

COMPLEX WEAVERS

Encouraging curiosity, exploration, innovation in weaving

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Newsletter

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President's Message

Dear Complex Weavers,

It has been a hectic time behind the scenes at CW Towers!

In Michigan, the CW library has been on the move and is now established in a new home. We are enormously grateful both to Tim Flint, who has been custodian of this precious resource for the last five years, and to Jean Hosford, who is now wearing the librarian's cloak (handwoven, of course) and has helped us to maintain continuity of service throughout the transition.

Preparations continue for *Complexity*, and Cathryn Amidei has been busy seeking a potential venue for the exhibit in Milwaukee so that we can present it alongside Convergence. This has proved a challenge, but we hope to have good news shortly. In the meantime, are you weaving your entry? The January deadline is fast approaching!

And of course Ann Niemi and the *Seminars* team have been putting the finishing touches to the programme for 2016 in St Charles, Illinois. Full details will be live at complex-weavers.org on December 10, 2015 and registration will open on February 21, 2016.

Although the items above may give that impression, not everything in CW happens in the Midwest! In the UK Lesley Willcock has organised a study day with Jette Vandermeiden and Marty Benson, who will be visiting London in the spring of 2016. If you have an idea for an event in your area, why not contact your Area Liaison to help you bring it to life?

There are many jobs to be done to keep Complex Weavers the organization that we want it to be. One of those is editing this newsletter, and we are grateful to Elisa Eiger for stepping into this role temporarily. Another is managing the advertising which appears here and in the *Journal*. Handweaving is a small world and we treasure the ongoing relationship we have with the advertisers who support us. Amy Norris is moving on from the advertising role, so if you like the sound of the job description in this newsletter, seize the day and get in touch!

Warmest wishes for the holiday season,

Cally

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*.

Advertising Chair

What do I do as the Advertising Chair for Complex Weavers?

- Handle inquiries regarding advertising from the general weaving public. This means explaining the different options (four-color display advertising in the printed *Journal* vs. limited text advertising in the electronic *Newsletter*) and answering questions about pricing and formats.
- Send out reminders to those with existing advertising contracts when the *Journal* Editor or *Newsletter* Editor starts to work on a publication.

- Collect advertising artwork and forward to the appropriate Editor.
- Tracking existing advertising contracts and soliciting renewals as appropriate.
- Bill for new or renewing advertising contracts as needed, either through CW's PayPal account or by emailing an invoice.

None of these tasks are terribly time-consuming or difficult. There is a flurry of activity and emails just before each issue of the *Journal* or *Newsletter*, so reliable access to email is necessary. Other than that, it's simply a matter of keeping track of the details.

There are certainly opportunities for more assertively soliciting advertising than I have done in the past. That's something that would be best tackled in conjunction with the *Journal* and *Newsletter* Editors as well as the Board as a whole.

Does this sound like something you would like to do? I am actively looking for a replacement so that I can take on other roles within Complex Weavers. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you have – amy@amyfibre.com

Amy Norris
Advertising Chair



Complex Weavers Seminars

Thursday, June 16 thru Sunday June 19, 2016

Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, Illinois

Complex Weavers Seminars 2016 event information is almost ready for your viewing. We have 22 instructors; their talents and their 30 seminars are all ready to announce December 10, 2015. Registration will start February 21, 2016.

Our location is Pheasant Run Resort, just outside of Chicago. Once registration is opened, you will be able to use the link on the registration page to connect with reservations for housing.

We have an exciting opening of *Seminars* with a keynote from Janice Lessman-Moss on 'Between The Lines: Mapping Meaning in Textiles.' Our lunch speaker Sally Eyring will talk about her adventures in weaving with 'Glass and Copper Weaving.' We will announce the schedule of events and talk about our trek to *Complexity* at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center, not far from St. Charles. Then we will return to Pheasant Run to peruse the poster session offerings.

(Have you considered participating in this new event? If so, more details are available in this CW Newsletter. We encourage you consider sharing your newest and greatest ideas.)

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

Participants will be offered their first choice on all seminars. The *Seminars* selection team worked to find a range of seminars to offer us for an exciting list of instructors and seminar choices. Many thanks to Su Butler, Kathi Spangler, Nancy Tracy, and Dianne Totten for their commitment to Complex Weavers. Lynn Smetko and Kris Peerand have stepped up to create the web listing. We really hope you find it is everything you have dreamed of since the last time you were able to attend *Seminars*. A special note is needed to recognize Cally and Mimi for helping out when needed and help deal with challenges as they surfaced. You have both been real gems.

*Ann Niemi
Seminars Chair*

Poster Sessions

Poster Sessions are an exciting new feature at *Complex Weavers Seminars 2016*. They provide a way for members to share and discuss their current research. A member presenter prepares a poster containing the information to be shared, and the poster will be on display during *CW 2016 Seminars*. Poster sessions provide an agreeable 'mini-seminar' format for a meeting of minds. They are not remunerated. Poster session receptions will be highlighted at Pheasant Run Resort concurrent to *Complexity* at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center. Receptions will be held at both events.

The 'What' and 'How' of Poster Sessions

For your poster session, create a poster-sized display no bigger than 22"X 28" on your current weaving passion. It can be a new weaving idea, a technique you'd like to share, or something on which you'd like feedback. Do you have a book in progress? New research you'd like to unveil? Tell us about it. Complex Weavers are a generous, creative bunch, and there are marvelously talented persons who attend *Seminars*. This is an excellent chance to build momentum on your project. Posters can be hung exhibiting your ideas. We will have note paper available for comments and questions that CW 2016 participants may ask or suggest. You want to leave your name or be available to discuss at meals or on your private time. Posters are expected to be picked up by the author at the end of the event. We will not be able to return these items by mail.

How to submit a Poster Session

This opportunity is open to all CW2016 conference registrants. There is no screening or jurying for this part of *CW 2016 Seminars* and no reimbursement. Criteria are that the topic is weaving-related and that it is your own work. Just keep in mind that poster sizes are limited to 22"X 28". CW Members are asked to

send us a note saying you would like to present a Poster Session. Once you are registered, you are in! Make sure you confirm with CW2016Seminars@yahoo.com to verify you have registered. We will accept poster requests until we run out of space.

Ann Niemi
Seminars Chair

UK Study Day with Jette Vandermeiden

Thursday, 26 May 2016

Satin and Damask

What is the difference between satin and damask? Let's look at types of satins and damask designing, while sorting out clean cuts and interruption factors. We will also take a peek into the history of traditional and contemporary damask.

On the same day there will also be a presentation by Marty Benson on the research she has been doing for her book on historical coverlets woven in Arkansas in the late 1880s.

Venue: Central London

Costs: £45 - £55 depending on numbers

We will also be taking the opportunity to go out for a meal after the study day so there will be time to socialize with other weavers. The cost of this will be extra and it will be somewhere near the study venue.

For further details please contact Lesley Willcock by email. lesleywillcock@btconnect.com

Complexity 2016

Complexity will be at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles, Illinois, from 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 – from the *Call For Entry* home page, select *View All Calls*. In the *Search* box, enter “Complexity” as the keyword, then click the *Go* button to find the correct page.

Message from the (New) Librarian

I've just spent a good part of this morning perusing old copies of the *CW Journal* and *Newsletter* to see what sort of messages past librarians have written. This was a treacherously slow process as I kept getting distracted by articles and pictures even though I had already read them at some point in the past! For the most part, previous librarians have listed new acquisitions and written book reviews of the holdings, and I fully intend to continue with this tradition...in the future.

At present, I am still acquainting myself with the collection. As there is no numbering system (Dewey Decimal or otherwise) in use, I am alphabetizing, rearranging, and making shelf labels in order to make locating the books easier.

The librarian holdings are truly impressive—they range from 17th century German weaving texts to very current books; from 19th century books aimed at industrial weavers and loom fixers to books by Handweaving Revivalists like Mary Atwater and Harriet Tidball; from biographies and autobiographies of noted weavers to exhibition catalogs; as well as an extensive collection of world textile books covering Southeast Asia, South and Central America, Northern Europe, the Middle Eastern, Africa, Southwest US, and more. And, of course, there are the Study Group Sample Notebooks—beginning back sometime in the 1980's. These sample notebooks are a treasure trove of explorations into myriad weaving structures.

Borrowing is simple – locate the material you want using the link to LibraryThing from the CW webpage, then login to CW and fill out the request form. I will correspond with you about the postage options before shipping the material. Checkout is for one month, and items can be renewed unless there is a waiting list.

As for the promised book reviews, I am willing to entertain suggestions...

Jean Hosford
Librarian

Board Happenings

Online November Board Meeting – October 5, 2015 to November 13, 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.

1. 40th Anniversary Book Proposal

An anniversary book proposal for *Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning*, in honor of Wanda Shelp, was presented to the Board for review of concept and focus. The Board agreed that about half of the book be focused on eight shafts, the remainder should encompass multi-shaft and other complex weaves, and that the book should be full color. A motion was made and unanimously accepted that the proposal be accepted as a guide for the editor. The next steps, confirming the editor, fine-tuning the content plan, budgeting, etc., can begin. Final commitment to the project will depend upon future Board review of the total plan and budget for the book.

2. Complex Weavers Journal Annual Report

Ruth MacGregor, Journal Editor, summarized the status of the *Journal*, and Amy Norris, Advertising Chair, summarized the advertising aspect of the *Journal*. The Board was pleased with the quality of *Journal*. The quantity of ads in the *Journal*, which bring in about \$1000 each issue, was reviewed, and it was felt that the current amount was appropriate given the size of the *Journal*. The concept of ads in the *Newsletter* was evaluated, and it was agreed that this was something that could be included and coordinated by the Advertising Chair. Last, free listings of non-profit fiber-related events in the *Newsletter* was discussed, and a motion was made and unanimously accepted that these can be included in the *Newsletter* at the Editor's discretion.

3. Seminars 2016: Status Report

The Board reviewed the *Seminars* budget and event schedule, as

presented by Ann Niemi, *Seminars* Chair. The *Seminars* committee is working hard to finalize all of the many details necessary to make it happen. Kris Peerand is in charge of the *Seminars* website, and much work is being done to install content on the seminars leaders, seminar descriptions, and speakers, as well as all other details about *Seminars*. The goal is for the website to go live in mid-December.

4. Treasurer's Quarterly Financial Report and 2016 Budget Proposal

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the third quarter, as prepared by Kathy Warner, Treasurer, and after discussion, approved the 2016 Budget Proposal.

5. Complexity 2016 Report

Cathryn Amidei, *Complexity* Chair, brought the Board up to date on *Complexity* plans. She reported that she has been having difficulty finding an additional venue for *Complexity* near Milwaukee, where HGA's Convergence is being held. Further suggestions for Milwaukee-area venues were made, which Cathryn will follow up on. The group also addressed advertising for *Complexity*, a two-fold process of calls for entries and advertising the show itself. It was suggested that Cathryn have someone focused on the job of getting the word out as widely as possible.

6. New Librarian

The Complex Weavers Library has a new Librarian: Jean Hosford. The Board thanked both Tim Flint for his five years as Librarian and Jean for taking on this extraordinary resource for Complex Weavers.

7. Acting Newsletter Editor

Elisa Eiger will be taking over as Acting Newsletter Editor for the next couple of issues, and was welcomed by the Board.

8. Next Board Meeting

The next online Board meeting will begin on January 4, 2016.

Lynn Smetko
Secretary

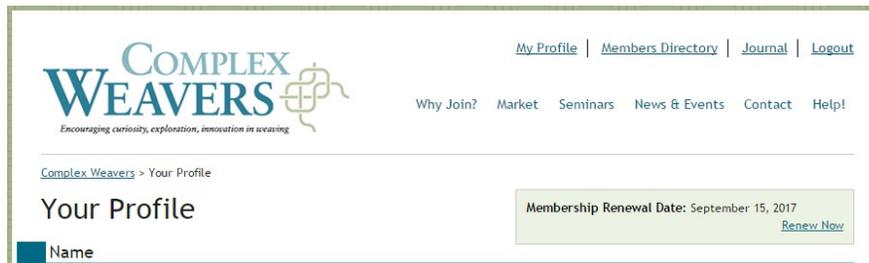
How to Renew Online

Go to the CW website: www.complex-weavers.org and click the “Log In” button. On the next screen, enter your login name (usually your name all run together without caps – like *marydoe*) and your password. Click the “Log In” button.

If you can’t remember either your login name or your password, click the “Log In” button anyway. You’ll then see a Login page with a pink error box. Click the “Lost Password” link to get to the Lost Password page. Enter your email address – the one you have registered with CW. Check your incoming messages for that email account. You will receive information that will 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” link. If you select that, your information will be displayed.

The first thing you will see on your profile is your renewal date and a link to “Renew Now.”



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.

Peg MacMorris
Membership Chair

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

Acting *Newsletter* Editor: Elisa Eiger at president@mafafiber.org

Assistant Editor, Copy: Mimi Smith at mimis@frontiernet.net

Assistant Layout Editors: Janet Stollnitz and Prue Hill

Advertising: Amy Norris at amy@amyfibre.com

Membership/Mailing List: Peg MacMorris at CWMembershipPeg@gmail.com

Printing and Distribution: Lynn Smetko at CWSecretarylfs@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 Saunderstown 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

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

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

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 by 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 and at suzie@glimakrausa.com or sarah@glimakrausa.com. Our website remains www.glimakrausa.com. The toll free number remains [866-893-7314](tel:866-893-7314) for now.

