

**Manager** – Jeffrey Ellison

**Board Members** –

*Ed Schwabe – President*

*Jason Matthews Vice President*

*Bob Pickup - Treasurer*

*Eric Chetwynd – Rec. Secretary*

*George Baker*

*Joe Staples*

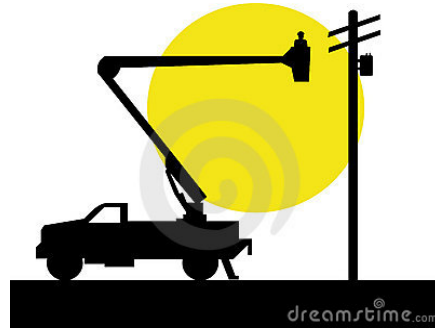
*Tom McAloon*

*Eric Staples*

*Sarah Lane*

# SWAN'S ISLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**October, 2015**



Members with billing questions should contact Karen Griffin at 526-4336 or at [siecbilling@gmail.com](mailto:siecbilling@gmail.com)

**Emergency contact #:**

**207-479- 0657 and 0658**

**From the Manager:** Our most critical task right now is the restoration of the faulted cable. It is a much slower process than anticipated. Dig Safe was here October 7 and marked the four cable locations at Lopus Point. We have spent a week trying to determine which of the four cables is not energized. We have to be absolutely certain before we send a diver out into the water. Once we locate the correct cable, it should be a quick fix. We were quoted \$7K to \$10K to do the splice with an outside contractor. Northern Line has been on the island twice this month to transfer wires from old poles to new poles. Please remember to clear the area around your meter so that it can be read.

**From the Board:** Included with your bill this month is an announcement of a Special Membership Meeting scheduled for Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the Swan's Island Library. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and vote on a proposed change to our Cooperative By-Laws which will allow your Board of Trustees to use a mailed ballot to all 422 members of the Cooperative when deciding major issues – such as the possible acquisition by Emera Maine. Presently, our By-Laws specify that all decisions are made at membership meetings where a quorum (5% of the membership) is present. Article VIII (Disposition of Property) requires a 2/3rds vote of members when Co-op property is sold. Should an agreement be reached whereby Emera acquires our submarine cables and transmission grids on both islands and extends its service territory so that we all become Emera customers, this agreement would need to be approved by a 2/3rds vote – since Co-Op property would be transferred to the larger utility.

Your Board unanimously believes that such an important vote – if it is required later this year or early next year – should provide every member with an opportunity to weigh in and be heard. The only way to do this – given the large geographic dispersion of our membership – is to provide for a confidential, mailed ballot to every authorized voter, similar to the way the Straw Ballot was conducted this past summer. Please review the blue sheet included with your bill this month to see the exact wording proposed for the By-Law change. Plan to attend the Special Membership Meeting on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> for more discussion and answers to questions you might have on the need for this change. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like another member to vote for you, use the proxy form that is included with your mailing and send it back to the Cooperative so that it arrives no later than November 12<sup>th</sup>.

We will be broadcasting this meeting as a webinar...so if you are unable to attend you can use a computer to log in and view the meeting as it occurs. This service is principally for our members on Frenchboro – but is available to anyone. While you will not be able to vote via webinar – at least you can view the meeting and hear the questions and discussions. To log on to the webinar go to: <https://zoom.us/j/7448547275> or to join by phone +1 (408) 638-0968 or +1 646-558-8656. Once dialed in you will be prompted to enter the Webinar Meeting ID 744 854 7275.

Or join by phone:

+1 408 638 0968 (US Toll) or +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll)

**SIEC Website:** [www.swansislandelectric.com](http://www.swansislandelectric.com)

**SIEC Office Hours are 7:30 AM – 4 PM**