# Rally in the Valley II **Cuyahoga Valley National Park** September 5 –9, 2024



Event:	NOVA Rally in the Valley II
Dates:	September 5 –9, 2024 (Thursday - Monday)
Host/Coordinator:	Tom & Judi Moran, BRN 4405 - 330-606-4101, <u>topshelfgsp@aol.com</u>
Camp Location:	4439 (Tom & Judi Moran) & 4495 (Uwe & Kari Eickert) Black Road Richfield, OH 44286
Description/Theme:	The rally site is on private property in the heart of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park that does not offer camping for recreational vehicles. With 125 miles of hiking trails ranging from easy to challenging, 87 miles of "Towpath Trail" for hiking and biking (with dogs allowed on most of them), over 100 waterfalls, ledges, a beaver marsh, and wildlife sighting opportunities there is a lot to see and do. Plus, the Cuyahoga River Water Trail offers paddling opportunities for canoes and kayaks.
	In addition to the many bike, hike and water trails in the park, the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad runs through the valley. We reserved one of the California Zephyr dome cars that can accommodates 60 passengers (20 in the upper dome and 40 in the lower level) for a train ride through the national park. Our proximity to Cleveland also offers a wide array of exploration opportunities outside the National Park.
	Camping will be available on a boon-dock basis, with limited access to water and electric as well as a dump port. A large bonfire pit is onsite.
National Park Website:	Cuyahoga Valley National Park (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)
Reservations:	<b>RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR TRAIN RIDE IS MAY 30, 2024.</b> Reserve your free camping spot and express your interest in the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad excursion by email to <u>topshelfgsp@aol.com</u> or (330) 606-4101.
Rally and Other Fees:	Rally expenses are covered by a "50/50 raffle." In lieu of a camping fee, please bring a 6-pack of beer or a bottle of spirits to share at community events. Donations will also be accepted to help Buster Brandish (bird watch leader) to help offset his expenses working with inner city kids. The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway private railcar fee (estimate \$55-\$65 per person, including appetizers onboard, based on # of reservations). Optional sightseeing attractions in the area may have a charge.

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### ITINERARY

#### Thursday, Sep 5, 2024

- Arrival; Free Time to Explore
- Lunch & Dinner on your own
- Happy Hours (5:00 ???); Gather around Campfire; Meet & Greet, Discussion of local activities

#### Friday, Sep 6, 2024

- Dutch oven breakfast bake meat and veggie versions (9:00 10:00)
- Sign up for a group activity or free time to explore, lunch on your own
- Happy Hours (5:00 ???) Gather around Campfire, bring your favorite instrument!
- Potluck Dinner, Pulled Pork and baked beans provided, please bring a side dish to share

#### Saturday, Sep 7, 2024

- Bird Watching led by Buster Banish (8:00 a.m.)
- Breakfast and lunch on you own
- Sign up for a group activity or free time to explore
- Happy Hours (5:00 ???) Campfire & Camaraderie

- Potluck Dinner; Hobo meal provided; please bring a side dish to share, 50/50 Raffle & Giveaways

#### Sunday, Sep 8, 2024

- Irish oatmeal provided (8:00 -10:00)
- Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad excursion (10:00 2:00) with appetizers, open bar
- Free time to explore, Lunch on Own
- Happy Hours (5:00 ???); Open Fire for cooking, Campfire

#### Monday, Sep 9, 2024

- Breakfast and lunch on your own
- Sign up for a group activity or free time to explore

- Departure at your leisure (or feel free to extend your stay!)

#### **Group Activities**

Hiking – numerous hiking trails with varying levels of difficulty to waterfalls and scenic overlooks

Biking - Towpath Trail or Bike & Hike trails offer easy riding through scenic locations

Bird Watching - led by Buster Brandish

**Local Attractions** - Visit Cleveland's famous West Side Market, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and/or USS Cod

See the <u>Things To Do - Cuyahoga Valley National Park (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)</u> for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Scenic Railroad information, maps, and other things to do in the area.

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CAMP LOCATION – map below shows the Cuyahoga Valley National Park boundaries, and the rally location. Dogs are welcome to run and play in a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acre fenced area.

