

Retrieving Values from dynamically created controls in a user control

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet.buildingcontrols/2004-06/002>

From: Gary (ggraham_at_cecity.com)

Date: 06/02/04

Date: Wed, 2 Jun 2004 09:41:07 -0700

Hello,

I have a need to dynamically (programatically) create various different controls (TextBox, RadioButtonList, CheckBox, etc.) at page_load from within a User control – (.ascx). The reason is that the page content is dynamic and we are using a template .ascx page that loads the .ascx page that dynamically populates a panel within itself with the controls and labels.

I have no problem at all creating the controls. My problem is retrieving their values on post back. Using Page.Request("controlID") produces nothing.

Is it possible to get the values back? If so, can someone tell me how I can get the control values?

Here is some proof of concept sample code from the page_load event handler in the .ascx control.

This control has some tables, literals, and a panel named pnlFormBody on it.

```
If Not IsPostBack Then
```

```
litHeader.Text = "Dynamic Data Entry Form Example"
```

```
litTitle.Text = "Please answer the following questions"
```

```
litInstructions.Text = "This is a block of text that represents an instruction block on a " _  
    & "data entry form."
```

```
Dim lit As Literal
```

```
Dim tb As TextBox
```

```
Dim rbl As RadioButtonList
```

```
Dim cbl As CheckBoxList
```

```
Dim li As ListItem
```

```
Dim cb As CheckBox
```

```
Dim i As Integer
```

```
begin table
```

```
lit = New Literal()
```

```
lit.Text = "<table>"
```

```
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
```

```

'question 1
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "<tr width=""300"" valign=""top"">Please enter your napnlFormBody</td><td
width=""400"">"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
tb = New TextBox()
tb.ID = "f1_q1_txt1"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(tb)
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "</td></tr>"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)

'question 2
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "<tr width=""300"" bgcolor=""#eeeeee"" valign=""top""><td>Please select one</td><td>"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
rbl = New RadioButtonList()
rbl.ID = "f1_q2_rbl1"
For i = 1 To 4
    li = New ListItem()
    li.Text = "Selection " & i
    li.Value = i
    rbl.Items.Add(li)
Next
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(rbl)
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "</td></tr>"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)

'question 3
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "<tr width=""300"" valign=""top""><td>Please select one or more</td><td>"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
For i = 1 To 5
    cb = New CheckBox()
    cb.ID = "f1_q3_cbx" & i
    cb.Text = "Choice " & i
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(cb)
    lit = New Literal()
    lit.Text = "<br>"
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
Next
cb = New CheckBox()
cb.ID = "f1_q3_cbxOther"
cb.Text = "Other"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(cb)
lit = New Literal()
lit.Text = "&nbsp;"
pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
tb = New TextBox()
tb.ID = "f1_q3_txtOther"

```

```

    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(tb)
    lit = New Literal()
    lit.Text = "</td></tr>"
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)

    'question 4
    lit = New Literal()
    lit.Text = "<tr width=""300"" bgcolor=""#eeeeee"" valign=""top""><td>Will thios work?</td><td>"
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)
    rbl = New RadioButtonList()
    rbl.ID = "f1_q4_yn1"
    rbl.RepeatDirection = RepeatDirection.Horizontal
    li = New ListItem()
    li.Text = "Yes"
    li.Value = "Yes"
    rbl.Items.Add(li)
    li = New ListItem()
    li.Text = "No"
    li.Value = "No"
    rbl.Items.Add(li)
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(rbl)
    lit = New Literal()
    lit.Text = "</td></tr>"
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)

    ' close table
    lit = New Literal()
    lit.Text = "</table>"
    pnlFormBody.Controls.Add(lit)

```

Else

```

' attempt to retrieve the data
Dim i As Integer
Dim q3Ans As String
Dim q1Ans As String = Page.Request("f1_q1_txt1")
Dim q2Ans As String = Page.Request("f1_q2_rbl1")
For i = 1 To 5
    If Not Request("f1_q3_cbx" & i) Is Nothing Then
        q3Ans += "Choice " & i & ", "
    End If
Next
If Not Request("f1_q3_cbxOther") Is Nothing Then
    q3Ans += "Other = "
    q3Ans += Request("f1_q3_txtOther")
End If

Dim q4Ans As String = Request("f1_q4_yn1")

```

End If

This ascx control is loaded by the .aspx template page into a panel on it.

I get nothing on the Request retrievals when the controls are created in the user control and it is loaded into the panel on the .aspx page.

However it works just fine if the user control (.ascx) is eliminated and the controls are loaded directly into the controls collection of the panel on the .aspx page

Any ideas or help any one???

Thanks,

Gary