

# SWANS ISLAND ELECTRIC COOP NEWSLETTER

## From the Manager's Desk:

Our Manager, Tom McAloon, is away in Nigeria during this month – attending to the requirements of his second job – where he is overseeing the establishment of a water utility in that developing country. While we miss the presence of his steady hand at the helm, it does give those of us left behind the chance to “step up” in the face of any “unusual circumstances” - so to speak.

No sooner had Tom taken off for Nigeria, than just such an “opportunity” (in the form of an early Nor’easter) came along during the weekend of Oct 29-30. A cold icy rain, driven by wind gusts in excess of 40 mph continued throughout Saturday night. At 8:15 AM Sunday morning, a mainland power outage caused a complete loss of power on Swan’s Island and

Frenchboro. Concurrently, a tree toppled over on the power lines not far from Steve and Theo McCormick’s house and our crew got busy trying to clear these lines. As it turned out, our own problem was resolved almost at the same time that crews on the mainland managed to restore power there and most everybody on Swan’s Island and Frenchboro had power restored by about 10:30 AM.

At 2:30 PM we learned that a stretch of homes in the valley were still without power, and the culprit was another tree which had fallen and collided with a transformer on a pole which was inaccessible to our bucket truck. (This is why

we are trying to get our poles moved out to the roadside, wherever possible.) Our crew carried in a long

cut away the top of the tree, until it was possible to take the trunk of the tree down without further damage to the pole. Power was restored to this stretch of homes in the valley at dusk on Sunday evening.

But the fun wasn’t over. At about 9:30 PM, in the same stretch of homes in the valley, a second transformer went down with a burned out cut-out housing. Again the crew responded, and this time, fortunately, the trouble spot was near the road and reachable with our equipment. The repair was complete in two hours and by 11:30 PM, our crew could finally turn in after a long day indeed.

Special thanks to Steve Green and Grant Joyce along with our senior lineman Ralph Murphy – who was stranded on the mainland because the Ferry could not run – but who provided critical guidance by phone.

**Nov. 2011**

## Town of Swans Island Notice:

There is now a 48 hour maximum parking time in the “back” line for the ferry. Please display the time and date of your anticipated departure in your vehicle window. Forms are available at the ticket office.

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

AFTER HOUR  
EMERGENCY  
NUMBERS:  
TOM MCALOON  
207-479-0657  
STEVE GREEN  
207-479-0658  
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