



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 – Monday, February 23, 2009

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### Female Alpine Climber Lectures in Valley

**Brecksville, Ohio** – On Friday, March 6, 2009, alpine climber Kitty Calhoun will appear 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. CVNP staff 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 begins at 7 p.m. at Happy Days Lodge. 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.

In Kitty Calhoun’s world, it seems the more challenging, the better. Calhoun began climbing in her home state of South Carolina at the age of eighteen. In college, she started ice climbing. Since sponsored climbing was virtually unheard of at that time, especially for an American woman, her ticket to high-altitude, international climbing was guiding, and she signed up as a guide with the American Alpine Institute guiding clients in South America. What followed was a decade of epic ascents and attempts of peaks in Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Nepal, India, Pakistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Calhoun earned one of the highest honors in the mountaineering community, the American Alpine Club’s *Robert and Miriam Underhill Award*. Her fame quickly spread and sponsorship offers to climb Mount Everest began to roll in. Says friend John Culberson, “Kitty could have gone to the Himalayas every year and had it paid for, but Kitty wasn’t interested in Everest. She has really high standards and values. The route and the people she goes with are really important to her.”

Calhoun continues to climb, works with the women’s climbing organization *Chicks with Picks*, and is an alpine climbing ambassador for Patagonia® clothing company.

A digital image of Kitty Calhoun is on the park’s website at [www.nps.gov/cuva/parknews/newsreleases.htm](http://www.nps.gov/cuva/parknews/newsreleases.htm).

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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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