

## Issue 6 I March 2019

Santos Miguel Niño is a botanist and member of Calvary. He recently discovered a plant called *P. calvarii*. Here is our interview with Miguel and his wife Daniela who is also a botanist.

Rachel Alcazar, Alison Sorto, Mayra Duran

## What do you do for a living?

I am a professor of Botany and a teaching professor of Agronomy in Venezuela.

Also, I do research in systematic botany. I am an engineer of Natural Resources.

I have a Masters Degree in Natural Resources Management and also a doctorate in Environmental Development.

## How and when did you discover the new Calvary Pepper: P. calvarii?

In the mountains, we collect species from the area to analyze. Two years ago, in a place hard to reach - it was like a Calvary to get there - we found two plants and one was named after Calvary. The flower's seeds are very similar to and are in the same family as the black pepper.





## What is your work day like?

I have two types of days. One is field work in the mountains: I collect plants in the mountains. I work with the Forest Keepers that collaborate with our research. The mountains are cold and they are at a very high altitude. The mountains haven't been changed by people, so there are many plants. The other type of my work day is teaching: I teach in La Universidad de los Llanos, in Guanare, Venezuela. I teach in a lab called an Herbarium to collect and examine plants.

# Why did you decide to name it after Calvary?

When I came to Calvary, I thought that I was treated very nicely by everyone. I also thought that Calvary was a nice name for a plant. Many other botanists in Venezuela also thought that it was a good name. My paper was published in the Harvard Botanical Journal in June of 2018.

[You can find a copy of the paper here:

https://huh.harvard.edu/files/herbaria/files/23\_1\_9\_ninao\_dorr.pdf

## 2018: Year in Review

The Calvary Kids' Club had a very busy year in 2018. From our first publication to our fun parties, Kids' Club had a full year. As the year wrapped up, we would like to reflect on the many major events that were the most important to us as a group. By Rachel Alcazar

March 2018: Although we are not sure when we had our first club meeting, the first meet should be the first major event. The first time we met, we were kind of clueless and had to make and print out some worksheets because we weren't quite sure yet of what we would do with the club yet. The members of the first meet were: Rachel, Edilmar, Anderson, Francisco, and Ruthie.

**May 2018**: Our first newsletter was published. It was mostly about founding the club and things like that. The main feature of that newsletter was a piece about Camp Fraser by Mayra.

**June 2018**: Our first club party was next, although we are not sure of the date (once again). We had a display of all of the past projects and worksheets to show the parents. During the party, we made all different kinds of slime and ate fresh pizza (courtesy of Daniel).

**July 2018:** Kids' Club in Wild Goose! We went to North Carolina for a festival called Wild Goose. Some activities we did there were: swimming, hiking, art-making, dancing, and more. The food was amazing, and Pastor Maria, Sally, and Elijah all went.

August 14: The Cruz family's last Sunday with us before they moved to Mexico. We filmed our first video on their last Sunday (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)

**November 2018:** We made a promotional video. It features: Mateo, Alison, Rachel, Mayra, and Ruthie.

**Las Posadas**: We interviewed Mr. Miguel about his job and the plant he discovered. The article is on the front page.

December 27, 2018: We met up for an end-of-year party at the Alcazar House. We ate pasta and salad for lunch and then worked on some newsletters after running around a lot. We then watched our video and made cookies. Decoration time came next, and then we had soup and more noodles for dinner. Rachel and Cristian were the chefs throughout the day. Last but not least, we all bundled up in warm clothes to see the ZooLights!



























