

High Lights

*A newsletter for
our customers*

Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department • SUMMER 2007 Vol. 23, No. 2

WMGLD Manager William J. Wallace Retires

Manager William J. Wallace has retired, ending a 43-year career with the WMGLD. He has served as Manager since May 1976, and is only the 10th Manager in the 113-year history of the department.

"I have been incredibly lucky to work with very professional and dedicated employees and Commissioners during my tenure," the Manager said in his announcement earlier this spring. "I feel that I have taken the steps that will prepare the department for the future. It is now time to release the reigns of the WMGLD and pass them to



Manager William Wallace (center) was honored by the Wakefield Chamber of Commerce for his numerous contributions to the community, most notably as Manager of the WMGLD since 1976. The award was presented to the Manager at the Chamber's recent annual meeting in recognition of his retirement. Joining him are members of the WMGLD Board of Light Commissioners, Managers, Superintendents and members of the WMGLD administrative office.

someone else who can continue the great tradition of this department."

He began his career with the WMGLD in May 1964 following his selection as the recipient of the department's Cadet Engineer Scholarship. As a student in the cooperative education program at Northeastern, he worked in several areas of the WMGLD. Following his graduation from Northeastern with his degree in electrical engineering in 1968, he was named Assistant Engineer in June, and Engineer in October 1972. He became Assistant to the Manager in January 1973, and Assistant Manager in June

Wallace retires continued to back

Bellorado retires



Larry Bellorado, center, retired as Business Manager of the WMGLD on June 1st after 20 years of service. Larry was honored at a celebration hosted by his co-workers. Among those who attended were (from left to right) WMGLD Commissioner Gil McCarthy, Manager William Wallace, Electric Superintendent Dan Flynn, and Wakefield Municipal Gas & Electric Employees' Association President Fred Swenson.

Call 811 for Safe Digging

Now it's easy to call Dig Safe before you dig thanks to a new, federally mandated national "Call Before You Dig" number — 811 — recently put into service.

Calls to 811 are routed to Dig Safe which refers your call to affected utility companies, including the WMGLD.

Be sure to call 811 three business days in advance of your scheduled dig to allow time for the request to be processed. Utilities have 72 hours (three business days) to mark the area with paint or flags after Dig Safe notifies them. If a homeowner plans to do the work on Saturday, the call to 811 or Dig Safe must be made by Monday to give ample time for the utilities to respond.

For more information about safe digging, visit the WMGLD website at www.wmgld.com, or www.call811.com.

WALLACE RETIRES *continued from front page* 1973.

When he was named Manager in May 1976, Wallace succeeded longtime Manager Michael Collins who served in the position for 25 years.

"Bill Wallace has been a tremendous asset to the WMGLD, as well as to the Board of Light Commissioners," former WMGLD Chairman Jack Warchol said. "The wide-felt respect that Bill has earned as an honest and knowledgeable public servant, and his excellent leadership and fierce commitment to the ratepayers, have enabled the WMGLD to keep pace with the rising demand for electricity and gas over the years, while providing the high quality service our customers expect and deserve."

Manager Wallace has played an important role in municipal public power utilities throughout Massachusetts and New England during the past 43 years. He is a past president of the Northeast Public Power Association (NEPPA), and served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC).

In addition to his professional affiliations, he is active in the community as President and Treasurer of Wakefield Travel Basketball, and he has coached hundreds of local children who have played baseball at the Wakefield Little League's American League Angels during the past 23 years. He is a former member of the Rotary Club of Wakefield and the Board of Directors of the Wakefield YMCA.

A lifelong resident of Wakefield, Manager Wallace and his wife Judy, a teacher and assistant principal at the Walton School, are the parents of four grown children: Wendy; Bill, Jr.; Amy and Shawn; and the grandparents of five: Scott, Madison, Allison, Ryan and Benjamin.

A party to honor Bill Wallace has been scheduled for September at the Sheraton Colonial.

Annual Safety Program

The WMGLD recently presented its annual electrical safety program to Galvin Middle School fifth grade students. During the presentation, the students had an opportunity to look at the safety equipment used by WMGLD lineworkers. The program is presented before the start of summer vacation to



The gloves used by Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department (WMGLD) lineworkers are among the most important pieces of equipment they can have. During a recent safety demonstration at the Galvin Middle School, several fifth graders had an opportunity to try on the gloves and other safety-related equipment.

remind children about the dangers, and the benefits, of electricity.

The safety program was presented by 1st class lineworker Kevin Sheeran, and lineworker Ralph Brown .



Frank White Named WMGLD Business Manager

Francis White of Wakefield has been named Manager of the WMGLD Business Office. He succeeds Larry Bellorado who retired in June.

A graduate of Bentley College where he earned his degree in accounting, Frank brings a strong business management background to the position. Before joining the WMGLD, he was the Business Manager at ACOM Partners, an IT consulting firm. He was previously associated with CYRK as a Divisional Human Resource Manager.

Summer Energy Conservation Tips

Do your part to reduce peak demand this summer, and save money on your electric bill at the same time.

- **Raise the temperature in your room to 72° or above.** It reduces the amount of energy required to operate your central air conditioning system.
- **Turn off unnecessary lights.** Turning off two 75-watt lights for two hours each night will save significant amounts of energy and reduce the average utility bill by 2%.
- **Get rid of your second refrigerator.** The money you save by stocking up and storing food in that second refrigerator is probably going right to your utility bill. Unplugging and recycling that second fridge will reduce your energy consumption by 9%.
- **Clean the coils on your refrigerator.** This can lower your energy use by 1.7%.
- **Do dishes and wash and dry clothes after 8pm.** Using your larger appliances at night will help take the strain off the system during the day.
- **Open the door of your dishwasher to air dry the dishes.** This will reduce your energy consumption by 1%.
- **Charge all your batteries at night.** Take even more strain off the grid during the day by charging the batteries for laptops, cell phones, toys, boat motors, electric toothbrushes, razors, electric mowers, cordless tools and other battery operated items at night.
- **Put your computer to work saving energy.** Turn on your computer's energy saving mode to save energy by putting the computer and monitor 'to sleep' when not in use.

Before you dig . . . Call Dig Safe® . . . 1-888-DIG-SAFE® or 811



Visit our Web Site

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE WMGLD,
VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.wmgl.com**

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