

# ListStats

Chris Page

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|               | <i>TITLE :</i><br>ListStats |                |                  |
| <i>ACTION</i> | <i>NAME</i>                 | <i>DATE</i>    | <i>SIGNATURE</i> |
| WRITTEN BY    | Chris Page                  | August 7, 2022 |                  |

**REVISION HISTORY**

| NUMBER | DATE | DESCRIPTION | NAME |
|--------|------|-------------|------|
|        |      |             |      |

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## Chapter 1

# ListStats

### 1.1 Welcome

```

ListStats
Mailing list statistics compiler
© 1998 Chris Page/ The World Foundry

Introduction
Requirements
Copyright and Disclaimer
Installation
Usage
About the author
About MUI
About YAM
```

### 1.2 Introduction

```

ListStats
By
Chris Page/ The World Foundry
```

The first thing you should be aware of is that I'm a programmer, not a documents writer - something I consider an arcane art. I have no doubt that these documents are not as good as they could be, but I am welcome to offers from anyone willing to write better ones!

ListStats is a program designed to allow members of a mailing list to keep track of statistics about that list. Some of the features it provides

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are:

- o Display of the list of people posting to a mailing list, and how many posts they have sent so far during the current week, month and year.
- o Display of the list of subjects of mails to a mailing list this month, as well as how many mails have had the same subject.
- o Top Ten mailers display, and what percentage of the traffic they are responsible for, for the current week, month and year.
- o Table showing the total number of mailings per week, per year and on a day-by-day basis for the current month.
- o Export facility.
- o Arexx port and scripts for YAM2.

ListStats is also not restricted to keeping track of a single list: a virtually unlimited number of lists can be monitored via the easy to use interface.

#### Important Notes

One of the most common problems I have had reported is that ListStats is not scanning mails. The most important things you should be aware of concerning ListStats is that it will only scan new mails (ie: ones with a "N" next to them in the YAM window). The reason for this is too complex to go into detail here, but before contacting me concerning non-scanning of mails you should ensure that

- the mails in question are new, not unread or read.
- the path for the mailing list, set in the Mailing List Add window is correct.

## 1.3 Requirements

To use ListStats you will need:

- o MUI v3.n  
I've only tested this with MUI v3.8 but any MUI v3+ should operate correctly... and don't forget to REGISTER it!
  - o YAM  
The built-in scanner currently only supports the method of mail storage used by YAM. Further scanners can be added quite easily and interested developers should contact me for advice on doing this.
  - o NLists v19.9+ You must have the NLists class installed. If you are using YAM2 you will have this installed anyway, if not look
-

on aminet for the latest version.

- o 68030+ Not really required, but I refuse to pander to people who use ancient 020s and 000s.
- o wbrun This program is used by the Arexx scripts and it should be in your path.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This program uses NLists. To ensure correct operation you must ensure the stack is set to AT LEAST 10000. I use a setting of 30000 to be sure. Do not use a small stack when using NLists programs!

## 1.4 About MUI

This application uses

MUI - Magic User Interface

(c) Copyright 1992-97 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots of examples and more information about registration please look for a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

DM 30.- or US\$ 20.-

to

Stefan Stuntz  
Eduard-Spranger-Straße 7  
80935 München  
GERMANY

Support and online registration is available at

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

## 1.5 About YAM

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NOTE: This chapter is adapted from the guide file supplied with YAM. Hopefully Marcel won't mind me using it as he explains it much better than I could!

### About YAM

YAM (Yet Another Mailer) lets you send and receive electronic-mail over the Internet and maintain archives of messages in your computer.

The idea for YAM came to me in 1995, when I first tried using E-mail. The programmes available then were either powerful but complicated to configure, or else used a graphical interface but with few functions. The goal therefore was to program a cross between AdMail and AirMail, with a few ideas from Pegasus Mail. The unexpectedly enthusiastic response to Version 1.2 led to a steady development of YAM culminating in this Version 2.0, which is much more than just an upgrade for the popular Version 1.3.5.

### Features of YAM

Straightforward installation and configuration, taking only a few minutes.

Easy operation using buttons, menus or keyboard.

Context-sensitive online Help using help bubbles and AmigaGuide.

Provision for up to 16 different Users, who can each have their own folders and define their own preferences.

Up to 96 user-defined-folders, which can be compressed or have passwords set.

Hierarchical Address-book with groups and distribution lists as well as comprehensive descriptions for each entry.

Freely customisable interface, thanks to MUI.

A choice of MagicWorkbench icons or NewIcons.

Inbuilt POP3 Client, which can check up to 16 different post servers in one connection and also allows prior selection of the messages to be downloaded.

Messages can be written or answered offline and then sent to the post server using the inbuilt SMTP client.

Powerful text-editor for writing E-mails providing several type styles, glossary and spell checking.

Comprehensive search-capabilities, for example a full text search through all articles using a single query.

Automatic sorting of the post with up to 48 filters. Archiving or diversion of specified articles, automatic replies or the deletion of advertising are just a few of the possible applications of the filters.

Support for PGP encryption and signing of messages as well as read and

receive authentication.

Inbuilt support for UUencode and MIME for sending and receiving binary data and automatic recognition of over 20 datatypes.

Event-sensitive starting of macros and comprehensive Arexx support.

Localised for many languages.

## 1.6 Copyrights and Disclaimer

### 1. COPYRIGHT

#### 1.1 ListStats and documentation.

This package is Copyright 1998 Christopher Page/ The World Foundry. You may not alter this program, it's documentation or the contents of this archive in any way without my express written permission.

#### 1.2 Usage.

You may not use this package, it's documents, or any part of either, for any other purpose other than that given in this documentation without my written permission. I may not be held responsible to damage, loss or legal actions resulting from the use or misuse of the ListStats program, it's sourcecode or documentation.

### 2. DISTRIBUTION

#### 2.1 ListStats and it's documentation.

This package is Email-ware, meaning you may re-distribute this package provided that you follow these points:

- 2.1.1 The archive must be distributed in full, without any modifications. You are NOT allowed to add files to the distribution archive.
  - 2.1.2 This package may be~freely~distributed~via~BBSs,~Internet/Usenet, software libraries like FredFish/ Aminet (including Aminet CDs) and other similar channels.
  - 2.1.3 NO CHARGE may be levied for the distribution of the package beyond the reasonable cost of the distribution media.  
(I'm pretty sure that BT breaks this one.... )
  - 2.1.4 Disk magazines (magnetic media or CD) and services that charge extra for file distribution may NOT distribute the package without my written permission.
  - 2.1.5 If you use the software then  
give me some feedback  
! Even if you  
only say thanks, I'd like to hear from you.
-



### 3. SOURCECODE

The sourcecode will be available to developers who wish to extend the capabilities of ListStats on demand only. If you want to add scanners or other functions then

contact me  
- the code is free but there are  
a number of restrictions on how it can be used.

### 4. DISCLAIMER

By using this program or it's sourcecode, you accept the FULL responsibility for any damage, injury or loss which might occur though it's use or the inability to use it. I may not be held responsible for any such damage or loss.

### 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Some of the names which appear in this document are trademarks, registered trademarks or copyrighted material. This notice does not imply that they are free and all copyrights are acknowledged:

Icons                    various PD sources (I'd identify them if I could...)

MUI  
is copyright 1992-97 Stefan Stuntz

YAM  
is copyright 1998        Marcel Beck

NLists                  is copyright 1996-98 Gilles Masson

Amiga                    is trademark Amiga Inc.

This package does not contain MUI, YAM or NLists and the user should obtain these separately, either from Aminet or from their support sites.

## 1.7 Author and Greetings

Contacting the author

Email:

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For betatesting, comments and suggestions.

Deitmar Eilert, GoldED

For the only editor which does everything I need....

PureAmiga logo design and Copyright  
Chris Appleton <chris@fuchal.demon.co.uk>  
Philip Goddard <philip@amethyst.demon.co.uk>

PureAmiga

<http://www.pureamiga.co.uk/>

PureAmiga mailing list

Pure Amiga has a mailing list. To subscribe, send a mail to

[majordomo@lists.netlink.co.uk](mailto:majordomo@lists.netlink.co.uk)

with these words in the message body:

subscribe pamiga-list

You will receive a welcome letter. Keep This! It tell you how to post, and (we have heard that this may happen, but don't quite understand why) unsubscribe.

## 1.8 Installation

Installing ListStats is simple, just unpack the archive to the location you want ListStats installing - a directory will be created along with all the necessary subdirectories. You should then start a shell and enter

```
SetENV LISTSTATSUSER "yourname <youraddress>"
```

replacing yourname and youraddress with your real name and email address (don't forget to press return ;)

#### Installing the Arexx Scripts for YAM2 ONLY

From v0.18 ListStats has an arexx port and a number of associated arexx and shell scripts which allows YAM2 to take over the running of ListStats for you. In order to use the scripts you need to install them carefully.

#### BE WARNED

#### THIS SECTION SHOULD BE FOLLOWED VERY CAREFULLY

You should read this section before attempting to install the scripts. If you have any questions then email me before you try installing the scrips. Before I can go any further I need to make some assumptions:

- I assume ListStats is installed on a partition called "Work:". This means the ListStats program is located at Work:ListStats/ListStats and the arexx and shell scripts are in Work:ListStats/Arexx/ Please adjust these accordingly as you work through this section.
- You must have wbrun installed in your path or ListStats\_Start.rexx will not work.

1. Start a text editor and load Work:ListStats/Arexx/ListStats\_Start.rexx Find the line

```
'wbrun CODE:ListStats/ListStats'
```

in the file and change Code:ListStats/ListStats to Work:ListStats/ListStats (ie: wherever you have installed ListStats). Save the changes.

2. Load Work:ListStats/Arexx/ListStats\_Scan.rexx and find the line

```
'wbrun CODE:ListStats/ListStats'
```

(should be line 31). Change the Code:ListStats/ to Work:ListStats/ - ie: wherever you have installed ListStats - and save the changes.

3. Load Work:ListStats/Arexx/ScanListStats and make the alterations indicated in the file and save the changes.

4. Quit the text editor.

5. Open a shell window and type

```
protect CODE:Liststats/Arexx/ScanListStats +s
```

6. Open the config window, select "arexx" from the options list.

7. Select "Program Startup" from the scripts listview and enter

```
Work:ListStats/Arexx/ListStats_Start.rexx
```

into the scripts string box. Remember to alter the path to match your system and ensure the cycle gadget says "Arexx" and not "AmigaDOS"

---



```

|
|           Add
|
|           Edit
|
|           Delete
|
|           Scan
|           | always the list the listview
|           | cursor is over! The name of
|           | the current list is shown in
|           | the text box below the buttons.
|-----|

```

#### ListStats Menus

#### Project

```

          Scan
          Scan the mailing lists
Save Stats Saves the current statistics (also done when you quit)
          About
          Displays information about ListStats
About MUI  Displays information about MUI
          Quit
          Exit ListStats

```

#### Stats

```

          Top Ten
          Posters
          Subjects
          Export
Settings  Settings
          ListStats
          MUI           Open the MUI preferences window.

```

## 1.10 Top Ten

### Top Ten Window

This window displays the top ten posters, and the number of mails then have sent as a % of the total number of mails. The statistics are shown for the current week, month and year on the different pages.

## 1.11 Posters

Posters Window

The posters window contains two pages of gadgets. The first shows a list of all posters to the current mailing list, the second shows how many posts there have been this week & year as well as a day-by-day list of posts to the list as a proportion of the total number of posts so far in the current month.

## 1.12 Subjects

Subjects Window

The subjects window contains a list of the subjects of mails sent to the current list during the current month, sorted by frequency.

## 1.13 Mailing List

Mailing List Listview

The mailing list listview shows the list of know mailing lists. If you double-click on an entry then it becomes the current list and it's various statistics will appear in the

Top Ten  
,  
Posters  
and  
Subjects  
windows.

You can confirm a list is now the current list by looking in the "current List" box directly above the mailing list listview - the name of the current list is shown there. Note that a number of the functions (Edit, Delete, Scan) require you to have a "selected list". To select a list simply place the listview cursor over an item.

## 1.14 Add List

Add List window

Adding a mailing list is a simple process which requires you to enter three strings:

List Name: Full name of the mailing list. This can be any size (well, up to 256 characters anyway) but shorter names are more advisable. This name must be unique - no two mailing lists should have the same name.

Short Name: This name will be used by the loading and saving routines.

---

it should be, at most, 16 characters long and it should not contain spaces otherwise the file routines may not operate entirely correctly. No two mailing lists should have the same Short Name!!

Folder: This string should contain the directory where the mail for the mailing list is stored. eg: MAIL:pamiga/ Please give the full path here. A popup ASL requester is provided to make directory selection easier.

Click on 'done' to add the list, cancel will exit without adding the list. You will be informed if the data you have entered is not correct.

## 1.15 Edit List

Edit List Window

The edit window is exactly the same as the add list window except that the strings contain the details of the mailing list which was selected when 'edit' was pressed.

## 1.16 Delete List

Before clicking on Delete you must select a list to delete. When you click on delete, you will be requested to confirm the deletion. Remember that it is not generally possible to recover deleted list statistics files so use this option carefully!

## 1.17 Scan

The operation of the Scan button depends on whether you have selected a mailing list in the mailing list listview. If a list is selected then that list alone is updated, otherwise all the lists are updated. This routine scans the list directory, specified when a list was created/ edited, for new mails. If it finds one then it copies the Subject: and From: fields of the mail and then searches the lists of known posters and subjects to the mailing list. If they are found then their statistics are updated, otherwise the new From: and Subject: are added to the internal lists.

## 1.18 Prefs

Preferences Window

The prefs window allows you to set a couple of options which control the

---

way ListStats operates.

Scan on startup      If checked, this option instructs ListStats to scan all known mailing lists as soon as it has completed it's setup.

Report new posters    If checked, ListStats will inform you whenever it encounters a new person posting to a mailing list.

Set scanned mail to "unread"    If this is checked then ListStats will change all the mails it has scanned from New to Unread (avoiding the possibility that a mail can be scanned more than once). It is recommended that this option is selected at all times.

Open at back      Opens the ListStats window behind all other windows on the screen. Note that you should not select this if ListStats is set to open on a screen with a backdrop window.

Export future spaces.    If this is set then ListStats will output stats for all days in th emonth, including ones for which no stats have been collected yet. This will often result in several lines of the form

```
<date> ----- 0/ <number of mails this month>
```

This may be undesirable so turning this option off makes ListStats only export stats for the month up to, and including, the current day.

User Name      Enter your name here!

The "scan mode" cycle gadget is for future expansion only.

## 1.19 About

About Window

Displays some information about ListStats and the people who helped me during writing and betatesting.

## 1.20 Export

This option requires you to have made a list the current list. If you have not done so then selecting it will do nothing.

When you have a current list and you select this option, ListStats will ask you to enter the name of the file to write to - if the file already exists the you will be asked if it should be overwritten. Once you have entered the filename, ListStats will write the current list statistics to the file.

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## 1.21 Quit

When you click on Quit you will be asked to confirm the quit. If you confirm it then ListStats will save all the statistics data and then exit.

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