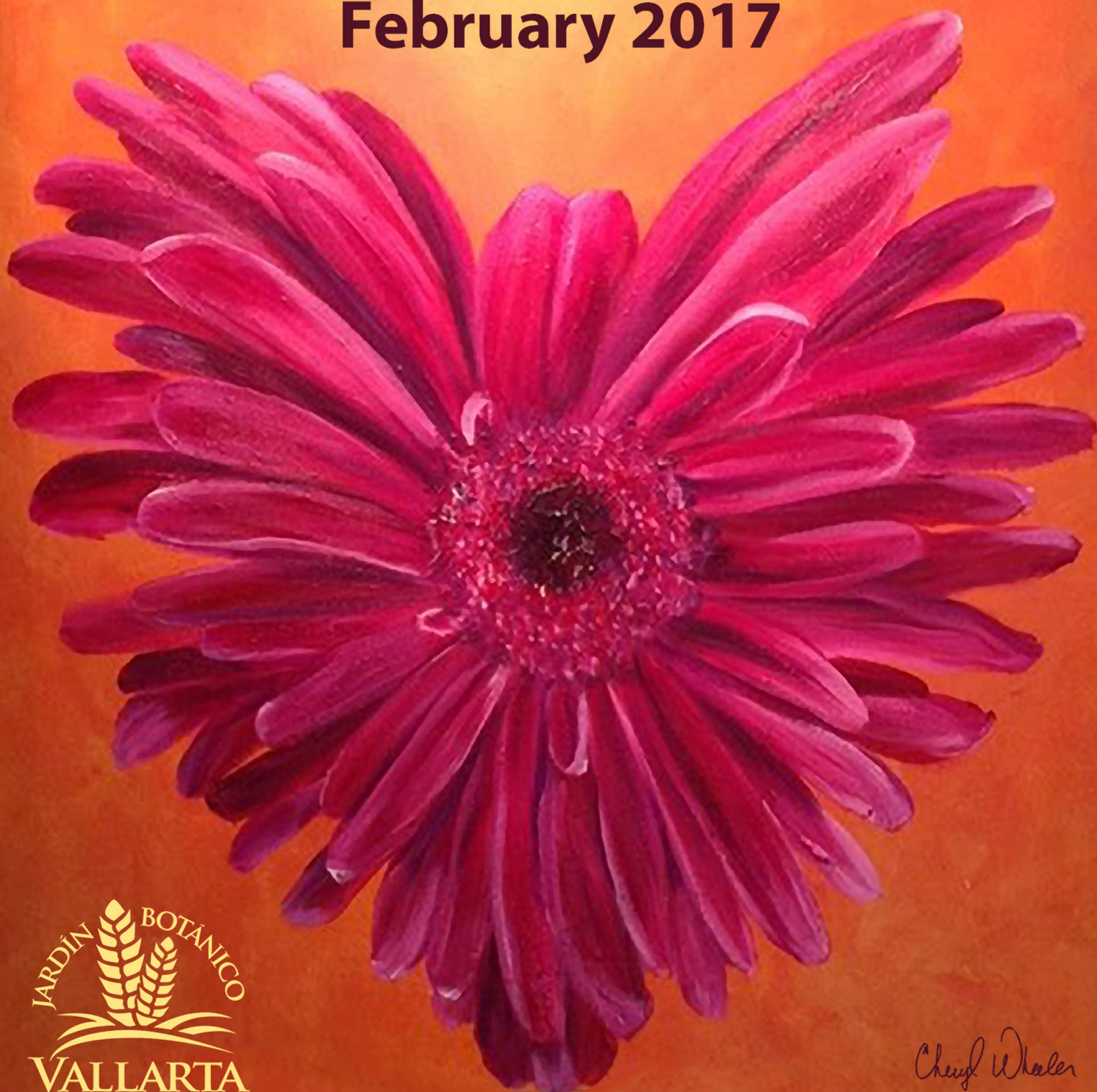


THE LEAFLET

The Monthly Magazine of the Vallarta Botanical Garden

February 2017



Cheryl Wheeler

THE LEAFLET

The Monthly Magazine of the Vallarta Botanical Garden

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico

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Contents

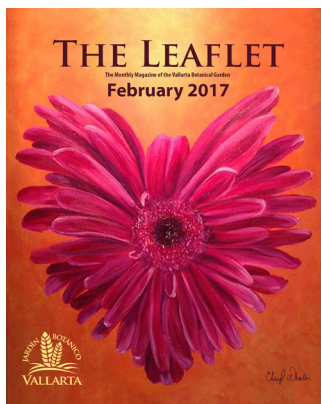
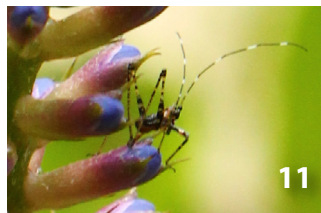
- 1 Curator's Corner
- 3 Dedication of the Cheryl L. Wheeler
International Peace Garden of Mexico
- 4 "Salute to Vallarta!" Membership Appreciation Day
- 6 VBG Welcomes New Members: Greg Stanton and Family
- 7 Something New to Science Right in our "Own Backyard"?
- 8 VBG Advances in Plant Science
- 9 The VBG Welcomes New Science Advisor: Chris Carmichael, Ph.D.
- 10 Mexican Bird of the Month
- 12 2017 Vallarta Bird Festival
- 15 *La Cascada de Serenidad* - Pondless Waterfall

Features

- 16 Vallarta Botanical Garden's Calendar
- 17 From the Membership Desk
- 22 Donation Information

Cheryl Wheeler is a visual artist who creates large-scale floral paintings that are mostly commissioned and in the custom process, she works closely with clients to inspire them to experience joy and feel their own inner beauty. Patrons affirm her canvas creations are full of energy and remind them of both the delicateness and force of our natural world.

Owner of the painting on the cover: Cheryl was commissioned to paint a logo for a women's award program, information of the program can be found here: <http://bit.ly/UWA2015>



Cover:
Art: Cheryl Wheeler
www.cherylwheelerart.com
Design: Mike Laking



www.vbgardens.org

Curator's Corner

Dear Friends of the Garden,

This February 16th, we will dedicate the Cheryl L. Wheeler International Peace Garden of Mexico at the Vallarta Botanical Garden. Last summer, the mayors of Cabo Corrientes, Prisciliano Ramírez Gordián, and Puerto Vallarta, Arturo Dávalos Peña, appealed to the International Peace Garden Foundation (IPGF) for our communities to share this special distinction for our country. They communicated the friendly and welcoming nature of our citizens and how for decades the Puerto Vallarta region has built a world-renowned reputation as a place where diversity is celebrated and cultivated.

Paula Savage and Michel Gauthier, executives of the IPGF, will participate in the dedication ceremony along with our mayors, Garden leadership and members. Other distinguished guests that day will include the President of the *Asociación Mexicana de Jardines Botánicos* (Mexican Association of Botanical Gardens) along with many local and regional community leaders. The public is especially welcome and encouraged to attend and celebrate this important event with us. Real and lasting peace is only possible if everyone works towards it, yet it only takes a few people of courage, boldness and vision to initiate the actions necessary for pursuing it. Your participation can make a big difference!

On behalf of the Vallarta Botanical Garden as an organization, I'd like to personally thank all who have made possible this new "garden within a garden" whether through memberships and other general contributions or through the many gifts specifically dedicated to this project. I recently asked Cheryl L. Wheeler, the lead benefactor of the International Peace Garden of Mexico, to share what inspired her to contribute so generously to this project. She told me, "I support the Garden because peace is essential. The entire Garden is a healing oasis that serves visitors and residents of Puerto Vallarta as a place of contemplation to enjoy the nature of Mexico."

Healing is a top priority to the citizens of our world who depend on each other for a prosperous future. The ridiculous myth of war benefiting the economy has long been debunked and in an increasingly interdependent world, there are no long-term victors when we succumb to violent conflict. Peace and the virtues that support it are the foundation we wish to create for generations to come. Please join us in this creation.

With unyielding resolve to pursue a peaceful future for both our local community and our friends throughout the world,
Bob Price, Founder and Curator, VBG

Dressed like a flower
Photo: Ulises Sánchez Mireles





**Let the seeds of peace begin here and spread
throughout the world.
— International Peace Garden Foundation**

Photo: Ulises Sánchez Mireles

Dedication of the Cheryl L. Wheeler International Peace Garden of Mexico Thursday, February 16th, 2 pm - 4 pm



International Peace Garden
Photo: Mansur Kiadeh

Please join distinguished guests, the President of the *Asociación Mexicana de Jardines Botánicos*, the mayors of Puerto Vallarta and Cabo Corrientes, and Cheryl L. Wheeler, lead patron and artist, for the dedication of this special place within the Vallarta Botanical Garden that has been awarded the distinction of Mexico's International Peace Garden.

Live music will be provided by MORUNO (gypsy jazz) and STOLIE (acoustic-folk).

Your participation is a step towards peace for our region and our world!



Hacienda de Oro Visitor Center at the VBG
Photo: Frank McCann

“Salute to Vallarta!” Membership Appreciation Day
Saturday, February 4th

Members, celebrate nature and beauty at the Garden with us! Not a member yet, join us on this special occasion!
(Please see the calendar of events on page 16 for more upcoming member events.)

Event Itinerary:

12:00 – 1:00 pm	Welcome Margaritas at the front gate (Complimentary for members)
1:00 – 3:00 pm	Mexican Buffet (Complimentary for members)
1:00 – 1:45 pm	Guided tour of the Garden with our Docents
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Live entertainment: Mariachis & Folkloric Dancers
3:00 pm	Thank-you and announcements

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 the Garden 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 for you to begin this kind of contribution today.

Commemorative Cantera Benches

Would you like to honor or memorialize someone with a permanent cantera bench at the Vallarta Botanical Garden? Benches are finished with beautiful hand-painted ceramic tiles. We can help you create a custom design with text and images of your choice. 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 per month. 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 VBG

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.

Bromeliad in bloom
Photo: Ulises Sánchez Mireles





VBG Welcomes New Members: Greg Stanton and Family

Please join us in welcoming a new member family to the Vallarta Botanical Garden: Greg Stanton, President of the Board of Directors of the Punta de Mita Foundation, his wife Gaby, son Danny and daughter Nicole. Greg shared with us their inspiration behind them joining us as new members and their latest visit:

"Our family has always enjoyed the Garden and our kids really love going there even though it's a bit of a drive from Nuevo Vallarta where we live. They both love nature and walking the trails. Even the resident dog, Domino, showed us the way on the trails one day! Of course, we enjoy the beautiful plant life, but also the birds, the butterflies and the walk down to the river (mandatory for us!)... All of it is amazing.. and gets better each year!"

Do you have something nice to share about a Garden visit? Please tell us, or write your comments on [TripAdvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com).

**"What do you want
to do for your Birthday?"
- Greg Stanton**

**"Let's go back to
the Vallarta Botanical Garden!"
- Nicole Stanton**



Something New to Science Right in our “Own Backyard”?

By Neil Gerlowski, Executive Director, VBG

We are constantly amazed at the complexity and diversity of nature, especially here in the tropics. The more we study, the more we realize what we don't know! Take for example *Garcinia intermedia*, a beautiful, edible, fruiting tree that grows naturally in the Garden's forest preserve and is also represented by a specimen in the VBG's Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids and Native Plants.

This past month, a team of researchers representing the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* and Yale University visited our Garden on a hunt for *Garcinia intermedia*. They shared with us that the specimens they encountered in the vicinity of Mismaloya Canyon (between the VBG and downtown Puerto Vallarta) have distinct morphological features, most noticeably larger than normal fruit, that may indicate they are their own

separate species. The plants they encountered occurring wildly in the VBG's forest preserve have these same characteristics. The researchers will need to go back to their herbaria to further analyze their samples, both under the microscope and the DNA sequencer, but their hope is that the data will back up their hunch. We hope so too as this would mean the description of a new “microendemic” plant for our region—something totally unique to our coast of Jalisco!

This further highlights the importance of plant science and the potential of botanical gardens to play critical roles in plant research, monitoring, and conservation necessary to maintain genetic diversity for a healthy planet. This is especially important in a time of climate change and other threats to the world's ecosystems.

From left to right:

Patrick Sweeney, PhD, Collections Manager, Division of Botany, Yale University Herbarium, Peabody Museum of Natural History; Neil Gerlowski, MAT, Executive Director, Vallarta Botanical Garden; Mark E. Olson, PhD, *Investigador Titular B*, *Instituto de Biología*, *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*; Omar Paez, Biology Student, Yale University standing in front of a specimen of *Garcinia intermedia* in the Vallarta Botanical Garden's Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids and Native Plants.

Photo: Bill McCann



VBG Advances in Plant Science Thanks to the Efforts of its Science Advisory Board

Neil Gerlowski, Executive Director, VBG

Last year, the Vallarta Botanical Garden formed a Science Advisory Board, which held its inaugural meeting on February 25th, 2016. Since that time, the Garden's advances in plant science have been remarkable. Much of this is in thanks to the work of this board as well as their financial contributions and fundraising on behalf of the Garden. Several members of the Science Advisory Board will attend the upcoming dedication of the Cheryl L. Wheeler International Peace Garden of Mexico on February 16th and as well as an annual meeting at the Garden on February 17th. Please join us in thanking these individuals for their contributions and advocacy on behalf of our Garden.

A few highlights of the Vallarta Botanical Garden's many advances in plant science this past year include:

- Accreditation as a Level 1 Arboretum through ArbNet, an initiative of The Morton Arboretum of Lisle, Illinois
- Conditional accreditation with the Plant Collections Network of the American Public Garden Association (The Garden's Board has accepted the conditions of accreditation and is working to meet them)
- Collaboration with The Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens of San Marino, California in a research project on *Dioon tomasellii* (a cycad) throughout the states of Jalisco, Nayarit and Sinaloa
- Participation in the inaugural workshop of the Oaks of the Americas Conservation Network, Morelia, Michoacán
- Presenting at the 2016 Gene Conservation of Tree Species Workshop in Chicago, Illinois
- Presenting at the *XX Congreso de la Sociedad Botánica de México* in Mexico City
- An award of a 1,000 USD Mt. Cuba Center Challenge Grant for Plant Curation
- An award of a 1,000 USD ArbNet Grant for a collaborative research project focused on native oaks of the region
- An award of a 3,000 USD Magnolia Society International Grant for a collaborative research and collection project focused on Mexican Magnolias

Meet the Vallarta Botanical Garden's Science Advisory Board:

Barley, Richard, M.S.,	Director of Horticulture, Kew Gardens	Advisor
Bunting, Andrew, B.S.	Assistant Director of the Garden and Director of Plant Collections, Chicago Botanic Garden	Advisory Board Vice-Chair
Cavender, Nicole, Ph.D.	Vice President of Science and Conservation, The Morton Arboretum	Advisory Board Secretary
Carmichael, Chris, Ph.D.	Research Associate, University of California Botanical Garden of Berkeley	Advisor
Gerlowski, Neil, M.A.T.	Executive Director, Vallarta Botanical Garden	Advisory Board Chair
Griffith, Patrick, Ph.D.	Executive Director, Montgomery Botanical Center	Advisor
Guzman, Rafael, Ph.D.	Retired Botany Professor, University of Guadalajara	Advisory Board Communication Officer
Heinze, Alan, M.S.	Ph.D. Student in Ecology, Wageningen University Former Research Coordinator, Vallarta Botanical Garden	Advisor
Thibault, Tim, M.S.	Curator of Woody Plants, The Huntington	Advisor
Zale, Peter, Ph.D.	Curator of Plants and Plant Breeder, Longwood Gardens	Advisor

Chris Carmichael, Ph.D.
Photo: Terry Stein



The VBG Welcomes New Science Advisor Chris Carmichael, Ph.D.

Chris Carmichael, Ph.D., is a Research Associate at the University of California Botanical Garden (UCBG) at Berkeley. He began working at the UCBG in 1998, and served as the Associate Director of Collections and Horticulture from 2005 to 2016. In this capacity he oversaw the development, preservation and documentation of living plant collections. He also oversaw the conservation programs of the UCBG. He has been involved with the North American Plant Collections Consortium (NAPCC, now the Plant Collections Network) of the American Public Gardens Association, where he served as Chair, Vice Chair, Reviewer Trainer, Reviewer, and Chair of the Multi-Site Cycad Collection. At UC Berkeley he co-taught an introduction to museum studies course. Before coming to Berkeley he worked as a curator at the Michigan State University Museum, and taught several courses, including introduction to museum studies.



GIVE & RECEIVE

Order your custom floral original painting and help fund-raise for the Vallarta Botanical Garden.

Artist and International Peace Garden of Mexico Benefactor, Cheryl L. Wheeler will create your custom floral painting and donate 50% of the proceeds back to the Garden in your name.

Cheryl Wheeler ART



Email cw@cherylwheelerart.com
Call +1-602-820-1142
Or click www.cherylwheelerart.com

Mexican Bird of the Month

Attila spadiceus - Bright-rumped Attila - *Unseen* Will-o-the-wisp of the Neotropical Forest Canopy

Article & Photos By: Greg R. Homel www.birdinginpuertovallarta.com/birdingadventures@mac.com

They are among the first songbirds to vocalize in the pre-dawn and one of the last to cease their ethereal admonitions at dusk... yet they go unseen by nearly all regional birders who don't "bird by ear"! The Bright-rumped Attila truly is an *unseen* will-o-the-wisp of the neotropical forest canopy.

For this reason they are a challenge to see from an observer's standpoint... as you usually have to look straight up through myriad branches and leaves to catch a glimpse of this striking bird. They are also good ventriloquists, so follow their song, but remember, just when you think you've *got it*, they turn out to be closer than you thought... or vice versa. But that's part of the fun of tracking the aptly-named Bright-rumped Attila.... It's the thrill of the chase!

This attila is the northernmost, most widespread of a cline of attilas that spans the entire neotropical realm; the proverbial tip of the iceberg, so to speak, of a species that is just as typical of the vast rainforests of Amazonia as it is of Cabo Corrientes. In fact, this link makes seeing one all

the more exciting... though to some it's almost surprising to see them this far north on the Pacific slope of Mexico. Yet they are here and occur from sea level to around 7,000' elevation.

Attilas are hefty members of the Tyrant Flycatcher family (Tyrannidae), the largest family of birds found in tropical America, which is more than 400 strong. The common name literally comes from *Attila the Hun*, in reference to its aggressive wanderings, though our species is typically territorial and sedentary. Always monogamous, they are usually found in pairs, though you may only see one of each duo. Rest assured, though, they both see you!

Their nests are tangled structures of rootlets, mosses, spider's silk and lichens, often placed on an epiphyte, where available. They are also *polymorphic*, meaning there are color morphs involved, and *ours* is decidedly quite rufous—*warm rusty brown in color*—with brick-red irises (best seen at close range and from above... which is no easy feat), a streaked head, namesake *bright* tawny rump patch and heavy bill with falcated tip for dispatching prey ranging from stinging insects to venomous arachnids, helpless arboreal frogs, and even lizards; though they will also take fruit, especially that of the Gumbo Limbo (*Bursera sp.*). In Southeastern Mexico and southward these birds have even been witnessed following army ant swarms to depredate prey fleeing from the marauding, stinging hoards.

The race found in southern Central America and South America displays a bright lemon-yellow rump patch, as opposed to the warm tawny color that prevails in all individuals inhabiting tropical Mexico, prompting some ornithologists to split southern birds into their own species, the Flammulated Attila (*Attila flammulatus*).

The Vallarta Botanical Garden is home to at least a couple pairs of this striking tyrant flycatcher, but they do not come out into the open like some flycatchers do. You have to enter their forested realm if you want to be treated to the sight of this impressive species. From my experience, the best trail to follow in order to find this bird is the tantalizingly-named Jaguar Trail. Go ahead, hit that trail, take the challenge to *see the unseeable*!





Attila spadiceus
Photo: Greg R. Homel

2017 Vallarta Bird Festival, March 10th-12th

By Neil Gerlowski, Executive Director, VBG

The Puerto Vallarta region is home to a host of bird diversity with over 300 species within just an hour or so from downtown Puerto Vallarta and over 500 species within a five-hour drive from here! Just within the Vallarta Botanical Garden alone, over 200 different species of birds have been observed and documented on eBird.org, a citizen science project of the National Audubon Society and The Cornell Lab of Ornithology. During the annual Vallarta Bird Festival, this abundant avifauna is observed, studied, and celebrated by an enthusiastic group of local residents and international visitors.

This year, accomplished international sculptor and bird aficionado Todd McGrain will be the festival's guest of honor. He will present screenings of his documentary "The Lost Bird Project" at both the Juan Luis Cifuentes Auditorium of the University of Guadalajara's local "CUC" campus and at the Vallarta Botanical Garden. Todd's documentary covers his work in creating and installing enormous bronze masterpieces memorializing North American birds that have sadly been driven to extinction by human error. The topic, while grim, can help raise awareness for those species that are now endangered and *will* go extinct if we don't do something to stop the threats against them and their critical habitats.

Mexico is the only country in North America not yet graced by one of Todd's evocative bird sculptures. Mexico's now extinct endemic Imperial Woodpecker (*Campephilus imperialis*) would be an excellent candidate for a memorial statue, and Jalisco's pine forests, such as those that begin along the fringes of the Vallarta Botanical Garden, were at the heart of this majestic bird's former range. With any luck, Todd will find sufficient inspiration to create a sculpture in coastal Jalisco and the Puerto Vallarta community will see the value in investing in such a memorial to nature.

Preliminary Draft Agenda for the 2017 Vallarta Bird Festival (Final Festival details to be published in March edition of The Leaflet)

Date	Time	Activity	Location
March 10	Early morning	Birding on Campus	UDG CUC (meet up at entry to the Reptilario)
	Midday	Screening of "The Lost Bird Project"	Juan Luis Cifuentes Auditorium, UDG CUC
March 11	Early morning	Birding in the Forest	VBG (meet up in parking lot at 8 am)
	Midday	Birding by Ear Workshop	VBG, Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids
	Afternoon	Screening of "The Lost Bird Project"	VBG, Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids
March 12	Early morning	Birding in the Forest	VBG (meet up in parking lot at 8 am)
	Midday	Presentation of Conservation Initiatives	VBG, Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids

The Vallarta Botanical Garden thanks their colleagues at the UDG CUC, especially Dr. Jorge Téllez, Director of the campus' Division of Biological Sciences and Health, for their collaboration in the Festival. Equally, the Garden extends its gratitude to professional bird guides Alejandro "Alex" Martínez Rodríguez, Greg. R. Homel, Luis Morales, and Francisco García as well as volunteer birding coordinator Nancy Holland for their help with this and past festivals. There are still opportunities for helping create the 2017 Vallarta Bird Festival. Those interested in learning more and/or offering their assistance should contact info@vbgardens.org and/or birdinginmexico@gmail.com.



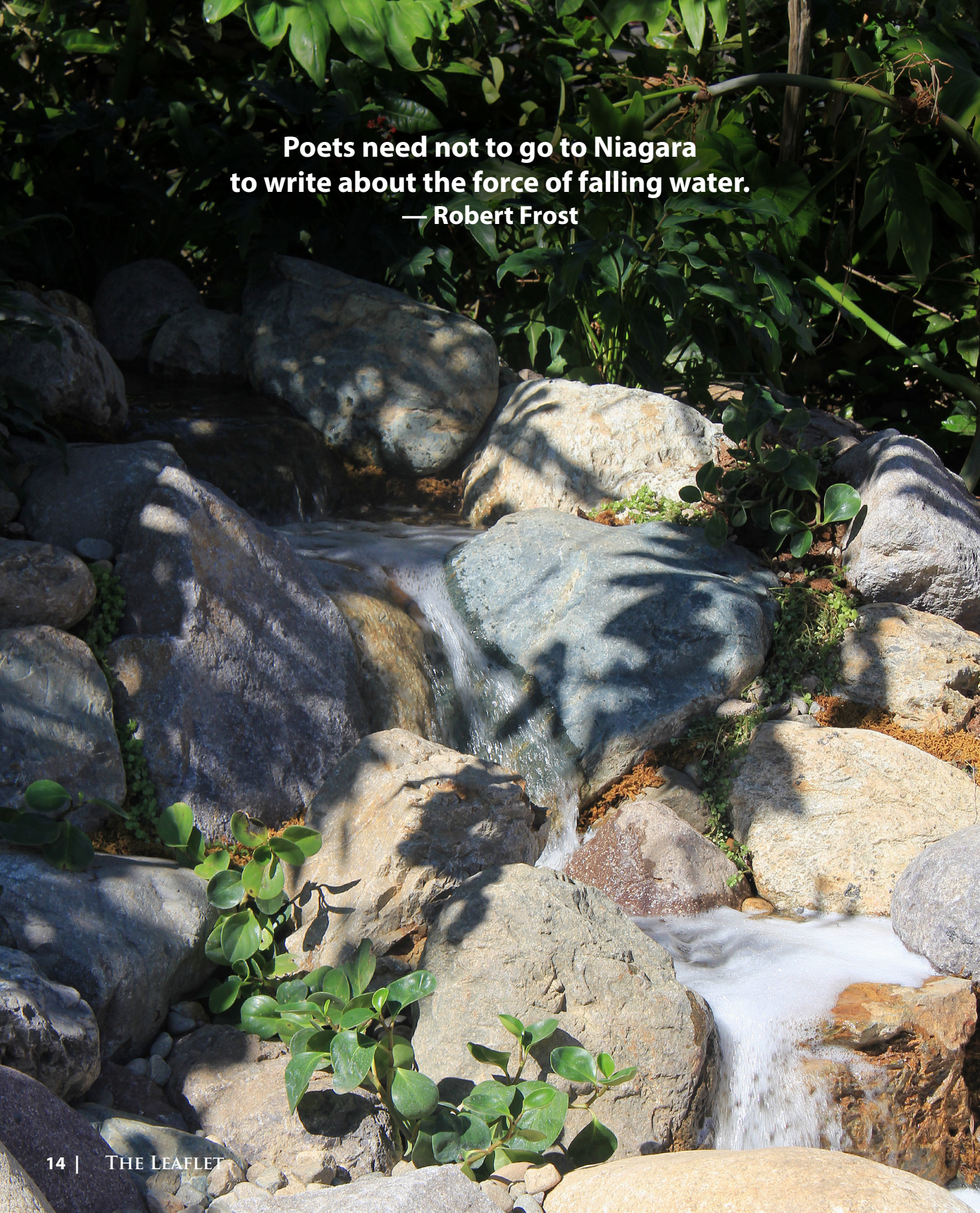
The skull of a Great Awk, extinct since 1800s
Photo: The Lost Bird Project



Todd McGrain's bronze sculpture of the Great Awk
Photo: The Lost Bird Project



Andrew Stern photographs the memorial of the
Carolina Parakeet.
Photo: The Lost Bird Project



**Poets need not to go to Niagara
to write about the force of falling water.
— Robert Frost**



La Cascada de Serenidad - Pondless Waterfall by Acorn Ponds & Waterfalls

The gentle murmur of water flowing over rocks has palpable calming power that can push our fears and worries to the periphery. The aesthetics of waterfalls are such that they draw people from afar to appreciate, often making them the destination of our favorite hikes or the central features of parks and other attractions. The Vallarta Botanical Garden has a fortunate location that includes both a pristine mountain river and a small gurgling stream flowing through the property. Now, thanks to an amazing gift by Vallarta Botanical Garden member, Tom Warmerdam, we now have a beautiful new pondless waterfall next to the Holstein Tropical Plant House. Tom is an award-winning Certified Aquascape Contractor and the owner of Acorn Ponds & Waterfalls of Rochester, New York. He and his wife Lorena, who was born here in Jalisco,



Tom Warmerdam
Photo: Neil Gerlowski

winter in Puerto Vallarta and their love of the Vallarta Botanical Garden has inspired this gift of time, talent, and treasure for us and our visitors to enjoy.

Tom's hand-selected choices of local river rock, artful design, and clever covering of the equipment that makes this feature possible create the illusion of a natural spring. The silence of the low-energy pump is such that the splashing and swishing of the water drown it away unnoticeably.

After noting the potential for an aquascape market among the homes and businesses of our region and envisioning a thriving future for Puerto Vallarta's economy, Tom is looking to expand his business internationally. In addition

to the pondless waterfall that Tom just installed here at the Garden, he also designs and installs a host of other water features including natural looking koi ponds and lakes. As a very satisfied recipient of Tom's excellent work and craftsmanship, we thoroughly recommend contacting him about his services to transform your own property into the paradise that you envision. You may reach Tom by email to tom@acornponds.com.



Tom Warmerdam & VBG staff at work
Photo: Neil Gerlowski

Vallarta Botanical Garden's Calendar

DATE		EVENT	COST
		THE GARDEN IS CLOSED ON MONDAYS FROM APRIL UNTIL DECEMBER	
4	Feb	"Salute to Vallarta!" Member Appreciation Day — See page 4 for more details.	Complimentary for members!
5	Feb	Anniversary of Mexico's Constitution (Statutory holiday is the 6th) – Garden remains open both days.	--
14	Feb	Romance in the Garden to Vallarta! – Celebrate Valentine's Day in nature. This day the 1 pm tour focuses on the power of flowers to express our feelings of love and friendship.	Included with entry
16	Feb	Dedication of the Cheryl L. Wheeler International Peace Garden of Mexico – Dedication activities and live music from 2 to 4 pm. Your participation is a step towards peace for our region and our world! See page 3 for more details.	Included with entry
16	Feb	Curator's Candlelight Dinner – The VBG's signature upper level membership event, exclusive to Copa de Oro Members and above. Reservations must be placed with Michaela Flores memberships@vbgardens.org by February 10th. Event: 6-9 pm.	Copa de Oro members and above
17-25	Feb	Vallarta Flower and Garden Show – This annual event focuses on the peak bloom of several of the Garden's most popular flowers and a host of new plants in the Garden's nursery for sale to the public.	Included with entry
23	Feb	Garden Blossom Luncheon – An intimate luncheon with the Garden's leadership team, exclusive to Board of Trustee Level Members and above. Reservations must be placed with Michaela Flores memberships@vbgardens.org by February 21st. Event begins at 12:00 pm.	Board of Trustee Level Members & Above
2	Mar	Curator's Sunset Cocktail Social – A social evening with cocktails and hor's d'oeuvres for the Garden's Copa de Oro Members and above. Event: 6-9 pm.	Copa de Oro members and above
10-12	Mar	Vallarta Bird Festival – See page 12 for more details. (Note: On March 10th all activities are in Puerto Vallarta. Garden activities are on March 11th and 12th.)	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.



Bromeliad
Photo: Mansur Kiadeh

Garden Hours

Open 7 days/wk

Open 6 days/wk

Early "Bird" Opening

Daily Guided Tour

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

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



From the Memberships Desk



Michaela Flores,
Membership Coordinator, VBG
memberships@vbgardens.org

During the month in which we celebrate Valentine's Day, the Vallarta Botanical Garden hosts all of its most important events to show the love back to our members. *All* of our beloved members are welcome to our "Salute to Vallarta!" Member Appreciation Day on Saturday, February 4th. After that, we have our signature Curator's Candlelight Dinner exclusively for our Copa de Oro Members and above and then the Garden Blossom Luncheon for our Trustee Level Members and above. This is also our most popular month for becoming a member or deepening your support of the Garden by upgrading a membership. We encourage you to invite your friends out to the Garden and ask them to join us as members, or give them the gift of membership for a year... chances are they'll renew on their own the following year and keep the tradition going!

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

Can you find your name on our WALL OF PATRONS?

**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

A high resolution image of this photograph is
available at www.vbgardens.org/benefactors



We would like to acknowledge and thank the following supporters:

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México



- **Tax-deduction receipts** are available for donations to the Vallarta Botanical Garden made through the *Fundación Punta de Mita* (FPM).
- **Please send an email earmarking your gift for the Vallarta Botanical Garden to** donaciones@fundacionpuntademita.org **with a copy to** info@vbgardens.org
- In this email please include your name, the date your gift was sent, and the amount of your gift.

Checks may be mailed to:

Fundación Punta de Mita, A.C.
Carretera Federal Libre 200 Km 18.05
Punta Mita, Nayarit, C.P. 63734 México.

- Please provide FPM with your email and information to be included in the tax-deductible receipt (which will be sent by email).
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Canada



- Our educational programs qualify for **tax-deduction receipts** provided by The Canadian Children's Shelter of Hope Foundation (CCSHF)

Cheques may be mailed to:

Canadian Children's Shelter of Hope Foundation
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Toronto, ON,
M6S 3H9
Canada

Please write "VBG" for "Vallarta Botanical Gardens" on your cheques.

Alternatively, you may donate using a credit card through CanadaHelps.org (whose donation page is linked to the CCSHF website www.ccs hf.ca) selecting the "Vallarta Botanical Gardens Fund."

USA



- Our direct support 501(c)3, "Friends of Vallarta Botanical Gardens, A.C." issues **tax-deduction receipts**:

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Friends of Vallarta Botanical Gardens, A.C.
759 North Campus Way
Davis, CA 95616

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