What's New in Alexandria 7.17.11?

The new Scout is official, we've introduced a new Support Center, and there have been a bunch of handy improvements since our last video. Let's take a look.

1 - Scout

It's official—the new Scout is here, accessed at /scout. If you had /scout2 bookmarked, update your bookmarks!

Scout can be set to the new Bubbly Ocean or Professional style. You can show Titles and Call Numbers, one or the other, or only cover art.

For the first time ever, you can place holds from your phone.

Note that Scout on Mobile replaces the old Mobile interface. If you have any bookmarks with /mobile, don't worry, these will redirect to /scout.

2 - Support Center

Alexandria has a new Support Center. You can access help for any module you are in by clicking the help icon, just like before. There is also a new link in Librarian, or you can use the keyboard shortcut command or control 0, to open the Support Center main page.

Misc

There are several little improvements I want to show you.

Researcher

You know how in Explore Builder you can set a button to display a message? Well now those messages support HTML, so you can format your messages with bold, italic, color, and links!

e.g. *Holidays are awesome!*

There's a new Researcher Tag shortcut—instead of adding a tag to your tags list, to use later, you can option-click on Mac or alt-click on Windows, and it performs a search directly on that term.

Filters include a Help blurb, and an option to Clear all the filters you have set. (To clear a single filter you have set, just click on it.)

Reports

Use the Titles Not Shown in Researcher Report to see all your items that are set, in Item Management, to not show in the Researcher interfaces.

Also an Operator Summary report, with information on the selected level of operators. (Ask yourself, when did they last change their passwords?)

Utilities

And it's back—the Database Archive utility. You can now schedule additional archives (by creating a saved utility), and allow those who *don't* have access to the Admin interface (/admin) to run Archives.

Check Out utilities are also back; for things such as checking items out to teachers in bulk quantity.

Reset Passwords utility; use this if you need to reset all passwords, to the patrons' last name, and they can change their passwords from there.

"Advance All Grades" in Preferences advances patrons at all sites; now you can change it to only advance patrons at the selected site.

Imports

Imports now has a Create Saved Import button on the quick tab, so you can create it from here, right after you set something up, rather than needing to go to the Saved tab first.

You are also able to save imports without FTP.
You may have noticed that the FTP tab has been renamed 'File Source'. Use the Protocol dropdown to select Choose File—meaning you can have a Saved Import that *doesn't* require FTP—and save your Field Mapping and other settings. When you choose a file, you will use that file just once, it will not be saved in the import. The next time you come to this saved import, you will need to upload your new file.
This applies to Patron and Item imports.

Librarian

Take patron pictures right from Patron Management. In the Actions menu, choose Take Patron Picture, and use a connected camera or your computer's built-in camera.

When processing charges, payments, lost item fees, etc. the patron's email should automatically fill. If there are multiple emails, they will all fill.
Note your email must be set up in Administration, and the patrons must have emails in their records.

We've also improved keyboard behavior in Librarian; for most dialogs (that is, popups), ESC should cancel, and <enter> should confirm and/or close the window. If you find something that doesn't work how you think it should, let us know! and we'll look into it.

That's it for now!
See the Release Notes and the Support Center for more!

Questions? Feedback? Contact Support at any time.
1.800.347.4942 or support@goalexandria.com