



# Department of Information and Communication Services

January 2004

BITS & BYTES

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## Bits & Bytes 1st Anniversary!!

It hardly seems possible that Bits and Bytes is now one year old. Editor Charlotte Kelly [BC-ISN@cgaux.org](mailto:BC-ISN@cgaux.org) has done a great job in organizing the wide range of content we try to provide you each month. I know I have especially enjoyed doing the "fun stuff" that wraps up each edition like Factoids, Cyber Spot, and Did You Know? It's all part of our continuing effort to improve communications between National and our nearly 2,000 IS and CS officers.

We have made terrific progress in 2003 with the CS Program, greatly expanding our programs, and capacity. We are reaching more of our members and the boating public than ever before by using technology better, smarter and faster! Your efforts continue to help our members realize just how important technology is in meeting the ever growing challenges we face as an organization.

Congratulations to all of our new IS and CS officers for 2004! We want to also Welcome Aboard two new National Staffers; Chris Ware who will be serving as BC-IFF and Michael Merriman BC-ISF. Check out the 2004 I-CS Department Organization Chart to see how we have streamlined our Department to better serve you:

<http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/2004OrgChart.pdf>

Thanks for making 2003 a great success and we look forward to an even better 2004!

Jeff Mahl

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## AUXDATA - WHAT'S COMING?

This article is a plea for all those members with computers to come to the aid of their fellow members who do not own computers or who do not know how to use them. Also, for the Flotilla Staff Officers-Information Services to work with all of your members to get them trained. In December, nearing the end of the second year of AUXDATA, I am still receiving forms that were used in AUXMIS.

This is an alert for all members with computers to watch during January for all of the new and newly revised forms on the National Web Page: <http://216.167.73.185/~forms/forms.html>

You will see the addition of eight new forms, two each for MEP, MS, PA, and PE. One of the two is for multiple missions by one individual who does many missions in the same program each month. The other is basically the same as the current 7030; however, it has boxes to be checked for the mission being done for the respective program. Please help get the new forms, as they become available, to ALL of your members. Explain to them how to fill them out if they have not been doing them.

*One important change made in October* was the addition of listing the OPCON. OPCON is the acronym for the CG Unit that you are supporting. It is a number comprised of the CG District

followed by a five digit code. All operational missions and any Unit Missions that are in support of the CG must show the OPCON. The January version of the 7030 will have an OPCON box following the LOCATION and will have all of the OPCON codes available in pull down menus for those completing the forms electronically.

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### **DSO-CSs touch down in St. Louis!**

Our 16 District DSO-CSs will be meeting in St. Louis 23-25 JAN for the first ever DSO-CS NTRAIN Training Session. This will be a great opportunity for the group to not only discuss new ideas and learn the latest developments, but also to meet each other and members of the National I-CS Staff.

Several new products will be rolled out, including the all new AUX-04 ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION AND WEB BASED TECHNOLOGIES BASIC COURSE [http://www.cgaux.info/g\\_ocx/training/c-training.html](http://www.cgaux.info/g_ocx/training/c-training.html) This revised course will be offered both as a "resident" C School as well as an online interactive course. Todd Thuma DSO-CS D7 and Bob Fritz DVC-IR have been working on this brand new training resource. Hob Bonnett BC-ICT has also been working on the all new online NATIONAL CS MANUAL which will be a great assist to all CS Officers and Auxiliary Webmasters. You will be hearing a lot more about these new resources from your DSO-CS upon their return from NTRAIN to your Districts.

Stay tuned for further updates on these exciting new developments!

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### **New AUXINFO Debuts This Month**

If you need year end reports from AUXINFO and have all of your Bookmarks set up to run them, get them run as soon as possible, but **in all cases prior to 26 January 2004**. On this date the new version of AUXINFO will debut on the web. The servers supporting the current version of COGNOS, AUXINFO's host, are nearing the end of their life expectancy. New servers, that require the newer version of COGNOS, are now onboard as replacements. Thus a "New AUXINFO" will result.

The data going into AUXINFO and the end results for reports will be no different. However, the screens have changed, the method of drilling down has changed, and many of the icons have changed. These changes make it easier to get around in the cubes. The down side is that none of your current bookmarks will work. You will have to set new bookmarks and save as favorites.

Two documents that give a good overview of how the new system will work are the Terminology for AUXINFO:

[Http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/TERMINOLOGY\\_FOR\\_NEW\\_AUXINFO.pdf](http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/TERMINOLOGY_FOR_NEW_AUXINFO.pdf) and  
A Short User Guide: <http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/NewAUXINFOUserGuide.pdf>

If you have any questions, contact one of the following:

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**Factoid**

There are 13,229 office positions currently held in the Auxiliary! There are a number of positions with the wrong office holder as they have \*NOT\* been updated for 2004?? Getting it right in AUXDATA is easy, but you have to submit your Form 7007 Annual Unit Officer Report to make it happen! <http://216.167.73.185/~forms/archive/a7007f.pdf>

**Cyber Spot of the Month**

Buying new hardware or software can always be a challenge. Which is best and what do they do? A couple of good places for product reviews giving second (or third :-)) opinions are [www.eopinions.com](http://www.eopinions.com) and [www.cnet.com](http://www.cnet.com) It will help make your technology shopping more informed...

**Did you know?**

Firewalls are more important than ever. If you have a broadband connection (DSL or Cable) you MUST use a firewall! If you are using a router, you may already have this protection (check your owners manual to be sure). If you only have a modem, you will need to install a firewall. There are several good Firewalls made by Norton or McAfee. ZoneLabs also offers a FREE version of their popular ZoneAlarm for home use:

<http://www.zonelabs.com/store/content/company/products/zna/m/freeDownload.jsp>

Check it out, you'll be glad you did!

**Reminder:**

This mail system is for use only for the distribution of Bits & Bytes and other I-CS Department information. It is not to be used for any other purpose. Thanks for your cooperation.

**Viewing problems?**

Check the Bits & Bytes Archive for a complete list of \*all\* issues at:

<http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/BandB.htm>

**Bits & Bytes**

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