

Managing Lists

Ever wonder if there was a better way to manage Internet mailing lists? Tired of tons of "spam" in your mailbox? Well, an enterprising entrepreneur on the Internet has created just such a service and best of all it is free! Called ONelist, the service is available at www.onelist.com and bills itself as a one-stop free mailing list service. Among the things you can do are the following: subscribe to additional mailing lists, create new ones, and view old archives of lists. ONelist has a very good listing of existing Internet and Usenet mailing groups. ONelist hopes to provide this service through advertisers who get a chance to spin their products.

Mailing lists are the means by which people can send messages back and forth about a specific topic. For example, there are lists devoted to rock groups, animals, politics, hobbies, online library systems, etc. In the past you had to have your own computer server to run your own list. Now with ONelist, you can start your own mailing list and index, and run them for free. Both the Web sites and the mailing list are free at ONelist. Indexing is very good and comprehensive by subject category. Major categories are Animals, Business, Entertainment, Food, Kids, People, Teens, Arts, Computers, Environment, Games, Language, Recreation, Travel, Autos, Culture, Family, Government, Military, Science, Women, Books, Education, Fashion, Health, Music, and Sports. For some reason the groups are not listed alphabetically.

Subcategories under Women for example include Alternative Medicine, Dating, Friends, Lesbian Issues, Lesbian Support Groups, Marriage, Online Groups, Relationships, Support Groups, Women's Health, Women's Literature, Women's Sports, Couples, Fashion, Gynecology, Lesbian Night Life, Love/Romance, Notable Women, Pregnancy, Singles, Women in Business, Women's Issues, Women's Politics, and Women's Writing. Animal subcategories include Amphibians, Arachnids, Cats (90 lists), Fish, Insects, Pet Loss, Rabbits, Snakes, Veterinary, Zoology, Animal Husbandry, Birds, Dogs (103 lists), Horses, Mammals, Pets, Reptiles, Turtles, and Whales. A rather large list of possible choices can be found here.

Each subgrouping contains the name of the news list, the language of most of the posts, and an advisory/restrictor line, followed by an abstract or description of the list contents. The advisory/restrictor line contains information

such as: for people over 21; moderated; restricted; for people over 17; for people over 10; Safe for Kids; announce. For example, the Women/Women's Issues subgroup list contains the following groups: Anatara (female acoustic rock group); Anything can be ("women who have found their identity, or those who need to"); Barter-it; Bigals; Christianfeminists; Eropictures; Feministvoices; Globalsisterhood, Goddessjourney; Ladies ("women support-open on all issues"); Lesbianlink; Reprorights; Riotgrrrls ("a discussion list for riot grrrl and related topics"); Weddingstuff; Whats-new; Wildspaces ("a place for spirited women to gather. A place to learn, grow and howl at the moon"); Winmagazine ("A magazine about women ... from all over the world for dialogue and greater mutual understanding, and tapping new sources of talent in writing"); Women ("This list is for women to talk, vent, cry, and ... talk about anything").

ONelist allows three types of accounts: moderated lists, restricted lists, and announcement lists. In a moderated list you, the list owner, approve all messages before they are posted to the list. In a restricted list, you approve all subscription requests and then, if approved, the approved person can post freely to the list. An announcement list allows only you to post to the list. Announcement lists work similarly to a mail distribution lists in an e-mail program such as Microsoft's Exchange. ONelist also supports a digest mode of reading where all the postings are sent to you in one e-mail. Naturally ONelist has its own announcement mail group to which members can subscribe. This list contains information about the ONelist system and new mailing lists being created. ONelist has a User Center that allows for convenient subscribing and unsubscribing to lists. You can post to a specific list by sending an e-mail to: lastname@onelist.com. For example, in your e-mail header on the "to" line type chats@onelist.com to post a message to the "La liste est un lieu d'échange destine aux amoureux des chats de la francophonie internationale. Bienvenue a tous! ^=^="

ONelist provides an important service to the Internet community. It is a neat place to follow your favorite interests or start a new discussion group. Check it out!