

# "Tales of the Western Reserve"



## WRABA

Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association

**Don't miss this year's Conference  
Featuring Bob Patrick**

**June 22<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**

### WHAT YOU CAN FIND INSIDE:

President's Letter	3
Future Hammer-Ins	4-5
Past Hammer-Ins	6-8
Classifieds	9
Nature of Metal details	10
ABANA 2012 Conference	11
WRABA Membership Renewal	12

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- JUNE 22-24 WRABA CONFERENCE
- JULY 14 HAMMER-IN
- JULY 18-21 ABANA CONFERENCE
- JULY 27-29 BURTON ANTIQUE POWER AND STEAM SHOW
- AUGUST 4-5 WESTWOOD
- AUGUST 18 BURTON RACCOON COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL
- AUGUST 9-10 NATURE OF METAL ENTRIES
- AUGUST 25 NATURE OF METAL ARTIST RECEPTION
- AUGUST 26 WRABA FAMILY PICNIC
- OCTOBER 13-14 BURTON APPLE BUTTER FESTIVAL



Bob Patrick

<http://www.ahilltopforge.com/index.html>

Bob Patrick was a blacksmith at Hale Farm, Ohio in 1967. He was named Master Blacksmith for the state of Missouri, Stone County Iron-works, and of Arkansas Craft School. Bob Patrick has taught at various schools, including the Ozark Craft School and has demonstrated at many conferences around the US. He has demonstrated at four ABANA conferences. He is best known for his skill at forge welding. See page 4 for details on the conference.

President



**Ken Tucker**  
Youngstown, Ohio  
330-792-9722

Vice-President



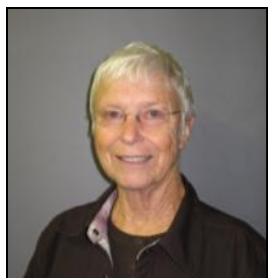
**Roy Troutman**  
Streetsboro, Ohio  
330-678-2013

Secretary



**Bruce Woodward**  
Madison, Ohio  
440-428-0822  
Woodwardiron1  
@roadrunner.com

Treasurer



**Linda Woodward**  
Madison, Ohio  
440-428-0822  
Woodwardla@hiram.edu

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**

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.

The WRABA Newsletter is composed and written by the editor except as indicated. Material may be reprinted except as noted, with proper credit given. WRABA, its officers, demonstrators, writers, editor and members specifically disclaim any responsibility or liability for any damages or injuries as a result of the use of information published in the WRABA News or demonstrated at conferences or at meetings. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy and safety of all the information provided, but the use of any information published herein is solely at the user's own risk.

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

### Editor

Jeffrey Nau  
4922 Treeline Dr.  
Brunswick Hills, Ohio 44212  
jeffrey@naufamily.net  
216-409-6291

### Board Members

**Art Wolfe**  
Chesterland, Ohio  
440-729-0777

[artjudywolfe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artjudywolfe@sbcglobal.net)

**Bob Temple**  
2013

Bristolville, Ohio  
330-889-3952  
Drbobcatt@netscape.net

**Marc Yanko**  
2012

Chardon, Ohio  
440-286-6059  
mwyanko@hotmail.com

**Rocky Whitfield**  
2012

North Lima, Ohio  
330-549-3055

**Gary Barnhart**  
2013

Southington, Ohio  
330-898-8171  
gbarnhart2@neo.rr.com

**Don Pfaff**  
2013

East Rochester, Ohio  
330-525-7836

**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:**  
Jason Nass  
[me@wargoth.com](mailto:me@wargoth.com)

**Sunshine:**  
Art Wolfe

**Library:**  
Bob Brown

**Stores:**  
Mark Millhoff

## President's Letter June 2012

### Ken Tucker

To start off, we are looking forward to our conference in June. We have lined up a really good demonstrator with Bob Patrick. I have seen Bob demo in the past and I think Bob is one of the top five in the country. His blacksmithing skills are top notch and you will not get bored like some I have watched in the past.

Second on the list is our Tuesday night open forge at Burton. There has been a lot of work done. Gary reworked the coal bin, and we now have coal in it. The treadle hammer has a coat of paint. The power hammer is working much better.

We had a good turn out at the Burton Civil War Reenactment. Jason and Vince had two tables full of items. This drew a lot of people. I'm sure Jason and Vince did OK with their sales, which in turn helped the club. Any club member can sell at upcoming events at Burton. Check the newsletter or the website for dates. We would like to have help from members to demo for an hour or more.

Get out in your shop and make some items for sale, or bring your item up just to display. We want the public to see the good work we can do. I would like to see three to four tables full of hand-made items at these shows along with the Westwood show. This is your club, so come out and enjoy. Be part of the fun and bring a friend.

—Ken

---

WRABA Travelers were at it again. May 12, 2012 Bob Temple and Jason Nass attended the 100th anniversary of the Ohio Boy Scouts, at the Lorain County Fair grounds in Wellington Ohio. There were 4000 Scouts reported to be in attendance. It was a lovely day and as I requested we were placed near a shade tree. The only problem was it was in the north east corner of our are, leaving us in the sun all day. Jason did a great job forging a knife out of an old file and many Scouts checked back on its progress through out the day. I answered many questions and talked about the forged items that we had on our table. There were large groups watching all day and there was interest in the club and Merit Badge counseling. We handed out our flyers and some news letters to the most interested Scout Leaders. Jason and I had to check in with Security as they came by and ask where our wrist bands were. We had to give our names, addresses, reason we were there, and cell phone number. Security made regular rounds. All in all it was a good day. As we pulled out to our right was a glorious display of various tents all colors as the Troops were camped together with their flags out front.

—Bob



Jason Nass (right) received this year's Tom Summers Blacksmith of the Year Award. This award is given to the person who greatly promoted blacksmithing and contributed much to the club. Jason began as a knife maker about 18 years ago. Then he started to take interest in other iron work and joined WRABA in the summer of 2010. He has actively helped the club since. He is currently WRABA's webmaster.

## PAABA Conference—June 16th 9:00 AM

Picnic, auctions, tailgating, demonstrations: making a grill with Claydon clamps and how to use them; forge welding; collaring

John Steel's shop  
2063 Lovi Rd  
Freedom, PA 15042  
724-774-6757

Bob Patrick will be demonstrating and will be different from the WRABA conference. PAABA and WRABA have decided to split Bob Patrick's travel cost.

---

## WRABA 2012 Conference—June 22, 23 & 24

Burton Century Village

Featured Demonstrator: Bob Patrick—known for forge welding

June 24th: Workshop 9AM-5PM

June 23rd: Demonstrations 9AM-5PM, auction at 1PM then bonfire 5PM with hot dogs—bring your own hot dog stick; please bring an auction item (preferably hand-made)

June 24th: Demonstrations 9AM-5PM

Food included in registration fee; a dessert to share would be appreciated

Hand's-On Workshop (Friday) \$40

—Limited to 1st 12; bring your own tools

Demonstrations (Saturday and Sunday) \$25 each day

All three days \$85

Demonstrations will include scrolling tongs, trivets and various other items (each day will be different)

Blue Moon Press will be selling books. They specialize in publishing metal art books

Primitive camping available

### Contact:

Bruce Woodward

6374 Lake Rd. West

Madison, Oh 44057

440-428-0822

*Woodwardiron1@roadrunner.com*

---

**July Joint Hammer-In and Picnic with NOB**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AMIron-in-the-hat  
Pot-luck lunchKy Green  
5115 State Rt 60  
Wakeman, Ohio 44889

---

**July Antique Power and Steam Show**27—29<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM—5:00 PMBurton Century Village  
14653 East Park Street  
Burton, Ohio 44021

---

**August Westwood Nature Arts Festival**4—5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM—5:00 PMThe West Woods Nature Center  
9465 Kinsman Road (Route 87)  
Russell & Newbury Twps.

WRABA will have a demonstration booth and a sale booth. Items must be nature themed. There is an art competition you may enter. Contact Marc Yanko if you can volunteer or for more information.

The Nature Arts Festival includes nature themed art from multiple mediums.

The Nature of Metal will be exhibited in the same building.

See <http://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org/parks/westwoods.shtml> for more information on the West Woods Nature Center and directions.

---

**August Family Picnic**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AMBurton Century Village  
14653 East Park Street  
Burton, Ohio 44021

Please bring a dish to share—meat will be provided by the club.

---

**August Raccoon County Music Festival**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Noon—8:00 PMBurton Century Village  
14653 East Park Street  
Burton, Ohio 44021

---

**October Apple Butter Festival**13—14<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM—5:00 PMBurton Century Village  
14653 East Park Street  
Burton, Ohio 44021

---

**Open Forge**

Tuesdays 5:00—9:00 PM

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.



## April Hammer-In At Ken Roby's



Ken Roby explaining how he made so many scrolls on a commissioned railing (right)



Roy Troutman demonstrating how to make a leaf creaser hardie at the May Hammer-In





Chris Holt (left) and John Steel (right) made a branch with leaves as a frame for a clock



A bronze bowl dished into shape by Chris Holt and John Steel



A screw welded onto an acorn to hide joinery

Chris Holt and John Steel also showed us clamps that make filing leaves easier. The clamps are welded to a plate in a leg vice



Brad Weber's new portable forge







A small steam whistle here is powered by a hidden air compressor that is in turn powered as the hand-cranked drill press is worked

Jim Brown forging a tomahawk out of a gun barrel while trying out Brad Weber's portable forge



Umbrella holder with animals by Charles Hughes



Sundial on the side of Brad Weber's shop accurate to the minute and approximate date



Brad Weber explaining his smaller sundials





# Classifieds

ABANA has sent us 200 iron in the hat tickets for the 2012 conference. The items are:  
 Tire hammer by Mark & Mindy Gardner  
 BAM box with signature tools  
 NIMBA titan 120 lbs anvil  
 Tickets are \$1 each and will be available at all hammer-ins until next May.

Kiln board \$10  
 Gas forge parts and information  
 Early American Wrought Iron \$90  
 Backyard Blacksmith \$12  
**Ralph Neumeister 440-552-9560**



## 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.

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**



- Fabrication
- Welding
- Custom Signs
- Hitch Covers
- Metal Art
- Decrative Wall Hangings
- Fireplace Screens & Inserts

**Rodney & Matthew Hardy**  
 PH: (740) 498-4369  
 email: doublehmetalworks@gmail.com

We can cut any shape/signs/letters that need cut from steel. From a drawing, picture or computer file, or we will help with artwork.

We use a C & C Plasma cutting machine



## August 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Call for Nature of Metal Entries

Next year, 2012, we have been invited to set up a special metal arts exhibit in the Westwood Nature Center. Anyone from surrounding blacksmith organizations are also welcome to participate.

This is a fantastic opportunity to let the public see what an artist blacksmith does, as well as an opportunity to sell some of our pieces. The pieces will be on display in the nature center from the end of August through October. You may choose whether you wish to put a price on the piece. If you choose to sell your work the sale will be handled through the Nature center which will take a 20% commission on the piece.

The only requirements are that the piece be at least 50% metal and nature related. We would like small and large pieces. The large pieces should be no larger than 4 ft Sq unless you contact Ralph to find out if an exception can be made. Small pieces will be displayed in a showcase.

Hopefully this will attract a lot of attention to this art form and to make it successful we also need volunteers at West Wood on August 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-5 and August and 10<sup>th</sup> from 12-7 to help check in the items as they are dropped off.

**On August 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> 2012**, we need volunteers to help set up the display's in the building at West Wood. (No special skills needed-just willingness to help). Please let Ralph know if this is something you are able to help with.

**On August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012** from 2-4 there will be an artist reception. Wine and cheese will be served. This is a chance for the public to meet the artists. Everyone is invited to attend whether you are displaying pieces or not. Please bring family and friends. We would like to see a large turn-out from our organization in support of metal art.

## 2012 ABANA Conference in Rapid City, South Dakota



# July 18-21, 2012

Registration for the ABANA 2012 Conference is now open! Use this form or call 423-913-1022 to register. Full conference registration is \$225 for current ABANA members. Nonmember registration is \$275.

The ABANA 2012 Conference in South Dakota is a **"MUST-SEE"** event and will include:

Top Demonstrators	Business Card Exchange	Saturday Evening Dinner
Lectures & Workshops	Portfolio Display Area	Tailgate Sales
3-Day Iron Smelt	Iron-in-the-Hat	Blacksmith Vendors
Poster Displays	Saturday Auction	Open-to-the-Public Gallery
	Family Programs	

### Teaching Tent

The ABANA Education Tent will be staffed by Mark Aspery, Gerald Boggs, and Darryl Nelson. Some of the teaching items are: tooling, two-dimensional animal heads, wizard-headed bottle opener, and ABANA's National Curriculum. To participate, check the schedule and select the class you want, attend the demo, and place your name in the hat at the Teaching Tent if you are interested. Winners' names will be drawn immediately after the demo, before class begins.

Don't forget to bring your personal safety equipment if you would like to participate!

### Bloomery Smelts

This is a MUST SEE! Wednesday will see the furnace constructed. Thursday will be the first smelt, forging a sculptural piece from part of the bloom. Friday is another smelt with demo on converting the iron to steel in a small hearth.



# 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**

