

**Manager** – Jeffrey Ellison

**Board Members** –

*Ed Schwabe – President*

*Jason Matthews Vice President*

*Tom McAloon*

*George Baker*

*Eric Staples*

*Joe Staples*

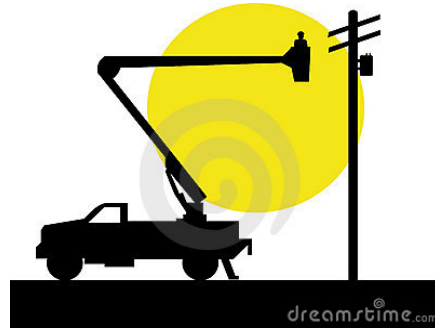
*Eric Chetwynd – Rec. Secretary*

*Bob Pickup - Treasurer*

*Sarah Lane*

# SWAN'S ISLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**August, 2015**



Members with billing questions should contact Karen Griffin at 526-4336 or at <a href="mailto:siecbilling@gmail.com">siecbilling@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Emergency contact #:</b>
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<b>207-479- 0657 and 0658</b>
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**From the Manager:** Thanks to all who attended the Annual Cooperative meeting on July 23. Your input is very valuable and is taken into account on Board decisions. With the vote favoring going forward with the EMERA Maine negotiations, we will be gathering data for the EMERA people. If any of you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The day after the Annual Meeting, we had a failure on the “C” phase cable. We are searching for people with the equipment to locate the fault and then fix it. Currently we are operating with the “stand-by” cable. We finished upgrading the Frenchboro grid by replacing weak poles. Much of the work done on Swan’s Island benefits Frenchboro as well. For instance, the largest part of the work on SI was the main trunk going from the ferry terminal substation to the crossroads. That trunk services Frenchboro. Also, the work on the new ferry terminal substation benefits both islands.

My apologies to Frenchboro for the length of time it took to get the Library and Museum back in service. Trying to coordinate two contractors, an excavator, the ferry schedule, and ourselves was like herding cats. I do apologize for the delays. Enjoy the summer while it lasts.

**From the Board:** SIEC members voted overwhelmingly in support of entering into formal negotiations with Emera - aimed at reaching an agreement whereby members of the SIEC would become customers of the larger utility. 243 ballots were cast: 223 (92.5%) were in favor of taking the next step; 13 were against; 5 had no opinion. One ballot was returned blank, and one ballot was submitted with a different option written in.

In the election of Board members, George Baker was re-elected to his seat while Tom McAloon and Eric Staples were elected to three-year terms to fill the seats vacated by Sonny Sprague and John Trask. The new Board met on August 6<sup>th</sup> to determine how to fill the one year remaining on Jim Stone’s term of office. Since Jennifer VanHorne had voluntarily removed herself from consideration the week before, the Board considered the remaining four candidates who had run for election at Annual Meeting – voting to offer Sarah Lane the remainder of Stone’s unexpired term.

Formal negotiations with Emera are expected to get underway in September. Between now and then, Emera personnel and vehicles will be visiting both Swan’s and Frenchboro to examine our grid and determine what challenges and obstacles might be encountered if the larger utility were to extend its service area to encompass our two islands. The SIEC negotiating team will include Ed Schwabe, Manager Jeffrey Ellison, former Manager and new Board member Tom McAloon and Treasurer Bob Pickup - along with Bill Ferdinand, counsel. It is our intent to keep the membership informed through this newsletter and our Co-Op website as negotiations progress.