Carnivorous plants and their murderous ways: a tale of traps, pools, and deadly hugs
Wednesday, February 19, 7:30 – 9:00 pm
Historic Takoma
7328 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD
Venture into the world of the bizarre and experience the fascinating world of carnivorous plants. We will look through Darwin’s eyes and his first experiments with Drosera as we understand the habitats that gave rise to such incredible creatures. See first-hand 7 species of carnivorous plants! The first 10 attendees will have a chance to live-feed one of the plants after the presentation!

As School Programs Manager at Audubon Naturalist Society and Co-Chair of Naturally Latinos, Serenella Linares is dedicated to sparking nature curiosity and nature stewardship through environmental education. She is known around ANS for being expert in two areas: making learning fun (for children and adults) and mycology (mushroom knowledge). She has spoken to the club twice about mushrooms and was invited back by popular demand.

Serenella started with Audubon Naturalist Society in 2015 as a contract naturalist and was promoted to her position as Schools Program Manager on September 2016. She holds a Bachelor’s in biology from Universidad Metropolitana de Puerto Rico, a Master’s in atmospheric science from Howard University, and had graduate training in mycology from the University of Maryland. When Serenella is not teaching, she explores urban natural areas, photographs plants, insects, and fungi, and participates in citizen science projects.

Bring your recycled name tag, a friend and a snack/beverage to share. This fascinating talk is free and open to the public, but you are welcome to join or pay your Takoma Horticultural Club dues for 2020—still only $12. Correct change or check (made out to THC) will work. Don’t be late—seating is limited!

Dues Keep Our Club Going and Speakers Coming!
Thanks to everyone who has paid their 2020 dues. I hope many more 2019 club members take this opportunity to send me a check for $12 made out to “THC.” Or you can pay at our next meeting on February 19, when Serenella Linares will give us an animated talk about carnivorous plants. There will be some wonderful carnivorous door prizes. But don’t worry they are harmless!

Please welcome these new and returning members: Helen Libby, Greg Schaler, David Creekmore and Fran Taylor. Welcome to you!
—Carole (cagalati@rcn.com)

Gardening for the Ages
In a new Timber Press book The Lifelong Gardener: Garden With Ease & Joy at Any Age, © 2019, author Toni Gattone (a Master Gardener in Marin County, CA) offers suggestions for older gardeners to work “smarter, not harder,” adapting techniques to ensure safety and comfort as the body changes with advancing age, and thus be “Lifelong Gardeners.”

Gattone suggests using moves from yoga, tai chi or dance to stretch muscles and warm up before you start working in the garden. After 30 minutes of one activity, “start a new chore” that calls on a different muscle group. For example, if your back is the complaining body part, “find things to do in your garden that can be done in a vertical stance.” For safety, replace ladders with a sturdy step stool with a grab bar at the top. There are tips on tool choice, the positives of container gardening, etc. Some good ideas to keep us all in our gardens. The county library has several copies to lend.
—Diane Svenonius

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