



Department of Information and Communication Services

February 2005

BITS & BYTES

Issue: 2005-02

Welcome to our newest Staffer – We would like to welcome Todd Thuma who will be our new Banch Chief-Technology Research & Development (BC-IRT). Todd has been the lead Instructor for Web development and design in our AUX-04 “C” School, and will be a great addition to the Department National Staff.

Jeff Mahl
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Website Seal Contest -- As a start of new and exciting things the “I-CS” Department will be doing this year with Auxiliary Websites we are having a contest to design a seal of approval to be used on all authorized Auxiliary websites. The CS Guide at: <http://csguide.auxservices.org/> <note the new address> has all the criteria on what an official Auxiliary Website should have.

The seal should be in jpg or gif format and not larger than 200 x 80 pixels so that it doesn't dominate the site. The contest is open to all members of the Auxiliary.

The contest winner will be recognized in the May issue of Bits & Bytes.

Send your entries to Jerry Turley at BC-IWA@cgaux.org. Entries will be posted online for the judges to view them all at the same time. Deadline for the contest is May 1, 2005 and judging will be complete by May 15.

We would like to thank Tom Miller, DSO-CS D13 for this great idea!

Jerry Turley
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An Alternate Browser May Work -- Many MAC users have complained of inability to have a functional connection in AUXDATA, AUXINFO and/or utilize e-forms. There seem to be shortcomings in the common browsers (Internet Explorer, Netscape, Safari) in some MAC machines. An alternative browser is the latest version of Mozilla Firefox which is available for free at <http://www.mozilla.org/products/firefox/>.

Please check the system requirements before downloading. Versions are also available for Windows and Linux Operating Systems. Firefox also supports the Sun Java Suite required for DHS/FEMA on-line courses. (Thanks to Garrison Bromwell VCP 130-02 for this item.)

Harry Schoepe
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POMS On-Line CG-5132 Form -- will replace the CG-5132 and CG-5132-1 PDF forms accessed via the National Forms Web site.

Per COMDTINST M16790.1F page 9.3: Patrol orders, reimbursable or non-reimbursable, are issued using the Patrol Order Management System (POMS) to order the use of an Auxiliary facility (vessel, airplane, and communication station). Use of POMS is mandatory.

All Operations (Air, Surface and Mobile Radio) Certified Auxiliary Members have Internet access to the POMS On-Line CG-5132 form and the Operations Schedule for your POMS location. You will need the latest CITRIX Client and POMS.ICA to access POMS. The POMS Installation and the POMS On-Line CG-5132/7030 User's guides are available at: <http://www.statronics.com/poms/> Click on POMS Documentation.

Assistance with the installation and use of POMS is available via your local POMS Administration Team. They can be identified via your Operations chain of administration.

The FINCEN will discontinue processing paper CG-5132 Forms as announced by the CG Finance Center at the 2004 NACON.

Note: As of 01 January 2005, the CG-5132 and CG-5132-1 PDF files will be removed from the National forms web site.

Vickie Vose
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New address update -- Progress is being made with moving resources to our new server, and as a result there are some address changes. You will want to update your bookmarks:

National eDirectory: <http://www.auxedirectory.org/>
CS Guide: <http://csguide.auxservices.org/>
C-School Portal: <http://cschool.auxservices.org/>
"How To" Library: <http://support.auxservices.org/B&B.htm>

Jeff Mahl
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REVISED ANSC 7028 -- The newly revised ANSC 7028, Change of Member Information, now includes the Operation Patriot Readiness information required for input to AUXDATA. Every member with READ ONLY access may go in and keep their personal information up-to-date. If you do not have READ ONLY access, complete the form and send it to your FSO-IS for processing.

FOR ALL MEMBERS DOING DATA INPUT OF THE ANSC 7028:

"How to Enter the OPR Data into AUXDATA": When performing the data entry for Operation Patriot Readiness, check the applicable days of the week that the member is available and whether they are available for day time or night time hours on that day of the week. If a member is available all seven days of the week for day hours only, click on the Select All button on the line opposite of "Day" and all seven days of the week will automatically be checked as well as a dot in all of the day hours.

If a member is available all seven days of the week for night hours only, click on the Select All button on the line opposite of "Night" and all seven days of the week will automatically be checked as well as a dot in all of the night hours. If a member is available all seven days of the week for day and night hours, click on the Select All button on the line opposite of Either (which really means BOTH) and all days of the week and all hours will be filled in.

Fill in one to five Skill Codes that you possess or are willing/qualified to perform.

Please encourage all of your members to keep their personal information up-to-date as so many things now depend on their current data shown in AUXDATA.

Marilyn McBain
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A New Tool for Auxiliaries -- As we start the year there is a new tool available to aid CS Officers and other Auxiliaries who are involved with internet use. Originally called the CS Manual it is now officially titled the "Communication Services Officer's Guide." This Guide is an interactive information resource for Auxiliary internet users and can be accessed at <http://csguide.auxservices.org/> <note the new address>

An on-line publication, it was designed to provide Auxiliaries with a one stop source where they can access information about using the internet. It contains a wealth of information arranged in an easy to use intuitive format. This electronic document makes extensive use of hypertext to link its content in ways that make it easy for the reader to either scan its contents or research a topic in depth.

As a "work in progress", it is intended to be a "living document" that will change right along with the technology and the Auxiliary CS program. With your help we can make it a really super tool.

Current contents of the Guide are the result of the work of many different Auxiliaries. We started with existing material, edited it to take advantage of hyper linking and search techniques and then reviewed the results. This was done by the DSO-CSs, participants in the AUX-04 course and members of the I&CS Department. The result was lots of changes that were made and more on the "to-do-list". In addition duplicate material on AIRS will be removed to consolidate all CS instructions on the CS Guide site while dynamic support services remain on the AIRS site.

What we want to do next, is to continue to enhance the contents of the CS Guide by including additional information that will be helpful to users. The Guide's section, "What Works For Others", and the "how-to-do-it" and in-depth information in the "Resources" section, top the list of material that we feel needs to be expanded.

If each reader would take a few minutes to identify existing information that should be added to the CS Guide to make it more useful and pass it on, it could really enhance the Guide. Also if you or your unit has related material (instructions, checklists, manuals, PowerPoint presentations, etc.) please send copies and or links to the item if it is on line. In addition if you find errors or problems with the existing contents please let me know.

Thanks for the help that so many of you have provided and keep your material coming. You can e-mail me at hob@wavetop.com or BC-ICT@cgaux.org

H.W. "Hob" Bonnett
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Factoid

We will be moving existing services to the **new** National server in the coming weeks. As we do, some addresses may change. If you find a bookmark that now longer works be sure to check What's New for current information on any address changes. For instance, the Bits & Bytes "**How To**" PowerPoint library for AUXDATA and AUXINFO has a new home: <http://support.auxservices.org/B&B.htm> <note new address>

Cyber Spot of the Month

Ever wonder if you're getting what you are paying for on your Internet connection (either dial-up, DSL, Cable or even Satellite)? Bandwidth Speed Test gives you a quick and FREE way to find out how your connection stacks up: <http://www.bandwidthplace.com/speedtest/>

Did you know?

"C" Schools are often one of the greatest experiences an Auxiliary can have. These learning opportunities are taught by some of the best Instructors in the Auxiliary, at first rate facilities across the country. You are even funded under Coast Guard orders for your expenses. Don't miss your chance to attend the 2005 sessions of AUX-04 for Technology: <http://www.uscgaux.org/~aux04/> or AUX-10 for AUXDATA/AUXINFO: <http://www.uscgaux.org/~aux10/> Send in your STTR (Short Term Training Request) form ASAP for any of the upcoming 2005 courses! See the Student Support websites for complete details on these exciting programs linked above, and don't miss out!

Reminder:

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information. It is not to be used for any other purpose. Thanks for your cooperation.

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

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

Bits & Bytes

A resource of the Department of Information and Communication Services

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