

# Ohio Walnut Council

## Fall Field Day Announcement 2022 October 15 11:00 a. m.

Hello Ohio Walnut Council members and colleagues,

I am happy to report that John Kelsey has volunteered to host us for a Fall Field Day on **October 15, 2022**. We will meet for the **11:00 a.m.** sternwheeler departure at the Parkersburg, WV pier. So, please put this date on your calendars and plan to join us for an October fall day in a walnut woods. John will lead us on a visit to Blennerhassett State Park, an Island in the Ohio River near Parkersburg, West Virginia. We will take a sternwheeler boat trip to the Island where John will discuss the history and growth of many large mature black walnut trees planted around 1935. We will then observe and discuss The Walnut Council supported 2021 experimental research project on the Island. There will be ample time to explore the State Park and the Mansion house on the Island for those so inclined. It should be an enjoyable and educational field day, with lunch among the "BIG WALNUTS". Attached is a sheet giving details of the 2021 experimental planting and another sheet explaining parking and boat access for our meeting.

Please fill in the attached registration form and return it (email or mail) to John Kelsey at 19540 Kanawha Valley Road, Southside, WV 25187 The \$20 fee includes the boat ticket and a box lunch.

If you are traveling some distance, you might enjoy a stay at the Blennerhassett Hotel in Parkersburg. The hotel is a pleasant reminder of past elegance (with modern comforts and a 1<sup>st</sup> class restaurant). Hope to see you at the gangplank,  
Bill Hammitt, Ohio Chapter president

Hello Friends,

Bill asked me to send out some more details for our fall meeting. I realize this is way too early to be discussing fine details, but I need to do things before I forget. The sternwheeler leaves the Parkersburg pier on the hour starting at 10:00 a.m. I suggest we catch the 11:00 a.m. boat. That will allow travel time from the far reaches of Ohio. The return sternwheeler trips leave the Island on the half hour until 4:30. About an hour and a half is time enough to tour the two black walnut plantings. We can do box lunches. That would add an hour to our stay (you can't add a half hour), Some may want to do the mansion tour and/or the horse-drawn wagon rides. So, we could break up and people can return as they like. There is a snack bar and gift shop on the Island,

If people want to stay overnight, there is the grand olde Blennerhassett Hotel in Parkersburg, along with an impressive museum. (I personally like the Indian artifacts in

the basement). This Island park is a beautiful place, especially for walnut growers, so our members should bring their best camera equipment.

More later, jfk

p.s. I have offered to host the national Walnut Council 2039 annual meeting in Parkersburg, so this will be a dress rehearsal.

## Ohio Walnut Council Field Day 2022 Fall Registration

The Fall Meeting of the Ohio Chapter of the Walnut Council is being held on **October 15 at 11:00 a.m.** at the Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park near Belpre, Ohio. Please Register early to help with our planning. Mail or **e-mail** ([jfknutz@gmail.com](mailto:jfknutz@gmail.com)) registration to: John Kelsey, 19540 Kanawha Valley Road, Southside, WV 25187

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ in case of cancellation

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ in case of cancellation

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 = registration fee (Pay at boat pier)

Museum Tour \_\_\_\_\_ (Tickets available on the island ticket booth)

Wagon Tour \_\_\_\_\_ (Tickets available on the island ticket booth)

We plan to stay at the Blennerhassett Hotel

**Address:** 320 Market St, Parkersburg, WV 26101

**Phone:** [\(304\) 422-3131](tel:3044223131)

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## Fall Field Day Information - - - 2022 October 15

Access to our island meeting is by a stern wheeler which leaves the Parkersburg, WV pier on the

hour starting at 10:00 a.m.

Most of us will be catching

the 11:00 departure. The

boat's capacity is 149 people.

The boat returns on the half

hour. Besides walnut trees,

you might optionally be

interested in the park's

historic mansion tours and/or



horse drawn wagon tour. Tickets are available at the ticket booth on the island.

The Parkersburg pier is at the foot of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street through a fortunate opening in the floodwall (left). The pier is through the opening and down a few steps. There is limited parking outside the floodwall and a large parking lot to the left in this picture.

For us walnut growers, there are two major points of interest on the island. First is a 1935 planting (right) which has been unmanaged by park policy. The park cuts the grass and only



removes a tree if it dies. All the living trees, winners and losers are still there. This is an ideal black walnut site, but it is crowded to the limit.

The second forestry point of interest is the 2021 experimental black walnut planting. It is about a 200 yard walk on a crushed stone road. The project is supported by a Walnut Council grant and explained on the attached info sheet.