

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Volunteer Program

Building a Community of Park Stewards



For Immediate Release – Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mary Pat Doorley, CVNP, 440-546-5995, 440-343-7355 (cell), or mary_pat_doorley@nps.gov
Lisa Meranti, Conservancy, 330-657-2364 or lmeranti@forcvnp.org

National Park Volunteers Win Regional Awards

Peninsula, Ohio - Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park are pleased to announce that three Cuyahoga Valley National Park volunteers were selected for George B. Hartzog, Jr. Regional Awards for their dedication and exceptional performance as volunteers at their national park. The competition was among 57 parks in the Midwest region.

The Hartzog Volunteer Group Award was given to Joe and Lisa Cellura. Joe and Lisa volunteer in a number of positions in the park including Wildlife Watchers, the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad during the Polar Express™ and Underground Railroad programs, as well as bird monitoring. Most notably, they developed a new roving kit about bats for the Wildlife Watchers program that included tactile elements to engage the visually impaired.

The Hartzog Youth Volunteer Award was given to Christine Sisler. She began as an elf aboard the Polar Express™ train three years ago as a sophomore in high school. Christine soon found her calling as a member of the GO Crew! that engages children and their families in park activities. Christine acts as a leader and role model to youth and peers alike.

The awards are named for George B. Hartzog, seventh director of the National Park Service who is credited with formalizing the Volunteer-In-Parks program in 1970. The intent of the awards is to distinguish those individuals or groups who give of their skills, talents, and time beyond the normal call of duty. These Midwest regional winners will now compete for the national volunteer awards.

Learn about Cuyahoga Valley National Park's diverse volunteer opportunities by visiting www.conservancyforcvnp.org (click on "Volunteer"), or by contacting the volunteer office at 330-657-2142 or volunteer@forcvnp.org.

-more-

Call: (330) 657-2296 • **E-mail:** volunteer@forcvnp.org
Fax: (330) 657-2381 • **Web:** conservancyforcvnp.org
Mail: 1403 W. Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, OH 44264
Location: 1571 Boston Mills Road, Peninsula

CONSERVANCY
for CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK



**Cuyahoga Valley
National Park**

About the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a non-profit 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 the Conservancy and its programs, visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org or call 330-657-2909.

About Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga Valley National Park encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or www.dayinthevalley.com or call 330-657-2752 or 800-257-9477.

#