



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SON OF CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD FOUNDER NOW DRIVING THE ENGINE OF THE HISTORIC RAILROAD**

### **Preservation for Generations Fundraiser to Celebrate Railroad's History**

VALLEY VIEW, OH, August 29, 2019—When Siegfried Buerling was the director at Hale Farm and Village in the late 1960's he had a vision on how to attract more visitors to the living history museum and assist in the development of resources for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. In 1972 he helped transform the railroad that had connected Cleveland and Akron dating back to the late 1800's into the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. His son, Peter Buerling, was just 13 years old.

Fast forward 47 years and Peter Buerling is now driving the engine of the historic railroad as its Chairman of the Board. He was appointed Chair earlier this year and was a driving force in the creation of the railroad's new three-year strategic plan that builds on a proud history of service to the community and is dedicated to fulfilling the mission of providing educational, recreational and heritage railroad experiences.

"Looking back over the years, I am overwhelmed how, with the help and support of friends, volunteers, staff and the National Park, the railroad has grown and become an integral part of Northeast Ohio," said Peter Buerling. "It has become more than an attraction, but a way to bring the history and the richness of our area alive in a unique way for generations to come."

The non-profit railroad will honor its history and celebrate its accomplishments at its annual fundraiser, Preservation for Generations. Proceeds from Preservation for Generations 2019 will support CVSR's preservation fund to ensure future generations will be able to experience the wonder of train travel in Ohio's only National Park.

Preservation for Generations 2019 will be the first fundraiser CVSR has had since the "All Aboard Ball" in 2010. The fundraiser celebrates the continually evolving vision that Siegfried Buerling had more than 45 years ago. What was once a small railroad that carried no more than 200 passengers each weekend has now budded into a flourishing education and tourist destination.

"It's more than a fundraiser," said CVSR President & CEO Joe Mazur. "We're celebrating how far this organization has come since Siegfried Buerling founded the railroad. As an organization we're fortunate to have our founder still with us and have his son alongside to carry out his legacy."

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Preservation for Generations 2019 will take place on September 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. The experience will include a train ride behind the high-stepping, Nickel Plate Road No. 765 Steam Locomotive, a rare nighttime run by and photo op in front of the locomotive, seasonal fare and drinks at Fitzwater train yard, and sneak-peak previews of recent fleet enhancement projects.

Those interested in attending Preservations for Generations 2019 should visit [cvsr.org/book-tickets/annual-fundraiser](https://cvsr.org/book-tickets/annual-fundraiser) for more information.

### **About Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad**

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) is a private sector, not-for-profit 501©(3) volunteer supported organization operating in partnership with Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and is dedicated to the preservation of passenger rail transportation in Cuyahoga Valley and the historic Ohio & Erie Canalway. For more information about the railroad, visit [cvsr.org](https://cvsr.org).

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