

A Very Special Bank Account - By Stan Southwick



Imagine you had a bank account that deposited \$86,400 each morning. The account carries over no balance from day to day, allows you to keep no cash balance, and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every dollar each day!

We all have such a bank. Its name is Time. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever time you have failed to use wisely. It carries over no balance from day to day. It allows no overdraft so

you can't borrow against yourself or use more time than you have. Each day, the account starts fresh. Each night, it destroys any unused time. If you fail to use the day's deposits, it's your loss and you can't appeal to get it back.

There is never any borrowing time. You can't take a loan out on your time or against someone else's. The time you have is the time you have and that is that. Time management is yours to decide how you spend the time, just as with money you decide how you spend the money. It is never the case of us not having enough time to do things, but the case of whether we want to do them and where they fall in our priorities.

We just finished reviewing Dr. Stephen R. Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" in our office. He reminds us that we need to look at the bigger picture in time management. You don't need to just manage each day but your entire life- your purpose, values, roles and priorities. Organize and manage time and events according to the personal priorities you establish. Keeping your personal bigger outlook in mind will help you organize each individual day. So, get going! Tick, tock, tick, tock...

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." - Sir David Attenborough

Favorite Flora:

Acacia willardiana - Palo Blanco - By Jon Marenfeld



Finding an appropriately sized tree for our small Las Vegas valley backyards can be tricky. One solution may be the Acacia willardiana; a native to Sonora, Mexico. Commonly known as Palo Blanco, which means 'white stick' in Spanish, this deciduous tree has an upright form, open branching, and can grow to be 15'-25' tall by 10'-15' wide. It has distinctive silvery-white peeling bark and tiny green leaves along 6"-10" long petioles (the stalk that joins the leaf to the stem) that gracefully hang from its thin branches. It's become popular over the years in southwestern gardens due to its size, low water use, open and airy form, ability to handle reflected heat, and lack of thorns.

Plant the Acacia willardiana in full sun to part shade. It may be a bit frost tender in parts of our area so plant it where it can receive some reflected heat if needed. Once established the Palo Blanco needs little maintenance besides cleaning up after it when it drops its leaves in the winter and the yellow fuzzies in the spring, when it blooms. During the summer water it deeply once a month to reduce stress on the tree. If stressed it will drop its leaves. Because its main feature is its distinctive bark and airy appearance pair it with boulders and lower growing plants such as agaves, yuccas, and cacti for contrast. To further accentuate it plant it near a bold colored wall or upright it at night.



Forever Bicycles by Ai Weiwei
Austin, TX
Justin Van Cleef