

NEWSLETTER – SWAN’S ISLAND ELECTRIC CO–OP

MANAGER:
JEFFREY ELLISON

We welcome our seasonal members back to the island. If you have any electrical issues, please don't hesitate to call for help. The remnants of the hurricane that hit North Carolina caused a few problems for us over the 4th of July weekend. Two trees down on Swan's Island and one down on Frenchboro caused short outages. Again, I thank our island crew for taking care of those. I visited the Cranberry Islands a day and a half after the storm, and they were still without power. Emera (formerly Bangor Hydro) had not gotten a crew out to their islands yet. The Cranberries turned their power distribution system over to Emera awhile back.

The Cooperative has stopped non-essential services due to the delay in the proposed rate increase. We are hoping to get a resolution very soon. Work continues on the major upgrade to our grid because those costs are covered by a Work Plan Loan from the Rural Utility Services.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Annual meeting on July 24th.

From the Board:

All members are invited to Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 24th at 7 PM at the Odd Fellows Hall. The principal topic will be the rate increase proposal - currently being examined by the Maine Public Utilities Commission, with updates on progress and expenses. Additionally, three Board seats are up for election. Vice President Jason Matthews and Joe Staples have both decided to run for re-election. Susanna Roe has decided to step down from the Board. The SIEC nominating committee has nominated William McMullin, Bob Pickup, Janet Shipman, and Jennifer Van Horne to contend for the three Board seats in addition to Jason and Joe. Also, nominations can be made from the floor during the meeting.

It should be noted that the nominating committee is a completely separate body from the Board and is guided by the Co-Op Manager. They are all volunteers who have expressed an interest in the Cooperative. This year's committee was chaired by Carol Loehr and consisted of Howard Dentremont, Tom McAloon, Ann Marie Maguire, Tom Duchesneau, and Jeannie Hoyle.

Any member can serve on the nominating committee. All that is needed is to call Bonnie at the office and she will place you on the slate. The committee usually meets for several hours in late May of each year to provide a list of nominees for the three Board seats which become available annually.

Meet The Candidates:

This year, for the first time, the Nominating Committee invites you to interview the candidates for Board seats at the Library on Thursday, July 17th at 7 PM. Board candidates will be asked to introduce themselves to the community, and to talk briefly about what they hope to accomplish if elected, and to respond to questions regarding their views on the Cooperative and how it might better serve the members. This is an excellent chance to make sure that the vote you cast will be an informed one.

Expenses for Rate Case

Defense: The SIEC has expended \$9,600 so far. We anticipate that the total cost will be in the \$25,000 - \$30,000 range. Unfortunately these costs are unbudgeted and must be recovered from us, the membership. We should know more about how this might be done by Annual Meeting,

JULY, 2014

Web Page Makeover

In an effort to improve our communication with the membership, the Co-Op web page is being spruced up with the help of Donna Wiegles and Board Member Jim Stone. Go to: <http://swansislandelectric.com>

See you at Annual Meeting. Aside from electing Board members, everyone who attends will receive a comprehensive overview of the progress of the Work Plan, the financial status of the Cooperative, and the opportunity to ask your questions about your Cooperative and its operations

- ELECTRIC CO-OP OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 AM – 4 PM
- PHONE # 526-4336
- OFFICE MAY BE CLOSED BETWEEN 11:00 AM AND 12:00 PM FOR LUNCH.
- OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS.

AFTER HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

JEFFREY ELLISON: 207-479-0657

STEVE GREEN: 207-479-0658

BONNIE TURNER 526-4282

BOARD MEMBERS:

Ed Schwabe – President

Jason Matthews – Vice President/Sec

John Trask – Treasurer

Sonny Sprague

Susanna Roe

George Baker

Eric Chetwynd

Joe Staples

Jim Stone