



# ***Impressions***

The Open Mind Company Newsletter

*To facilitate access to information and ideas by  
providing affordable library management solutions*

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## **Easily search new materials**


If you would like your patrons to be able to easily find the books, DVDs, etc., that you have added to your collection most recently, the Visual Search in your OPAC offers a solution. Add a query component that searches for those materials, so a patron can see them all with one click.

There are a few ways to set up this search. Here is one suggestion:

- Put a special temporary code in the call number of the Bibliographic record. Use "New" or "Just Arrived" or something similar and put it in the subfield k of the 852 field. Put the normal call number in the Holding record.

Mandarin Library (Result)

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**JUST IN!** [Larsson, Stieg.](#)  
 The girl who kicked the hornet's nest / by Stieg Larsson.  
 New York : [Alfred A. Knopf](#), 2010.  
 563 p ;


 **DETAILS**

Add to My Bookbag




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**JUST IN!** [Lewis, Michael](#)  
 The big short : inside the doomsday machine  
 New York : [W.W. Norton](#), c2010.  
 xviii, 266 p ;

 **DETAILS**

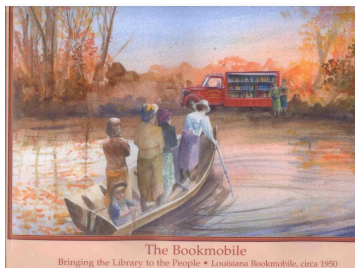
- Create a Query Component in the Visual Search. Modify the query for this button to search for this code in the "Local call number."

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><b>People</b></p> |  <p><b>Science &amp; Technology</b></p>   |
|  <p><b>New</b></p>    |  <p><b>Winners &amp; Best Sellers</b></p> |
|                       |   |

- When the materials are no longer "new", change the call number in the Bibliographic record to match the Holding record.

For more help with configuring your Visual Search, register for one of the free webinars offered. See the Mandarin website for announcements about dates and times. You can also download a help sheet on Visual Search configuration from <http://mantech.mlasolutions.com>.

## Honoring America's Public Libraries



The Bookmobile  
Bringing the Library to the People • Louisiana Bookmobile, circa 1950

# The Bookmobile

Bookmobiles have provided an outstanding social service, bringing the library to the people. The origins of the bookmobile can be traced to British Prime Minister Disraeli, who in 1859 started the first "books on wheels" program using horse drawn wagons. Initially called "traveling libraries" or "mobile service," the idea was brought to America in 1905 by Mary Titcomb of Hagerstown, Maryland.

Early bookmobiles, often driven by the librarian, were simple delivery trucks fitted with reversible shelves. Though they faced adverse weather conditions and mechanical problems, the librarians remained resolute in their pursuit to deliver the written word. Before the automobile became a common possession, before many roads were paved and before television, bookmobiles served as the only outside contact for many rural residents. Book stops included homes, hospitals, orphanages, factories, schools, prisons and even gas stations and country stores.

By 1965 there were nearly 2,000 bookmobiles in service in the United States. The informal, folksy and free bookmobiles were especially suited for demonstrating library services in rural areas. They were able to travel to remote sites to deliver personalized attention to sometimes-reluctant readers. The informal atmosphere encouraged under-educated people to partake without feeling bound by a number of rules and regulations.

It is likely that the height of bookmobiles came in the early 1970's, before suburban living and branch libraries decreased the need for mobile services. Today less than 1,200 bookmobiles remain in America. While the service emphasis has shifted from community stops and visits to hospitals and schools to nursing and retirement homes, childcare centers, and homebound and disabled individuals, the commitment to serving those who cannot use a library facility has not changed. Bookmobiles, now designed in a wide array of sizes and floor plans, offer patrons easy access and comfort. Standard features include wide entrance ramps or doors, low floors with expanded ceiling height, adjustable shelving and ergonomic workstations.

In addition, bookmobiles now offer a wide selection of titles in a variety of formats -- large print, books on tape, videos and CDs. The role of the librarian has also shifted from simply checking out books to offering reference, inter-library loan and advisory services. Through all the changes, bookmobiles continue to provide invaluable social, educational and recreational services while filling a void in many lives.

This print, was inspired by a photograph of a bookmobile in Bayou de Large, 15 miles south of Houma, Louisiana.

Prints in the Honoring America's Public Libraries Collection were created by artist Joe Davis, a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Art. [www.jdavisdesign.com](http://www.jdavisdesign.com)

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