



POWERED BY PEOPLE.
189,000 riders and counting.



2010 ANNUAL REPORT



STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

OUR MISSION

To provide educational and heritage railroad experiences within the Ohio & Erie Canalway and provide alternative transportation to, through and within Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Net Assets: **\$3,740,872**

Locomotives: **8**

Rolling stock:

15 Passenger cars (including 2 Advanced Accessibility cars)

1 Dome car

1 Observation car

1 Parlour car

1 Lounge car

1 Concession car

2 Café cars

4 Baggage cars

4 Rail-diesel cars (RDCs)

1 Power car

Miles of track: **51**

Passenger stations: **9**

2010 ridership: **189,440**

Full-time employees: **14**

Volunteers: **2,041**

Volunteer hours: **68,067**

Members: **850**



LETTER TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

In 2010, as in years past, our success was powered by people. Truly, they are the engines that drive our progress. Donors and supporters. Staff, trustees and volunteers. Passengers. All with a passion for CVSR that's as deep as the Cuyahoga Valley is long.

We're powered by individuals like Dan Krol and Tom Johnston, whose leadership encouraged over 2,000 volunteers to contribute over 68,000 hours last year aboard our trains and on the ground. We're powered by all our friends at Cuyahoga Valley National Park, led by new Superintendent Stan Austin, who comes with 30 years of experience at the U.S. EPA and several western National Parks. We're also powered by our dedicated partners at the Conservancy for Cuyahoga National Park, the Countryside Conservancy, the Ohio & Erie Canalway Association, and other regional organizations – all dedicated to the preservation and public use of our magnificent Cuyahoga Valley.

Most of all, we're powered by the 189,000 passengers who rode our trains in 2010 – almost double the number just five years ago and more than those who got on or off Amtrak trains throughout the State of Ohio.

We have even more to celebrate. For the fifth straight year, CVSR was named one of the top 10 excursion railroads in the U.S. (and one of only two non-profits on the list). Our *Voices in the Valley* audio tour, developed for CVSR by the National Park Service, garnered first place in a national competition for interpretive media. And, early in 2011, the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce recognized CVSR as the Valley's top business organization.

Our deepest thanks to outgoing Chairman C. A. "Arnie" de la Porte, who led the Board from 2008 to 2010. In areas as diverse as civic involvement, public and private financial support, staff-building and relationships with our many Park partners, Arnie was – and continues to be – the kind of tireless "servant leader" who inspires all around him to do their best. His energy and enthusiasm are contagious, and we salute him and thank his beloved wife Maud.

As we begin to prepare for CVSR's 40th anniversary in 2012, we face numerous opportunities along with a few challenges, including the steeply rising cost of diesel fuel and the need to maintain and upgrade our fleet of vintage engines and railcars. It is our goal to become America's premier excursion railroad – in terms of safety, the quality of our facilities and equipment, and total customer satisfaction. To achieve that strategic priority, we will need the continued support of all our constituents.

In summary, Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is in good hands and great standing thanks to the many contributions of people like you. Powered by a momentum that begins in the hearts of donors, volunteers, staff and passengers alike, we cannot help but move forward. So climb aboard. We'll save you a seat.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Snider".

George Snider
Chairman, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven W. Wait".

Steven W. Wait
President & CEO



RIDERSHIP ON THE RISE

The wheels are turning and the numbers are climbing. Just a decade ago, annual ridership was at 100,130. In 2010 we stood at 189,440 — an 89% increase! With an all-star roster of programs, from scenic train to our Student Explorer program, and the many special events like The Polar Express,[™] Day Out with Thomas,[™] and Steam in the Valley, CVSR is making new fans and friends every day. Other programs like Bike Aboard! continue to grow and now account for 13% of riders. The program encourages visitors to ride the rail and bike the trail and ridership has grown from 20,673 in 2009 to 23,776 in 2010.



There's a lot to be said for our Student Explorer programs, and perhaps teachers say it best.

"We as educators can't say enough about the programs offered by the Railroad for these students. Thank you for facilitating an incredible learning experience for our 400 Cleveland Metropolitan School District Elementary kids."

Susan Muller, Kindergarten Teacher and Field Trip Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS: ONE OF OUR VALLEY'S MOST AMAZING RESOURCES.

Nowhere is our message of "powered by people" more true than when talking about CVSR volunteers. Here you'll find people of diverse backgrounds – firefighters, law enforcement, bus drivers, accountants, mechanics, teachers – who find common ground in their love of heritage railroad. Take a closer look and you'll see, in many cases, they're not simply carrying on the legacy of CVSR and the Valley, but also very personal legacies. Like the conductor who wears the watch chain and uniform buttons of his father who was a conductor for 44 years. Or, another who wears his father's conductor cap as a tribute. Without a doubt, our impressive volunteer corps is the epitome of dedication and we're eternally grateful for their efforts and time.

NEW RECORDS IN VOLUNTEERISM.

In 2010, volunteers donated 68,067 hours of service. Currently, there are: 405 regular/active volunteers, 1480 special event volunteers, 156 under-18 volunteers, 2041 volunteers total.

HOURLY POWER

17 volunteers had 500+ hours | 24 volunteers had 300-499 hours
85 volunteers had 100 to 299 hours

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR: DENISE BURNISON AND DAN KROL

2010 Volunteers of the Year were Dan Krol, with 1,075 hours, and Dee Burnison with 445 hours. Each received a ride in the Saint Lucie Sound Observation Car from CVSR and \$150.00 for food from the Volunteer Association. A special recognition goes out to Michael and Ann Fremon for working all 31 days of The Polar Express. That's holiday spirit!

"Without the help of these incredible people in our community, CVSR would not be able to accomplish all that it does on a daily basis."

Steven W. Wait, President & CEO | Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad



CVSR VOLUNTEER CORPS.



Calvin Curnutte (seen above)

Calvin Curnutte retired from First Energy in 2007 after 40 years in maintenance training. Before joining us, he had never been on a train. While Curnutte says he spends 80% of his time in the maintenance shop in Fitzwater and working in the yard, he does get out and ride on the trains when he can. "My favorite part is talking with kids. They have boundless curiosity and questions. Education is a big part of what happens on these trains. I make it my job to have answers." Curnutte was especially proud of his involvement in building up a new handicap accessible car. "It came in and we stripped it out, pretty much rebuilt it with handicap-accessible doors, the lifts, restroom—the works. It's car #105." In 2010, Curnutte logged the second most volunteer hours: 1,249.

Claude Cooper (second from left, below)

"I guess I'm a people person," says Claude Cooper, who has been one of our most dedicated volunteers. "Taking tickets, answering questions, directing passengers, I really like the interaction." Cooper has spent the better part of his professional life getting people from point A to point B, first as a Greyhound bus lines driver for 32 years and then as a school bus driver for another 21. Credited with making the Canton extension of the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad a success, Claude worked the Canton-Akron Flyer 5 days a week, 11 hours a day. If you think those numbers are impressive, Claude recently turned 91 and is still going strong. "I get asked, 'what's the secret of my longevity?'" and I say it's no secret. I like what I am doing with my life. That's all it takes." In 2010, Cooper logged the most volunteers hours, 1,389, for a total of 3,521 since starting in March of 2008.



ACME FRESH MARKET DAYS

From June through October, we operate three round-trip trains five days a week from the Rockside Station in Independence. In the summer, a second train, the Canton-Akron flyer, is added. In 2010, through an exciting new partnership with Acme Fresh Markets, we launched “Acme Fresh Market Days” aboard Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Every Wednesday, June through August, this program allows all passengers traveling to or from Canton to ride for a reduced ticket price of only \$6 per person, courtesy of Acme Fresh markets.

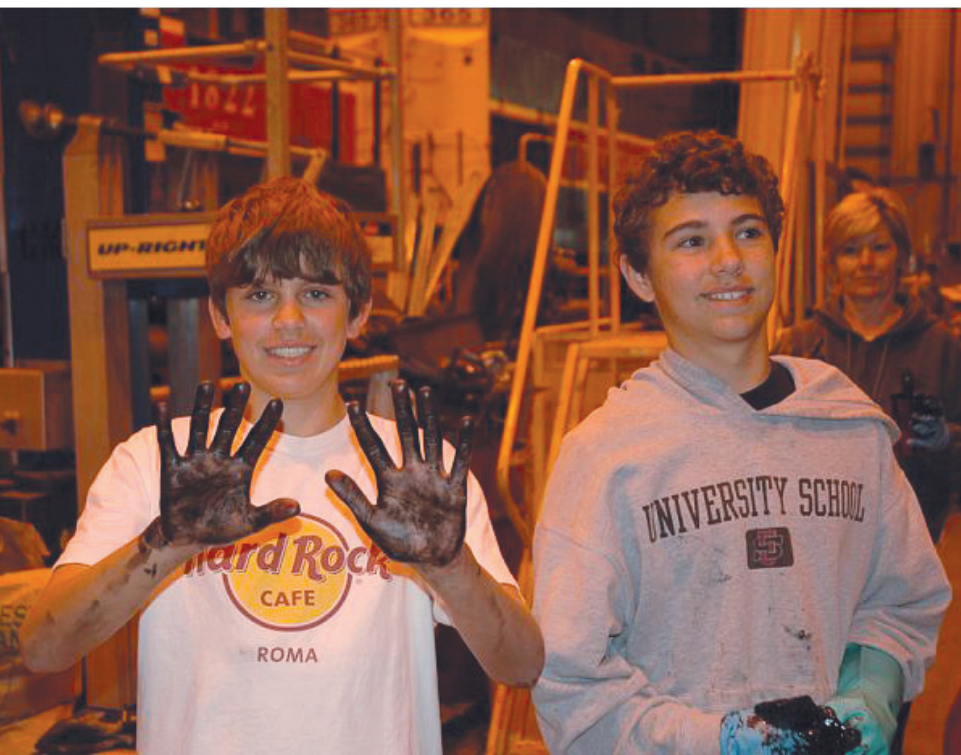
STUDENTS PITCH IN AND PAINT

To celebrate Global Youth Service day, 14 students and volunteers from University School and Business Volunteers Unlimited came to Fitzwater Maintenance Yard on April 24, where the trains are stored and serviced, to help paint the undercarriage of coach #161.

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS, A MODEL CORPORATE PARTNER.

In May, the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad teamed up with Sherwin-Williams to host the biggest yet, Corporate VIP volunteer event. Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad transported almost 350 Sherwin-Williams employees into Cuyahoga Valley National Park to their work sites for painting train stations, landscaping, cleaning and pulling invasive plants. In all, the Sherwin-Williams group gave approximately 3,000 volunteer hours, equivalent to \$62,550 in labor. Through this project, Sherwin-Williams helped us define a model partnership with a local company. Corporate groups are welcome as a variety of projects are available through the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.





PEOPLE PRESERVING HISTORY

Currently, we own and operate 39 pieces of vintage railroad equipment—some of which date back to the 1940s. Maintaining this equipment remains a top priority. And while general maintenance is covered by our normal operating budget, separate funding is often needed for additional work such as mechanical and electrical upgrades, new wheel sets, and enhancements to improve passenger comfort. In 2010, thanks to the following donors, six cars received new seats, fresh paint and minor mechanical upgrades. CVSR would like to thank these donors for their contributions.

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R.C. Musson and Katharine M. Musson Charitable Foundation

The O'Neill Brothers Foundation

The Perkins Charitable Foundation

The Reinberger Foundation

The Kelvin & Eleanor Smith Foundation

The Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust



In 2010, Cuyahoga Valley National Park received \$7.768 million in federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to improve deferred maintenance needs in the park. The money is being used for 5 projects:

- Upgrading 9 miles of CVSR railroad line from bolt-joined rail to welded rail to provide a smoother ride in two areas: the Merriman Valley to downtown Akron, and near Vaughn Road in Brecksville. Welded rail has a life of about 60-100 years.
- Replacing 3,200 old ties. New ties have an estimated 30 year lifespan.
- Rockside station improvement: paved parking lot and improved facilities like restrooms.
- FTA bridge work for Memorial Parkway and Furnace Run bridges in Akron.
- Bridge work on bridge 438 and 454 over Tinkers Creek.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program

The Transit in Parks Program, which funds capital and planning expenses for alternative transportation systems in national parks and other federal lands, awarded Cuyahoga Valley National Park three generous grants totalling \$530,000 for the following:

Volpe Transportation Study: This comprehensive rail transportation study will lead to coordinated, prioritized transportation investments and short/long term (5-20 years) management actions that will improve the passenger experience, allow park visitors to explore CVNP without the use of a personal automobile, reduce operations, maintenance, and administrative costs, and position CVNP and CVSR to take advantage of highly sought-after funding opportunities.

Rail Inspection Vehicle: This new fuel-efficient, cost-effective truck will enable CVSR to conduct required, bi-weekly inspections of 26 miles of rail, ties, and ballast owned and maintained by the National Park Service.

Knuckle Boom Truck: A biodiesel B-20 knuckle boom truck will allow the park's railroad maintenance crew to be highly efficient when performing the myriad maintenance tasks required to keep the tracks safe, operational, and well-maintained.

A Second Wheelchair Accessible Car Added.

To help meet the mobility and vision needs of our many passengers, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program awarded \$373,000 in FY2006 for the purchase and renovation of an Accessible rail car. This new car, stripped down and rebuilt, features specially designed and painted floors for low vision passengers, and wheelchair doors and lifts on both sides of the car. During peak season, CVSR can operate up to 3 trains; only one could be used to accommodate wheelchairs. With this second Accessible car, CVSR services will be available to even more visitors.

Fitzwater Bridge Completion.

Last year, the much needed Fitzwater Bridge project was completed. Funded through the Federal Highway Administration, the project provided for the construction of a new trailhead and associated parking area at the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail, plus access to CVSR's Fitzwater Maintenance Facility.



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2010 and 2009



	2010	2009
CURRENT ASSETS		
Petty cash on hand	\$2,100	\$2,100
Cash- checking	1,466,893	1,242,060
Grants receivable (no allowance considered necessary)	162,000	
Pledges receivable - current	20,000	20,000
Inventory - concessions	65,912	52,049
Prepaid insurance	16,368	16,822
Prepaid expenses	415	237
Employee advance	2,838	
Deposit	8,000	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,744,526	1,333,268
LONG-TERM PORTION OF PLEDGES RECEIVABLE		
		12,025
INVESTMENTS		
INVESTMENTS - ENDOWMENT	370,274	236,124
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Rolling stock	3,458,549	3,341,733
Machines and equipment	225,950	219,370
Vehicles	43,759	56,995
Office equipment	49,426	46,111
Furniture	124,014	124,014
Seasonal fixtures	85,428	72,956
Uniforms		16,089
	3,987,126	3,877,268
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	2,361,054	2,123,532
	1,626,072	1,753,736
	<u>\$3,740,872</u>	<u>\$3,335,153</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$7,762	\$13,796
Gift certificate liability	45,172	27,265
Accrued payroll, payroll taxes and withholding	60,985	33,958
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	113,919	75,019
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	2,909,003	2,730,025
Temporarily restricted	347,676	319,534
Permanently restricted	370,274	210,575
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,626,953	3,260,134
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$3,740,872	\$3,335,153

For a copy of our full audit report, please contact us at 330-657-1906.

It is through the generosity of our donors and the individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations listed here that Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is able to provide the best passenger service and programs, many of which were highlighted in this report. While space limits our ability to list all donors' names, we are grateful for the support that each provides, no matter the size of the gift. It is because of everyone's support that CVSR continues to flourish.

\$10,000+

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The Hoover Foundation
Ohio and Erie Canalway Association
The Reinberger Foundation
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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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As the old quip goes, “a private railroad car is not an acquired taste. One takes to it immediately.” See for yourself. Because as a member of the St. Lucie Sound Founders Society, you can reserve the Saint Lucie Sound luxury car for your private use one day each year for up to 20 guests. Members also buy exclusive tickets to The Polar Express ahead of the general public. CVSR recognizes the following individuals for their annual donation to the St. Lucie Sound Founders Society at the \$1,500 membership level and above. Through your generosity you help provide outstanding education programs and enable us to conserve, restore and maintain the vintage locomotives and passenger coaches that are an important part of Cuyahoga Valley’s history.

Acme Fresh Markets

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SAINT LUCIE SOUND HISTORY

Built in 1946, the Saint Lucie Sound was and still is the quintessence of luxury train travel. Formerly, the Saint Lucie Sound was a private observation car owned by the president of the Florida East Coast Railroad, who used the Saint Lucie Sound to take patrons to his resort hotels in Palm Beach and Boca Raton. In 1986, award-winning designer Don Palmer was selected to refurbish and redecorate the car using the Art Deco theme it still shows today. CVSR purchased the car in 1994.

THE SANDRA L. AND DENNIS B. HASLINGER FAMILY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND AT AKRON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

In May 2010, CVSR established the Sandra L. and Dennis B. Haslinger Family Foundation Endowment Fund at Akron Community Foundation with a gift from Sandra Haslinger and an anonymous donor. The purpose of this is to create an endowment fund into which persons or corporations may make contributions of cash and other property from time to time to support CVSR and the Saint Lucie Sound Passenger coach.



ST. LUCIE SOUND
FOUNDERS SOCIETY
PRESERVING CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD HERITAGE



The Society's new logo incorporates the imagery found on the decorative etched glass in the Saint Lucie Sound's Observation Lounge.



SLEIGH BELLS RING

Santa Claus is coming to town—with a little help from Kevin Ellison, President and CEO of Kellison, & Co. in Warrensville, OH. Ellison made an in-kind donation of a restored, 1800s classic bobsled that we now use during our Polar Express event. What better way to thrill thousands of children each year than for Santa to arrive in his sleigh with a gigantic sack of toys on the back!

CABIN FEVER EXPRESS

On January 24, 2010, the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and CVSR held a joint donor appreciation event. In all, 70 Conservancy donors and 70 CVSR donors at the Stationmaster, Conductor, Engineer and St. Lucie Sound Founder levels, were in attendance. Guests mingled with friends and enjoyed treats prepared by Conservancy chef Larkin Rogers. Guests took in the winter beauty of the national park from the warm comforts of the Emerson Dome Car, the St. Lucie Sound Observation Car, and the Lounge Car.

CLIMB ABOARD FOR HUNGER-CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD CANNED FOOD DRIVE.

Last spring, CVSR conducted a canned food drive to help stock the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and the Cleveland Foodbank. For just \$5 and a canned good, riders enjoyed a 3-hour round trip through Cuyahoga Valley National Park. With local food pantries reporting a major increase in the number of meals they provided from January to September 2010 over the same time the year prior, CVSR wanted to do its part to help fight hunger. Enough food was collected that the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank recognized CVSR with a certificate for giving at the Bronze Level.

HONORING VETERANS

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is proud to serve those who serve our country. So on Veterans Day, CVSR honored veterans, current members of the military, and their families, with a free, 3-hour train ride featuring our Voices of the Valley audio tour which describes the cultural and natural history of Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

STEAM FEST

In September, with the spectacular Cuyahoga Valley National Park as a backdrop, 100 supporters came together to rekindle old friendships, make new ones, and enjoy a train ride pulled by Nickel Plate Road 765, the largest operating steam locomotive east of the Mississippi. The memorable evening was the kick-off for the two week-long Steam in the Valley festival. Special recognition goes to our donors and sponsors who made donations of \$1,000 or more to support Steam in the Valley.

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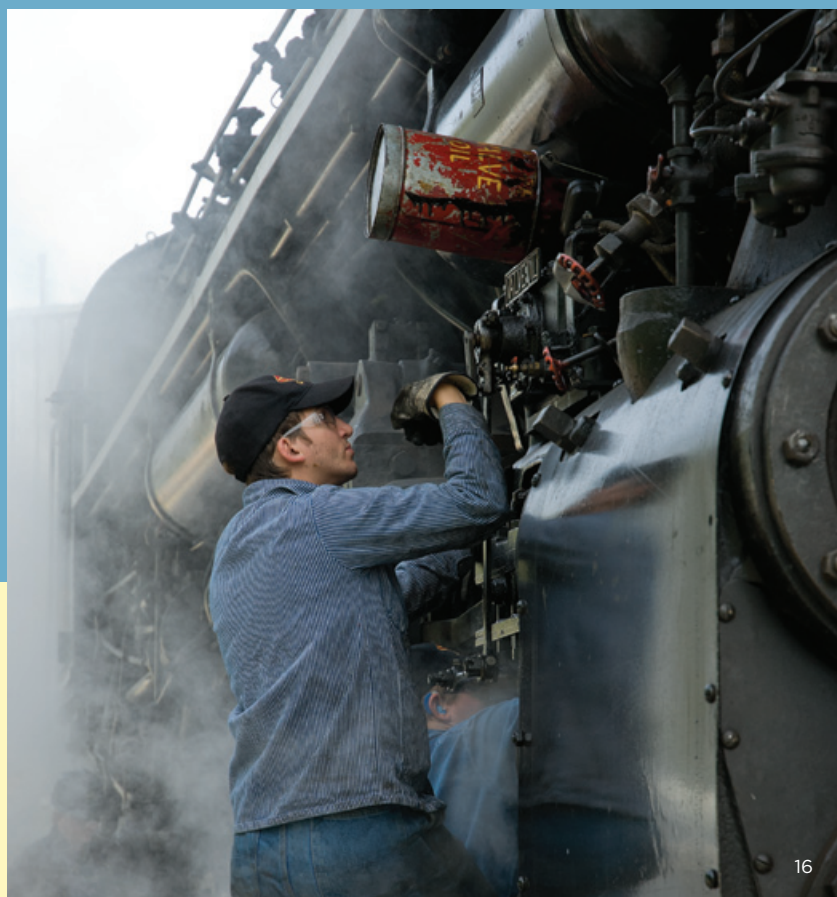
George and Nora Snider

The Timken Company

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"I just became a member of CVSR because of the 765 and the wonderful events featuring this magnificent machine."

- CVSR Member





MEET STAN AUSTIN, NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK.

New Superintendent Stan Austin, a 30-year veteran of federal employment, both with the National Park Service and with the Environmental Protection Agency, brings a wealth of management experience to the table and a lot of ideas. He knows the power of building ties to build progress. As superintendent of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in Arizona, Austin built strong ties with the surrounding community. While at Rocky Mountain National Park, Austin reached out to school groups. Austin wants to continue down that path and work with local communities to show children the natural environment. “We have to get our youth off of computer screens and get them into the national parks,” Getting youth more involved, especially from urban communities, is just one of Austin’s passions. “I would also like to see us create a central, comprehensive visitor center where people can find out all they need to know.” Austin, who started in August 2010, has been amazed by the community’s support for the parks. “In all my years of experience, the partners and volunteers are like nothing I’ve ever seen before,” Austin said. “We’re going to be unstoppable.”



INTRODUCING GEORGE SNIDER, CVSR'S NEW CHAIRMAN.

George Snider understands motivation very well, and his enthusiasm and passion for seeing CVSR succeed and grow inspire those around him. “We’re Ohio’s premier rail attraction,” says Snider, “serving more passengers than Amtrak does statewide.” Snider, previously Vice Chairman, succeeds C.A “Arnie” de la Porte of Grafton, Ohio. He hopes to expand the Board of Trustees from 15 members to 20 by 2012 in time for CVSR’s 40th anniversary and is currently leading the Strategic Planning initiative rolled out under de la Porte. “My goal is to see CVSR become this country’s #1 excursion railroad.”

CONSERVANCY
for CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

A NEW BRAND.

Formerly known as Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association (CVNPA), the Conservancy changed its name in 2011 to the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (the “Conservancy”) in order to more effectively promote its mission to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park.

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