

ANDRÉ MICHAUX INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Michaux Family in France Finds AMIS

This spring Régis Pluchet, an 8th generation descendant of André Michaux's niece, Geneviève Michaux Pluchet, contacted Dr. Walter Taylor who immediately shared the information with other members of AMIS. Monsieur Pluchet, a journalist, recently became interested in the Michaux link to his family. AMIS has provided him with documents he could not access easily in France. M. Pluchet is conducting extensive research on his Michaux family connections using primary sources in France that have not been examined previously. He has located the Michaux family farm at Satory, the village where André Michaux's wife grew up, and many documents not seen by previous researchers. M. Pluchet is pursuing a rich trail of clues and will no doubt continue to bring to light important information about André Michaux. Françoise Winieska in Rambouillet has been our invaluable link with M. Pluchet.

Publication of Symposium Papers

Dr. Michael Baranski, past editor of *Castanea*, the Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, is now the Assigned Editor-in-Charge for the first two issues of the new series: *Occasional Papers in Eastern Botany*. Dr. Baranski has announced that the publication date for the *Occasional Paper*, # 2: *Proceedings of the André Michaux International Symposium* will be December 2004. Assisting are Dr. Lytton Musselman and Dr. Zack Murrell. Subscribers to *Castanea* will automatically receive a copy. AMIS members will be notified prior to publication so that they may order copies. In December 2002 *Castanea* published the first in this new series. *Foundations of Southeastern Botany: An Annotated Bibliography of Southeastern American Botanical Explorers Prior to 1824* by Ronald Gilmour. Copies of this publication are available for \$20 each from Dr. Charles Horn, Treasurer of SABS, Dept. of Biology, Newberry College, Newberry, SC 29108.

André Michaux International Society Formed in France

Françoise Winieska, who represented Rambouillet at the Symposium in May 2002, was instrumental in the organization of a chapter of AMIS in Rambouillet, France. She reports that there are 26 members there. We are planning to meet with the French AMIS during a July 2004 tour led by Françoise and Dr. Dean de la Motte (of Belmont Abbey College) to French gardens, cathedrals, and cultural sites among which are the Parc de Rambouillet, Malmaison, Versailles, Giverny and the Jardin des Plantes in Paris. Accommodations will be at historic chateaux and include regional gourmet dinners. For further information, contact deandelamotte@bac.edu.

Lilium michauxii in the News

Thanks to the efforts of Rep. Rex Baker (R-Stokes), the state of North Carolina recently adopted the lovely Carolina Lily, *Lilium michauxii* as the official NC state wild flower.

!!!Three cheers for Rep. Baker!!!

Journal Translation Project

Dr. Eliane Norman, Marie-Florence Lamaute and Carol Davit have begun the task of translating all of Michaux's extant North American journals into English.

Important Primary Sources Discovered at Drayton Hall

A student of James Cothran, Barbara Orsolits, has conducted a study of the Michaux connections in the Drayton diaries. She found a stronger connection between André Michaux and the Drayton family than previously realized. Michaux visited Drayton Hall and gave the Drayton family more plants than previously known. The text of her paper is on the Drayton Hall website found at:

<http://www.draytonhall.org/about/michaux.html>

The paper is also printed in *Magnolia, Bulletin of the Southern Garden History Society*, and will soon be in the *Carologia* published by the SC Historical Society.

Michaux Subscription List Document Highlighted

The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia has both put this historic manuscript on public display and printed actual size reproductions for the APS 2002 fundraising campaign. Jefferson drafted this unique document and the first four US Presidents all signed it.

Recent Programs on André Michaux

- In January, Morgan McClure and Charlie Williams made presentations to the Middleton Place Garden Docents and McClure then led the group on a field trip to the site of Michaux's Charleston garden. The group also stopped at the recently cleaned historic marker at the Charleston airport erected in 1954 by the Garden Club of Charleston. The marker now lies flat beneath a stately oak in a non-public area of the airport, but many travelers do arrive and depart on Michaux Boulevard.
- In honor of the 257th anniversary of Michaux's birth in March, Charlie Williams introduced a new Michaux monologue for the *First Tuesday* program at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden. He has repeated this program as Michaux in full costume for the SC Environmental Educators Assn. in Rock Hill and for the Katawba Valley Land Trust in Lancaster, SC on Earth Day.
- Dr. Walter Taylor and Dr. Eliane Norman reprised their *Michaux in Florida* presentation to AMIS for the Florida Native Plant Society in Orlando. Dr. Taylor has also made solo presentations costumed as Michaux to two other chapters of the Florida Native Plant Society in Melbourne and Deland.

Michaux Coverage in Our State Magazine

An article by Belmont journalist Alan Hodge in the April 2003 issue of this NC magazine highlights Michaux's travels throughout North Carolina. Hodge mentioned that Charlie Williams is available for programs on Michaux, the honoraria going toward the publication costs of the papers in *Castanea*. If interested in a program, you may contact Charlie at 704-366-5969 or by e-mail at: cbw@plcmc.org

New Mailing Addresses for AMIS

We've moved our mailbox from Belmont to Charlotte, NC. The new address is:

P.O. Box 220283
Charlotte, NC 28222

Our new e-mail is: michaux@bac.edu