

# "Tales of the Western Reserve"



## WRABA

Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association

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With a new year—and a new Maya b'ak'tun—we have a new president and new/re-elected officers. Gary Barnhart is our new president (pictured below; see page 3 for his January President's letter). He has been active in our group in other ways as well and is sure to be another great president. Roberta Barnhart is our new webmaster, so look forward to some new plans for our website. Ralph Neumeister joined the board to complete Gary's board term with Marc Yanko and Rocky Whitfield getting a new term.

Thanks is due to our outgoing president, Ken Tucker. Also many thanks to Bob Temple who managed the gift exchange, Roy Troutman who served as auctioneer, and all those who brought food and helped with the preparation/clean-up of the Holiday Party.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- JANUARY 19 HAMMER-IN
- FEBRUARY 9 HAMMER-IN
- MARCH 9 HAMMER-IN
- APRIL 13 HAMMER-IN
- MAY 19 HAMMER-IN
- JUNE 29-30 WRABA CONFERENCE



**President**

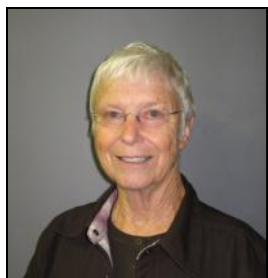
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The **Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association (WRABA)** is a non-profit, educational organization, an affiliate of the **Artist Blacksmith Association Of North America (ABANA)**.

We are dedicated to preserving and promoting the art and craft of hand forging iron. WRABA, our group of blacksmiths meet monthly to share information and techniques at the smithy of one of its' members or at Century Village in Burton, Ohio.

**A Membership application is on the back cover of this newsletter.**

**[www.wraba.com](http://www.wraba.com)**

Get information on our organization. Find out what is going on and take a look at some great pictures of what we've been doing.

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Deadline for articles to be put in the newsletter: March 15, June 15, Sept. 15, Dec. 15th (these dates are in the month prior to the issue coming out on the 1st)

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**Burton**

Bob Temple  
 Ralph Neumeister

**Fundraising**

Bob Temple  
 Art Wolfe

**Special Events**

Bob Temple  
 Roy Troutman

**Hammer-Ins**

Roy Troutman

**Tips & Tricks Editor**

Ralph Neumeister

**Committees****Membership:**

Ralph Neumeister  
 Bruce Woodward  
 Frank Strock

**Scholarship:**

Bob Temple  
 Roy Troutman  
 Lou Molvin

**Workshops:**

Ken Tucker  
 Roy Troutman  
 Rocky Whitfield  
 Bob Temple

**Website:**

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**Sunshine:**

Art Wolfe

**Library:**

Bob Brown

**Stores:**

Mark Millhoff

## **President's Letter January 2013**

**from**

### **Gary Barnhart—Our New President**

Greetings, thought I'd share something about myself for those who do not know me. I'm 54 and have been married 32 of those. In '76 I started a career in engineering during high school (as a detailer) and managed to keep a toe in it 18 of the years since, ending up as a project manager, that ending Dec. '99. From '78 to '84 I worked at ITT Grinnell as a metal trades journeyman, the hot forge dep't and the welding dep't being two main areas. The experience was priceless, that no college could ever give, in making me a better designer. In '00 I opened my shop "SteelTree Workshop." Designs in metal and wood were the focus until '05 when a major remodel of our home started. With the remodel winding down and an interest in blacksmithing growing, a search for blacksmithing schools yielded "WRABA" and a new "open forge" program the summer of '11. It's been busy ever since. Besides projects in my shop, Ken Roby included me into the Village Blacksmith family Feb. '12, I must say the work is varied and enjoyable.

As your new president I'm not lacking in experience there either. This will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> presidency, with this group ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> in size. I have learned one key thing in my previous ventures, that it is the small things that bring down a group. I see my job as making sure everyone in the group has what they need to fulfill our mission, that being the continuance of the art of blacksmithing through education. It was shared at the last board meeting that 30+ new members joined through the open forge program last year. There were also nights when 10 people showed up at Burton or Ralph's, great numbers but very crowded! Would each of you consider having an "open forge" in your area? I'll finish with the tease that those who don't volunteer for this year's events, may miss out on some major swag at the December '13 Christmas party.

Happy Hammering, Gary

## WRABA Events

**January Hammer-In**  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunch

Mike Martin  
1344 Easthill S.E. (55th st)  
North Canton, OH  
330-224-4266  
Hoover estate

**February Hammer-In**  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunch

Ken Roby  
11193 Taylor May Rd  
Aburn Twp, OH 44023  
440-543-4977

**March Hammer-In**  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunch

Bob Parks  
101 N. Broadway  
Sugarcreek, Ohio 44681  
330-852-1014

**April Hammer-In**  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunch

Bill Rickard  
1037 Rt 84 (Ridge Rd)  
Painesville, OH  
440-477-4490

**May Hammer-In**  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunch

Brad Weber  
88250 Mill Hill Rd  
Bowerston, OH 44695



June Conference

29<sup>th</sup>—30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Iron-in-the-hat

Pot-luck lunch

Burton Century Village

14653 East Park Street

Burton, Ohio 44021

Bill Robertson will be demonstrating chasing, animal heads, and many other different aspects of metal-work

Open Forge

Tuesdays 5:00—9:00 PM

Maple Leaf Forge

(Ralph Neumeister)

17231 Messenger Rd.

Burton, Ohio 44021

Burton Century Village

14653 East Park Street

Burton, Ohio 44021

If you need a forge to use, help with a project, or just to learn something — come to one of the open forges.

Open Forge will be at **Maple Leaf Forge** until the weather begins to warm up again.



Can you guess the name of this work by Don Pfaff?  
The same question was posed at the Holiday Party.

A starting hint is that it is Winter Holiday related,  
another hint is a photo at the bottom of page 8

If you need hints, rotate this section counter-clockwise (starting here)

The answer is at the bottom of the Holiday Party  
page, on page 8

Hint #2: Two parts to the work

Hint #3: Think of alternate names

Hint #1: Two words



## October Hammer-In at Don Pfaff's



Some items Don Pfaff displayed at the Hammer-In



Don Pfaff showing the use of a calendar hanger (and the close-up) he demoed at the Hammer-In. We had to keep guessing what it was going to be until it was completed

The Pfaffs donated a cauldron of candy in time for Halloween—giving a guess-how-many contest to win it. The winner was Jeff Nau with a guess of 150



# Double Hook with Decorative Leaves

From a design by Don Pfaff  
And edited by Jeff Nau



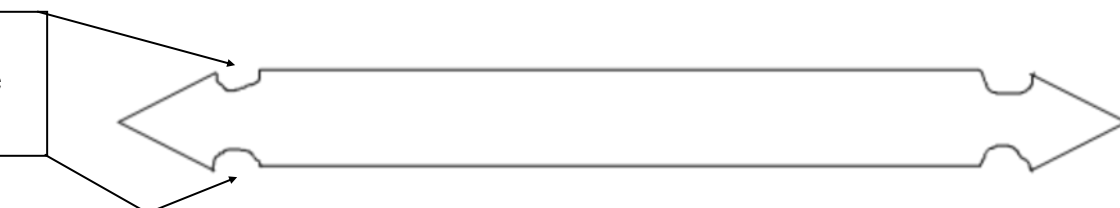
Start with a 1/8" X 1/2" X 6" bar stock  
6" long



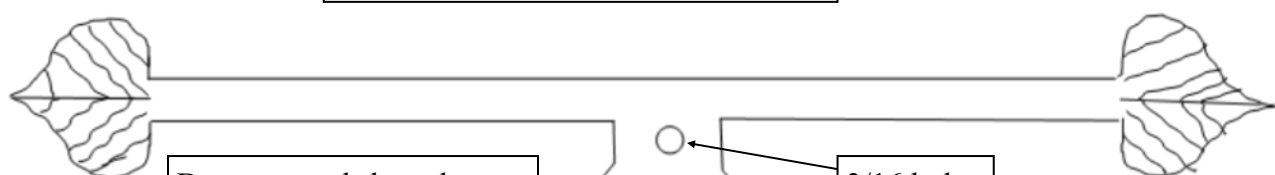
Draw out a short taper



Fuller to begin the leaves



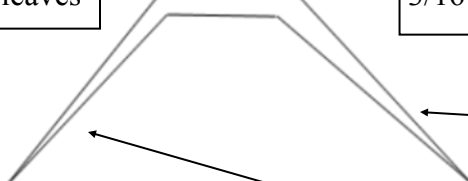
Cut from both bottom fullers inward, along the inner line, leaving a space uncut in the middle



Draw out and shape leaves

3/16 hole

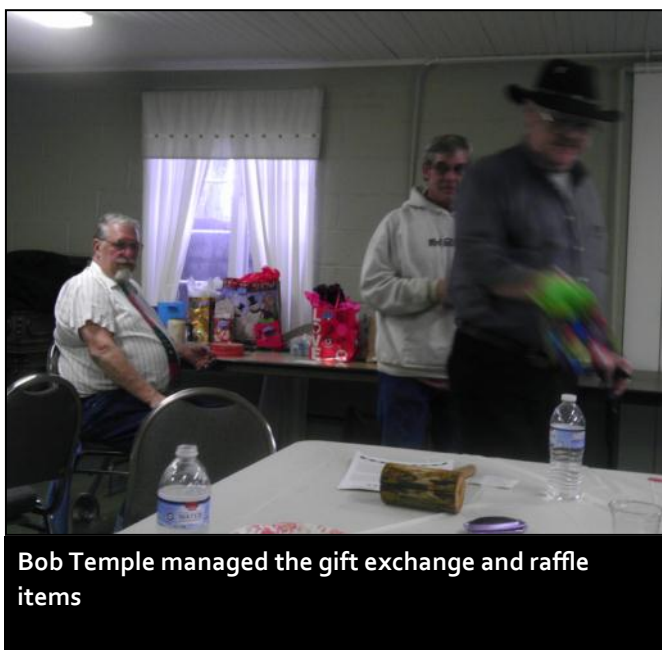
Shape any way you like—one can be a hook and the other a curly queue





## December Holiday Party

With hand-made gift exchange and auction



Bob Temple managed the gift exchange and raffle items



Showing off some of the hand-made items from the gift exchange



Answer to picture question on page 5:  
Missile-Toad as in Mistletoe as can be demonstrated in the image above





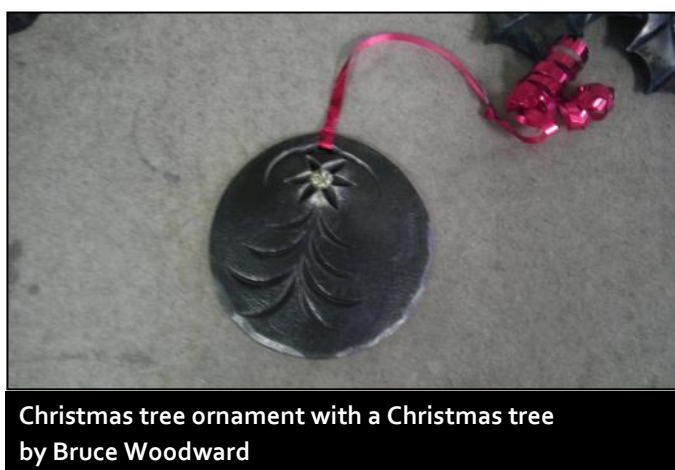
Auction items at the Holiday Party: Angels candle holders by Roy Troutman, bracelet by Bill Rickard, round Christmas tree decorated ornament by Bruce Woodward, anvil ornament by Roberta Barnhart

Railroad spike knife by Art Wolfe



Bracelet made Bill Rickard

Editor's note: this style of gears and copper tones has risen in popularity in the last few years known as Steampunk



# Classifieds



## WRABA Anvils

"WRABA" brass anvils are available.  
They are 4" long and 2" tall.  
Their cost is \$25.00  
Get one at the next WRABA event.

## Auction of Blacksmithing Tools:

Saturday, April 27th, 2013

A retired farrier and blacksmith from Marietta, Ohio will be selling all equipment:

Anvils, forges, post vices, tongs, shears, hammers, hardies, jigs, horseshoes, rasps and files, and much more.

Details and photos on [randyclarkauctions.com](http://randyclarkauctions.com).

<http://www.auctionzip.com/Listings/1637203.html>



This item is wanted. It is a cradle, used to cut stone blocks. Dr. Phil Wanyerka, an Archaeologist, would like to have an original sample for a current project. Contact Dr. Wanyerka at [p.wanyerka@csuohio.edu](mailto:p.wanyerka@csuohio.edu) or the editor at [jeffrey@naufamily.net](mailto:jeffrey@naufamily.net) 216-409-6291

Blacksmith helper 3/4 by 2 inch dies Member \$80 non member \$100

various die heat treated 4140 to rc50 \$55 member --\$65 non member

monkey tool set 4140 heat treated set of 5 --3/16-1/4--5/16--3/8--1/2 \$60 member \$75 non member

blacksmiths ruler \$20 member --\$25 non member

e-z weld 1# can \$14 member ---\$16 non member

**Ken Tucker 330-792-9722**

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**BLUEMOONPRESS**

4988 Blue Moon Road  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Blue Moon Press sold books at our Conference and generously donated two books for our auction

12 foot gas hose 3/8 inch—\$20

Trenton 143#—\$325

Trenton 234#—\$525

Early American Wrought Iron book with dust jacket—\$100

Other assorted blacksmith items, call for availability

**Ralph Neumeister 440-552-9560**

# Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association

6374 Lake Rd. W.  
Madison, Ohio  
44057



Send To:

**W  
R  
A  
B  
A**

Forwarding Address requested postage guaranteed

## "Tales of the Western Reserve"

### WRABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Forge Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
What areas of metalworking are you interested in? \_\_\_\_\_



Smithing:

Professional\_\_\_ Hobbyist\_\_\_ Beginner\_\_\_ Advanced\_\_\_

**Dues are payable by MARCH 1st. \$20. yearly single \$25. yearly family**

(new members prorated quarterly: March-May, June-August, Sept.- Nov. and Dec.-Feb.)

New membership\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Send application and dues to:**

**WRABA**

**6374 Lake Rd. W.  
Madison, Ohio 44057**

**W  
R  
A  
B  
A**