

EVERGREEN

PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION / PLANTING FIELDS ARBORETUM, OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK SUMMER 2015 NEWSLETTER

BILL BARASH



Cherry Trees & Playhouse



THE COMPLETED
RESTORATION OF
**MRS. COE'S BEDROOM
AT COE HALL**

Story page 6

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WE WARMLY WELCOME...

NEW TRUSTEES TO PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION

CAROL M. CANTER

Carol M. Canter is a non-fiction writer, publicist and consultant with extensive experience in the non-profit sector, education and the arts. She has worked as a free-lance journalist since 1979 and her by-line has appeared in the *New York Times* and *Newsday* as well as local metropolitan magazines. In addition to her work as a journalist, Carol has volunteered her time and expertise as a consultant in the area of development and governance to several independent schools in New York City. She presently serves as an ad hoc member of the Committee on Trustees at Professional Children's School in New York City and as a trustee of the John J. Magovern Memorial Fund at Mercy Medical Center in Rockville Centre, New York. Carol is a member of the National League of American Pen Women; she is a graduate of Wheaton College, Norton, MA and is a former trustee of the College.

DAVID R. HOLMES, JR.

David R. Holmes, Jr., "D. R.," is an active supporter of the preservation of Long Island's north shore. He is currently involved with the North Shore Land Alliance, Old Westbury Gardens and Bailey Arboretum. A graduate of St. Lawrence University with a B.S. in Economics, in 2012, he started the North Shore Land Alliance Heritage Committee, a group of young professionals that proactively build support and awareness among the younger demographic. D. R. started his career at BNP Paribas's Corporate Investment Bank. In 2012 he joined Provista Diagnostics, a molecular diagnostics company focused on developing and commercializing tests for cancers affecting women. Currently, D. R. manages the company's Business Development, Investor Relations, Advocacy Support and Grant Administration at their headquarters in New York City.



FEATURED STORIES



6. MRS. COE'S BEDROOM
The furnishings for this room are finally completed for visitors to enjoy.



10. A GLIMPSE OF THE COE FAMILY IN 1915
In 1915, six years after Rogers' death, Mai Coe had two huge purple beeches from her father's gardens moved to Planting Fields.



22. "HEELS & WHEELS: THE BIG NOISE AROUND LITTLE TOYS" EXHIBITION
Fashion-conscious Barbie dolls and sleek Matchbox cars are currently strutting and cruising at Planting Fields.



Rose arbor
beyond the
Tea House

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **DEAR MEMBERS**



The restoration of Mai Coe’s bedroom at Coe Hall is complete; the new carpet was installed this winter and the silk curtains to match the lost originals, were hung in March. The reproductions of the original pieces of furniture were made over the last two years. The room now is a really good evocation of how the space looked in 1921 when it was first completed. Mai Coe died in 1924 and Mr. Coe remarried in 1926. At that time the room was radically redecorated for Caroline Coe. By the 1960s the room had been painted beige and was used as a classroom. The mural was reproduced in 2010. The Foundation is extremely grateful to Natalie Comfort for her generous gift in support of this restoration project.

Restoration work on Mr. Coe’s bedroom began about eighteen months ago with the purchase of a good quality four-poster bed very much like the one originally supplied to Mr. Coe by the decorator and antique dealer, Charles Duveen, in 1921. We now have an additional six or seven pieces of furniture in the style of the furnishings that were once in the room. Late last year, Planting Fields Foundation board chairman, Michael D. Coe, generously donated the original William Kent-style mirror that once hung above the fireplace. It is a stunning addition to the refurnishing project and really makes the whole renovation possible. The room, which was painted last month, should be completed in 2017.

The exhibition in the Manor House “Heels and Wheels” about Barbie dolls and Matchbox cars opened at the end of March and drew a good number of visitors to Planting Fields even though spring was so late and the magnificent blossoms were not out until mid-April. We have had a considerable amount of

excellent press in local and national newspapers about the exhibition which has helped attract visitors.

In January the visitor numbers for our second annual “Paradise Weekend” in the tropical greenhouse were more than double last year’s attendance. Everyone enjoyed music and crafts. The following month our “Camellia House Weekend”, in its fifth year of music, lectures, a magic show and the Mad Hatter’s tea party, was very popular. It was indeed a magical weekend—most of the time it did not snow! Our visitors had a lovely time in the greenhouses and Coe Hall, with a variety of musicians including a barbershop quartet, which was a big hit.

The Foundation held its first golf outing, on Monday June 15th at the Mill River Country Club. Sponsors included Banfi Wines, Oyster Bay Brewing Company and several individuals. It was a tremendously successful day. The newly built Sensory Garden, paid for by New York State Parks, Planting Fields Foundation and many other generous donors, will open on July 9th, along with the new Entrance Pavilion which sits on the south end of the main parking lot. The Sensory Garden is a very exciting addition to the park.

We have a full roster of programs this summer, highlighting music and theater in the park as well as special events for children. I hope to see you here often.

Warmest regards,

Henry B. Joyce
Executive Director, Planting Fields Foundation



MRS. COE'S BEDROOM

THE RESTORATION IS COMPLETE

Five years ago the lost Robert Chanler mural in Mrs. Coe's bedroom was painted a new by scenic artist, Polly Wood-Holland. It was the first stage in the recreation of what was the most elaborate and fanciful room of Coe Hall when it was finished in 1921.

Not only was the mural lost but there was no original furniture from the room, just three or four interior photos, but even those images do not show all of the original furniture.

Bills and receipts now in the Foundation's archives show that seat furniture was delivered after the pictures were taken. Then, with

Mai Coe's death in 1924, the bedroom was entirely refurnished by Mr. Coe's third wife, Caroline, and most of the mural was removed or covered up. Our research turned up the papers of the Paris-based furniture maker Carlhian who supplied Mai's 1921 furnishings. Those records are now part of the J. Paul Getty Research Center in Los Angeles, and include detailed



*(Above)
The finished bedroom,
May 2015.*

*(Left)
The bedroom before its
restoration.*

Mai Coe's silver mounted dressing table set, now exhibited in the bedroom.



Mrs. Coe's Bedroom (continued)

photos of Mai's original arm chairs, chaise lounge and bed.

Using these images Polly Wood-Holland made full scale measured drawings of the pieces so that it could be re-made by the British furniture manufacturer, the Wood Carvers Guild. The carved wooden bed frame was finished two years ago and the chairs arrived more recently; their frames were gilded by Polly Wood-Holland. The upholstery is extremely fine, newly made, silk brocade that was supplied by the French firm, Prella, who have been manufacturing fine silks, in Lyon, since 1762.

To complete the project, new wool carpet made in Italy for Stark Carpet, was installed in January and silk curtains from Kravet Fabrics, Inc. were made and hung in March. We are grateful for all of the support that we received from Eileen Kathryn Boyd who kindly expedited the purchase of this carpet.

This re-creation of Mrs. Coe's bedroom was generously supported by Natalie Comfort to honor Missy Geddes and two former presidents of Planting Fields Foundation board of trustees, Morgan Browne and Gib Chapman.



(Top) Polly Wood-Holland working on a full scale sketch for the recreated mural.
(Bottom) The reproduction carpet being installed, spring 2015.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

A GLIMPSE OF THE COE FAMILY IN 1915

BY ANDREA CRIVELLO, CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

Mrs. Coe's income was always more than her husband's. In 1915 the family ledgers (now in the Foundation's archives) show that Mai Coe's income for the year was \$426,781.60, just under \$10 million in today's dollars.

She inherited her investments from her father, Henry Huttleston Rogers (1840-1909) who was a Standard Oil partner and owned interests in many industries, including his immensely profitable Virginian Railway, as well as copper and steel. In 1915 Mr. Coe's income, from marine insurance and other sources, amounted to \$134,190.41, which in today's dollars is about \$3 million.

For the transformation of Planting Fields (which the Coes had jointly owned for two years) into a magnificent English landscape garden, they hired the prominent Harvard-trained architect and landscape architect, Guy Lowell and his partner, landscape architect, Andrew S. Sargent. Together they designed several Long Island gardens, including those of J. Pierpont Morgan and Clarence Mackay. Sargent was the son of Charles Sprague Sargent who was an internationally known authority on agriculture and

plant life. The elder Sargent was a friend of H.H. Rogers and advised on Rogers' Fairhaven, Massachusetts estate. In 1915, six years after Rogers' death, Mai Coe had two huge purple beeches from her father's gardens moved to Planting Fields. Letters in the archives reveal that Lowell and the younger Sargent were in charge of the move. The trees each weighed about 28 tons, with root balls between 20 and 30 feet across. They were barged across Long Island Sound, to Oyster Bay, in January, where they were moored and surrounded by ice for a month while local roads were widened. The Coes spent \$4,000 or about \$95,000 in today's money, on lawyers' fees to convince Nassau Light & Power Company to take down their wires to allow the trees to pass. The *Fairhaven Star* newspaper reported that Mr. Coe's pocketbook was the "open sesame that overcame all objections". The journey from Oyster Bay to Planting Fields took about two weeks and involved steam rollers pushing the loads while teams of horses pulled. However, only one of the Fairhaven trees lived a long life, until 2006. It was also at this time, one hundred years ago, that beech trees were planted along the drive from the park entrance on Planting Fields Road, to the main house, which had been built by Grosvenor Atterbury in 1906. To make way for many new plantings throughout the estate, old trees were removed—over 800 of them in 1915, and their stumps were blown out of the ground using dynamite purchased from E.I. Dupont de Nemours Powder Co.

The Coes purchased a wide variety of plants and trees, including a cutting from the famous two hundred year old grape vine from a greenhouse at Hampton Court Palace. The English had begun cultivating oranges and grapes under glass in the sixteenth century when Henry VIII, father of the



(Opposite) The Coe's Irma Lake Ranch, Cody Wyoming, 1911.

(Top) Mr. Coe, (far right) in Oyster Bay overseeing the big beech tree move.

(Bottom) The seeding propagated from the parent tree of the original Fairhaven Beech.

A Glimpse of the
Coe Family in 1915
(continued)



(Top) Rhododendrons in the park today.

(Bottom) The famous grapevine from
the greenhouse at Hampton Court
Palace, England.

(Opposite) Mr. Coe in the North
Rhododendron Park.

future Queen Elizabeth, owned Hampton Court. Mr. Coe, who was British by birth, eventually built Coe Hall in the Elizabethan style, very likely to honor his country of origin. The mansion includes brick chimneys like those at Hampton Court. Mr. Coe's vision for Planting Fields is a tribute to his heritage; therefore, to have a cutting from the legendary palace vine, which still grows there today, is in keeping with his romantic plans for the estate. Unfortunately, there is no grape vine from that cutting here in the park today.

In April Mr. and Mrs. Coe were in California where they purchased plant material including kumquats and lemons from Armstrong Nurseries in Ontario. The nursery had been founded in 1889 and still flourishes today as the Armstrong Garden Centers. At Planting Fields these purchases would have been housed in Lowell and Sargent's main greenhouse that had begun to be built in 1914. From Luther Burbank Co. in Santa Rosa (also continuing in business today), the Coes bought roses and cacti. Their largest purchase of plants in 1915 was a huge group of 2,000 rhododendrons from John Waterer Sons & Crisp Nursery in England who, because of World War I, had large unsold stocks and offered Mr. Coe very reasonable prices. Rhododendrons were widely cultivated and hybridized in England where they were used in many types of gardens, particularly, in the outer edges of large country estates, where informal meandering pathways and drives might be lined with rhododendrons that could grow to be twenty or thirty feet in height. This manner of grand showy shrubs to see while walking, driving, or riding by also became prevalent in American landscape gardens, of which Planting Fields is a very fine example. Over a forty year period Mr. Coe planted thousands of rhododendrons. In

recent years many of his plantings have been renewed, once again making these shrubs one of the glories of the park.

In 1915 plans for a new Italian Garden began to take shape. It was centered on a tea house that originally looked out onto a tennis court. For Mrs. Coe this small one-room building was decorated inside with murals by the New York City-based artist Everett Shinn. He signed his Fragonard-inspired west wall lunette, and dated it "1915". Elsie de Wolfe was the overall designer of the room. She had known Shinn for about fifteen years before the tea house was decorated and hired him to paint several murals for other clients in and around the city. In our archives there is a small group of letters between Shinn and W. R. Coe that traces the progress of the project over the summer and fall. In June the artist was paid \$2,000 for his work (in today's money about \$47,000). His painted furniture, which is still in the room, was completed in October. From other documents it appears that the new Italian Garden, as we know it today, was not built until 1916.

The farm, at the southern end of the estate, was part of the Coes' plan to enlarge what the Byrnes had begun when they owned the property. In 1915 a new incubator was purchased for rearing chickens, and the vegetable garden was expanded with corn, grain, and potatoes. A series of ledgers specific to farm activity indicate that from January to November approximately 17,613 eggs, 3,032 quarts of milk, 372 quarts of cream, and 294 pounds of butter were produced. A portion of this was consumed on the property, while the rest were shipped to other Coe family residences and the surplus sold. The produce included lettuce, tomatoes, string beans, and mustard cress. Mr. Coe's private

secretary was often sent fresh eggs. The architects Walker & Gillette (who later built Coe Hall) submitted plans for estate buildings, including one for the Boarding House, where men working at Planting Fields lived. Eight rooms were to be added. Changes were also proposed for the garage building and stable, with Mr. Walker's assurance that they would produce something "which will in every way be a credit to Planting Fields".

Aside from spending time on Long Island, the Coes continued to visit and maintain their other properties—the residence they owned in Manhattan at 6 East 83rd Street, and the ranch in Wyoming. There was considerable maintenance and enhancements to each of these properties. In their New York City home, the 1915 ledgers indicate electrical repairs, painting of various rooms, and furniture

purchases. They paid \$1,449.25 in two installments for city real estate taxes. The Coes were in their fifth year of ownership at Irma Lake, near Cody, after purchasing the property from Buffalo Bill. According to correspondence between Mr. Coe and his son Robert, Mr. Coe had 599 cows and 599 calves, purchased in Billings, Montana, which were sent to the ranch in the spring. There were shingles purchased from Pearson Bros. and new furnishings, including Arts and Crafts style lamps, chairs, and three leopard skins. Money was also spent on a new Ford truck. The annual running expenses at the ranch were about \$9,272.13 (in today's money, about \$215,630).

In terms of business, Mr. Coe was now in his fifth year as president of the insurance firm, Johnson & Higgins. He was a director of the Virginian Railway where in 1915,

the company laid 15.76 miles of new track. A total of 742.69 miles were operational with purchases of 775 steel gondola cars, and just over 400 cars rebuilt with steel under frames. One locomotive was newly equipped with a mechanical stoker, a technological advance at the time.

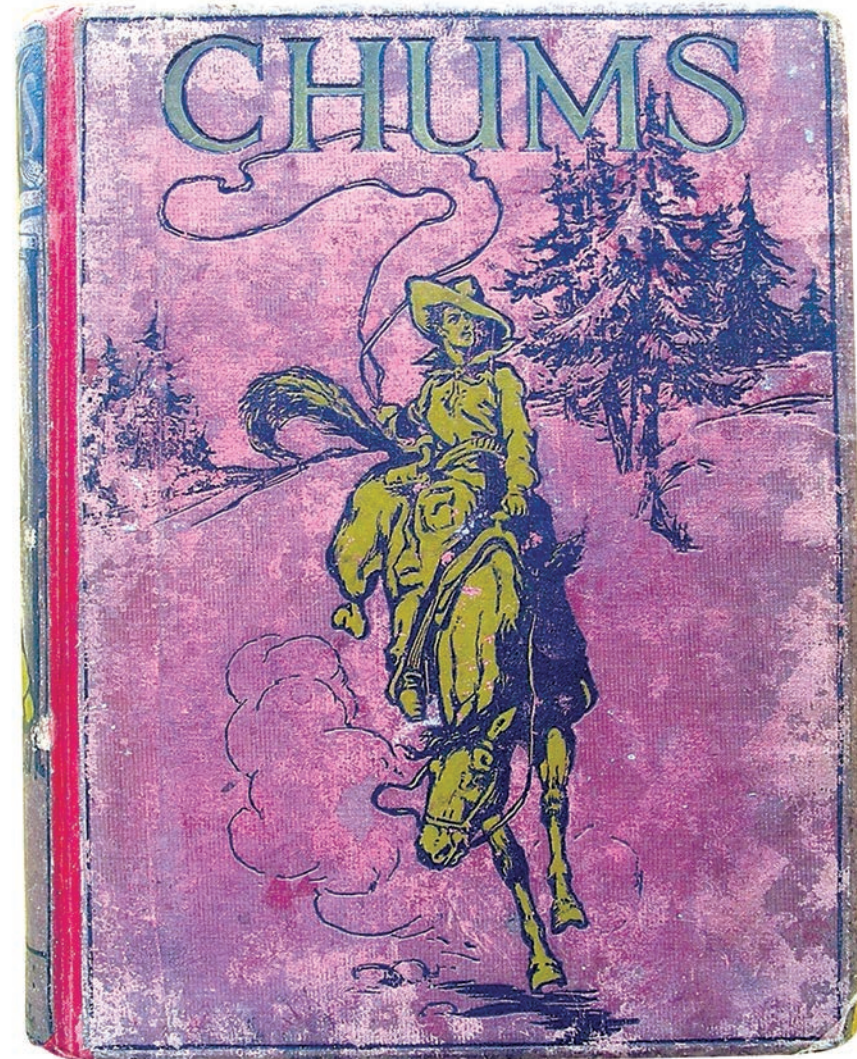
Mr. Coe made time to play an active role in his children's lives. In 1915, William was 14, Robert 13, Henry 12, and Natalie 5, respectively. Henry and Natalie remained at home under the care of a nurse and governess. In May 1915 Henry's nurse was discharged for what Mr. Coe conveyed as "impertinence". A new nurse was hired and Mr. Coe noted that she was doing "fairly well".

William and Robert were away at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire and their parents expected the boys to write often.



A Glimpse of the
Coe Family in 1915
(continued)

Mr. Coe also paid attention to his boys' academic performance and spending activities. Much of the correspondence from the year had to do with their grades and demerits. William asked for his father's permission to switch from Greek to Spanish, as Greek was too difficult for him. In his response Mr. Coe ignored this request and instead focused on the fact that William was ranked 11th in a division of seventeen while Robert was 1st in his division. He austere stated "You are at the age now where you should brace up and not remain in the disgraceful condition you are now in, with your studies, so that your younger brother beats you in everything".



Robert had his share of admonishment in May, when he received 10 demerits for laughing with a friend in front of one of his masters at school. When Robert said he felt the staff was against him, he was told by his father to not only "change his perspective, but his behavior" as well.

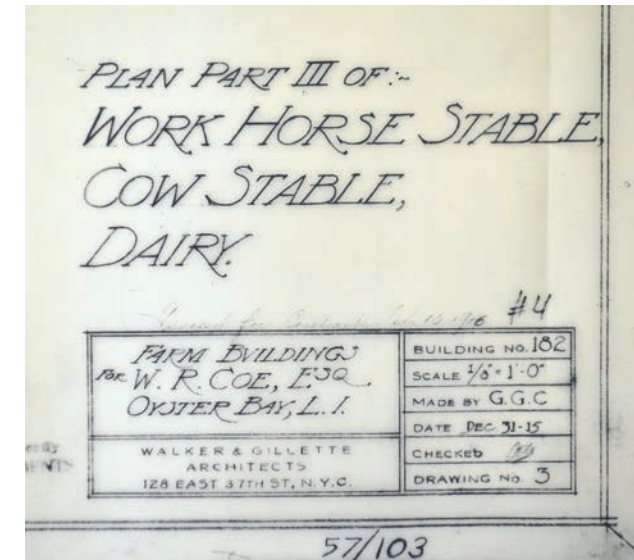
A letter from February listed the boys school books for that term, which included, Natural History, *War of 1914*, *Uncle Sam's Modern Miracles*, *CHUMS*, and *Popular Fleet*. *CHUMS* was a boys adventure story published weekly at one penny a copy. They told stories with historical context ranging from the Napoleonic Wars, to adventures in Africa, China, South America and India. In a letter to William, Mr. Coe asked him if his mother gave them the authority to charge their school books, and if not, how they intended to pay for them noting "You will remember that before you went to school, I cautioned you about charging things to my account without authority, and I wish you would please keep this in mind". Both boys failed to do so at one point during the year; William purchased a Verascope camera without asking. Mr. Coe warned him, stating, "It is easy to spend money when you have it, but sometimes it is very hard to get it. Do you realize that after you get through college and take a position you will be very lucky indeed if you receive a salary of \$50 a month?" Robert purchased a Ulysses S. Grant autograph for \$15, which he later explained he had charged under the assumption that it would be a birthday present from his mother.

Of the events during their time in school, William wrote a letter in February asking his father to send 5lbs of candy in 1/2 lb boxes for the school's Washington's Birthday Fair, the proceeds of which went to

charity. Whenever William asked for money, he made sure to mention that he had not received any demerits. Mr. Coe sent the boxes, along with \$5 for William to spend at the fair, while advising him not to fill up on candy and get sick. Washington's Birthday Fair on February 22, 1915, was a day traditionally without classes at St. Paul's School; instead there was a hockey game played against Dartmouth, a fair to raise money for the orphans' homes, a dance, and a performance of the play "The Second in Command." Mr. and Mrs. Coe made the trip to see the boys on that occasion, and again for the Yale-Harvard football game, in October. In terms of hobbies and leisure activities, William was very involved with hockey and wrote to his father in January that his team the 'Isthmicins' had 'swept the boards'. Both he and Robert also enjoyed skiing and skating in winter, and swimming and rowing in summer.

Mr. Coe pursued different sports; he was a member of several clubs including the Seawanahaka Yacht Club in Oyster Bay and the Merion Cricket Club outside Philadelphia. A *New York Times* article from May 7th, 1915, highlighted W. R. Coe's membership in The Hunters Fraternity of America, with a picture of Mr. Coe and his fellow members. The fraternity pledged to extend the system of refuges for game throughout the U.S. particularly in the Adirondacks, and on Long Island for waterfowl. The Brotherhood aimed to unite outdoor men, whether big game hunters or not, to represent 'the highest standard of American manhood and citizenship'.

For the upkeep of Planting Fields, where the family enjoyed many outdoor activities, the 1915 running expenses included \$21,905 for the main house, \$800



(Opposite) CHUMS boys annual adventure story vintage 1916 edition, published by Cassell & Company.

(Left) Part of the original Walker & Gillette plans for the farm buildings at Planting Fields, December 1915.

(Bottom) Nobman's Hardware store, Oyster Bay, 1911. Photo credit: Oyster Bay Historical Society.



in petty cash, \$2,700 on the farm, \$5,675 on the greenhouse, \$4,796 on repairs and \$44,342 in wages for a total of \$80,218 at the time, in today's dollars about \$1,865,000. The hardware store, Nobman's, which can still be found in the town of Oyster Bay today, appears often in the ledgers for supplies. In the fall of 1915, the Butler/Valet Henry Whyte, very

much liked by the Coe children, was given a new stove and plumbing fixtures for his cottage on the property. Christmas that year, both correspondence and gift ledgers, indicate that Mr. Coe gave \$10 gold pieces to each of his outside laborers employed for 6 months or longer, and \$5 gold pieces to all other men serving for a shorter time.

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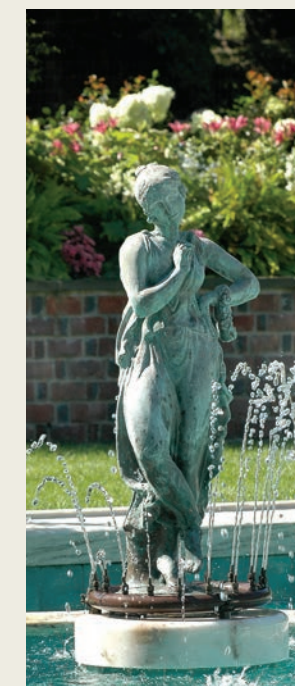
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 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Quick
 Mr. Robert Raese
 Mrs. Kate Reardon

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 Mrs. Evelyn Rechler
 Mr. & Mrs. John Reese
 Ms. Patricia Regan
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 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Nicoll
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 of Long Island, Inc.
 Mrs. Jocelyn Nuttall
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim O'Neill
 Mr. & Mrs. George O'Neill
 Mrs. Barry Osborn
 Ms. Angelina Paris
 Mr. David P. Pearson
 Mr. Peter J. Pell
 Mr. Joseph Pepe
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 Mr. Robert Raese
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 Ms. Ellen Weismeyer
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 William & Joyce O'Neil
 Charitable Trust
 Mr. Allen Williams
 Mr. & Mrs. Samuel H. Wolcott
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Worth
 Zeitz Foundation
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Zucker



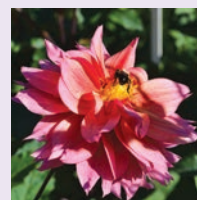
SENSORY GARDEN SUNDAYS

AT PLANTING FIELDS EVERY SUNDAY JULY 12TH – AUGUST 30TH, 12:00 NOON

The Planting Fields Foundation and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation proudly present **Sensory Garden Sundays**.

The Sensory Garden has been specifically designed to be accessible for visitors of all ages and abilities and provides everyone with an interactive sensory connection with an emphasis on colors, sounds, tastes, textures and scents.

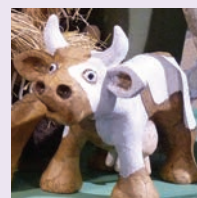
All Sensory Garden programming events are free admission with \$8.00 parking fee. Rain or Shine. To register please call Antigone Zaharakis at (516) 922-8668 or email: education@plantingfields.org



SENSORY STROLL

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Take a stroll through the Sensory Garden and explore all of your senses with one of our experienced outdoor educators who will lead you on an exciting adventure. Children will have the opportunity to see, taste, touch, smell and listen to the wonders of the Sensory Garden. Afterwards, enjoy a tasty scoop of homemade ice cream made from ingredients right out of the garden!



JACK AND THE BEANSTALK PUPPET SHOW

SUNDAY, JULY 19TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Come see Dream Tale Puppets' adaptation of the classic tale about *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Jack, his mother, and their cow come to life through Jacek Zuzanski's comical movements and Margaret Moody's lively voice accompaniment. Jack's daring adventure up the beanstalk delights children and their families. Best for ages four and up. After the show stay and plant your very own magical beanstalk.

SALSA, SALSA!!

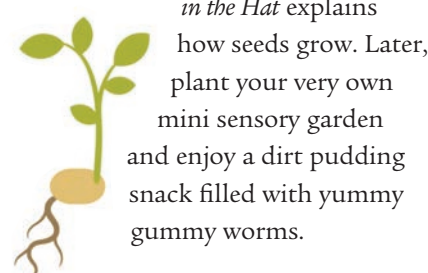
SUNDAY, JULY 26TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Join Lisa Sparkles Ballroom and Latin Dance studio for a fun afternoon of Latin dancing! Later, stay and plant your own salsa garden with tomatoes, cilantro, jalapenos and red onions so that you can make your very own salsa at home!

PLAYING WITH PLANTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Learn all about the life cycle of plants with one of our experienced outdoor educators who will lead you on a multi-sensory adventure exploring colors, textures, smells, tastes and sounds. Listen as *The Cat*



KIDS ON CANVAS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Abrakadoodle Kids on Canvas is designed to stir children's imaginations by exploring the world of art. This unique program teaches children about painting on a variety of canvas surfaces with acrylic paint and offers aspiring young artists a chance to learn about color and painting techniques. Sip lemonade and create your very own masterpiece. For children 6 years or older.

BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Come learn about the fascinating world of butterflies with one of our experienced outdoor educators who will lead you on a scientific exploration uncovering the caterpillars and butterflies that make their home within the Sensory Garden. Stay and make a butterfly wind chime to take home.

LONG ISLAND AARDVARKS MUSIC PROGRAM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Join us for a foot stomping, jingle shaking, drum drumming hullabaloo that both kids and parents enjoy. This interactive musical experience combines songs, dance and rhythm and is geared towards toddlers and children 4 months to 4 years old. Singing, dancing, musical storytelling, instrumental jam sessions and more. Stay and make your own musical instruments.

SENSORY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH, 2015
12:00pm/Registration Required

Celebrate the end of the season with music, stories, educational activities, crafts and snacks. Matt the Music Man will provide a fun, animated, children's music show that combines guitar accompanied sing-a-longs, hands-on drumming, and loads of silliness! For ages 3-9.

SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS JUNE & JULY

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 please contact Jennifer Lavella
 at (516)922-8678
 or jlavella@plantingfields.org



JUNE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH, 2015
Concert in the Park: Ainslee Street Vibes

6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico
 FREE, No parking fee | No reservations required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse
 Coe Hall closed during the concert | Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner

Ainslee Street Vibes is a collective of Brooklyn based musicians that combine modern-chic style with top quality music entertainment rooted in vintage jazz tradition!

SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2015
FAMILY FUN NIGHT: Strummin' & Drummin'
 6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico | FREE, No parking fee
 No reservations required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse
 Coe Hall closed during the concert | Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner

Strummin' & Drummin' blends catchy lyrics with world rhythms into styles of pop, world music, blues and jazz. Their music is fun for the kids of course, but also hip for the parents too. Come out and enjoy this fun and interactive night!

JULY

SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 2015
Concert in the Park: Vivaldi performed by the Dolce Ensemble
 6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico | FREE, No parking fee
 No reservations required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse
 Coe Hall closed during the concert | Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner

Enjoy beautiful Vivaldi music and the beauty at Planting Fields and exterior of Coe Hall!

FRIDAY, JULY 17TH, 2015
Summer Theater in the Park
SHREK the Musical! Plaza Theatrical Productions, Inc.
 6:00pm | Hay Barn/Visitor's Center at Planting Fields
 FREE, No parking fee | No Reservations Required | Rain or Shine



**Heels & Wheels:
 The Big Noise Around Little Toys
 at the Manor House**

Exhibition on view March 28th
 through September 7th, 2015
 11:30am – 3:30pm, daily
 Free with \$8 parking fee



SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

AUGUST

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 2015
Concert in the Park: 3 West
 6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico | FREE, No Parking Fee | No reservations
 required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse | Coe Hall closed during the concert
 Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner



3 West, an acoustic duo originally from New Jersey, performs over 200 shows a year and is one of the most booked acts in the Tri-State area. With their range of music interests, you can hear them perform their country/pop originals, acoustic renditions of some of the most current popular hits, as well as some favorites from years past.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 2015
**Planting Fields Foundation's 7th Annual Champagne Party
 A Totally Awesome 80s' Party!**
 7:00pm-10:30pm | Coe Hall
 \$75.00 Members/Firefighters/Military/Police/EMS | \$100.00 Non-Member

Celebrate summer in the grandeur of the gardens at Coe Hall. Enjoy a cocktail buffet catered by Jeff Lawton Events featuring plentiful hors d'oeuvres, savory desserts, champagne, wine, sangria and craft beer. We're going back to the days of metal bands and big hair—grab some leg warmers, muscle shirts or acid wash to wear. Bring your dancin' shoes because we're gonna get *Footloose!* Dance under the stars all evening to the energetic and fun music provided by Tommy's Tunes. Join us to celebrate the best decade yet at this fun garden soiree!



SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH, 2015
**Summer Theater in the Park:
 West Side Story, Plaza Theatrical
 Productions, Inc.**
 6:00pm | Hay Barn/Visitor's Center at Planting
 Fields | FREE, No parking fee | No Reservations
 Required | Rain or Shine

The world's greatest love story takes to the streets in this landmark Broadway musical that is one of the theatre's finest accomplishments. The award-winning score includes *Maria, Tonight, I Feel Pretty, Somewhere*, and the hilarious, *Gee Officer Krupke*.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 2015
**Concert in the Park:
 North Shore Pops Concert Band**
 6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico
 FREE, No parking fee | No reservations
 required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse
 Coe Hall closed during the concert

Bring a chair, blanket, and picnic to enjoy beautiful music and the beauty at Planting Fields and exterior of Coe Hall!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND, 2015
**Concert in the Park:
 River of Dreams, A Billy Joel Tribute Band**
 6:00pm – 7:30pm | Coe Hall, West Portico | FREE, No parking fee | No reservations
 required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse | Coe Hall closed during the concert
 Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner

River of Dreams is a six piece authentic tribute to the music of Billy Joel covering three decades of his most popular songs.

SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2015
Family Fun Night at Coe Hall
 5:30pm – 7:30pm | West Portico | FREE, No parking fee
 Restrooms at Main Greenhouse | Bring a chair, blanket and a picnic dinner

A night of family fun—Enjoy DJ music by Tommy's Tunes, all evening. Bring glow sticks for after dark!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2015
Concert in the Park: The Hambones, A Bob Dylan Tribute Band
 5:30pm – 7:00pm | Coe Hall, West Portico | FREE, No parking fee | No reservations
 required | Restrooms at Main Greenhouse | Coe Hall closed during the concert

Bring a chair, blanket, and picnic to enjoy celebrating music and the 40th anniversary of Bob Dylan's classic album, *Blood on the Tracks!*

HEELS & WHEELS

THE BIG NOISE AROUND LITTLE TOYS

The Foundation's summer exhibition, *Heels and Wheels: The Big Noise Around Little Toys*, opened on Saturday, March 28th, at the Manor House and will run through September 7th, 2015. It is open every day from 11:30 am to 3:30pm.

Fashion-conscious Barbie dolls and sleek Matchbox cars are currently strutting and cruising at Planting Fields.

The exhibition chronicles the history of these toys and is revealing about the broad culture of American life, particularly in the 1950s, 60s and 70s during the initial heyday of Barbies and Matchbox toys. This period of huge, post-World War II suburban expansion with massive new interstate road projects, car manufacturing and an explosion of the fashion industry, is directly reflected in the toys exhibited. The 1957 Manor House with its stylish rooms, makes a perfect backdrop for the glamorous Barbies.

The first Barbie dolls were produced in 1959 by the California-based company, Mattel (founded in 1945). The company's co-founder, Ruth Handler, recognized that the majority of dolls created during this period were predominantly representations of infants. Observing how her daughter, Barbara, often gave her dolls adult roles, she was able to capitalize on this gap in the American doll market and used a popular German adult doll as the inspiration behind Barbie. The first Barbie dolls were manufactured in Japan and about 350,000 were sold during the first year of production. About a billion Barbies have been sold in over 150 countries, and are still made today.

The Matchbox toy brand was introduced in 1953 by the British

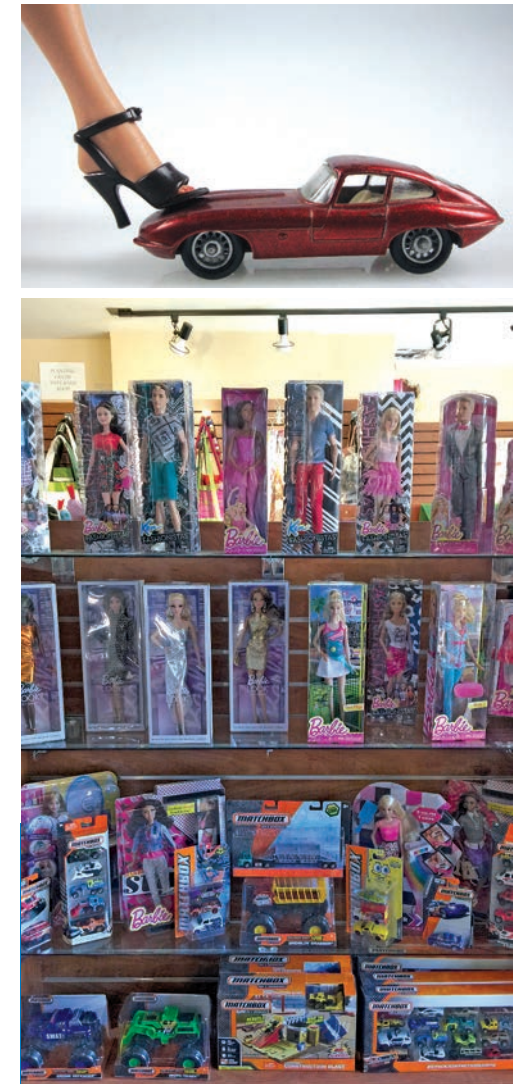


company Lesney Productions, now owned by Mattel, Inc. The London-based company was founded in 1947 by Leslie Smith, Rodney Smith and John Odell. The concept behind Matchbox began with Odell creating a miniature green and red road roller small enough to fit into a matchbox so his daughter could take a toy with her to school. This idea helped launch Lesney into a worldwide, mass-market success and Matchbox was born.

Planting Fields opened as a New York State Park in 1972, at a time when ever increasing numbers of Long Islanders were driving to State parks for recreational activities. As more and more new and exciting models of cars were produced every year, Mattel

replicated them with finely detailed toy versions. The stylish miniature vehicles and the gorgeous Barbies make the show appealing, not just to boys and girls, but to men and women as well.

The exhibition guest curator, Matthew Bird, an associate professor of industrial design at the Rhode Island School of Design, bought over three hundred dolls and miniature cars on eBay, spanning from the late 1950s to 2009, the year when Barbie marked its 50th Anniversary. Bird thinks that, "Barbies and Matchbox cars are just as valuable today as they were in the 1950s for one reason: they helped, and still help kids imagine themselves as grownups. They made for personal empowerment".



GIFT SHOP

In conjunction with the *Heels and Wheels* exhibition, the garden gift shop now features a variety of Barbie's, Hot Wheels, and Matchbox cars that appeal to children of all ages. The gift shop is located within the Hoffman Visitor's Center and is open daily from 11:00-4:00.



A RECENT GIFT

FROM MICHAEL D. COE, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION

This magnificent mirror once hung in Mr. W.R. Coe's bedroom at Coe Hall and after sixty years it has been returned.

It was part of Charles Duveen's designs for the room. After Coe's death in 1955, the mirror was inherited by William Roger Coe, Professor Coe's father and subsequently by the professor himself. With the recent completion of Mrs. W.R. Coe's bedroom, her husband's room is next in line for restoration. For the Foundation, receipt of this gift is particularly important for the completion of the project. The mirror frame is in the manner of the English artist William Kent (1685-1748) who designed rooms and furniture for several fine English houses between about 1720 and 1740, including Chiswick House, Holkham Hall and Houghton Hall.



“CHINA THEN AND NOW” AT NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART

EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF COLLECTING

BY LILLY MCGURK, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



A few select pieces of Chinese art from Coe Hall made themselves right at home in the Nassau County Museum of Art’s exhibition, “China Then and Now.”

The exhibition opened last November and closed this past March. Guest curators Amy G. Poster, Curator Emerita of Asian Art at the Brooklyn Museum, and Kaijan Chen, Ph.D., postdoctoral Fellow at the Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, explored three eras of Chinese art works and varying mediums which showcased classical, early modern, and



contemporary pieces from the perspective of Long Island collectors. The seven objects loaned from Coe Hall were collected by W.R. Coe’s son, Robert Coe, who bequeathed part of his collection to Planting Fields Foundation in 1985.

One of the pieces chosen for this exhibition included a Qing Dynasty, Kangxi period (1661-

1722) imperial porcelain covered jar which is decorated in the *famille verte* color palette, consisting of green and iron red. The center of the jar illustrates a charming and decorative scene. Another piece selected for its well preserved condition, attractive motif, and vibrant colors was the Coe’s Canton enamel on copper dish, Qing Dynasty, late 18th -19th century, which depicts a scene of a Daoist paradise. The auspicious symbols, folk deities and literary characters represented in these fine works appealed to the early twentieth century American collectors.

Several pieces of fine jade bowls and objects from Robert Coe’s collection were also featured in this exhibition. The skillfully crafted ornamental designs and the translucent appearance of the jade make these decorative objects considerably valuable and admired by collectors.

The Coe Hall pieces added to an already impressive repertory of blue and white porcelains from the Childs and Frick Collections from the Ming (1386-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties, large scale Buddhist sculptures (525-618) from the Arthur M. Sackler Collection, and modern ink paintings by artist Liu Dan which reinterpreted early



(Left Top)
Carved Jade Bowl with Two Lotus Flower Handles
China, late 19th – 20th century
Rosewood base with laminated decoration
Planting Fields Foundation
(1985.007.037)



(Left Below)
Oval Carved Jade Bowl with Rounded Edges
China, 18th - 19th century
Planting Fields Foundation
(1985.007.054)

(Opposite Left)
Canton Enameled Dish with a Scene of a Daoist Paradise
China, Qing Dynasty, late 18th - 19th century
Enamel on copper
Planting Fields Foundation
(1985.007.012)

(Opposite Right)
Famille Verte Covered Jar with Narrative Scenes
China, Qing Dynasty, Kangxi period (1662-1722)
Porcelain with over glaze enamels
Planting Fields Foundation
(1985.007.003)

traditions with a new contemporary approach to themes and techniques.

We are thrilled that these pieces from Coe Hall were chosen for such a rare and unique opportunity for visitors to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of Chinese art. They are currently on exhibition in the Reception Room and the Gallery at Coe Hall for our visitors to enjoy.

PLANTING FIELDS FOUNDATION'S RECENT EVENT
DECK THE HALLS 2014



A. Amos Nevin, Julia Weidinger
 B. Meg Hayes, Peg Hayes, Dr. Michael Coe, Natalie Coe, Clive Coe, Cassius Coe
 C. Constance Haydock, Barry Osborn, Nancy Taylor
 D. Marjorie Isaksen, Jay Benjamin, Fredd Isaksen, Kirsten Benjamin
 E. Jeffrey Lee Moore, Susan Moore
 F. Emily Chapman, Hannah Sechrist-Burns
 G. Front Row: Linda Anderson, Sally Peters, Hal Davidson, Peter Quick, Crisler Quick
 Back Row: Jacques Busquet, Gillian Mestre, Eduardo Mestre, Joel Fairman
 H. Bob Merrill Society Swing Band

NEWLY CONSERVED SETTEE

ON EXHIBITION IN THE DEN AT COE HALL

Of all the lavish furnishings purchased by William R. and Mai Coe in 1921, the English settees for the drawing room (now known as the Great Hall), the Gallery and the Den, were the most expensive.

They came from Charles Duveen's company, Charles of London. He was an antique dealer and interior architect in London and New York with a vast and successful business dealing in very expensive old furniture and rooms.

Historically, settees had always been expensive because of the elaborate upholstery that made them the most luxurious and comfortable seat furniture in any interior. Upholstered settees were first made in Paris in the 1670s for Louis XIV and his family. Before that time seat furniture had only movable cushions for comfort. It was furniture makers in France who originally devised the elaborate stitching techniques to fix cushions and to make padded seat backs and arm rests, and so upholstery, made

by highly skilled craftsmen, became increasingly more comfortable.

With Britain's increasing mercantile prosperity, a demand for high quality furniture was established, and newly invented upholstered chairs and sofas were the most sought after. Throughout the eighteenth century the most expensive chairs and sofas were upholstered in silk or cotton damask or brocades, although sometimes seats were covered with ornamental needlework which might have been stitched by women of high social status. In the early twentieth century this convention of needle upholstery was adopted by firms such as Charles of London, here and in England, to evoke period authenticity of the seventeenth and eighteenth

centuries, but it was really an invented tradition. To see needlework or tapestry covered settees, like the four at Coe Hall today, is more a sign of workmanship from the 1920s than the 1720s.

Charles of London's original 1921 paperwork in the Foundation's archives show that the price of the newly restored settee, now in the den, was \$7,500 (about \$98,684.21 in today's money). By comparison a French marquetry commode (chest of drawers) was priced at only \$1,320. A carved oak four poster bed was \$1,500. The high cost of the settee was due to the fact that because fine comfortable furniture had been expensive for over two hundred years and in the 1920s such settees were also seen as antiques and so doubly valuable. In fact the framework of the settee was new in 1921 and the needlework and tapestry covering might have been new too, but designed to look old and precious.

The excellent conservation work on the settee was carried out to the highest standards by conservation staff of the Bureau of Historic Sites at the New York State office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Peebles Island, Waterford, NY.



NEW AUDIO TOUR AT COE HALL

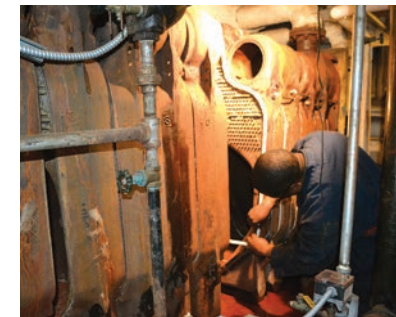


Coe Hall guests, Grayson Jones and Rachel Holdswolth

We are pleased to announce a new audio tour is now available at Coe Hall. This new and exciting option

gives visitors an in depth experience through Coe Hall with Dr. Michael Coe, grandson of William Robertson Coe, and Chairman of Planting Fields Foundation. We teamed up with Acustiguide, to have the script recorded on hand held devices that give guided tours on a daily basis. Come and experience the house in a new way! The audio tour is available in Coe Hall daily from 11:30am to 3:30pm.

FURNACE MAINTENANCE



In February, new gaskets were fitted to the original furnace at Coe Hall. The cost was shared by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Planting Fields Foundation.

CURATORIAL INTERN AT COE HALL



This summer our intern is Bryan Maccarrone who has just graduated from SUNY College at Oswego with a B.A. in history. He has a special interest in American history, and museum studies. He will be working on the archive collection at Coe Hall and on up-coming interpretive projects.



MISSION STATEMENT

Planting Fields Foundation collaborates with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to preserve and interpret Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park as a premier Long Island Gold Coast estate and arboretum by providing educational and enriching experiences.

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