

# THE LEAFLET

The Monthly Magazine of the Vallarta Botanical Garden

March 2016

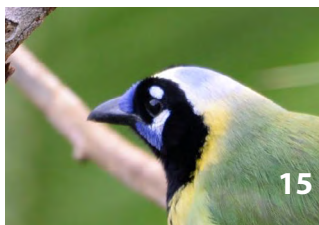
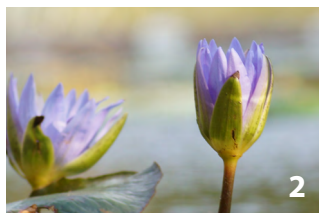


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The Monthly Magazine of the Vallarta Botanical Garden

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México

March 2016 Vol. 6, No. 3



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*Bursera simaruba*

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## Curator's Corner

### *Dear Friends of the Garden,*

For many nature lovers, no cathedral made by man can compare to the abundant glory of creation witnessed in wild places where plants and animals commune in spectacular harmony. At the same time, physical buildings such as chapels have a way of bringing us as humans together to celebrate life with a unity of spirit and thoughtful reflection. The combination of these ideas has brought about the new *Nuestra Señora del Jardín* (Our Lady of the Garden), a multifaith sanctuary opening in the Vallarta Botanical Garden with a public blessing this coming March 20th, Palm Sunday.

Please see more about this event on pages 13-15 of this edition of *The Leaflet*. We hope you can join us for this special time to unite our community in friendship and a common vision for peace on earth.

**Blessings,**

**Bob Price, Founder and Curator, VBG**

Dessert Rose Stone and Agave  
Photo: Drew Schuyler





## Important Conference Coming to the Vallarta Botanical Garden

*By: Neil Gerlowski, Executive Director, VBG*

Each year the American Public Gardens Association has a special conference for a very distinguished subgroup, their Directors of Large Gardens. At their recent 2016 conference held in San Diego, attended by 41 Executive Directors and CEO's, they selected their next two destinations, New Orleans in 2017 and Puerto Vallarta in 2018.

Paul Redman, Executive Director of Longwood Gardens, announced this exciting news to us and shared with us about the enthusiasm by which we were selected. Julian Duval, CEO of the San Diego Botanic Garden, told us what a positive experience hosting this group was for his garden and the exposure this has brought and will invariably continue bringing to their organization.

We are committed to making the most of our upcoming opportunity for the incredible connections that can grow from it to the benefit of our beloved Puerto Vallarta and surrounding region. We're already at work planning how to bring our garden to an even higher level of horticultural excellence before this event in order to leave the best possible impression on our visitors. Those of you who would like to contribute time, talent, and treasure to this endeavor are encouraged to contact us. This occasion brings all promise of boosting our organization and our region, yet undoubtedly the full potential must hinge on what we as a community do ahead of time. Fortune favors the prepared.

We're getting ready to stretch ourselves like never before in preparation for the group of large garden directors we will receive, and we ask you all to do the same!

**"Everyone needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike."  
- John Muir**



## Give Every Month – Become a Garden “GEM”

Dividing your contributions to the Vallarta Botanical Garden into monthly payments can help you better budget your annual giving and allows us a dependable monthly income to carry us through the slower times of the year. A new Give Every Month “GEM” page is now up on the Garden’s website [www.vbgardens.org](http://www.vbgardens.org) for you to begin this kind of contribution today.



Desert Garden  
Photo: Drew Schuyler

## Commemorative Benches

Would you like to honor or memorialize someone with a permanent cantera bench at the Vallarta Botanical Garden? We can help you design a beautiful hand painted ceramic tile finish to this with customized text and images. Prices are at \$7,000 USD for a *Banca Real* (Regal Bench) and \$5,000 USD for a *Banca Distintiva* (Distinctive Bench). Dividing this up into payments over the course of three years is a commitment of only \$194 or \$139 USD. These gifts qualify for tax deductible contributions in Mexico, the US, and Canada. Interested? Great! Please visit our website or call 322 223 6182 and ask to speak to the Garden’s Executive Director, Neil Gerlowski or Membership Coordinator, Michaela Flores.

## Your Legacy Lives on at the Vallarta Botanical Garden

Including the Vallarta Botanical Garden in your wills, trusts, and estate planning is an investment in the long-term viability of this important natural sanctuary for Puerto Vallarta and the exquisite flora of Mexico and world tropics. A member of the Garden’s Legacy Committee would be happy to talk to you about the best options for optimizing your philanthropic potential and further blessing a community. Please write to [info@vbgardens.org](mailto:info@vbgardens.org).



## The VBG's Science Advisory Board

Yes, we're a beautiful place to visit with pretty plants... but we're so much more!

The Board of Friends of Vallarta Botanical Garden recently approved a new Science Advisory Board which had its founding meeting (aka *kickoff*) on February 25th. We're delighted to introduce you to this incredible group of professionals who have pledged their service to the VBG in the arena of science, specifically research, conservation, and collections. We're proud of the importance of many of our plants and what they represent in our planet's biodiversity, especially with our native plant collections. Developing this forward puts us on a path to becoming one of the world's great gardens.

This group is interested in your input. You represent our community and your voice matters. Please share your thoughts on plant science, conservation, and collections by writing to [educadorambiental@vbgardens.org](mailto:educadorambiental@vbgardens.org).



Cactus house containers.  
Photo: Drew Schuyler



Strongylodon macrobotrys  
Photo: Drew Schuyler

## Introducing our Science Advisors

**Richard Barley, B.S. (Hort.), M.S. (Hort.),** is responsible for the leadership and direction of the horticultural team at KewGardens—the world's largest collection of living plants. His other roles include leadership, strategic direction and management of Kew's Learning & Participation programs (school education, community participation, outreach programs, volunteers, interpretation, etc); Visitor Hosting (front of house visitor greeting, ticketing, stewarding, guides); Security (Kew Constabulary) and Catering (day to day operational liaison). After receiving his Bachelor of Applied Science (Horticulture) from Burnley College, University of Melbourne, his past positions include serving as the Director of Melbourne Gardens and the CEO of Open Gardens Australia.



**Andrew Bunting, B.S.** is Assistant Director of the Garden and Director of Plant Collections at the Chicago Botanic Garden. For the past 26 years he was Curator at the Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College. From 1991-1992 he was curator at Chanticleer in Wayne, Pennsylvania. For several years he has been involved with the NAPCC (North American Plant Collections Consortium) where he has served as Chair, Vice Chair, Reviewer, Chair of the Magnolia Group and now is the Liaison for Multi-institution Collections, i. e., *Quercus*, *Acer*, *Magnolia*, and cycads. Andrew is the past president of the Magnolia Society International and The Delaware Center for Horticulture. He has also served as Chair of Horticulture for the Philadelphia Flower Show; served on the Woody Plant Conference Committee for 16 years; and has done committee work for Bartram's Garden, Tyler Arboretum and Awbury Arboretum. He has published over 100 articles in American Gardener, Arnoldia, The Hybrid, Fine Gardening, The Magnolia Society Journal, Green Scene and Organic Gardening. He has lectured extensively in the United States, as well as, England, Belgium, Poland and New Zealand. Andrew has participated in plant expeditions to China, Taiwan, Vietnam and is planning an expedition to The Republic of Georgia and Azerbaijan in September of 2016. Andrew is the recipient of American Public Gardens Association Professional Citation and received the Chanticleer Scholarship in Professional Development in 2010. His home garden in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, Belvidere has been featured in This Old House Magazine and in the Wall Street Journal. Andrew is currently finishing his first book published by Timber Press, The Plant Lover's Guide to Magnolias.



*Lophophora williamsii*  
Photo: Drew Schuyler

**Nicole Cavender, Ph.D.** is the Vice President of Science and Conservation at The Morton Arboretum, a tree-focused botanical garden located on 1,700 acres west of Chicago.

Dr. Cavender works to strengthen the Arboretum's leadership and activities in tree science and conservation and is responsible for programs that generate new knowledge and help transfer that knowledge to professionals and communities. She oversees the scientific research programs, urban forestry initiatives, conservation programs to prevent extinction of tree species, and ArbNet, which administers an arboretum accreditation program to strengthen the arboretum network and foster arboreta professionalism. She also oversees the new initiative, the Center for Tree Science, which brings together experts from diverse fields to catalyze innovative research and provide training opportunities around tree science.

Prior to 2012, she was Chief Programmatic Officer at The Wilds, a conservation, animal breeding, and ecotourism organization where she led the development and activities of the Restoration Ecology Program from 2002-2012.

Nicole earned her Ph.D. at The Ohio State University in horticulture and crop science, and her undergraduate degree at Ohio University in environmental and plant biology.



*Dendrophylax porrectus*  
Photo: Drew Schuyler



**Neil Gerlowski, M.A.T.** has served as the Executive Director of the Vallarta Botanical Garden since 2010 and has played a driving force in formalizing and professionalizing this young organization's collections and forging collaborative research projects to connect this garden's collections with the conservation priorities of its region. Through his leadership the VBG has developed its first plant collections database, which as of late 2015 has nearly 1,000 accessions, and steps are now underway for accreditations with the American Public Garden Association's Plant Collection Network as well as through ArbNet. Neil is very active in national and international botanic garden professional associations currently serving as the Vice Chair of the American Public Gardens Association's International Garden Professional Section and is the Mexican Representative of the International Garden Tourism Network. Neil earned his Master's of Arts and Teaching with a concentration in English at the University of New Hampshire. As an undergraduate student he studied English Teaching and minored in Outdoor Education.

**Patrick Griffith, Ph.D.** Patrick has worked in leadership, living collections management, herbarium curation, rare plant survey, floristic inventory, laboratory research, and land management for botanic gardens, universities, government, and private interests. If asked about his experience, Patrick would say he has "used most every botanic garden tool, from the shovel to the sequencer."

**Rafael Guzmán Mejía, Ph.D.** was born in Cihuatlán, Jalisco, Mexico; he obtained a BS degree in agronomy at the School of Agriculture, Universidad de Guadalajara. He has a Master of Science degree in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development from the University of Wisconsin-Madison—he was the first student in obtaining this degree in the system of Universities on the American Union-, several special courses in biology, bird biology, ecology and management in wildlife ecology; and a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology obtained at the Centro Universitario de los Altos, Universidad de Guadalajara. In November 2011, he obtained his retirement from the Universidad de Guadalajara being research-professor C, profile PROMEP and member of the National System of Researchers (SNI). He has taught courses in Scientific Research in BS and PhD levels; his main research line in the last ten years, has been in Human Ecology with theme Puerto Vallarta and its satellites: homeostasis oscillations in a leisure destiny.

He was research-professor from 1973 to 2011. He has been distinguished in plant taxonomy describing several species in the grass family. He was leader in conservation biology creating the internationally known Manantlán Biosphere Reserve home of the world famous ancestor of corn, *Zea diploperennis*. He has written journal articles, six books, dictated speeches, and conducted pure and applied research in ecology, anthropology and founded the Manantlán Institute of the University of Guadalajara.

**Alan Heinze, M.S.** has been collaborating with the Vallarta Botanical Garden since 2009, working on different environmental projects. After completing the Erasmus Mundus MSc in Sustainable Tropical Forestry, attending both the University of Copenhagen and Bangor University, he returned to initiate the position of Research Coordinator at the VBG while also working as a consultant for the World Agroforestry Centre. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at The Graduate School for Production Ecology and Resource Conservation at Wageningen University, The Netherlands, a joint research program which includes fieldwork in a biosphere reserve in Chiapas, southern Mexico.



*Tillandsia caput-medusae*  
Photo: Drew Schuyler





Aechmea orlandiana  
Photo: Jesús Reyes

**Tim Thibault, M.S.** has two decades experience managing public garden plant collections, including the last six years as Curator of Woody Collections at The Huntington. He has held curatorial positions with several different gardens with differing collection priorities ranging from display to teaching to research and conservation. Tim has also worked as an independent consultant for two institutions on collection management and training of curatorial staff. Tim has previously served the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) as chair of the Plant Collections Professional Section and Council of Sections. He has also worked with the Plant Collections Network (PCN) program of APGA as a recruiter/mentor, done reviews for three PCN applications, and received PCN recognition for the *Quercus* collection when he curated Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Tim has served the broader museum community as a member of American Alliance of Museums Curators Committee including current work on the multiple-discipline panel authoring a white paper on ethical issues in deaccessioning museum collections. Tim is a *Summa cum Laude* graduate of Washington State University, and received national recognition as an Outstanding Student in Horticulture from American Society for Horticultural Science in 1997. He has extensive field experience, including research and collecting trips in the tropical regions of Mexico, Ecuador, Taiwan and Vietnam.

**Peter Zale, Ph.D.** is Breeder and Curator of Plants at Longwood Gardens and has a diverse background with experience in the nursery industry and academia. After earning a bachelor's degree from Ohio State, he was manager of a 65-acre, certified organic nursery dedicated to growing heirloom vegetables and native plants. After six years at the nursery, Peter returned to graduate school to study ornamental plant breeding and genetics. During his graduate work he developed and characterized exhaustive collections of *Magnolia virginiana* and *Phlox*, and used them to develop numerous novel hybrid lines. He earned his Ph.D. in September 2014. As curator at Longwood, Peter is responsible for a diverse range of plant collections, and oversees collections development and accreditation through NAPCC and Arbnet. He also directs the plant breeding efforts and is focused on revitalizing long programs in addition to implementing new programs involving various U.S. native plant genera. He has also initiated a conservation program dedicated to propagation, *ex situ* establishment, and restoration of Pennsylvania native orchids, with plans to expand the scope of the program to include neotropical Magnoliaceae and *Buxus*. Peter leads the plant exploration program and is set to travel to Japan and the republic of Georgia in 2016. He has published over 25 articles in Journal of the American Society for Horticulture Science, Acta Horticulturae, American Nurseryman, The Buckeye, RHS Lilies and Related Plants, The QB of the North American Lily Society, and Journal of the Magnolia Society. He has lectured across the United States on various topics and has designed and participated in over 20 plant collection trips throughout the United States, Vietnam, and Myanmar.



Rhododendron vireya  
Photo: Jesús Reyes





*Calocitta colliei*  
Photo: Greg Homel

## Mexican Bird of the Month

Black-throated Magpie-Jay *Calocitta colliei*

They appear as if out of nowhere, their long white-edged tails flexing in an unexpected train that trails for nearly two feet behind them. When they swoop in to land in a large tree, one also notices their recurved, narrow head plume, which gives them a regal appearance.

This is Mexico's distinctive, endemic, Black-throated Magpie-Jay and at first glance, these large jays can surprise an observer, as they gracefully glide overhead in chattering groups of a half dozen or more.

Black-throated Magpie-Jays are one of two similar looking long-tailed jays inhabiting the thorn and tropical deciduous forests of the west coast of Latin America (the other being the more widespread White-throated Magpie-Jay, which is found from Jalisco's Costa Alegre to the Guanacoste Basin in Costa Rica), however, this species

is endemic to northwest Mexico only, so is a coveted endemic found nowhere else but a thin band of habitat on Mexico's north Pacific coast and adjacent mountains... including the environs of the Vallarta Botanic Garden.

Watch for these distinctive and social jays as they are sporadic visitors here. You will likely be impressed with what you see!

For those who wish to learn more about tropical bird ID, just read on to the next article about us hosting this year's Vallarta Bird Festival...



## **Vallarta Bird Festival**

*At the Vallarta Botanical Garden  
March 5 & 6*

Puerto Vallarta is incredibly rich in bird diversity including stunningly spectacular species ranging from the glittery, minuscule Golden-crowned Emerald Hummingbird to the raucous and flamboyant Military Macaw. Over 300 species of birds can be observed in and around the Puerto Vallarta region. One of our favorite times to go bird watching is March when the weather is idyllic yet many of our deciduous trees are denuded of vegetation giving us clear views through the forest.

The Vallarta Botanical Garden will host the fourth annual Vallarta Bird Festival this coming March 5th and 6th and will include guided birding hikes along with workshops and presentations by expert birders. (See page 9 for details on the bird sketching workshops!) We especially thank our friends Greg R. Homel of Natural Encounters Birding Tours and Birding In Puerto Vallarta and his close associate Alex Martínez of Birding in Mexico for planning, promoting, and participating with us in what we're sure will be yet another incredible experience for bird aficionados from all over the world.

Early tours will meet at the Garden on both March 5th and 6th at 7:30 am and activities will go on right up to Garden closure at 6 pm. Through the generosity of volunteer guides and facilitators, participation in this year's Vallarta Bird Festival is at no additional cost beyond garden admission of only \$100 pesos per person. Preregistration is not required, but a quick email to let us know how many guests to expect would be highly appreciated! [eventos@vbgardens.org](mailto:eventos@vbgardens.org).

# **Jardín Botánico de Vallarta FESTIVAL DE AVES DE VALLARTA 2016**

**Marzo 5 & 6**

**Vallarta Botanical Garden  
2016 VALLARTA  
BIRD FESTIVAL  
Puerto Vallarta, México.**



Chara Verde

Photo: Jesús Reyes

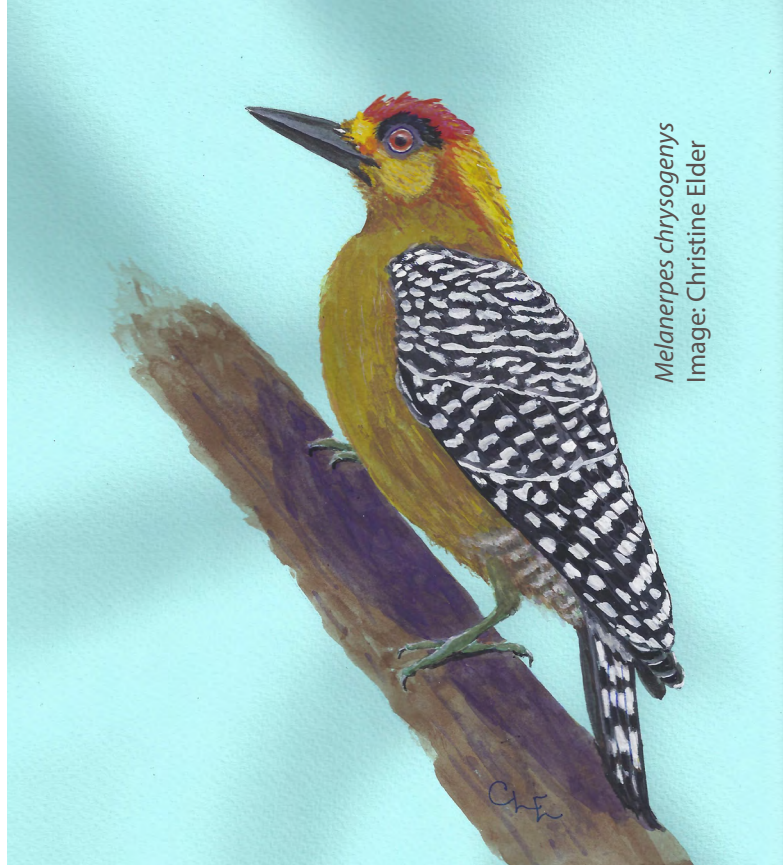


## Bird Sketching Workshops

During the Vallarta Bird Festival, March 5 & 6

Celebrated international bird artist Christine Elder is returning to the Vallarta Botanical Garden to share her time and talent with our guests in expert bird sketching instruction. Workshops from noon to 4 pm each day will include learning a quick technique appropriate for drawing live birds to connect us to outdoor living classrooms like the Vallarta Botanical Garden.

Saturday's workshop will focus on sketching woodpeckers, such as the Golden-cheeked and Pale-billed and Sunday's workshop will focus on sketching hummingbirds—dazzling speedy delights that they are. Participation is included with admission to the Garden. Participants are asked to please arrive by noon or a little bit before and to bring pencil(s), paper, and maybe also a clipboard if possible. Preregistration is not required, but a quick email to let us know how many artists to expect would be highly appreciated! [eventos@vbgardens.org](mailto:eventos@vbgardens.org).



*Melanerpes chrysogenys*  
Image: Christine Elder



*Icterus prosthemelas*  
Image: Christine Elder



## Internship in Tropical Paradise

*Drew Schulyer, Volunteer, VBG*

This past December, I graduated from the 2-year Professional Gardener Program at Longwood Gardens outside Philadelphia, PA. Prior to that wonderful life-changing experience, I led habitat restoration programs at Golden Gate National Park in San Francisco, CA. I love working with plants and sharing the wonder of our natural resources with a diverse and curious public.

When I expressed an interest in working abroad to complement my formal training, Paul Redman, the Executive Director of Longwood Gardens, suggested Vallarta Botanical Garden as a choice destination. Thankfully Neil Gerlowski (Executive Director of the VBG) and Bob Price (VBG Founder and Curator) agreed and I was able to negotiate a 10-week internship-style volunteer experience this winter here in paradise.

Before I arrived here this January, I had only seen tropical plants grown either as tender summer annuals or year-round under the protection of glass. My jaw drops nearly every single day with new outdoor tropical discoveries at VBG and amidst the stunning beauty of Cabo Corrientes.

I have dedicated a major portion of my time here to helping in the development a formal Plant Collections Policy for the VBG. A policy like this seeks to organize a garden's horticultural and curatorial agenda and to provide guidance to achieving the

garden's mission through the garden's collection of plants.

Over the weeks I have engaged with Bob, garden staff, volunteers, our members, and seasonal visitors, about the collections at the VBG. I received additional mentorship from Tim Thibault, Woody Plants Curator at The Huntington in Los Angeles, CA. The VBG can use this policy to augment applications for grants and curatorial networks and to guide future planning and development. For the VBG, this policy is a huge step forward into the realm of the world's great gardens.

It is hard to believe that I am at the end of my 10 weeks at Vallarta Botanical Garden! My perspectives, both inside and outside the garden, have been forever altered by my time here. I am sad to go but excited about what lies ahead. After some touring to Mexico City, I depart for Great Dixter outside London, UK, for another 8-week student placement. Experiencing the rush of spring in what I consider the global capital of ornamental horticulture will be yet another dream unfolding. In June, I return to the United States, where I will fill a full-time gardener position at Untermyer Gardens in my hometown of Yonkers, NY.

I will forever remember my special experiences at VBG, the wonderful people of Mexico, and the remarkable diversity of plants I have learned how to grow here. I look forward to returning to visit and hope it will not be long before I do!



In this photo: Drew Schulyer  
Photo: Jesús Reyes



## Vallarta BEER Garden

March 19

For those who appreciate the authentic natural flavors of fine craft brewed beers, hardly anything can top an event in a beautiful setting with great live music and tasty local brews. Good beer starts with good basic ingredients and in our minds there's no better place to experience this than in a garden setting.

This March 19th the Vallarta Botanical Garden will host local microbrewers as they pair some of their distinctive beverages with the plants and landscapes of the Garden. Microbrews will be served from 1 - 5 pm and live gypsy jazz music by MORUNO will be featured from 1 - 5 pm. Event cost is \$350 pesos/person. For more information, please contact [eventos@vbgardens.org](mailto:eventos@vbgardens.org).

**A big thanks to our BEER SPONSORS:**

**Los Muertos Brewing, Cerveza El Terrible, and Cervecería Minerva.**



Photo: Bruce Novak





## The Foxtail Palm

Article and photos by Al Rouyer

The Foxtail Palm (*Wodyetia bifurcata*) is native to a remote coastal area at the northern tip of Queensland, Australia and only in the last century came to the notice of botanists. Today it is a widely popular ornamental palm and planted across many tropical and subtropical regions including the Bay of Banderas area where it is extremely common and locally known as *Cola de Zorro*.

The Foxtail is a beautiful species of palm tree easily recognizable from its fluffy, plume-like, arching fronds that resemble a fox's tail. It is similar in appearance to the Royal Palm only not as tall or massive. Like the latter, the Foxtail Palm is ideal for forming colonnades and lining avenues and other promenades giving them a "royal" look. It grows best in full sun and loose soil where its deep roots can tap underground moisture.

**Identification** – The Foxtail palm is a small tree reaching only to about 45 feet (14 meters) tall with a crownshaft of 3 feet (1 meter) long. The crown consists of about a dozen fussy-looking, arching fronds each about 10 feet (3 meters) long. Below the smooth, light-green crownshaft, the trunk can be tan to light gray depending on the age of the tree with widely spaced, prominent darker rings. Flowers are yellowish-green in clusters on spikes, 2-3 feet (1 meter) long. The fruit is egg-shaped, to 2 inches (5 centimeters) long, in drooping clusters and orange to red when ripe.





## Opening of the Chapel “*NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL JARDÍN*” March 20

By: Dr. Rafael Guzmán Mejía, Communication Officer, Science Advisory Board, VBG

The Garden’s new chapel, *Nuestra Señora del Jardín* (Our Lady of the Garden) will be opened to the public on March 20th with a special ceremony to bless and dedicate this sanctuary within a natural paradise. All are invited to join us for this special occasion. The mission of the *Nuestra Señora del Jardín* is to rejuvenate and inspire the human spirit to live in harmony with the natural world while promoting peace and understanding among diverse cultures and faiths.

Almost 500 years ago, the first Christian church in the Municipio de Cabo Corrientes was blessed by Catholic missionaries on a Palm Sunday. The ceremony of blessing and dedication for the *Nuestra Señora del Jardín* chapel has been planned to coincide with this auspicious historic event. Our blessing event will commence with a Palm Sunday Palm Walk Procession starting from the Hacienda de Oro Visitor Center’s Hall of Flowers Ballroom at 1 pm. The blessing of the Chapel will follow at about 2 pm. Several local clergy, including Father Saúl of the *Iglesia el Refugio*, have generously donated their time to make this day a very special occasion for all. Chapel patrons and Garden board members will be available afterwards to speak with garden guests about this project and uses for this new facility.



Photo: Bruce Novak





Rhododendron  
Photo: Jesús Reyes

This March 2016 marks 491 years since the Spanish conquest of Banderas Bay and El Tuito and the introduction of Christianity to this region. A few hundred soldiers commanded by Francisco Cortez de San Buenaventura and accompanied by Friar Juan de Villadiego arrived to what is now known as Boca de Tomatlán on Monday, March 27th, 1525. The following day, they followed the Horcones River, passing right along where the Vallarta Botanical Garden now stands and then marched through the mountains to a village called *Teoitoc* in the native Nahuatl language. This name, meaning “where God appeared” is the origin of the current name of the town of El Tuito. Upon their arrival in El Tuito the group quickly began construction of a Catholic church through forced native labor. On April 9th, of 2025, a Palm Sunday, they blessed and named the unfinished chapel as Santa Cruz de los Ramos. The following day the military group continued its journey onward towards Colima passing by the Tomatlán River, Satira, Chola, Chiamila, Cuxmalán, Xirostro, and Villa de Purificación.

The chapel that these men founded has been lost to the passing of time and now lives on only in history books yet the Palm Sunday on which it was blessed has inspired the selected date for the blessing of the new chapel at the Garden. Here a spiritual nexus now rises in the middle of a natural sanctuary where strangers come together in friendship.

Source:

Tello, A.1997. *Libro segundo de la crónica miscelánea en que se trata dela conquista espiritual y temporal de la santa provincia de Jalisco en el nuevo reino de la Nueva Galicia y Nueva Vizcaya y descubrimiento del Nuevo Mundo.* México. Porrúa.



## Vallarta Botanical Garden's Calendar

DATE	EVENT	COST
	<b>GARDENS ARE CLOSED ON MONDAYS FROM APRIL UNTIL DECEMBER</b>	
3 MAR	<b>Curator's Sunset Cocktail Social</b> —(Copa de Oro Members and higher)	Copa de Oro Members—Join!
5-6 MAR	<b>Vallarta Bird Festival</b> — Your most interesting and elusive of feathered friends—identified and interpreted. Complimentary bird art workshops as well.	Included with entry
19 MAR	<b>Vallarta BEER Garden</b> — Discover the joys of Mexico's gifts to your taste buds through beverages and demos/presentations by guest cerveza experts. \$350 USD per person (less than \$20 USD) gets you beer, live music, access to activities, and an opportunity to influence the direction of this promising event. (See page 12 for more info.)	\$350 MXN
20 MAR	<b>Palm Sunday Palm Walk</b> — Satisfy some botanical curiosities and a connection to ancient scriptures at the same time. Start: 1 pm.	Included with entry
20 MAR	<b>Chapel Blessing Ceremony</b> — Participate and bear witness to the opening of a multifaith sanctuary to unite our community. Should anyone who wants to attend is limited by the	Included with entry
21 MAR	<b>Benito Juárez' Birthday</b> — (Statutory Holiday)	Included with entry
27 MAR	<b>Easter</b> — Garden remains open for all of Holy Week	Included with entry

\* Some activities subject to change. The most current calendar, often with links to further event information, can be viewed at [www.vbgardens.org/calendar](http://www.vbgardens.org/calendar).



Photo: Jesús Reyes

### Garden Hours

**Open 7 days/wk**

**Open 6 days/wk**

**Early "Bird" Opening**

**Daily Guided Tour**

**Jazz in the Garden**

### 9 am – 6 pm

for the months of Dec., Jan., Feb., & March (except Christmas & New Year's Day)

**(Closed Mondays)** April, May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., & Nov.

8 am every Thursday

1 pm (Offered for the months of Dec., Jan., Feb., & March)

1 - 3 pm (Offered for the months of Dec., Jan., Feb., & March)





Michaela Flores, Membership Coordinator, VBG  
[memberships@vbgardens.org](mailto:memberships@vbgardens.org)

## From the Membership Desk

As the Vallarta Botanical Garden keeps raising the bar, our community keeps rising to support as more people join us for members for the first time or upgrade their level of membership. We're very grateful for this generous support!

Over the next two years our focus is on horticultural excellence through growing and caring for beautiful plants, many of which are also important in terms of research potential and conserving natural biodiversity. So as we **STRETCH** ourselves to advance our garden even more, we invite you to do so with us. Gracias!

Members: please always wear your membership card when visiting the Garden. This helps our staff and volunteers recognize you as members and offer discounts on your Garden purchases.

## Can you find your name on our WALL OF BENEFACTORS?

**If you're not yet "on the wall" we invite you to join the family that preserves the Garden forever!**

Becoming a member is easy & provides great benefits:  
[www.vbgardens.org/memberships](http://www.vbgardens.org/memberships)

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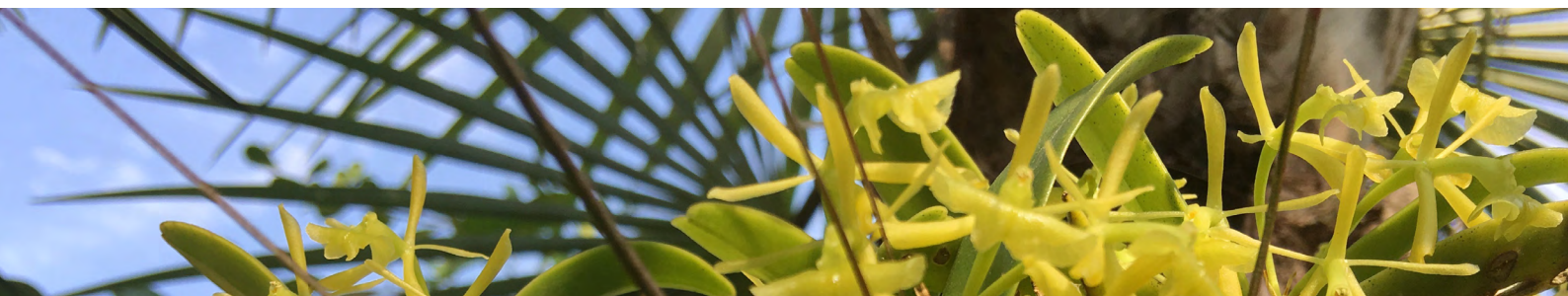
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