

Malabar Farm News

The Malabar Farm Foundation

8/1/2016

[Edition 1, Volume 1]

Soil, water and forests are the foundation not only of our national economy but of our very existence and civilization." – Louis Bromfield



"Sunday Drive" Car Show at Malabar Farm State Park

"Sunday Drive" Car Show *By Victoria Cochran*

The "Sunday Drive" Car Show held at Malabar Farm on July 31st from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. was a *huge* success. It featured "Cars & Stars" and a Sunday Drive Car Parade at 2:00 p.m. Over 140 cars registered to receive dash plaques, door prizes and awards. Some of the "stars" present included Frank Sinatra, Jayne Mansfield, Marilyn Monroe, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Groucho Marx and even Louis Bromfield. DJ Allen Heimberger provided good music and fun. Everyone enjoyed the food concessions provided by the Malabar Farm Foundation and also the various vendors at the show.

Looking Back

By Tom Bachelder

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During the year following the death of Louis Bromfield on March 18, 1956, Malabar Farm continued in operation under the direction of his estate lawyers in New York. In 1957 the farm was sold to the environmental organization - **The Friends of the Land**. Louis Bromfield had been president of this organization at the time of his death. In early 1959 The Friends of the Land turned the property over to the newly formed **Louis Bromfield Malabar Farm Foundation**. This Foundation owned and operated Malabar Farm until 1972, when it was given to the State of Ohio. Malabar Farm opened as an Ohio State Park in 1976.
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Looking Back (from Page 1)

During most of the years that the Louis Bromfield Malabar Farm Foundation operated Malabar Farm they published a monthly newsletter. The Louis Bromfield Malabar Farm Foundation disbanded after the State took ownership of Malabar Farm.

In 1993 our current Malabar Farm Foundation was formed, its mission to promote "the principles, philosophies, and ideals of Louis Bromfield" and to support "the preservation of Malabar Farm.". In its early years this Foundation published a newsletter, but that newsletter was suspended some time ago. In this first issue of our restored newsletter we will include excerpts from the original 1959-1970 Louis Bromfield Malabar Farm Foundation newsletters. In doing this it is our hope that we can provide some insight into happenings at Malabar Farm in the years following Louis Bromfield's passing.

Issue #1 of the original Malabar Farm Foundation was published on March 1, 1959. The following excerpts come from that inaugural issue. They were written by Dr. Floyd Chapman.

"called in the pasture below the dairy barn... Fields are wet and spongy, with the frost all or nearly gone, and it's impossible to get into them with farm machinery. Even the mundane job of manure spreading must wait.

Spring has come to Malabar Farm. Crows that were absent all winter reappeared on February 7, a killdeer in February 9 and 10 the veterinarians came to blood test the entire Holstein dairy herd of 73 animals. Each was checked for TB, Bang's disease and Leptospirosis. Each animal was given a clean bill of health as far as TB is concerned. Results of the other checks will come later. The Malabar dairy herd had not been tested for Leptospirosis for five or six years and in the meantime this disease has become quite important as a cattle disease in Ohio.

Milk production is still going up and before the end of the month, there will be 29 cows on the "line". Up to February 13, the highest production for a two day period (four milking) was 2,586 pounds of milk from 28 cows. Each cow on the milking line is checked each month for total milk production and butterfat. Several of the cows in the original Malabar herd, while not registered, are showing up quite well in these tests. On October 26, the new 500-gallon bulk milk tank was installed in the dairy and milk pickups are now made by the Borden Company every other day.

Two of a series of public lectures sponsored during the winter months by the Ecological Center at Malabar have been well attended. Dr. Raymond S. Baby's lecture in January on the influence of ecology on prehistoric Indians in Ohio brought 67 people. In February, Dr. Jonathan Forman's talk on "Soil Fertility and Health" attracted more than 70 persons.

In future issues of our newsletter this column will present more material from the original newsletters and we will also include historic photographs and information about Louis Bromfield and his years at Malabar Farm.

Volunteers needed!

Volunteers are an important asset to the Ohio State Park system. They direct, assist, and staff our many special events at the farm

To express your interest in volunteering or for more information:



Call 419-892-2784, e-mail mffspeialevents@yahoo.com or visit malabarfarm.org.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Early last summer there was a rumble in the Valley as the much loved, mainstay of Malabar Farm, Sybil Burskey retired. After 28 years, five as a volunteer and 23 as Program Director, Sybil is enjoying time with her grandchildren, crafting, sewing, gardening, and some travel.

When asked of her time at Malabar, Sybil replied, "No two days were ever the same." She said, "It was great to meet new people some that were famous and those not so famous. I now miss all the people." "The events at the Farm dictated our family's lives. We lived close and my husband, Bill and family all were a part of it. Our girls thought that they lived at the Big House since the bus dropped them off at the Big House."

The popular programs of Maple Festival, Barn Dances, Heritage Days, Night Haunts, Farm Fun Day, and Hearthside Cooking that Sybil started or expanded will continue in the schedule of park events.

Enjoy your retirement Sybil; we hope to see you around the farm as a visitor or perhaps a volunteer!

Filling those big shoes is our new Assistant Park Manager, Siera Marth.

Siera joined the Malabar family as an intern in 2013 and we have been privileged to now have her full time. She is a Butler native, Clear Fork High School grad, who grew up in 4-H and FFA. After two years at Wooster-OSU ATI and two at the main campus of Ohio State she graduated with a degree in Agricultural Communication in 2014. She is one of four children and her mother teaches in the Fredericktown schools.

Among many other duties, she is responsible for the Gift Shop, oversees personnel scheduling, special event programming, volunteers, group and facility scheduling, and you may see her in the barns with the animals.

So far she has really enjoyed the job, especially the Maple Syrup and Hearthside events. She especially enjoys being part of the Malabar family of groups and all that they accomplish. Speaking of new, she has already started a book club in cooperation with the library that has been very popular.

Her goals for Malabar are more programs focusing on agriculture, community partnerships, youth outreach, and continuing the volunteer presence through friends groups.

She was quick to add that she "Couldn't do any of these projects without our great park staff and volunteers".

Welcome Siera to the Malabar Farm family! May we have many years of your positive influence and ideas.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

9/24 - 9/25 40th Annual Ohio Heritage Days Festival, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

10/1 Old Fashioned Film Feature, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Barn

10/15 Fall Hike for Health & Fall Color Hike, 10:00 a.m.

10/29 Directions Credit Union Harvest Barn Dance, 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. in the Main Barn

11/5 - 11/6 Hearthside Cooking Workshops, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Pre-registration required)

11/12 Hearth & History, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Pre-registration required)

11/13 Tea with Louisa Mae Alcott, 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. (Pre-registration required)

"Malabar Farm Volunteers" meet the 3rd Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in the Visitors Center

"Bromfield Book Club" meets the 1st Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the Visitors Center





The Big House at Malabar Farm

Malabar Farm Foundation Accomplishments 2015- 2016

1. "An Evening with Old Blue Eye" – 6 dinner/theater shows - February
2. Maple Syrup Festival Concessions – March
3. The Udder Nonsense 5K Walk/Waddle/Run – April
4. 6 Barn Dances – spring & summer
5. Farm Bureau Tech Day at Malabar Farm – July
6. Annual Ohio Heritage Days Concessions - September
7. Ceely Rose Production – October
8. Tea with Louisa Mae Alcott – 2 sittings – November
9. Holiday Open House – December
10. Steinway Piano Player Surge Protector
11. Picture and Fabric Restoration for the Big House
12. Big House Garage Wiring
13. Carriage House Wiring
14. Big House Rear Security Light
15. Provided lunch for over 30 work crew youth for yard and garden work
16. Internet service to the Malabar Farm Restaurant – in process
17. Funded Visitors Center Parking Lot Security Upgrade
18. Coordinated and Funded printing of Malabar Farm Cookbook dedicated to long time cook Reba Williams
19. Completed Bylaws, Standing Rules & Conflict of Interest updates
20. Acquired Display Cases for the Visitors Center with rotating displays of artifacts, etc.
21. Lighted Farm Display Wiring Repairs in Visitors Center Lobby
22. New Faucet in Green Room Bathroom and Side Lights for Mirror
23. Big House Lamp Re-wiring and Repairs
24. New Pugh Cabin Bar Sink Faucet
25. Bromfield Jeep Restoration from Baker's Collision
26. 3-Compartment Sink in the Big House Garage
27. Barn Cat Neutering Project
28. Helped Fund Food for Farm Programs by the State Park

Malabar Spinning and Weaving Guild

We have had a busy year as it is our 25th Anniversary. The Guild was started by a small group of interested folks who found a loom in the basement of the Big House at Malabar Farm. Now over 70 strong, the men and women of the Guild are active in teaching, demonstrating, and creating unlimited projects and creations.

Members experience a wide variety of fiber art. Many are adept in more than one area. Some take a project through the "sheep to shawl" process and spin, knit, crochet, weave, applique', tat, quilt, embroider and rug hook masterful creations. They do all this while helping others to tackle a problem or teach a new skill.

The Guild meets the first Tuesday each month in the Visitors Center at 7:00 p.m. Members also meet all Mondays the Park is open from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Guild House which is at the working farm across from the Hostel. Smaller groups meet at various times for specific crafts; Spinners, Hookers, and others. To join the Guild or to just check it out, please call Victoria Cochran at 419-892-2929.

Malabar Farm Cookbooks

The Malabar Farm Foundation recently sponsored a cookbook with delectable recipes submitted by all aspects of Malabar Farm. The volunteers, Foundation members, staff, Hostel, Bromfield family, Bromfield Book Club, Spinning and Weaving Guild, and Friends of Malabar all joined together to support this endeavor. The book was dedicated to Reba Williams, long time cook of the Bromfield family. Cookbooks are available through the Foundation at \$10.00 each. All funds benefit the restoration projects of the Big House.

Malabar Farm Restaurant

Local Meat * Handmade Pasta * Patio Dining * Extensive Beer and Wine List * Fresh Produce *
Seasonal Menu * Reservations Recommended * Situated in an Historic 1820's Home *

Catering available at Pugh Cabin

Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 11:00 – 8:00
 Friday and Saturday 11:00 – 9:00
 Sunday 11:00 – 7:00
 Monday - Closed

* January – Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday only

The Malabar Farm Giving Tree and Donations

As visitors enter the main lobby of the Louis Bromfield Visitor Education Center, they will see a beautiful bronze tree with leaves of bronze, silver, and gold surrounded by acorns and foundation stones. You can create a permanent memorial by recognizing someone on the Malabar Giving Tree. Each leaf and stone is engraved as specified by the donor. Other recognition requests are accepted based on donation amount.

Supporter-\$250-\$499

- A Bronze Leaf on the Malabar Giving Tree

Sustainer-\$500-\$999

- A Silver Leaf on the Malabar Giving Tree

Donor-\$1,000-\$2,499

- A Gold Leaf on the Malabar Giving Tree

Sponsor-\$2,500-\$4,999

- A Small (3" x 5") Foundation Stone under the Malabar Giving Tree

Patron-\$5,000-\$9,999

- A Medium (4" x 6.5") Foundation Stone under the Malabar Giving Tree

Benefactor-\$10,000-\$24, 999

- A Large (4.5" x 7.5") Foundation Stone under the Malabar Giving Tree

Partner-\$25,000 and above

- An Acorn on the Malabar Giving Tree

Applications can be picked up at the Visitors Center or visit the website: malabarfarm.org for a link to the application.

The Malabar Farm Hostel

By Mark Jordan

The Malabar Farm Hostel is gearing up for another season of hosting travelers from near and far. The year started off with house concerts in January featuring area musicians such as Owl Creek, Jeff Bell, Sovroncourt, Chico's Brother, Kate Westfall, and Orie Rush. January also saw an exciting ghost investigation at the hostel by the combined research teams History & Haunts and EVP Mediums. A great deal of material was caught.

The hostel helps maintain the literary traditions of Malabar Farm by hosting Ohio Poetry Association writers' retreats twice every year.

The Malabar Farm Hostel also won an award last fall. HI-Malabar had the highest level of guest engagement with special programs. HI-USA averages about 12% of guests attend or participate in programs. The HI-Malabar had 25% involvement last year, the highest in the nation.

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Visit smile.amazon.com to begin shopping.

*The Malabar Farm Foundation provides resources in support of the vision and programming of Malabar Farm State Park.
The Louis Bromfield Society is the membership program established to raise funds in support of this mission.
For more information visit: malabarfarm.org*

The Malabar Farm Foundation
4050 Bromfield Rd.
Lucas, Oh 44843

The Bromfield Book Club

By Siera Marth

In January of 2015 a partnership between Malabar Farm State Park and the Lucas and Butler branches of the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library began; a partnership that has continued to draw between 10-20 regular book club participants and is rumored to be the envy of other area book clubs. Each meeting starts with snacks, refreshments and small-talk but the meat of the meetings are filled with discussion about characters, plots, themes and how relative Bromfield's writings were to his life. Many times the discussion takes rabbit trails, venturing off course from the book and more about Louis Bromfield; who he was, his writing, his life and his legacy. No matter where the discussion leads, members leave each meeting looking forward to the next and feeling just a little bit more intimate with Louis Bromfield.