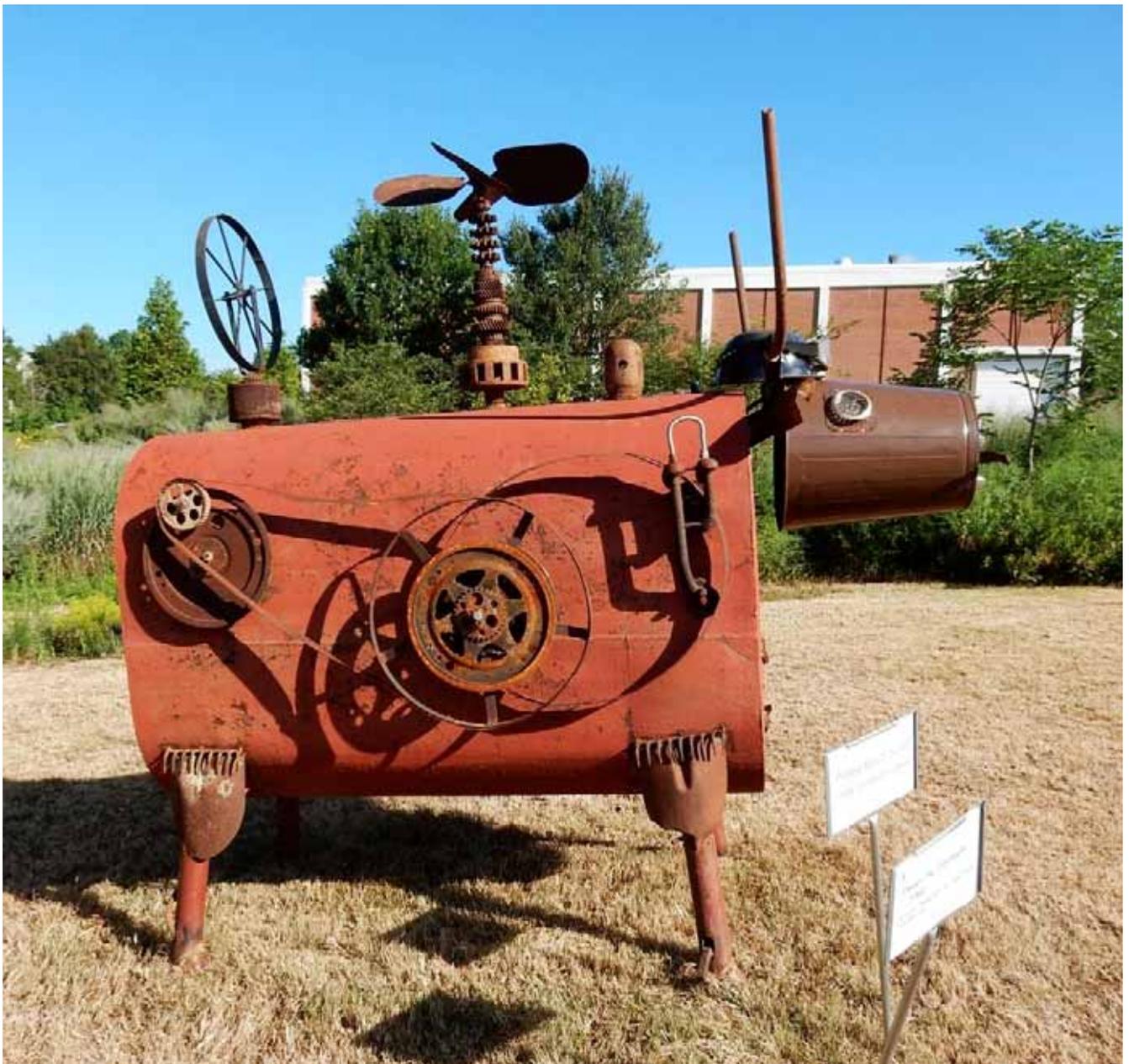


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Steven the Steampunk Steer

**Artists: Diane Relf and
Dave Angle
PDRelf@vt.edu**



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Over the years I collected five of the 275 gallon fuel tanks with the idea of a herd up on our back hill. When we put this Art in the Garden project together, I thought what a great time to build the herd and share it publicly. Dave and I quickly realized it would take more time than we had and pulled Michael Collver and his students into the endeavor. It was such fun to visit while the kids worked on their cows and see their enthusiasm for creativity and technical skills combined. I think they did a great job with the expert support Michael provided.

Steven the "steampunk" steer, was our salute to Oamaru, New Zealand, a town we winter not too far from, that considers itself the Steampunk Capitol of the World. Steven is one of a kind, with materials I have collected over many years and he was really designed with our landscape in mind. Though I have been an artist for less than 10 years, I have been creative through my work with Master Gardeners and the Virginia Gardener program and Horticultural Therapy for the last 40 years. Dave has combined his skill as a photographer with our extensive travel. In recent years his support of my art endeavors has involved more and more of his skill as a construction contractor. Ultimately his newly acquired in welding has led him to embrace his creative-artist side. Dave and I are planning a few more simple and rustic cows to keep Steven company, as the other cows have sold.