



THE
AMERICAN
CHESTNUT
FOUNDATION

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“Mighty Giants: An American Chestnut Anthology” to be released October 29
Former President Jimmy Carter, environmentalist Bill McKibben among contributors

Bennington, VT – The American Chestnut Foundation, in partnership with publisher Images from the Past, announces the publication of its first book, “Mighty Giants: An American Chestnut Anthology.” The book is scheduled for release October 29, just in time for the holiday season.

It is the inspiring story of an American symbol and the struggle to save it from the brink of extinction, the saga of a unique and exceptional tree that supported a way of life, that fed and sheltered our ancestors, and “touched almost every phase of our existence.” From Indians and early explorers, to colonists, naturalists, loggers, industrialists, and beyond, from presidents, poets, and artists, including Jefferson, Lincoln, Carter, Thoreau, Frost, Homer, Andrew Wyeth, and many more, the story of our once mighty, towering native chestnut tree is a lesson for our times.

The book tells, in images and words, the story of the once mighty monarch of the eastern forests and the scientists who engaged in the struggle against “one of the greatest natural disasters in the history of forest biology”—perhaps the deadliest plant blight ever encountered. It is the story of the dedicated few who refused to give up: the fearless plant explorer who tracked down the blight in war-torn China, the plant pathologists and geneticists who labored long and valiantly to understand the blight and find a way to thwart it. It is also a story of hope, of small but vital triumphs, as the secrets of the American chestnut and its deadly nemesis are gradually revealed.







Notable contributors to the book include former President Jimmy Carter, author Barbara Kingsolver, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman Borlaug and Bill McKibben, author of “The End of Nature.” The 296-page full color book is available in hardback for \$49.50 and paperback for \$24.95.

Images from the Past is an award-winning small press that publishes history in ways that help people see it for themselves. For more information, visit www.imagesfromthepast.com.

The American Chestnut Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)-3 organization with more than 5,500 members around the world and chapters in 17 states. Its sole mission is to restore the American chestnut to its native eastern forests. For more information on chestnut restoration or the foundation, visit www.acf.org.

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