

Contributors to AMIS 2003-2004

We wish to thank our
generous
contributors:

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CHARLOTTE LACKEY*

Contributors to Trees for Rambouillet:

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ZACK MURRELL
ROBERT TOMPKINS
CATHARINE NEYLAN
THE WINIESKA, ANDERSON
AND JOHNSON FAMILIES*

If we have left your name off this list in error, we apologize, please contact us immediately.

Trees donated:

Big Shellbark Hickory
Ironwood
Black Walnut
Black Gum
Scarlet Oak
Willow Oak
Bur Oak
Bigleaf Magnolia



André Michaux International Society

www.michaux.org

AMIS, the André Michaux International Society, has independent chapters in North America and France.
Purposes of the society

- Increase the visibility of André Michaux and other botanical pioneers in North America.
- Promote the study of André Michaux and his plant discoveries.
- Provide a network for interested scholars to exchange information and ideas.
- Present opportunities for the public to discover André Michaux.
- Advocate improved relations between citizens of France and the US.

Success of First AMIS Project

Thanks to the generous donations from AMIS in the USA, we have successfully reached out to the AMIS in France. Just as André Michaux himself did two hundred years ago, we have successfully sent trees from the USA to France for the parks at Rambouillet. Most of Michaux's great bald cypress trees at Rambouillet survived two centuries of disease and war only to be blown down in the hurricane that struck northern France in 1999. Assisted by Starhill Forest Arboretum in IL, AMIS sent a package of bald cypress seeds in November and followed with 40 hardwood seedlings by air freight from Woodlanders Nursery in SC in February. The AMIS trees arrived in Rambouillet in the late afternoon of 18 February where they were greeted with fanfare at City Hall by a welcoming committee led by Gérard Clerc, President of the Rambouillet AMIS, in the presence of the local press.

These small two-year old seedlings (5 each of 8 species) are now planted in the city green houses where the municipal head gardener watches their growth. As soon as they are acclimatized and have reached a certain size, they will be divided between the park of the presidential Domain and the City of Rambouillet.



Rambouillet Tree Seedlings

Right: Mr. Mandeville, Chief Gardener of Rambouillet
Left: Mr. Dubois, Supervisor of Greenhouses of Rambouillet with seedlings of 40 trees in the Rambouillet greenhouse after being airborne to Rambouillet from AMIS in North America

Celebration in France

To celebrate the arrival of the trees, Senator Gérard Larcher, Mayor of Rambouillet, wishes to receive a delegation of members of the *André Michaux International Society*. The ceremony will be a part of the celebration of Bastille Day, and will take place at 6:00 PM on 13 July in Rambouillet. Several AMIS members have confirmed plans to attend, bought airline tickets and made reservations: Dean de la Motte, Françoise Winieska, Eliane Norman, Marlene Ward, Robert and Kathy Tompkins, and Charlie and Lydia Williams. Others are making plans now. Anyone considering the trip should contact Dean de la Motte at (704) 825-6728. Dean has traveled often in France. He advises us that travel between Paris and Rambouillet is easy because Rambouillet is connected to Paris by commuter rail line.



The Chateau at Rambouillet. The tower was built by François I who died at Rambouillet in 1547. The king of the French Renaissance, François I was known for his generosity to artists and men of letters. He attracted a number of Italian artists to France, including Leonardo da Vinci.

Lilium michauxii Official North Carolina State Wildflower



Governor Easley and the bill's sponsor, Representative Rex Baker, hold the signed bill. It is now official North Carolina has a State Wildflower, *Lilium michauxii*!!

On August 19, 2003 North Carolina Governor Mike Easley signed into law the legislation making this beautiful wildflower, whose scientific name honors André Michaux, the State Wildflower of North Carolina.



Governor Easley hands a pen that he has used to sign the bill designating *Lilium michauxii* as the State Wildflower of North Carolina to Mary Coker Joslin, AMIS representative at the ceremony.



Michaux Programs

Walter Taylor as "Michaux in Florida" and Charlie Williams as "Michaux in the Carolinas" (and now Tennessee) have continued to present interpretative programs as the botanist in period costume. Recently, Walter has appeared before appreciative audiences in Orlando and in Daytona Beach. Charlie has performed his Michaux interpretation for a variety of groups in Asheville, Charlotte, Elizabethtown and Fayetteville, NC, Columbia and Greenville, SC, and Johnson City, TN. The *Fayetteville Observer* daily newspaper covered Charlie's public performance at the Fayetteville headquarters library as a news event, reporting that he "amused and informed 110 people." Charlie's next program will be September 10, 2004 in Highlands, NC for the Highland's Biological Station's native plant symposium.

Charlie is on a mission to raise the balance of the funds needed to publish the AMIS papers with honoraria from these programs. If you want a program for your group, contact Charlie.

Unlike Michaux, Charlie is not plagued by runaway horses, impossible roads or rivers without bridges, and will readily travel some distance from his Charlotte home. The e-mail is: michaux@bac.edu or you can phone 704-366-5969.

If you would simply like to make a contribution to this cause, send your check to:

Dr. Carol Brooks, Director
Foundation and Corporate
Relations
Belmont Abbey College
100 Belmont-Mount Holly Rd.
Belmont, NC 28012

Checks should be made out to Belmont Abbey College-AMIS



Photo Credits:
Gérard Clerc
NC Governor's
Office
Charlie Williams
P. Barsanuphe

Middleton Place's New Yellowwood Tree

Everyone knows of Middleton Place National Historic Landmark's long and proud relationship with the horticultural legacy of André Michaux. Michaux's "Queen of Flowers" camellia is one of the treasures of this oldest landscaped garden in America. A new chapter began March 15, 2004 when Middleton Place accepted the gift of a yellowwood tree, *Cladrastis lutea*, from the Jackson County Historical Society in Gainesboro, TN. Michaux discovered the rare and beautiful yellowwood near Gainesboro on March 2, 1796. Middleton Place accepted the yellowwood in remembrance of André Michaux for his contributions to both Charleston and Jackson County over 200 years ago. Jackson County Historical Society President Ronny West and his wife Donnietta, who presented the yellowwood to Middleton Place, have been invited to join the AMIS delegation traveling to Rambouillet in July.



Michaux Symposium Issue of *Castanea*

Mike Baranski, the assigned Editor-in-Charge and Lytton Musselman Assistant Editor, report that the review process is on schedule with December 2004 the planned publication date. Some papers are still in review, but between 17 and 20 of the presentations at AMIS May 17-18, 2002 at Belmont Abbey College are likely to be published as finished papers in this special issue of *Castanea*.

If you have considered joining the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society (SABS) and receiving the journal *Castanea* and the newsletter *Chinquapin*, this would be an excellent time to join. SABS members will receive the special AMIS issue of *Castanea* as a benefit of membership. Regular membership in SABS is only \$25.00 per year. Those who are not members of SABS and wish to join, or anyone who will want to purchase additional copies of the AMIS issue, should contact Charles N. Horn, Treasurer of SABS.

Dr. Charles N. Horn, Treasurer SABS
Newberry College
2100 College Street
Newberry, SC 29108

Neither the number of additional copies to be printed beyond those needed for the subscription list, nor the price has been determined, but Dr. Horn needs to hear from you if you want extra copies of the publication.

Michaux in East Tennessee

Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City opened its exhibit on Michaux in fine style April 3rd. After Charlie Williams entertained and informed the group with his presentation in period costume of André Michaux arriving at Colonel Tipton's in 1795, Site Gardener Beth Keiter led the group along the newly named André Michaux Trail. The hikers were greeted by an acre or more of trout lilies bathing the hillside in a sea of yellow petals and speckled green leaves. The Michaux exhibit is on display through the end of May. Phone (423) 926-3631 for hours and directions.