

# WRC UPDATE

JUNE 22, 2003

## RADIO AMATEURS SERVING THE WESTERN COMMUNITIES

REMEMBER TO ZOOM IN ON THE PHOTOS...  
200% RECOMMENDED



## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED FOR FIELD DAY! June 28 & 29th at Wellington's EOC *Field Day... The Renewed Emphasis on Emergency Communications*

For the first time since 1933, there is a class of field day operation that is specifically for Emergency Operations Centers. Many feel this more realistically reflects today's world. More than ever we work closely with public safety agencies and disaster relief organizations.

So it's no surprise that the Wellington EOC and the Wellington Radio Club will participate in Field Day 2003 from the EOC site. For the last three years, this event (Continued on pg. 3)



**I WANT YOU  
FOR FIELD DAY!!!**  
Hams, family, friends  
and public visitors!

## Photo Summary - 6/2/03 EOC DEDICATION

Awards, Presentations and Memorable Communications:  
Wellington EOC-to-State EOC and  
Wellington Mayor to Wellington Mayor  
...Continued on pages 4 and 5



Left: Mayor Wayne Guppy, Neil ZL2SJ, Pres. NZART, at NZART HQ chat with Mayor Tom Wenham... both mayors really hamming it up!

The Village of Wellington Proclaims  
**AMATEUR RADIO WEEK**  
June 23-29th

...Continued on page 2

## ***Thanks Wellington!***

True to its motto "*A Better Place*", the Village of Wellington has encouraged its radio amateurs to help make the community more secure. Many of the activities of the Wellington Radio Club have been geared to just that objective. Over the last three years, we have applied our resources not only to emergency communications but also

to community matters such as child safety, the promotion of the Citizen Corps, etc.

The Village of Wellington has recognized those efforts with its public Proclamation and in doing so has bolstered the positive image of all radio amateurs.

On behalf of its members and the amateurs of the Western communities, the Wellington Radio Club thanks the Village Council and the Mayor for the honor.

### **Proclamation of the Village Council of the Village of Wellington, Florida Declaring the Week of June 23-29, 2003 as **AMATEUR RADIO WEEK** IN THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON**

**WHEREAS, Wellington Radio Club members have been instrumental in the design, construction and setup of the Wellington Emergency Operations Center; and**

**WHEREAS, Wellington Radio Club volunteers have demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing emergency radio communications from their homes as well as the Village EOC; and**

**WHEREAS, these Amateur Radio operators donate their services free of charge to our Village in the interest of the citizens of Wellington, as well as the Western Communities; and**

**WHEREAS, these Amateur Radio operators are on alert for any emergency, local or world-wide, and practice their communication skills during the annual national field day emergency exercise; and**

**WHEREAS, this years Amateur Radio Field Day will take place on June 28-29, 2003;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, the Village of Wellington,  
hereby declares the week of June 23-29, 2003 as  
**AMATEUR RADIO WEEK****

**IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the  
Village of Wellington, Florida to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2003.**

**ATTEST:**

**VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON**

— **BY:**

**BY:**

— **Amilda Rodriguez, Village Clerk**

**Thomas M. Wenham, Mayor**



## Field day ....

has been conducted from the Village's parks where the principal objective was to help ensure that ham radio volunteers are ready to assist their communities in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. This year the objective includes testing the new EOC's systems and facilities. For example, the plan is to power all three stations off the EOC's very large battery bank for the entire Field Day period.

Ken Roundtree, Wellington's Emergency Management Director and WRC member said "Field Day is designed to test ham radio operators' abilities to fulfill the EOC's mission as well as to set up and operate stations in the field under emergency conditions, such as the loss of commercial power."

In the Western Communities, only Wellington's EOC is reported to be activated for this exercise. The public is invited to observe and learn how to participate as volunteers to help secure their communities.

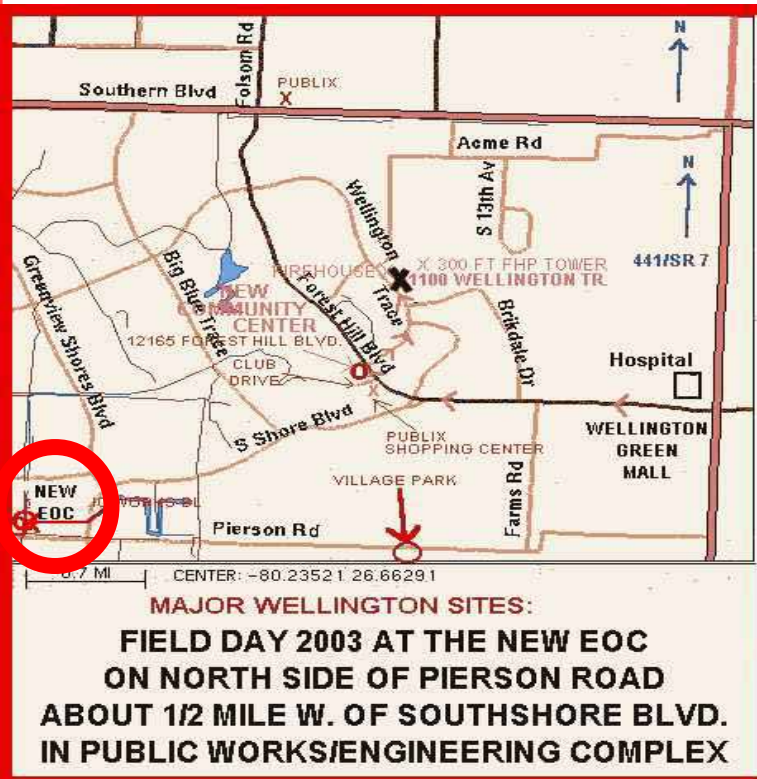
WRC's Vice President Juan Abellon, MD KG4QYY is particularly pleased that this year's Field Day is at the EOC. Last September he made a presentation to the officials of the Western Communities' coordinating group about the role of the Citizens Corps.

One of its goals is to bring volunteers and first responders, including emergency managers, closer. Of note is that Juan has been joined by others from the amateur

community in his efforts. The ARRL has just inked a Statement of Agreement (SoA) with the Department of Homeland Security. "This is all part of the bigger picture of getting emergency communications, aligned with what our government needs," said ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, who signed the SoA on the League's behalf. Along those lines, what can be more appropriate than hams having Field Day at an EOC.



FIELD DAY BANNER SAYS IT ALL!



## Field Day Schedule at the EOC Site

### FRIDAY

2 PM-??? : EARLY SETUP

### SATURDAY

7:30 AM: BREAKFAST AT  
BAGELAND

8:30 AM SETUP CONTINUES

2:00 PM STATIONS BEGIN OPERATING  
CONTINUOUSLY

### SUNDAY

2:00 PM OPERATIONS CEASE AND  
TEAR DOWN BEGINS

## THE WRC UPDATE

is the official publication of the  
**Wellington Radio Club**

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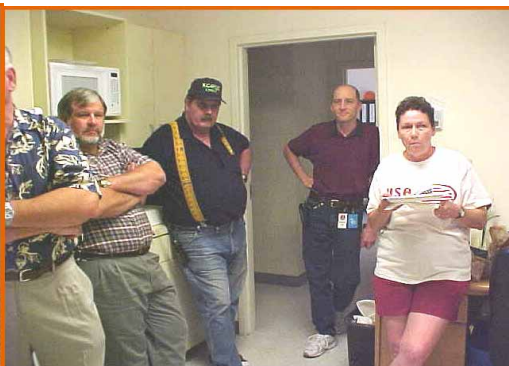
# The EOC's Dedication...

Fotos: Georg KR4WD & Theresa Monahan

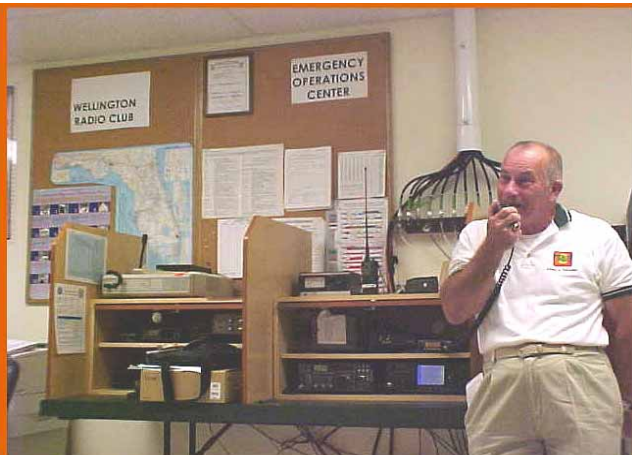
40+ attendees from the WRC, Village staff and its public service agencies helped make the EOC and this event a success. Limited space doesn't provide the opportunity to recognize each attendee or those volunteers who couldn't attend, but sincere thanks are given to everyone. The Village provided refreshments and sumptuous finger foods enjoyed by all.



Lt. Greg Richter and Battalion Chief Art Miller chat while early arriving guests cooled off with liquid refreshments. After opening remarks by Ken Roundtree, Emergency Management Director and WRC President Larry KS4NB, everyone proceeded to the communications area.



Its easy to see that from these fotos that everyone was focussed on the crystal clear connections via IRLP or Echo/IRLP. John Fleming, the State EOC's Communications Director at KA4EOC, first greeted all assembled and gave a great explanation of the role of EOC emergency communicators.



The Mayor responded with greetings to the State EOC. From l-r, Councilman Margolis, the Mayor and Asst. Div. Dir. Jeff WA4AW all exchange greetings and QSO with our brethren in New Zealand. The writings of John ZL2TDK, pg. 5, best describe the impressions made by these "ambassadors."



All 17 WRC volunteers who helped prepare the new EOC received a Certificate of Appreciation and a commemorative pen. Above, the Mayor and Dir. of Emergency Mgt. make the presentation to Cletus KG4KYD. Larry KS4NB is captured presenting Ken Roundtree with an ICOM 2800 for EOC use and sharing a laugh with the Mayor upon wearing the Viking hat Larry brought him from Sweden. It was guaranteed to end to Council stalemates!



## Generating Goodwill the Old Fashion Way...

The dedication of the EOC was a wonderful opportunity to show the emergency communications and technical aspects of our great hobby; however, it was also a great way to dramatically demonstrate another reason ham radio exists in the US and around the world... to

## Person to Person

create goodwill.

The email and newsletter article below illustrate how well that was accomplished and how the mutual needs of hams here and in New Zealand were met.

### Subject: Congratulations To All Members of K4WRC

Date: 6/3/2003 6:53:37 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: [zl2tdk@paradise.net.nz](mailto:zl2tdk@paradise.net.nz)

To: [LARRY33414@aol.com](mailto:LARRY33414@aol.com)

Sent from the Internet ([Details](#))

Hi Larry,

Was able to juggle my lunch hour and was sitting in the car listening to the on air QSO between Mayor's Tom and Wayne today. BRILLIANT!! Neil ZL2TNG has

confirmed that our Mayor went away buzzing at the seams. Has given our club and the hobby as a whole a real kick.

We look forward to further QSL's and we are convinced that this meeting will progress relationships both between our two respective clubs and city's. Amateur Radio again making friends all round the world.

73's de John and Karin

### How it started and how well it went "down-under"... By John ZL2TDK from "QST 63"

#### Who's Who in this article...

Pres. NZART: Peter ZL2SJ  
(the ARRL of NZ)

Club President: Neil ZL2TNG

QST 63 Editor: John ZL2TDK

Emerg. Mgt. Officer: David ZL2ULK

Mayor: The Honorable Wayne Guppy



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P.O. Box 40 525  
UPPER HUTT 6415

[www.qsl.net/zl2vh/](http://www.qsl.net/zl2vh/)

NEWSLETTER of The New Zealand Association  
of Radio Transmitters UPPER HUTT Branch 63 Inc.



By chance I was mobile a couple of Saturdays ago when our link opened and I made contact with Larry KS4NB in Wellington Florida. Larry and I have been having QSO'S for some time and I send him copies of the newsletter to have at the club.

Larry informed me that the club was dedicating the new emergency comms rooms on the following Monday night their time. They would have the Mayor of their city and other dignitaries in attendance. Was there any possibility of having our mayor present for a link-up on IRLP?

A quick call to Neil (ZL2TNG, Club President) and low and behold the whole thing took shape. Timing meant that the sked would take place at approx 12 noon (New Zealand Time, NZT) on Tuesday.

Neil ZL2TNG adds the following:

- 1) Saturday got e-mail.
- 2) Sunday rang Mayor;
- 3) Monday emails back and forth. Larry and Neil time set for 1215hrs NZT.
- 4) 1100 NZT Larry asked if we could bring time forward 30 minutes... panic. Contacted Etchells, Mayor and others.... phew OK.
- 5) 1145hrs, Mayor Wayne, CD Etchells. WRC Manager Emergency Management Rian van Schalkwyk, Peter Norden Pres NZART, Gav Smith NZART AREC Liason, Leader newspaper reporter uncle Tom Coby and all arrive.
- 6) Contact happens about 1210hrs.

At the allotted time we had Peter Nordon ZL2SJ President NZART as controller. The Mayor of Upper Hutt City Wayne Guppy, Gavin ZL2ACT AREC deputy for branch 63, David Etchells ZL2ULK in his capacity as Emergency Management Officer and Rural Fire Officer Upper Hutt along

with several others at the clubrooms and Debby ZL2TDM NZART Business Manager at NZART HQ also with several others in attendance.

Larry opened the sked and welcomed us to the Wellington Radio Club situated in Florida. Wellington is a village of some 45,000 inhabitants located 60kms N/E of Miami. Larry then brought Mayor Tom to the mike and a warm welcome to the airwaves was made to Mayor Wayne. Wayne really stirred it up when mentioning that he had attended University in a neighbouring state (Nebraska) and was a fan of the Corn Huskers a state football team. The airwaves certainly came alive with some good banter between the two of them.

Time constraints relative to other displays and formalities meant that we could not continue for as long as we would have liked but we certainly made big inroads. Invitations to visit were expressed from all sides and e-mail addresses were exchanged. David mentioned that he would be attending a World Wide meeting of Emergency Managers in Toronto at the end of the Month and he hoped he would be able to meet his counterpart at the event. It was proposed that we may be asked to assist to set up another sked involving a meeting of both full councils to be had on air and in our case the possibility of having the Mayor of Wellington Kerry Prendagast present.

Both Mayors were astounded at the ability to be able to communicate in this fashion and the clarity of the conversation. Wayne left the clubrooms full of praise for the efforts that we make to the community.

Wellington radio club has its own websight like us and can be viewed at [www.qsl.net/k4wrc](http://www.qsl.net/k4wrc). I recomend you take a look at this sight and see what they have been able to achieve.