

### Not Like I Planned- By Stan Southwick



I'm one of those people who likes to plan things, set goals, stay organized and have all my ducks in a row. I know, I probably suffer from a little OCD. As much as I want life to go as planned, it seems that it rarely does.

This last summer when the temperatures were over 110 degrees, I noticed that some of my plants were not looking too good. I found that two of my irrigation valves had gone bad. I made a plan to fix them. I figured out all the parts I would need and headed to the store. One of the parts needed was not available, so I had to combined different parts to make the fitting I needed. I fixed the two valves and turned on the system. The two new valves worked great, but now I was getting an electrical error on another valve. Came to find out that it had a bad solenoid. Second trip to the store to get a part, back home, fix the problem and turn on the system. Everything seemed to be working, except I can hear a hissing sound. A pipe had split and was leaking. I wanted to quit at this point, but my plants probably would have died by the next day. So back to the store again and back home to fix another problem. My original plan was to be done with the repairs in no more than two hours. Eight hours later and three trips to the store the job was complete. Not what I planned.

### Consultant of the Month

There are many ways to describe our consultant of the month, Doug MacDonald, VP with Aqua Engineering, Inc. Some of the words that come to mind are knowledgeable, professional, inventive, passionate but more importantly he is a team player, helpful, supportive, cheerful, approachable and to many of us a friend. He always has a great attitude and is always willing to help. It is always a pleasure to work with Doug. Thank you Doug for all you do!



So what do you do when your best laid plans are overturned and your well mapped route takes a detour through the deserted back roads of life? Well, it's about that time that I stop, regroup and make a new plan. After all, I do like making plans. Oh, and by the way, don't forget to log the experience in your mental archives so that you can plan not to go through it again.

“He, who every morning plans the transactions of the day, and follows that plan, carries a thread that will guide him through a labyrinth of the most busy life.”  
— Victor Hugo

### Favorite Flora:

### Convolvulus sabatius- Ground Morning Glory- By Matt Durham



This month's favorite flora is a groundcover that is native to coastal areas of Algeria and Morocco as well as sporadic populations in Spain and Italy. Ground Morning Glory (Convolvulus sabatius or Convolvulus mauritanicus) is an evergreen plant that spreads to about a 3-foot diameter while usually staying under 1 foot in height. Its leaves are grey-green and soft in appearance, its flowers light blue and a typical morning glory shape and size. Ground Morning Glory blooms from spring into fall. This plant prefers full to partial sun locations and can withstand alkaline soils and temperatures to around 15 degrees. If the tops freeze back in colder

temperatures, it can re-sprout when temperatures rebound.

Ground Morning Glory makes a wonderful low border or a soft accent around cacti and succulents and other low water use plants. It can also be very effective in a hanging pot or spilling over a wall. It should be trimmed back in late winter to prevent the plant from becoming too woody or to maintain a certain size.



### Photo of the Month

Fall Colors  
Strawberry Point, Utah  
Caryl Davies