

The Alexandria Newsletter

GROWTH • TIPS • PROMOS • ANNOUNCEMENTS • MORE

MONTHLY

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



New faces and a new school year . . . We can certainly empathize with you this year. Alexandria has experienced a phenomenal increase in the number of users in the past few months.

Like you, we have many who are old friends we've known and served for years and we have numerous new users with whom we are getting acquainted.

COMPANION employees, from Tech Support to Sales to Operations, are committed to providing you the best possible service. While most departments are open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time, remember that Tech Support is always there — 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Sales.....1-800-347-6439
Tech Support.....1-800-347-4942

Thanks
Bill Schjelderup ∞

KAAREN'S CORNER

BY KAAREN LINTON
LIBRARIAN/ALEXANDRIA TRAINER

WHAT'S NEW IN 5.5.3

In June, Alexandria 5.5.3 was released and I'd like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with some of the new features found in 5.5.3. I believe that you will find these additions to Alexandria to be very beneficial.

MARC Authority—Since people, corporations, and meetings can be both authors (editors, jt. authors, illustrators, etc.) and subjects, the new name reflects the changes that bring the old Authority Control feature into line with MARC Authority standards. In addition, MARC Authority enables you to add See and See Also references.

Renewal Icon on Transaction Log—The Renewal window has been incorporated into the Transaction Log tab.

Click on the Renewal icon either under the Patron Picture or at the bottom left of the Transaction Log tab and see the items currently checked out to the patron. Use the buttons at the bottom of the tab to renew some or all of the items, declare an item lost or to change a due date.

Set Due Date—Another new feature associated with the Renewals pane is the Set Due Date button that makes it very easy to reset a due date by highlighting the item, clicking the Set Due Date button and entering the new due date in the window provided.

Homeroom Window Updated—The Homeroom Selection window now has two panes—you select the teacher/homeroom from the left pane and a list of the students for that particular room appears in the right pane. Just double click on the student's name to make that student the Current Patron. The Homeroom icon located in the top-right corner of the Circulation window.

Bulletin Boards and Maps Separated—Making Maps of your library is now accomplished using the Map Editor found under Show on the menu.

Subscriptions—Add to Existing Record—Catalog a periodical title, then, when a new issue arrives, use the Add to Existing Record option so that all issues of that title are on one item record.

Don't Show in Researcher Option Also on Individual Copy Record—With the new Don't Show in Researcher option on the Copy Information window, you may identify selected copies to not show in the Researcher.

Take Patron Picture—If you have a firewire camera attached to your computer, you may take the patron's picture while in the Patron record in the Patron Management module.

Patron History Button in Patron Details—If you have chosen to keep patron history, a link to patron history has been added to the Patron Details window. ∞

ALEXANDRIA ANSWERS

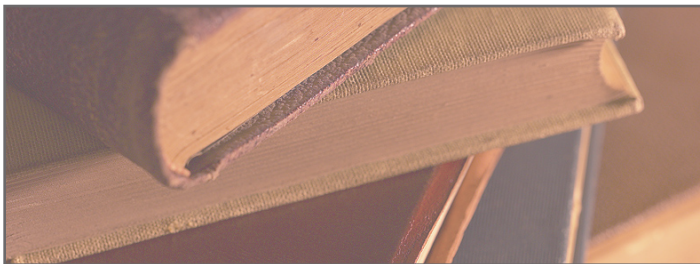
AS A NEW CUSTOMER, THERE IS SO MUCH “STUFF” ON THE ALEXANDRIA CD. WHAT SHOULD I BE INSTALLING?

Please check your registration codes and the packing lists to make certain that you are installing the correct software. For instance, if you only purchased Alexandria, you should not install Alexandria Controller or District Librarian. Your packing list will help you know what to install.

WHAT KIND OF FILE DO I NEED WHEN IMPORTING PATRONS INTO ALEXANDRIA? WHAT ABOUT IMPORT FILES FOR ITEMS?

If you have updated to Alexandria 5.5.3, you now have several options for file types when importing patrons into Alexandria—tab delimited, tab-quote delimited and comma-quote delimited as formats for import files. If you are using a version of Alexandria 5.5.2.4 or earlier, the only option is a tab-delimited file.

When importing items, into Alexandria 5.5.3, you may use MARC, MicroLif, tab delimited, tab-quote delimited and comma-quote delimited formats for item import files. For Alexandria 5.5.2.4 or earlier, you may only use MARC, MicroLif, or tab delimited formats. ∞



PROMOTION

Looking to get the most out of your Alexandria software? Move to an “A” License to get some of our most popular add-ons.

An A license includes:

- **WAN (wide area network)**—Allows libraries within a district to “see” and search each other’s libraries yet maintain their autonomy.
- **WEB**—Provides the ability to access Alexandria’s Data Station via the web either the OPAC for patrons or the Web Librarian to accomplish librarian tasks such as circulation, cataloging, reports, etc. via the internet.
- **Cross Platform**—Alexandria will work in a PC or Macintosh environment—or both at the same time.
- **Explore**—A fully-customizable, iconic search interface for patrons to use when searching your Alexandria database. You may also launch software applications, launch websites, open documents, etc. just by clicking on one of the iconic buttons.
- **Z39.50**—Search other library databases that have Z39.50 access; such as Library of Congress, universities, public libraries, etc. using Alexandria so that patrons do not have to adapt to multiple library automation system’s methods of searching.
- **MARC Search**—Provides a way to locate MARC records in the databases of other libraries and save the MARC record to import into Alexandria. “A” licenses now have this searching capability built in to Alexandria called MARC Search instead of being separate software application.

Purchase an A-license before **December 31, 2007** and receive \$100.00 towards a Sneak Peek’s year subscription or for the next year if you currently have it.

Please contact us at 1-800-347-6439. ∞

COMPANION TRADESHOW SCHEDULE

TRADESHOW	CONFERENCE NAME	START DATE	END DATE	LOCATION
WyLA	Wyoming Library Association	9/13/07	9/14/07	Cheyenne, WY
MoLA	Missouri Library Association	10/3/07	10/4/07	Springfield, MO
MEMO	Minnesota Education Media Org.	10/4/07	10/5/07	Brainerd, MN
IaLA	Iowa Library Association	10/10/07	10/11/07	Coralville, IA
FAME	Florida Assoc. for Media in Education	10/10/07	10/12/07	Orlando, FL
VEMA	Virginia Educational Media Association	10/11/07	10/12/07	Williamsburg, VA
WLMA	Washington Library Media Association	10/11/07	10/12/07	Yakima, WA
OASL	Oregon Association of School Librarians	10/12/07	10/13/07	Seaside, OR
T+L	Technology + Learning	10/17/07	10/19/07	Nashville, TN
MAME	Michigan Assoc. for Media in Education	10/24/07	10/26/07	Traverse City, MI
AASL	American Assoc. of School Librarians	10/26/07	10/28/07	Reno, NV

JOIN THE ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY

Take advantage of our free, world-wide user networks to learn more about Alexandria by signing up for one or more of our e-mail lists, or visit our Alexandria Forums and COMPanion Corp's Blog. Our e-mail lists are:

Alex-Net User's Group—friendly environment where Alexandria users can post questions, answers, or suggestions. http://www.goalexandria.com/support/lib_corner/listserv

Tip of the Week—Tips for running Alexandria more smoothly, written by our Technical Support Dept. and Librarian/Trainer. Go to: http://www.goalexandria.com/support/lib_corner/listserv

Alexandria Forums—We have multiple message boards for general discussion, technical issues, ideas for future enhancements, tips about using Alexandria, and software promotional information. Go to: <http://www.goalexandria.com/forums/>

COMPanion Corp's Blog—Announcements concerning product releases, special promotional info, etc. Go to: <http://www.companioncorp.com/blog/>

WRITERS WANTED

Have you dreamed of being a published author? We're looking for Alexandria users who would like to submit an article to be added to a future newsletter. You can write about innovative ideas you've incorporated in your library, an Alexandria feature you've found particularly helpful, tips, etc. The article should be about 1/4 of a page in length. Send your submission to rasmith@companioncorp.com. We will have a little gift for the author of each selected article. ∞



WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA

Welcome to some of our newest Alexandria customers!

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| <p>AR
Ozark Adventist Academy</p> <p>AZ
Continental School District 39</p> <p>CA
Aptakisis Trip CCSD
Kentfield School District
Or Hachaim Academy
Solano Christian Academy
Stella Maris Academy
Synergy School
Union Elementary School District
Village School
Woodcrest Christian School System</p> <p>CO
Colorado Rocky Mountain Academy
Northeast Colorado BOCES
Southwest Early College</p> <p>DC
St. Columba's Church</p> <p>IL
Prairie Grove School District 46
Saratoga Community Consolidated SD 60C</p> <p>KS
Bluestem USD 205
Chautauqua County USD #286
La Crosse USD 395
Nemaha Valley Schools USD 442
Newton USD 373
Sabetha USD 441
Smoky Valley USD 400
Wellsville USD</p> <p>KY
Meredith-Dunn School</p> <p>LA
Ouachita Parish School System</p> <p>MD
Montgomery County Campus
The Primary Day School</p> <p>ME
Poland Community School, School Union 29
Saco Public Schools Union #7</p> <p>MI
Bangor Township Schools
Standish-Sterling Community Schools</p> <p>International
Autoridad del Canal de Panama, Biblioteca Roberts F. Chiari, Panama</p> | <p>MN
Christ the King Catholic School
Clarkfield Area Charter School
Trinity Lutheran School</p> <p>MO
Crane R-III School District
Houston R-1 School District
Leopold R-III
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Ursuline Academy</p> <p>NE
Educational Service Unit #11
Grand Island Public Schools
Tekamah-Herman Schools</p> <p>NJ
Haworth Public Schools
Logan Township BOE
Princeton Regional Schools</p> <p>NY
Notre Dame - Bishop Gibbons School Library</p> <p>OK
Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School</p> <p>PA
Chester County Intermediate Unit
Vanguard & Crossroads School
Western Penn. School for the Deaf
Westmont Hilltop School District
Woodlynde School</p> <p>TX
Cross Point Christian School
Kellyville Schools
Kildeer Countryside CCSD 96
Poth Independent School District
Saint Agnes Academy
St. Francis de Sales School
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
Underwood Library</p> <p>UT
Rowland Hall St. Marks School</p> <p>WA
CESCO Solutions, Inc.</p> <p>WI
Boyceville Community Schools
Milton School District
The Prairie School
St. Raphael School
St. John Lutheran School</p> |
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