

# COMPLEX WEAVERS

*Encouraging curiosity, exploration, innovation in weaving*

September 2015 | Number 109



# Newsletter

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## President's Message

Dear Complex Weavers

As the summer draws to a close and schoolbags are packed for the new year, what plans are you making to develop your weaving skills and knowledge?

Perhaps you are thinking of joining a study group, in which case you can see what's available here: <http://www.complex-weavers.org/member-resources/study-groups/>.

Or maybe you prefer a self-directed challenge? The deadline for Complexity 2016 is still several months away and the full prospectus can be downloaded on our here: <http://www.complex-weavers.org/complexity-a-biennial-exhibit-2/>. Let developing your entry be your motivation to stretch yourself.

Over the last few months many members have had a chance to meet face-to-face at conferences and summer schools, which for many of us are the highlight of our weaving year. There's nothing quite a like a gathering of weavers for good company!

In the 'off-season' between Seminars many of our Area Liaisons do a great job of hosting meetings at regional events, but we also have a number of geographic areas without a designated representative. If you would be interested either in volunteering as an Area Liaison or in organising a one-off event in your area, contact Agnes Hauptli, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, who will be able to support you.

And finally, as the year turns, is it *your* turn to join the Board of Complex Weavers? The time has come to think of the elections for President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President in 2016. We are very grateful to our Nominating Committee of Dianne Totten (Chair), Sheila Carey and Mary Hildyard for stepping up, and they are eager to hear from you.

Warmest wishes

Cally Booker

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## Complex Weavers: An All-Volunteer Organization

Complex Weavers relies on its volunteers! All of the work done for and in the name of Complex Weavers is done by volunteers; there are no paid positions. There are both Board members and non-Board Committee Chair positions that are appointed by the Board President. These people function behind the scenes to keep Complex Weavers alive and well. Meetings of the Board and Committee Chairs occur online via communications through YahooGroup. We thought it would be of interest to you to learn about the various positions, who holds them, what they do and how they do it. To that end, we will try to describe one position in each *Newsletter*.

### **Membership Chair, Peg MacMorris**

What do I do as the Membership Chair for CW? Mostly I sit at the computer and that is what requires a chair. I handle the data base which includes all the members and their information. When members join CW, we collect identifying data, such as physical and email addresses, and also information about looms, software used, weaving interests, publications and more. Our website makes it easy for an individual to join or renew online, as well as to keep their information up to date should any changes arise. It is the member's responsibility to keep their own information accurate. Mailings of the *Journal* and emails depend upon this information. It has always been a job done by a single person, designated as the Chair. There currently is no

committee to head, but a chair could deputize some members to help.

I helped to develop the new web-based system, and I try to help members interface with that system in order to get information and to renew their memberships. (Please see box on next page about how to renew online.) I send out a welcome to all new members as they join, letting them know about all the great benefits of CW membership. I remind them when they are due for renewal, and provide up-to-date lists for email messages from the President and the mailing list for the *Journal* three times a year. Before each deadline for the *Journal* mailing list, I make a big effort to get members who are due for renewal to send in their dues. Often I send out notices to the area liaisons to ask for help in contacting those who have not yet renewed or to contact those who fail to renew. Sometimes I have to communicate via email with a member who is having difficulty working with the online system. If I see a need, I ask for website changes to make the whole system work better for members.

All of this requires basic computer and communication skills; no programming knowledge is required. I work with lists, sorting and pulling out names of subsets of members, such as those whose renewal dates fall between the last *Journal* mailing and the next deadline. It is fun to manipulate the data and produce a yearly report for the Board detailing things like the number of members, where they reside, whether there are trends such as more new members from a geographic region when CW Seminars is held in that area, and whether those new folks stay members.

Our data base contains lots of information about our members. When we set it up originally, I made a huge effort to transfer all the data on members' looms and software use, with the hope that making that information accessible would help our members to connect with others with similar interests, looms, etc. in their geographic area or not. We still need more of you to look at that data in your profile and be sure that it is current and complete. Your information is in your profile. You can search for "matches" in the member directory.

Membership Chair is a great job for someone with a love of data, good organizational skills, and a modicum of patience for helping those challenged by computer interactions. The job has peak times of effort before each *Journal* mailing: February 1, June 1, and October 1, but a trickle of mail and email comes in every week. I have been able to spend times without connection to email when travelling by simply posting an auto-reply notice on the membership email address. I don't believe that anyone has perished from lack of service at those times.

One other thing worth mentioning is that this is a job that puts me in contact with all of the members. I learn the names of many weavers around the country and when I meet them at Seminars, some of them already feel familiar. It is a good job for someone who wants to know weavers, and who among us doesn't think that weavers are the most interesting people?

## How to Renew ONLINE

Go to the CW website: [www.complex-weavers.org](http://www.complex-weavers.org) and hit the LOGIN button.

On the next screen you can enter your login name (usually your name all run together without caps – like marydoe) and your password.

If you can't remember either your login name or your password, hit the button at the bottom of that page for LOST PASSWORD.

Then you will enter your email address – the one you have registered with CW.

Check incoming email for that address and you should receive information to allow you to login and reset your password.

Once you have access as a member, the top right hand side of the CW Home page has "My Profile". If you select that, your information will be displayed.

The first thing you should see is your renewal date and a place to select RENEW. This is the way to renew easily, either online using paypal or with a form to send in by mail to pay by check or credit card.

Please do not renew by attempting to join as a new member. That would give you two memberships, confusing for all.

If you get hopelessly confused, use the "contact Membership Chair" feature of the website to ask for help.



## Seminars 2016

We look forward to seeing you at Complex Weavers Seminars, June 16-18, 2016. Plans are well underway.

Seminars will be located at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois, located in Chicago's Western Suburbs. (<http://www.pheasantrun.com/>)

Janice Lessman-Moss from Kent State University is our keynote speaker. (<http://www.janicelessman-moss.com/>)

Our team includes Marg Coe as the web person, Kathy Warner as treasurer, Mimi Anderson, Board advisor, Cathy McCarthy registrar, Mary Underwood, facility person, and the Instructor selection team members are Su Butler, Kathy Spangler, Nancy Tracy and Dianne Totten.

Volunteers for fashion show and other duties are being added to a roster of those willing to help with CW 2016 Seminars.

The CW 2016 selection committee is in the final phases of completing the list of seminars to be offered. Look for our announcement in the December issue of the Newsletter. All seminars information will be on line by the end of the year, and we can start registration early 2016.

There have been suggestions that if participants want to stay longer to visit Chicago after seminars are closed, you can access the trains easily from our hotel Pheasant Run. One suggestion was to take advantage of the architectural tours in downtown Chicago. More information to follow.

Remember that if you have something you want to present in the poster session to send your proposal to: [CW2016Seminars@yahoo.com](mailto:CW2016Seminars@yahoo.com). Complex Weavers are a creative bunch. We'd like to hear what you are working on.

## Complexity 2016

Complexity will be at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles, Illinois, June 9 through 30, 2016.

### **Timeline:**

- January 25, 2016 — Deadline for entries
- April 8, 2016 — Juror decisions to submitters
- June 7, 2016 — Deadline (not postmark) for arrival of works in St Charles, IL
- June 17, 2016 — Reception, coinciding with CW Seminars
- June 30, 2016 — Complexity closes at the Fine Line Gallery
- Works shipped to artists or to additional gallery

### **Categories:**

- (A) Apparel and Accessories
- (B) Yardage
- (C) 2-dimensional art and home furnishings
- (D) 3-dimensional art and home furnishings

### **Jurors:**

- Deborah Corsini
- Beatrijs Sterk
- Wendy Morris

### **Key Links:**

Additional information and prospectus:

<http://www.complex-weavers.org/complexity-a-biennial-exhibit-2/>

Online entry: [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) — from the CallForEntry home page, select View All Calls, and then use Keyword search on Complexity to find the right page.

# Board Happenings

*Online April Board Meeting – July 6, 2015 to August 17, 2015*

This meeting was held electronically via email with the meeting agenda and position papers posted on the CW Board Yahoo Group website. Below are the key actions from the Board.

## **Treasurer's Quarterly Financial Report**

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the second quarter, as prepared by Kathy Warner, Treasurer. She reported that we are financially fine at this point, but in light of increased printer expenses for the *Journal*, we may need to review the balance of dues to expenses per member at the end of the fiscal year.

## **Complexity 2016 Report**

The Board reviewed and approved, with a minor change, the Prospectus prepared by Cathryn Amidei, Complexity Chair. The Prospectus has been posted on the CW Website: [Prospectus](#). This year we are moving to an online entry process which will allow us to have international jurors, save time and energy for the artists, and reduce problems with CDs, DVDs, and mailing headaches. Complexity 2016 will be exhibited at The Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles, Illinois. The show may move to another location if a suitable gallery can be located. The Seminars Committee is planning a reception for the show at The Fine Line Creative Arts Center during Seminars 2016.

## **Area Liaison Report**

Agnes Hauptli, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, reported that after 20 years of service, Kay Faulkner is stepping down as Australia's Area Liaison. Agnes is seeking to build up the relationship with the Area Liaisons, and reported on responses from an email she sent out to them. There are some vacancies, and she is seeking recommendations to fill those positions from the Board or other CW members. CW promotional materials are available for distribution at events at no cost to the Area Liaisons.

## **Seminars 2016: Status Report**

Ann Niemi, *Seminars* Chair, reported that the deadline for submitting proposals has passed, and the committee has received many proposals from which to choose. The Committee will move on to the next phase of scoring and ranking the proposals and then make their final choices this fall. Ann is looking into transporting Seminars attendees from the Pheasant Run hotel to The Fine Line to view Complexity 2016.

## **Commemorating Members and A Memorial Fund**

With the loss of past President and *CW Journal* Editor Wanda Shelp, it has become apparent that members would like a way to contribute and commemorate not only Wanda, but other members. The Board approved the publication of a book in honor of CW's upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, comprised of original work by CW members and dedicated to Wanda Shelp.

The Board then unanimously approved of the creation of a Memorial Fund for Special Projects. Donations in memory of or in honor of someone could go into this fund, but could also be designated for Complexity, Seminars, or the Manuscript Recovery Fund, as desired. Project proposals offered by members requesting use of the Memorial Fund for Special Projects will be reviewed and approved by the Board. This fund will not be used to make monetary donations to other organizations. The balance in the fund will be reviewed annually; if the balance exceeds \$20,000, the excess will be transferred to the general operating fund. Work is in progress on our website to make donating to any of our funds easier, although checks sent via the postal service are always welcome.

## **Review of Strategic Plan**

Cally Booker had the Board look over the Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2015, and evaluate how well the objectives are being met. The following summarizes discussion.

Complexity. There are enough funds to keep it going for now, but the fund needs to be replenished and be a major part of fundraising.

Alternatives for CW Events. Study groups provide a learning option for over 500 CW members without being face-to-face. Members are encouraged to explore starting new study groups; if interested, contact Jayne Flannagan, Study Group Coordinator. There have been a number of successful regional CW study days, organized by a member for CW members in an area, and a regional CW exhibit is being planned to be held during a regional weaving conference. Video conferencing or online classes are other options, but have not yet been used.

Area Liaisons. An expanded role is encouraged to proactively reach out to members and potential members, such as at regional conferences. It was acknowledged that gathering people might be difficult in some geographic areas.

Technology and the online *Journal*. Hyperlinks for websites and email addresses in articles are “live,” and ads will have “live” links with the October 2015 issue. Should a *Journal* author wish to make a video referenced in their article viewable to members, there is the ability to have “live” hyperlinks to these as well, although the author is responsible for the video’s home on the internet.

Promoting CW. It was suggested that study groups and their results might be used in promoting CW on social media. The group wondered if there are other ways of reaching our members in addition to the *Newsletter* and the occasional email blast.

In general, it was felt that CW has reached a good size, and that it needs to stay relevant to its members. There is a diverse membership, both in terms of weaving level and access to development activities. CW need to continue to work toward practical outcomes for our members.

### **Richard Jeryan Memorial**

The Board unanimously approved making a \$500 donation in Richard’s name to the Richard and Christine Jeryan Endowment for Weaving at the Henry Ford Museum. The donation was made in August after the vote.

### **Next Board Meeting**

The next online Board meeting will begin on October 5, 2015.

### *Nominating Committee for 2016*

The Board approved the Nominating Committee for the 2016 Election: Dianne Totten, Chair (was member of the 2015 Nominating Committee, from Georgia, USA), Sheila Carey (B.C., Canada), and Mary Hildyard (an American in the UK). The Committee will prepare a slate on nominees for the positions of President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

*Submitted by Lynn Smetko, Secretary*

### Remembrance of Richard Jeryan...

Knowing Richard and Chris Jeryan has been like meeting my own soul. I first met Richard at Michigan League of Handweavers, then at Convergences in Albuquerque and Long Beach, and Maryland Sheep and Wool. You couldn’t miss him. He talked with his deep voice and looked straight at you with those gentle eyes. He was the kind of person who always was a great supporter. He was curious and became the savior of the education of many who may someday be introduced to weaving thru Greenfield Village in Dearborn, MI. He was one of those who wanted to spread the word. Weaving is cool — from historical perspectives to modern uses of fabrics. He was able to go to Italy for the velvet course. He rebuilt the jacquard loom at the Weavers Shed at Greenfield Village. He had a zest for good food and friends and sharing traditional beauty. Greenfield Village was very lucky to have him as was the rest of our weaving community. He wasn’t well known by many of us but he was passionate about what CW has to offer.

Submitted by Ann Niemi

# Annual Meeting Report

June 19, 2015

University of St Thomas, St Paul, Minnesota, USA

Midwest Weavers Association Complex Weavers Liaison, Amy Norris, called the meeting to order at 4:45 PM. She welcomed members and non-members to the meeting and explained that this was an informational meeting as well as the required Annual General Meeting for Complex Weavers. She explained that no business could be transacted as we did not have a quorum of 10% of the current membership. However, there were no items on the agenda requiring action.

There were approximately 50 individuals attending the meeting with approximately 2/3<sup>rd</sup> being current CW members.

Amy relayed greetings from CW President, Cally Booker and made a brief presentation of the benefits of CW membership including:

- CW Journal
- Seminars
- Library
- Study Groups
- Website
- Compilations
- Membership Roster

Amy also reminded all that one can join or renew membership online, with or without a Paypal account. She explained that doing so online was faster and easier for the Membership Chair. She also encouraged people to consider two year memberships, again to minimize administrative tasks. Approximately twenty membership forms were available in the back of the room, and all were taken by the end of the meeting.

The floor was opened for comments and questions.

One member said she had an issue renewing her membership as the database did not recognize her as an existing member. Amy promised to follow up.

One member raised the question of whether the enrollment cap for the 2016 Seminars would be larger than in years past. A discussion

followed of the various pros and cons of increasing the size of Seminars.

Amy asked for hands to be raised indicating a willingness to attend Seminars if the size was increased substantially to 300+ attendees. Five people raised their hands.

A non-member asked if Compilations 1 and 2 were going to be reprinted. Amy stated that at this time, there were no plans to reprint, but that interest was being monitored. Four people expressed an interest in purchasing Compilations 1 and 2.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Norris

## *Call for Nominations*

The following positions are due for election in 2016:

- President
- First Vice President

If you are interested in one of these positions, or you know someone you would like to see in office, please let the Nominating Committee know by 30 November.

Ballots will be distributed electronically in March and voting will take place in April.

Members of the Nominating Committee are:

- Dianne Totten (Chair)
- Sheila Carey
- Mary Hildyard

For more information on what these roles entail, contact the Nominating Committee Chair using the contact form on the CW website. Please consider running if you are asked, or volunteering if you have an interest.

# Your Journal: Share Your Weaving Knowledge and Experiences

Inside every CW member is a story and wealth of knowledge! Sharing our experience and knowledge is the heart of CW—unlike other publications, we do not solicit articles from individuals outside our organization. In an effort to “share information and encourage interests”, Complex Weavers welcomes articles from individual weavers as well as study group members. Material for the *Journal* is given priority according to the date received. Late or lengthy submissions are subject to available space. Classified and commercial advertisements should be sent to the Advertising Manager. Address changes may be made by logging on to the website and updating your member profile or by contacting the Membership Chair. If you do not receive your *Journal* when you think you should, please sign in to the Membership directory to confirm that your membership and contact information are current.

## 2016 Publication Schedule:

February 2016: Deadline November 30, 2015

June 2016: Deadline March 31, 2016

October 2016: Deadline July 31, 2016

Journal Editor: Ruth MacGregor at [CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com](mailto:CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com)

Acting Newsletter Editor: Amy Norris at [amy@amyfibre.com](mailto:amy@amyfibre.com)

Assistant Editor, Copy: Mimi Smith at [mimis@frontiernet.net](mailto:mimis@frontiernet.net)

Assistant Layout Editors: Janet Stollnitz and Prue Hill

Advertising: Amy Norris at [amy@amyfibre.com](mailto:amy@amyfibre.com)

Membership/Mailing List: Peg MacMorris at [CWMembershipPeg@gmail.com](mailto:CWMembershipPeg@gmail.com)

Printing and Distribution: Lynn Smetko at [lynn.smetko@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.smetko@gmail.com)

CW Journal Article Guidelines are posted on the CW website or can be obtained from the Editor. Please consult them before starting or submitting your article. The Guidelines will answer a lot of your questions and save you time. Your Journal staff, all volunteers, are ready and eager to help you with a contribution.

## Classifieds

### Hand Looms, Supplement #17, \$10.

The Looms of Margaret Bergman; Three Bergman Looms; The Saundertown Weaving School; The Loom at the Old Chelmsford Garrison House; Khmer Looms of Cambodia. Hand Looms, Supplements #1 to #10, on CD, \$15. The Spinning Wheel Sleuth, P.O. Box 422, Andover, MA 01810. [www.spwhsl.com](http://www.spwhsl.com)

### Ply-Splitting from Drawdowns: Interpreting Weave Structures in Ply-Split Braiding by Barbara J. Walker

Learn how to use any single layer drawdown for ply-splitting. Many illustrations and photos guide you through the process. Finishing techniques are included and gallery pages inspire. \$34 USD plus shipping. [www.barbarajwalker.com](http://www.barbarajwalker.com)

## Events

**Save the date!** August 20 and 21, 2016. Flax and Linen: Following the Thread from Flax to Linen. Hosted on the lovely campus of Historic Deerfield, Deerfield MA.

[www.newenglandflaxandlinen.org](http://www.newenglandflaxandlinen.org)

## Announcement

Glimakra USA is pleased to announce it is moving to a new and upgraded warehouse, showroom and classroom facility in Eugene OR. All the fine Glimakra, Bockens and Borgs products will remain available but there may be some slight delays as the inventory is moved during the week of September 14, 2015.

*Beginning Sept. 15, 2015 Glimakra USA will be operated Suzie Liles and Sarah Rambosek.* Suzie has been weaving for over 30 years and Sarah for more than 20 years. Joanne Hall and Mary Jean Martin will assist for a time. Joanne will continue to provide technical support and answers to your weaving questions.

Please continue to contact us and place orders at [orders@glimakrausa.com](mailto:orders@glimakrausa.com) and at [suzie@glimakrausa.com](mailto:suzie@glimakrausa.com) or [sarah@glimakrausa.com](mailto:sarah@glimakrausa.com). Our website remains [www.glimakrausa.com](http://www.glimakrausa.com).

The toll free number remains [866-893-7314](tel:866-893-7314) for now.