



A Big Thank You To Two Awesome Malabar Benefactors

This past July, thanks to a generous donation from Vince and Tammy Fanello, the entire exterior of Louis Bromfield's Big House at Malabar Farm State Park underwent an extensive restoration that included removing all loose and peeling paint, replacing wood where needed, power-washing, and finishing the project with a fresh coat of paint. All of this work was done by Mariola Sons Construction of Wooster, Ohio, with every penny of this project donated by the Fanellos.



Earlier in the year a former trustee of the Malabar Farm Foundation had approached the current trustees of the Foundation and Park management on behalf of the Fanello's. The Foundation enthusiastically stepped up to serve as intermediary to expedite a transfer of funds between the Fanellos, Malabar Farm management, and Mariola Sons Construction.

Major expenditures like this often outpace State Park budgets, and the commitment of Vince and Tammy to the preservation of the historic Big House at Malabar Farm,

formerly the home of Pulitzer Prize winning novelist and conservationist Louis Bromfield, is greatly appreciated.

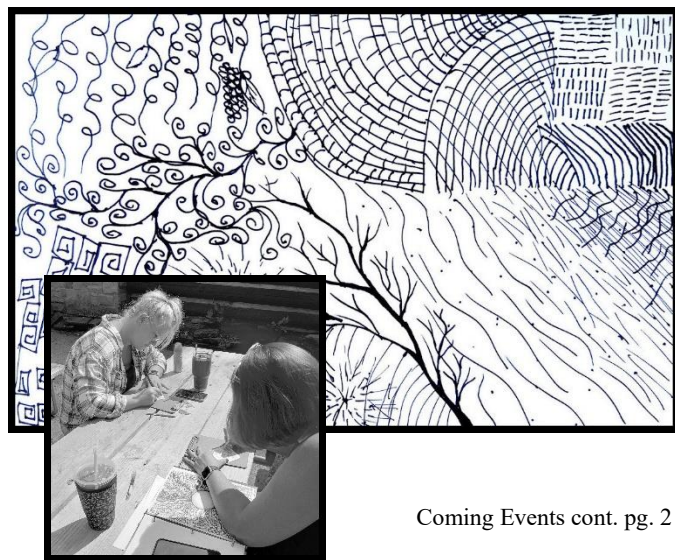
Coming Events

There is always something going on at Malabar Farm State Park—from exploring the Park's large Gift Shop and the many exhibits in the Visitor Center to enjoying guided tours of Louis Bromfield's Big House and Wagon Tours of the farm. And don't forget the miles of trails that wind through the Park's hundreds of acres of forest. Trail maps are available in the Visitor Center.

Special activities this autumn also include the following:

October 10 – *Nature Doodling* at the Pugh Cabin from 10 AM to 12 PM.

Let your imagination wander freely as you turn the beauties of wild nature into one-of-a-kind artworks worthy of framing. This event is free and appropriate for all ages.



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October 10 – *Ohio Goes To The Movies: Hollywood Returns To Malabar*. In the Main Barn, across from the Big House 5 PM – 9 PM

Join us from 5 pm to 7 pm for free tours of the Big House. See where movie stars Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall were married.



Visit the room where Lauren Bacall got ready for the big day, see photos of the couple at Malabar Farm, descend the double stairs that Bogart and Bacall walked down during their wedding ceremony—then head to the Main Barn at 7 pm to watch *Key Largo*, featuring Bogie and Bacall. Reservations are required for this event.



You can secure your place for this unique event by using this QR Code, or by calling Malabar at 567-483-4070 and asking for Danya.

Ohio Heritage Days – Saturday and Sunday, September 26 & 27, 10 AM to 4 PM

Enjoy traditional crafts, primitives, antiques, free horse-drawn wagon rides, antique tractors, live music, living history camps and demonstrations, and tour Louis Bromfield's Big House and the Ceely Rose House at this free event. Delicious food will be available for purchase from vendors.

Stay on Saturday evening from 7 pm to 10 pm for a barn dance in the main barn — a tradition that Louis Bromfield began in the 1940s.



Barn dances will also be held on Saturday August 22 and Saturday October 31 from 7 pm to 10 pm.

Pioneer Garden Follow Up

In the 2025 Summer edition of the Newsletter it was reported that the Malabar Farm Foundation had contributed \$500 to the Colonial Homestead Garden restoration project located at Mansfield's South Park Pioneer Village. This is just a quick photographic follow up to show that the garden is thriving.



Photograph by Louis Andres

Listening to the Past and Seeing the Future: The Transformation of Warfare

By Paul Sukys, Professor Emeritus
North Central State College

A perennial thorn in the side of Bromfield biographers, historians, and teachers is the fact that so many, perhaps even most, mainstream biographers, historians, and teachers are only dimly aware of his reputation and, as a result, fail to mention him in their work despite the fact that he ought to be in the lead paragraph of many academic studies, whether those studies are literary, scientific, or political.

For example, here is a list of several books which focus in one way or another on modern literature and which ought to include at the very least, a passing look at Bromfield's work: *Twentieth Century Writers*, edited by Peter Parker; *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Literature in English*, edited by Jenny Stringer; *Sylvia Beach and the Lost Generation: A History of Literary Paris in the Twenties and Thirties*, by Noel Riley Fish; *The Harper and Row Reader: Liberal Education Through Reading and Writing*, by Wayne C. Booth and Marshall W. Gregory; *The Book at War: How Reading Shaped Conflict and Conflict Shaped Reading*, by Andrew Pettigree; and, finally, *Cold Warriors: Writers Who Waged the Literary Cold War* by Duncan White.

In all these titles, Bromfield deserves mention equal to such notables as Hemingway, Fitzgerald, John Steinbeck, Sherwood Anderson, Malcolm Cowley and John Dos Passos. Certainly, in the first four titles, Bromfield's absence might be forgiven due to the generalized nature of those studies as well as the practical need to pick and choose literary representatives from a vast field of excellent craftsmen. In contrast, Bromfield's absence from the final two specialized titles is both disappointing and puzzling.

For example, in *The Book at War*, Hemingway is mentioned ten times and Steinbeck seven times while Bromfield escapes notice completely. Admittedly, some of the references to both Hemingway and Steinbeck are brief at best. Nevertheless, some mention of Bromfield, even a critical aside, would be better than none at all. Similarly, in *Cold Warriors*, Steinbeck is mentioned six times and Hemingway, twenty-seven, including a 19-page dissertation in the chapter that bears his name, again in a book that does not even refer to Bromfield in an endnote.

The lack of attention to Bromfield in *The Book at War* is especially disappointing, since his novel, *The Green Bay Tree* was written and published in 1924, five years before Hemingway published *A Farewell to Arms*. This is significant because Bromfield's final chapters in *The Green Bay Tree* include some of the most poignant and insightful explanations for the disaster of The Great War found in any non-fiction book of that era. For instance, in Chapter 80, Bromfield's unnamed German officer has this to say about the causes of the Great War in particular, and war in general.

Madame, who are at the bottom of all this? Ah, commerce, industry, wealth, power. Not the peasant, Madame. Not the shepherd, not the poet. Ah, no! They will be shoveled under the earth. . . whole bodies and pieces of bodies because they are no longer of any use. Not the worker, Madame, the monster of material, of industry. He will destroy us.

Bromfield's words sum up, in simple, yet dramatic fashion, the central theme of *The Book at War*, as stated unequivocally by the author who writes in "A Call to Arms" the book's aptly named first chapter; "The transformation of warfare had three main elements: the professionalization of the military, especially the officer class—represented by Bromfield's speaker, the German Officer; the industrialization of weaponry—represented by Bromfield's "monster of commerce, industry, wealth, power," and the mobilization of the civilian population, erasing the distinction between combatants and non-combatants—represented by Bromfield's peasants, shepherds, poets, workers, and their bodies and parts of bodies.

Fortunately, Bromfield's words, and the sentiment attached to those words have not been lost on those of us who appreciate Bromfield's ability to listen to the past and see the future. It's too bad that his contribution to the current debate on warfare in general and to the three themes noted above were not blended with the works of other authors featured in *The Book at War*. Well, perhaps some up and coming writer will, after reading this column, seize the opportunity to give "the Boss" his due in a new book on these very themes.

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In our foreign policy we continue to approach the future not in terms of general wisdom learned from experience, fact and history itself but in specialized patterns of the past which have become almost wholly obsolete.

—Louis Bromfield, 1954

Did You Know?

You can help the Malabar Farm Foundation support Malabar Farm through the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Your Kroger Plus Card can be linked to a charity so that each time you shop for groceries or get gas a percentage will be credited to the charity of your choice.

If you do not already have a Kroger Plus Card one can be obtained at the Kroger Customer Service desk. Then, go online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com, create an account and link your Kroger Plus Card to the Malabar Farm Foundation from the list of charities.

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The Malabar Farm Foundation

-Contact Us-

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email - info@malabarfarm.org
Mail - P.O. Box 551, Lucas, OH 44843



Tax deductible donations to the Malabar Farm Foundation can be made by cash, check, or credit card.

☐ **Member** - \$50 / year ☐ I would like to make an additional donation of \$ _____

☐ **Friend** - \$100 / year

Make checks payable to:
Malabar Farm Foundation
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Lucas, Ohio 44843



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