

# SLAM

DESIGNING THE SOUTHWEST  
SOUTHWICK LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL MEMO  
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southwick  
LA

*Imagination is more important than knowledge.*

*- Albert Einstein*

## DON'T TAKE A BREAK ON HUNGER!

This year we were privileged to team up with KGA Architecture, Barker Drottar, and JBA to participate in AIA's annual CANstruction event. CANstruction is a unique design/build competition and food charity that takes place throughout North America, Australia and New Zealand. Sculptures are planned months in advance and built in only a few short hours out of non-perishable food items. These sculptures are on public display during which time they are judged and given awards. Further food donation is encouraged during display time. At the end of the display period, the structures are taken down and donated to a local food pantry, soup kitchen or charitable organization in need. The 13,800 cans collected this year went to Las Vegas' Three Square organization. To learn more about them, visit their website at [www.threesquare.org](http://www.threesquare.org).



We had a great time meeting and working with people from the other offices. Our team built a sculpture to represent a cup of coffee and a doughnut titled "Don't Take a Break on Hunger." It was awarded "Best Meal" for the food we used. Other structures included a double sided Elvis Stamp, a Sock Monkey, Mickey Mouse, a volcano and a cupcake. The Elvis Stamp designed and built by UNLV School of Architecture was awarded the Juror's Favorite as well as People's Choice. You can see more pictures by visiting AIA Las Vegas' facebook page. Thanks to AIA for hosting a great event!

## TROPICANA DECATUR PARK

This large regional park is positioned on 80 acres at the northwest corner of Tropicana and Decatur in Clark County. The Lower Flamingo Wash runs through the middle of the site and has formed a thirty foot deep channel between two prominent bluffs. Southwick LA has teamed with HDR Engineering to design a flood detention basin and multi-use park on the site. The basin will hold up to a 100 year flood event. The park is designed partially in the detention basin. Multi-use fields are located in the basin above the twenty-five year flood level. The upper bluffs showcase a passive park with picnicking, horseshoes, jogging paths, a dog park, playgrounds and a butterfly garden.

The butterfly garden was designed with artistically shaped large stone blocks which break up the spaces and provide areas for the butterflies to reside. Stone walls also line the walkways giving the park dimension and flow.

The spillway features angled stone walls, decorative crushed granite patterns and planting to enhance the look at the busy intersection. Creative plant material was chosen for the spillway since soil depth is shallow due to the necessary engineered design.



## FAVORITE FLORA:

### OENOTHERA BERLANDIERI - MEXICAN EVENING PRIMROSE



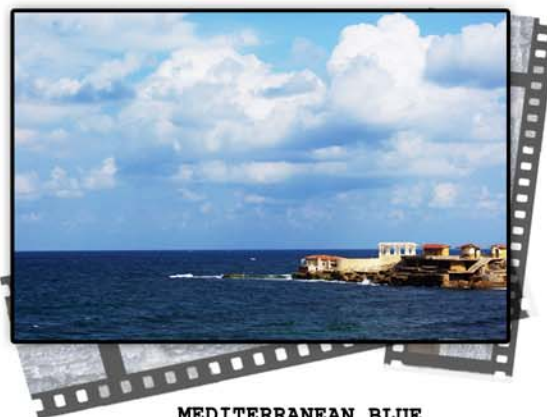
The Oenothera or Evening Primrose has more than 120 species that are native to North and South America. This month we are focusing on the Oenothera berlandieri. It is native to Northern Mexico and Texas but has acclimated well to other parts of the country especially in the desert southwest.

While on the small side, this plant will average one foot high and three feet wide. It dies back in the winter but because of its underground root system, it recovers quickly in the spring. Aggressive in its growth habit, it makes a great plant for the spring and a wonderful groundcover in

borders along walkways or on slopes. These plants may spring up around your yard as the wind and birds spread the seeds.

The Evening Primrose loves full sun, reflected light or light shade and tolerates dry soil but it flowers longer when watered every week or two during the warm season. Flowers are bell-shaped and can be white to rosy pink. Spring is when the blooms are most abundant but it will continue to bloom through the summer and fall with plenty of water. It is a wonderful plant in rock gardens and fits in well with wildflower and perennial groupings. It is a great way to add seasonal splashes of color.

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



MEDITERRANEAN BLUE  
ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT  
MATT DURHAM