



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley  
National Park

15610 Vaughn Road  
Brecksville OH 44141

[www.nps.gov/cuva](http://www.nps.gov/cuva)  
[www.dayinthevalley.com](http://www.dayinthevalley.com)

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## Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Friday, March 27, 2009

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### Oceanographer and Conservationist Lectures in Valley

**Brecksville, Ohio** – On Friday, April 3, 2009, nationally recognized oceanographer and retired National Park Service conservationist Gary E. Davis appears as a lecturer in Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Lyceum Series. The word "lyceum" has roots in ancient Greek, and became the name of the school where Aristotle taught. At CVNP, we use the term to describe a lecture series featuring national speakers who stimulate the heart and mind with compelling stories of our natural and cultural world. The program is held at Happy Days Lodge beginning at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$8 adults, \$6 CVNPA members, and \$3 children ages 3 - 12. Advance sales are available by calling (330) 657-2909.

Davis has explored oceans worldwide for more than 50 years. As a commercial fisherman, park ranger, aquanaut, marine biologist, certified fisheries scientist, and consultant, he developed innovative solutions to improve ocean stewardship, sustain fisheries, and assess ecosystem health. Born and educated in San Diego, California, he has lived and worked in Virgin Islands, Everglades, Dry Tortugas, Biscayne, and Channel Islands National Parks. He has conducted dozens of international conservation projects from the Red Sea in Sudan and numerous Caribbean islands, to Australia and Taiwan, as well as Canada, Mexico, Brazil, and the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador.

During a six-year stint as the National Park Service's Chief Ocean Scientist in Washington, D.C., Davis helped 75 ocean parks identify and achieve shared goals. He also founded and directed the National Park Service South Florida Research Center, served as a Research Field Station Director for the U. S. Geological Survey, and held adjunct and associate faculty positions at the University of California, Davis and the Smithsonian Institution. His research on spiny lobsters, coral reefs, abalone, and kelp forests has helped shape ocean conservation strategies around the globe.

Davis has authored more than 200 scientific and popular articles documenting his discoveries. He developed a system for monitoring nature's vital signs now used in protected areas worldwide. In 1992, he founded the Great Annual Fish Count, a citizen-science project that annually engages thousands of divers with the Reef Environmental Education Foundation in assessing fish populations. The American Fisheries Society recognized his "substantial career accomplishments" with its *William E. Ricker Resource Conservation Award* in 2004.

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Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals call CVNPA at (330) 657-2909 ext. 119.

CVNPA is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about CVNPA and its membership program, visit [www.cvnpa.org](http://www.cvnpa.org) or call (330) 657-2909.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit [www.nps.gov/cuva/](http://www.nps.gov/cuva/) or [www.dayinthevalley.com/](http://www.dayinthevalley.com/) or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.

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