

¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«¶»«¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«¶»§«¶»¥«

**Merles Mission Ezine- <http://www.MerlesWorld.com/>
"The Best of the Net Straight to your Door"**

August 30th, 2005 Issue #159 ISSN: #1527-3105

Edited & Published by: Merle- <mailto:Merle@MerlesWorld.com>
Companion Blog <http://Merlesworld.Blogspot.com/>

✕»¥«✕»§«✕»¥«✕»§«✕»¥«✕»«✕»¥«✕»§«✕»¥«✕»§«✕»¥«✕»§«✕»¥«

"A bird in the hand is safer than one overhead."

Courtesy of <http://Siglets.com>

=====

DONATIONS Wanted: If you enjoy this ezine, please make a donation by PayPal <http://tinyurl.com/3gzpa>
Your small gifts will help support the website and this newsletter (and bones for "the boys"). Dakota says "woof" which means "Thanks" in dog language.

TOP SPONSOR

PayPal
TOP SITE OF THE DAY

The "Pass It On" Campaign
Raise awareness, be a Homeland Hero.
F R E E Song Download!

<http://tinyurl.com/a4tvz>

EDITOR'S NOTE

Rain...Rain...go away come again another day...It's raining
it's pouring the old man is snoring.....what can I say
it's wet, wet, wet....good for the ducks, not people.
Looks like we're picking up rain from Louisiana.

The kids have gone back to school, the days are growing shorter and soon the leaves will begin their yearly change in color. Fall is a beautiful time of year and probably one of my favorites. Everything looks so beautiful. Of course, what comes after that is not my favorite, snow. Yuck, hate the white stuff.

Well, I went out tonight and picked up a new bird. Pedro was looking pretty mopey and I felt so bad for him. I thought a friend might do him some good. Actually, I was at my niece's wedding last weekend and a woman there said she knew someone who had a bird that she wanted to give away to a good home. I drove out to her home in Valley City tonight and brought her home. They think it's a "she". I guess the only way to tell the sex of a bird is to have it surgically done or DNA. I've never known what Pedro is, but I assumed due to his demeanor he was a boy. No offense to all you males out there, but he just struck me as a guy with an attitude.

My new bird is a "Double Yellow Headed Amazon". Her name is "Tootsie". She's a beautiful green color with a yellow head. I've had birds my whole life but never one like this. She's about 20 years old. The life span is 40 to 80 years so I'll have to find someone to leave her to in my will. Interested? The woman would take no money for her, gave me the cage and all. If you know anything about this type of bird or have ever owned one, please write and fill me in on what I need to know. She does say a few words and from the research I've done they're suppose to be pretty intelligent with a diverse vocabulary. I just hope Pedro likes her. He's about 22 years old so they're close in age. I'll let you know how it goes. I'm just praying for no fighting. All I need is a bird with a beak or foot ripped off.

If you'd like to leave your comments or have a question or problem post em on the board. Step right up, don't be shy.

<http://www.merlesworld.com/webbbs/>

Don't forget to bookmark the Blog. You'll want to pay an occasional visit for extra goodies I find.

<http://merlesworld.blogspot.com/>

****Win a F-R-E-E Ad Here****

~~~~~

If you'd like a chance to win a f-r-e-e ad in this ezine please take 2 minutes and fill out our short survey at <http://www.AdvancedSurvey.com/> when there put 8243 into the survey number box at the right hand side to take the survey.

Today's winner for a f-r-e-e ad is  
Jeff Payne of <http://www.finitesite.com/lordfroe/>

Every time I write a new article I send it out to a list I maintain of publishers and website owners for possible inclusion in their newsletters or on their sites. If you'd like to be included in that list, send a message to  
<mailto:addmetothelist@merlesworld.com?subject=ADDME>

If you have any comments you can send them to  
<mailto:merle@merlesworld.com> If you'd like to run your ad in this publication see this page  
<http://www.merlesworld.com/advertising.htm>

Merle  
<http://www.MerlesWorld.com>  
<http://www.EzineAdAuction.com>  
<http://www.MCPromotions.com>

-----  
**IN THIS ISSUE**  
-----

- => **1. News From the Net**
- => **2. Feature Article-"Adding Interactivity to Your Website"**
- => **3. Webmaster Resources**
- => **4. Promotional Resources**
- => **5. Other Ezines of Interest**
- => **6. Just for Fun or Useful**
- => **7. E Books and Things of Interest to Publishers**
- => **8. Freeware and Shareware to Download**
- => **9. Subscribe/Unsubscribe information**

---

## 1. NEWS FROM THE NET

---

Red Cross Seeks Donations

<http://tinyurl.com/aqazq>

-----

Get That Customer Back

<http://tinyurl.com/8c2lf>

-----

Join the Local Search Authorities

<http://tinyurl.com/e3oc5>

-----

RSS Search Engines

<http://tinyurl.com/b3ujr>

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>

**Please Support our Sponsors**

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----sponsor adv

### **Thinking about building your own website?**

Build it Faster with "Quick & Dirty Web Site Design." You'll get a complete working version of a sample website including all of the HTML source code. You'll also get all the Javascript and CSS source code along with the all the Photoshop and .gif files. NO Prior Programming Knowledge Needed.

<http://www.internetguidancesolutions.com/ebook/ebooksalespage.html>

---

## 2. FEATURE ARTICLE

---

### **Building Your Home Business Website, Part 4 Adding Interactivity to Your Site**

by Donna Schwartz Mills

<http://www.Family-Content.com>

If you've followed the advice in this series, you are now the proud owner of a website and listed in the search engines. Are you finished? Probably not - in Part 4 we examine some options you may wish to add that will make your website more functional - more fun - and hopefully, more profitable.

The power of the World Wide Web derives from the fact that it is an interactive medium. Instead of passively reading from page to page (as you would with a newspaper or magazine), you can jump from topic to topic at will, network with others, participate in polls, play games, and purchase products INSTANTLY.

These are desirable functions - it is proven that the more you can engage your site visitors through interactivity, the more time they will stay on your site.

Your options for adding these fun elements are limited only by your imagination...

...and your technical expertise.

Fortunately, there is a community of technical geniuses who delight in creating cool tools and making them available for you to place on your website - and many of them are FREE. These people are the heroes of the Internet and should receive publicity and adulation. Thanks to their hard work, you can easily give your site a more professional feel.

The easiest way to add interactivity to your site is to use javascript. Javascript (not to be confused with Java, which is something else entirely!) is not compatible with every browser, but it won't crash anyone's system - browsers that don't recognize it will simply ignore it... and at this time, only about 10% of the browsers in use are not javascript compatible - so your cool effects and tools will be visible with 90% of your visitors.

I have used javascript on my site to add the following kinds of elements:

- Current date and time
- Mouse over effects
- Pulldown menus
- Online polls
- Syndicated content
- Popup window

The best thing about javascript is that putting it on your web pages is so EASY -- a simple matter of cutting and pasting the code into the right places.

**Start your search for cool javascript tools here:**

<http://www.bignosebird.com>

BigNoseBird.com is the creation of Bruce Gronich, one of the aforementioned heroes of the web. Bruce has put together some of the simplest webmaster tutorials I have ever read. He never talks down to those of us who are technically challenged and the generosity he displays on his website is amazing. Bruce has got lots of FREE javascripts for you to try, plus links to other sites that offer even more.

While at Big Nose Bird, you'll want to also look at the tutorial on creating Forms. Sooner or later, you are going to want to create a method for your visitors to communicate with you, and there's nothing more inviting for them than an online form. Unfortunately, these are not simple to create - mainly because they need to be powered by something called CGI.

CGI - which stands for Common Gateway Interface - is a powerful force for website interactivity. Beginners usually rely on an outside programmer to handle the details of a subscribe form, rotating content, message boards and the like. As with anything else, it's cheaper if you learn to install CGI scripts yourself, especially if you don't need custom programming and can use the cornucopia of free and low-cost scripts available to you all over the Web.

In addition to the freebies and links you'll find over at BigNoseBird, you should check out the wonderful scripts at Willmaster.com. William Bontrager is another programming genius who has developed some several free and low-cost scripts that can make visiting your website a pleasurable experience for your visitors. The first CGI script I ever installed successfully was written by Will, who makes them easy for non-techies like me, and I've gone on to buy several of his commercial scripts - they have never failed to work and on the few occasions when I've had problems, a quick email to Will has resulted in solutions -- FAST.

<http://hop.clickbank.net/?donna1001.willmaster>

Need more information? Check out these free eBooks  
in our ParentPreneur Club Library:

Best of Merle's Mission  
Installing CGI  
One Hundred Free Programs, Scripts and Services

In part 5, learn how to make your site earn its  
keep: How to accept online payments.

-----

Donna Schwartz Mills runs an article syndication  
website at <http://Family-Content.com> - Stop in  
and pick up articles or post your own.

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>---<<+>>---

**Please Support our Sponsors**

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>---<<+>>---**sponsor adv/**

Sign up with Yahoo Sponsored Search and get a 25.00 credit  
<http://www.kqzyfj.com/click-1502240-10358004>

---

### **3. WEBMASTER RESOURCES**

---

#### **IDYA Ad System**

"The Idya AdSystem is a text ad management solution  
for websites. Text ads have become the most effective  
method of revenue generation. They are simple,  
unobtrusive and blend easily into the design and  
layout of the site. AdSystem enables you to implement  
a text ad system for your website in a few minutes."

<http://adsystem.idya.net/>

Another one you might want to look at for websites  
using PHP. It has been deployed with content management  
systems like PostNuke and should work with any PHP  
based website.

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/textads/>

## **PodScope**

A new search engine devoted to PodCasting. They claim to have indexed more than 20,000 Podcasts from 3,500 sites. They also cover personal and video blogs.

<http://PodScope.com>

-----

## **Old News Baby**

"Sick of being sent "cool" links days after you first saw them? Then, oldnewsbaby.com is for you ... The site allows you to record links you think might be the next big thing, and then, when you get mailed about them weeks later, you can direct the slow and the stupid there and show off how cool you are."

<http://www.oldnewsbaby.com/>

-----

## **Image Crop**

Don't have any photo editing software? Now you don't need it you can upload any photo instantly and crop away, even add a colored border then download it instantly. Very cool.

<http://www.imagecrop.com>

=====

## **Tip**

=====

## **Get Your Email Read**

Everyone's inbox is overcrowded and it's hard to get your message to stand out. One trick is to use the words "this" and "here" in the subject line. This helps to grab attention quickly.



---

#### 4. PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES

---

##### **Yahoo Video Search**

Not be be outdone by Google Yahoo has also launched their very own video search service. Now you can hunt down videos from the far corners of the web. Even submit your own.

<http://video.search.yahoo.com/>

-----

##### **Lulu**

If you write ebooks and are looking for another outlet to sell them Lulu might be for you. If you don't have something to sell you can browse the site and purchase work by other publishers, some if it even free. Very nice!

<http://www.lulu.com/>

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>---

**Please Support our Sponsors**

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>---sponsor adv/

##### **Hosting Special for readers of Merles Mission!**

One year hosting for one domain with:  
Not \$300, but \$75 for you subscribers!  
Use this email for information:

<mailto:joebecky@netins.net?subject=MMHOSTING>

---

## **5. OTHER EZINES OF INTEREST**

---

If you'd like to swap ads with this ezine please send your requests to <mailto:adswap@merlesworld.com> Please include your ezine name and the number of subscribers.

---

### **"Attention Small Business Owners!"**

If you're trying to market your Website and are not sure where to turn, subscribe to MC Promotions Press Newsletter and get the information you need to be a success online. Sure-Fire Promotion/Marketing Tips. Sites that will help you. Little known advertising tricks.....and much more. Start increasing traffic to your site Now! <http://MCPromotionsPress.com>

---

## **6. JUST FOR FUN OR USEFUL**

---

### **Bore Me**

If you've got some time on your hands this site has some really cute videos and pictures. I watched a dog do math, saw some s-e-x-y pictures of J Lo and even watched a dog ride a bike. Now that is cool.

<http://www.boreme.com/>

---

### **Watch Me Change**

Build a body, pick the hair, eyes, weight, even eyebrows. Then you pick clothes and watch em change. It's actually an ad for the Gap but it's one of the coolest uses of Flash I've seen in awhile and the dancing part is pretty cool too. If you're a Voyeur you'll enjoy this one.

<http://www.watchmechange.com/>

## MiniClip Games

Want to play? Wait till the boss has their back turned and have a go at some of these. If you like you can download them and add them to your own website. Did I mention it's F-r-e-e.

<http://www.miniclip.com/Downloads.htm>

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----

**Please Support our Sponsors**

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----sponsor adv/

**"The Online Auction Expert's BIBLE to Selling on eBay"**

<http://hop.clickbank.net/?dakota6969/timmina>

---

## 7. E BOOKS AND THINGS OF INTEREST TO EZINE PUBLISHERS

---

### Ebooks on Real Estate

If you fancy yourself a real estate moughal you might want to download these free ebooks. They're loaded with great information and are all in PDF format. "Magic Bullets in Real Estate" E-Book The complete 290 page real estate investment guide.

Magic Bullets Kill Sacred Cows

A step by step guide to selling one's home by owner.

A Real Estate Link Directory

A quick reference guide to valuable real estate related links on the web.

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2005/2/prweb206557.htm>

## 8. FREeware- SHAREware- TRIALS TO DOWNLOAD

### Denim for WebDesign

Software that helps web site designers in the early stages of design. "DENIM supports sketching input, allows design at different refinement levels, and unifies the levels through zooming." F-r-e-e to download

<http://dub.washington.edu/denim/>

### HighDesertSoftware.com

Want some f-r-e-e handy software programs? Browse thru this collection of AutoRun, CodeKeeper, RGB Color Picker and more.

<http://www.highdesertsoftware.com/#freeware>

### Google Web Accelerator

Want your web pages to load even more quickly on DSL and cable connections? Download this f-r-e-e tool from Google which claims to speed up even an already fast connection.

<http://webaccelerator.google.com/>

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>---

**Please Support our Sponsors**

---<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----<<+>>-----sponsor adv/

### Article Marketer

Do you write articles? If you need help with your submissions to get your articles out into the mainstream you may want to utilize Article Marketer's submission service. Get 3 months unlimited submissions for only 39.95. This is one of the best bargains online when it comes to article submission services. Check it out now.

[http://www.articlemarketer.com?a\\_aid=b910eb44](http://www.articlemarketer.com?a_aid=b910eb44)

---

## 9. IMPORTANT STUFF

---

Well, that wraps it up, once again thanks for joining me. If you have any comments please send them to [comments@merlesworld.com](mailto:comments@merlesworld.com) or visit <http://www.merlesworld.com>  
Read Back Issues at: <http://MerlesMission.com>

For advertising rates for this ezine visit this page to place an order <http://www.merlesworld.com/advertising.htm>  
Current subscriber base is around 2,900

Grab our RSS Feed to be notified of new issues as they are posted online  
[http://www.merlesworld.com/archives/MM\\_Ezine.xml](http://www.merlesworld.com/archives/MM_Ezine.xml)

If you would like to be taken off our mailing list use the link below -AOL users will need to cut and paste it into their browsers. If you have any problems use this <mailto:TakeOff@merlesworld.com?subject=TAKEOFF>

If you are not a subscriber and would like to be send <mailto:subscribe@merlesworld.com>

\*\*\*\*\*

For great web hosting or if you're in need of a programmer contact <mailto:DavidBlack@sitedesignandhosting>  
He's wonderful and an expert at what he does.  
Tell him "Merle" sent ya.

### **Please Send Over Your Comments**

\*\*\*\*\*

P.S. I am currently in need of testimonials for this ezine. If you're a subscriber and enjoy it, please let me know. Or, if you've ever purchased advertising in this ezine and had a good outcome I'd love to hear from you as well. If I choose your comments they will be featured on my website and/or in my advert!sing. Send to ...  
<mailto:testimonials@MerlesWorld.com?subject=testimonial>

=====

### **I Need Your Help Please**

\*\*\*\*\*

If you haven't yet filled in the subscriber survey, get your free gifts by doing it now..and be entered into a drawing for a free ad in this ezine. Winner pulled twice a month. You'll find the survey at:  
<http://www.AdvancedSurvey.com/> when there put 8243 into the survey number box at the right hand side to take the survey. While you're there I'm also doing a "subscriber satisfaction" survey at the same link above. To take that survey type 10441 in the box.

-----

To pick up the code to syndicate my articles on your site...

<http://tinyurl.com/aohr>

Buy Merle's World Merchandise

<http://www.cafeshops.com/msmerle>

Thanks for being a subscriber and I'll see you next time! If you enjoy this ezine and would like to make a small donation please go to ..<http://tinyurl.com/aohr>  
Any amount would be appreciated.

----<>----<>----<>----<>----<>----<>----

### **IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER**

=====

**Disclaimer: Merle's World does not accept any responsibility for any liabilities as resulting from any claims in this newsletter or by the advertisers in it. This newsletter is for informational purposes only. We respect your privacy and do not share our mailing list with anyone. All content provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. Comments in this ezine are strictly the opinion of the publisher. Merle does not endorse ,and is not responsible for, the above ads. Please use your own discretion when responding to ads in this ezine.**

**View our Privacy Policy...**

[http://www.merlesworld.com/privacy\\_policy.htm](http://www.merlesworld.com/privacy_policy.htm)

and our...Site Disclaimer <http://tinyurl.com/pce3>

**Copyright 2001-2005 All Rights Reserved**

**Merle  
776 Miner Road  
Cleveland, OH 44143**