been an OPALCO Director since 2014 and is currently Vice President of the Board. He and his wife Carol live on Shaw Island.

Jerry is an Aerospace Engineer having worked at Boeing, Rolls Royce Aero Engines, and GE on advanced jet engines. His education includes Bachelors and PhD Degrees from Southampton and Cambridge Universities, UK.

Recognizing early on the need for low carbon sources of energy he invented the first wood pellet stove in 1982 and proceeded to build a successful manufacturing company around this 'carbon neutral' product. He was recognized in 2016 by Seattle Magazine for developing one of the 50 most important products in the Seattle area in the last 50 years.

A distinguished engineering career and a proven entrepreneurial ability provides Jerry with the skills to continue serving the OPALCO membership well. OPALCO needs Directors who understand the workings of a complex electric utility and who can make decisions that will preserve the long-term safety, reliability, and affordability of its unique island-based power system, and guide OPALCO's new subsidiary Rock Island successfully through its early growth.

"I'm proud of the work OPALCO does and the bold leadership of its Board. I have been a strong supporter of grid modernization with its fiber-optic backbone, and its on-going reliability and safety improvements. Low carbon projects such as Community Solar, a utility scale battery project, and promoting electrification of our members other energy needs will reduce peak power costs and minimize our carbon footprint in San Juan County. I have supported OPALCO's subsidiary, Rock Island Communications, from the outset. With its hybrid wireless and fiber-to-the home deployment, it will continue to expand vital broadband services to our Members. Many of you are already seeing these benefits. I hope to continue contributing as one of your Directors."

Current Board of Directors:

District 1: Vince Dauciuinas and Mark Madsen

District 2: Rick Christmas and Jeff Struthers

District 3: Peter Garlock and Brian Silverstein

District 4: Dr. Jerry Whitfield

TRAVEL SCHEDULE - ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 13, 2019



SAN JUAN ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 7:00 am
Ferry Departs 8:30 am
Return to Friday Harbor 11:15am

ORCAS ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 7:30 am
Ferry Departs 9:15 am
Return to Orcas 12:40pm

SHAW ISLAND

Register on ferry
Ferry departs 9:30 am
Return to Shaw 12:20pm

LOPEZ ISLAND

Register at ferry landing 8:45am
Ferry departs 9:55 am
Return to Lopez 1:00pm

ANACORTES

Ferry Departs to Orcas 7:30am
Interisland Ferry Departs 9:15am
Register on Interisland Ferry
Disembark @ Lopez 1:00pm
Ferry Departs from Lopez to
Anacortes at 1:35pm



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 Krista Bouchey at (360) 376-3560.