

# COMPLEX WEAVERS

*Encouraging curiosity, exploration, innovation in weaving*

September 2016 | Number 113



# Newsletter

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## President's Letter

Fall is a time for new beginnings. After summer's vacations and freedom from schedules, people are looking inward – spending time indoors, cooking, decluttering, home improvements. For weavers, summer's emphasis on weaving conferences draws to a close and we start taking the time and opportunity to focus on new projects inspired by our travels.

CW is no different. Your Board has been busy looking ahead and planning what the next two years will bring. Here are some of the highlights.

**Strategic Plan.** A Strategic Plan has been adopted to guide us for the next two years. A summary and link to the plan on our website can be found in the *Board Happenings*.

**Election.** In 2017, the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Study Group Coordinator are up for election. Nominating Committee members for 2017 are Sheila Carey (Chair), Suzi Gough, and Stacey Harvey-Brown. We thank them for agreeing to serve by finding nominees for the open positions. If you are interested in volunteering for one of these positions, recommending someone whom you think would do a good job, or would just like further information, please contact any of the Nominating Committee members.

**Seminars 2018.** One of the clear messages heard during *Seminars* and from our Survey was that members want to realign *Seminars* with HGA's *Convergence*. It turns out that HGA is interested in the same thing. Elizabeth Williamson, Executive Director, and I have been in contact and we are hopeful that we can make this happen for 2018. HGA is expected to announce the timing and location of *Convergence 2018* within the next several weeks. With that information, we should be able to quickly decide if we can work with their decision. Mimi Anderson is eagerly awaiting the news so she can contact willing volunteers for the *Seminars*

2018 Chair and team. Final touches are being put on revised *Guidelines for Seminars Planning* to make the team's job easier. Keep those shuttles crossed and let the planning begin!

**Complexity 2018.** I am happy to announce that Susan Bowman has volunteered to serve as the Chair for *Complexity 2018*. She has considerable experience with international juried weaving exhibits: as participant, committee member and co-chair. You can read more about Susan on page 6. Have you started thinking about your entry for *Complexity 2018* yet?

**New Publications.** Laurie Autio and Linda Davis, Co-Editors of *Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning*, have been making a lot of progress on this project for CW's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Details for the book, as well as the sign-up form can be found on our website. Take a look and see if you would like to contribute to this exciting project! <http://www.complex-weavers.org/40th-anniversary-book/> Thanks to Amy Norris, *Greatest Hits* has been republished and is available for sale on our website's *Complex Weavers Marketplace*. <http://www.complex-weavers.org/market/complex-weavers-online-merchandise-order/>

In addition to the hustle and bustle of the previous items, our other terrific activities just keep getting better and better: *CW Journal* study groups, library, website, and *Newsletter*.

It's a busy time—well, it's always a busy time at CW!—and I'd like to thank all of our volunteers that make CW happen. I can't stress enough that CW is a 100% volunteer organization. Thank you to those members who gave their names on the Survey. To those who didn't, if you enjoy what you get from CW, please consider volunteering in an area that interests you. Not only will you help move CW forward, but you'll make new contacts and friends. The list of directors and committee chairs and their contact information is found on the inside front cover of our *Journal*. In addition, any of these people can be reached via the "Contact" link at the top of every page on our website.

Happy Weaving,

*Lynn Smetko*

## Call for Nominations

The following positions are due for election in 2017:

Second Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Study Group Coordinator

If you are interested in one of these positions, or if you know someone you would like to see in office, please let the Nominating Committee know by **30 November 2016**.

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

2017 Nominating Committee members:

- ◆ Sheila Carey, Chair (Member, 2016 Nominating Committee; Canada)
- ◆ Suzi Gough (US)
- ◆ Stacey Harvey-Brown (Member, 2008 Nominating Committee; UK 2016, France 2017)

For more information on what these roles entail or to nominate someone, contact the Nominating Committee Chair using the Contact link on the CW website:

<http://www.complex-weavers.org/contact/committee/>

Without our wonderful volunteers CW would not exist. Please consider running if you are asked, or volunteering if you have an interest.

# The Survey—A Recap

Complex Weavers currently has about 1400 members! Nearly 700 of you responded to our recent Survey—thank you! Interpreting the results of such a survey is on-going and will help us review our activities and benefits to you, our membership. Of the responders, just under 25% attended in St Charles.

Here are a few interesting results:

To the question: How desirable to you would it be for *Seminars* and Convergence to re-align in location and dates? 60% were in favor; whereas only 7% thought it undesirable (33% - either way).

Of the responders, 647 answered the question about campus vs hotel — 42% preferred a campus; 27% hotel; and 31% either way. About 500 of you responded to the question about value: only about 10% felt our costs too high, while the rest felt it was good value to even a bargain (35%).

Regarding class sizes - 43% felt that keeping the class size limited, and not necessarily getting first choice was more desirable than getting first choices; 27% prefer first choice even with the possibility of very large classes; 23%, either way.

How important are the local amenities such as galleries, museums, etc., when deciding whether or not to attend *Seminars*? Of the 623 who answered, 45% felt it was important, while 40% didn't care. More members felt the ability to view *Complexity* was important (67%).

What could we do to make *Seminars* better? This question was a "fill-in" answer format. You have given us lots of ideas and suggestions, and quite a few of you left your names in offer of help. We will study them, consider your ideas, and be in touch! Again, thank you.

My favorite comment is: You fellas did a pretty good job!

Mimi Anderson  
CW First Vice President

# Board Happenings

Online July Board Meeting  
July 11, 2016 to August 17, 2016

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.

## Board Appointments and Reappointments

Lynn Smetko, President, recommended the following appointments and reappointments at the Face-to-Face Board meeting held at *Seminars*. There was unanimous approval by the Board. The appointments are as follows:

- Angela Schneider: Advertising Chair
- Chris Jeryan: Archivist and Newsletter Editor
- Ginger Kaldenbach: CW Awards Coordinator
- Ruth MacGregor: CW Journal Editor
- Marjie Thompson: Manuscript Recovery Fund
- Amy Norris: Membership and Merchandising Chair
- Cally Booker: Web Chair

After president elect Kathi Spangler's passing, the presidency was transferred to 1st Vice President, Lynn Smetko. Lynn recommended Mimi Anderson to fill her term as 1st VP and the board approved Mimi's appointment.

## Diane Fabeck Award for 2018

The Board reviewed minutes from the discussion at the Face-to-Face meeting at *Seminars* about the Diane Fabeck Award. This award, donated in Diane Fabeck's name, totals \$2500 and is to be awarded \$500 at a time over the next five *Complexity* exhibits. The first award was presented in 2016 as The Diane Fabeck Best of Show Award for *Complexity*. The Board decided that the remaining amounts will be distributed as The Diane Fabeck Best of Show Award in the next four *Complexity* exhibits (2018, 2020, 2022, and 2024).

## Treasurer's Report

The Board was presented with an array of reports from treasurer Kathy Warner that included the usual 2nd Quarter Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statements. In addition, there were reports on *Seminars 2016*, *Complexity 2016*, Silent Auction, and a Profit and

Loss Report ending 8/1/16. The *Seminars* net figures were disappointing, and it was decided that more analysis needs to be done so that changes can be made to procedures for *Seminars 2018*. The board found the financial reports to be in order and approved them.

### **Seminars 2016 Final Report**

Reports on the June *Seminars* were submitted to the board for review and discussion. Everyone was pleased with how well *Seminars 2016* turned out including the venue, events, and classes. The Chair, Committee, and all of the volunteers were thanked for their dedicated work in making it a great conference. Ann Niemi made the suggestion that in the future, a Vice-Chair be assigned to shadow the chair in preparation for filling the position at the next event. The new Poster Session was well received, and it was felt it should be repeated at the next *Seminars*. It was decided that in the future, budgeting income needs to be based on full-fare registrants. Our next *Seminars* Chair has a strong mandate from the board that the philosophy of *Seminars* remain one of a sharing event and a "conference of peers".

### **Seminars 2018 and HGA Report**

Mimi Anderson posted notes for Board discussion on *Seminars 2018* planning and beyond. The subject of realigning *Seminars* with HGA's Convergence was discussed. The Board decided to try to wait for the announcement of the next Convergence location and then, if possible, seek to realign the two events.

There was also a discussion of having a CW Study Day linked to regional events (separate from *Seminars*). This could provide valuable content for our members and potential members, would be self-funded, and would not overlap or compete with the regional event.

### **The Strategic Plan for 2016-2017**

A new Strategic Plan was reviewed, discussed, and approved by the Board. It addresses the Objects and Purposes of Complex Weavers as spelled out in the CW By-Laws, Article II: that it was organized for "... *the educational and scientific purposes of studying, teaching, promoting, and disseminating the techniques and ideas of Complex Weaving....*"

The Strategic Plan starts with CW's mission statement—to be the

preeminent international membership organization for experienced weavers wanting to develop and share their knowledge and understanding of weaving techniques in order to advance their personal weaving capabilities and the art of complex handweaving.

The first three objectives of the Strategic Plan address what is stated in Article II of the By-Laws:

- **Studying.** We want to foster the study and practical exploration of complex weaving techniques, practices, and theories—past, present, and future.
- **Teaching.** We want to provide instruction for members to assist them in understanding complex weaving methods and techniques and advancing their personal weaving capabilities and the art of complex handweaving.
- **Promoting and Disseminating.** We want to share information related to the art of complex weaving and promote the work of CW among our members, other weavers, and the general public.

A fourth objective was added, since without a thriving organization we cannot accomplish what the organization was originally established to do.

- **Organizational Maintenance.** To accomplish our other objectives, we need to maintain the viability and vitality of the CW organization. To do this, CW must be run as effectively and efficiently as possible.

For each of these objectives, areas of our organization used to accomplish them are listed. Goals were then identified for each objective that define the direction for Board activity over the next two years. For many of the goals there are specific points, or tasks, identified.

The complete Strategic Plan for 2016-2018 is posted on the CW Website

[http://www.complex-weavers.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/CW\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2016-2018.pdf](http://www.complex-weavers.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/CW_Strategic_Plan_2016-2018.pdf)

### **Complexity 2016 Update**

The final *Complexity* report won't be presented to the Board until the October meeting. However, after *Seminars* in Saint Charles, the exhibit was taken down, shipped to Milwaukee and hung in the Jazz Gallery on July 28. The reception, held on August 5, was well at-

tended. Since then, the individual pieces have been shipped back to their owners by Ann Niemi and her husband.

### **Complex Weavers Meeting at Convergence 2016**

Amy Norris gave the Board a run-down of the meeting held at Convergence. There were 50-70 people in attendance and with a show of hands, about half were members of CW. Amy gave the audience an overview of the benefits of CW membership and Lynn Smetko plugged the *Complexity* reception and asked for volunteers. Five *Greatest Hits* were sold, plus a two year membership.

### **New Business**

#### **Seminars Survey**

A survey was developed in an effort to obtain feedback about *Seminars*. There were questions specifically for those who attended *Seminars*, questions why those who did not attend chose not to register for it, and questions of a more general nature regarding CW. The final survey was released on July 26, 2016.

#### **Kathi Spangler Scholarship Proposal**

Laurie Autio collected \$1000 in donations for CW in Kathi Spangler's name from her Explorations in Advanced Weaving class. The Board discussed the use of the generous fund for scholarships. Before the recent contributions, there was \$100 already in a fund, so the total available is \$1100.

#### **Google Doodle for CW's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Lynn introduced the idea of trying to get a Google Doodle (google it for a description) for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. We will need to apply to Google to get one, and they are the sole decision makers in the process. Since the CW has a couple of members with ties to Google, Lynn will contact them to get advice on proceeding.

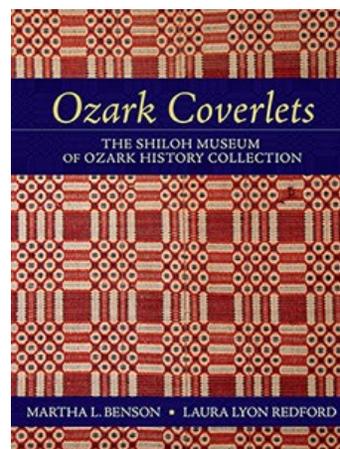
#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on August 17. The next meeting is scheduled to begin on October 10.

Beryl Moody  
Secretary

## Message From the Librarian

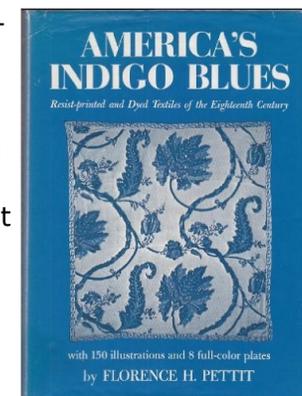
New additions to the library include several newly published books as well as an interesting group of books from the Sacramento Weaver's and Spinner's Guild.



Complex Weavers Marty Benson and Martha Reeves have both donated copies of their newly published books. Marty's book, *Ozark Coverlets* is a catalogue of coverlets from the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History. She and co-author Laura Lyon Redford have done a remarkable job of documenting the coverlets, their weavers, and fabric analysis. Martha's book *Weave Leno* is an expansion of her HGA Certificate of Excellence project on bead leno. Martha shows that leno is within the reach of all weavers and can be used for stunning garments. These books are available for loan.

Negotiations for the donation from the Sacramento Guild began last year when that guild had to downsize their library. Tim Flint (librarian at the time) perused the list of available books and selected ones that would complement the holdings in the Complex Weaver's library. While these books aren't yet entered in LibraryThing, they are available to borrow by emailing me. ([jeanhosford@gmail.com](mailto:jeanhosford@gmail.com))

The collection includes: An early 1980s copy of *American Fabrics and Fashions* edited by Sheila Hicks, a master's thesis by Doris Macklin on Kente cloth, a trio of ICS textbooks on textile designing, two notebooks of the *Quarterly Journal* from 1962 to 1965, Irmgard Reswick's *Traditional Textiles of Tunisia*, Gosta Montell's *Dress and Ornament in Ancient Peru*, Florence Pettit's *American Indigo Blues*, and many more!



Library use has tapered off slightly this summer as I assume everybody is taking vacations from their looms. Please remember to use

this valuable resource when you get back to weaving this fall. To date, we have had over 50 borrowing events with an average of almost 2.5 items per borrowing—and this doesn't include all the old issues of weaving magazines that I have been shipping out.

Jean Hosford  
CW Librarian

## What Does the Treasurer DO??

What does the treasurer do? As the custodian of the funds, the treasurer keeps track of the bank, Paypal, and Square accounts, reconciling the statements each month and transferring funds as needed. The board directed at one point that all monies be in FDIC-insured accounts, which means our interest rates are abysmal—but safe.

Our fiscal year is January to December, so our annual financial reports are due early in January, to be approved by the board and published in the next Newsletter. The budget is prepared with input from the board and committee chairs, approved in October and published with the annual reports.

We use Quickbooks for our accounting, bank at USBank (it has branches in lots of places), Square for credit card payments of dues and the silent auction at *Seminars*, and Paypal for dues and book and merchandise sales. We started with Paypal to make things easier for overseas members, and it has been popular with nearly everybody from about 2 minutes after we opened the account. Reconciling a Paypal statement is time-consuming but worth it.

The treasurer pays the bills (most happily with a CW reimbursement form) from the checking account or from Paypal to overseas recipients. We use the bank credit card for *Journal* postage, to get your *Journal* to you as soon as possible. There is a paper trail for all of this, so it's available for inspection.

And the treasurer still has time to weave!

Kathy Warner  
Treasurer

## Complexity 2018 Chair

I am so happy to announce that Susan Bowman has agreed to be our Chair for *Complexity 2018*!

Susan has been weaving since the mid-80's, starting with a 4-shaft Baby Wolf, followed by an 8-Shaft Gilmore, then a 16-shaft AVL, to her current loom, a 24-shaft AVL. Susan has said that she "firmly believes that juried exhibits are a catalyst for weavers to create their best work and that it's an important way for the public to see the current state of handweaving." Her work has been shown in juried exhibits since 1995.

Susan's previous committee experience includes *Glamour, Glitter and Glitz* and *Complexity 2014* as well as co-chairing two acclaimed international exhibits for the Pikes Peak Weavers Guild (PPWG), *Living with Beauty: Handwoven Textiles for the Home* (2008) and *Woven Together: Firestorm* (2013). Susan has also written articles for weaving publications and recently edited a free eBook available on PPWG's website: *Sensational Towels, Napkins and Placemats!*

Retired from the working world, Susan spent her career as a World Wide Quality Director for Texas Instruments and holds a BS in Engineering Chemistry and an MBA.

--Lynn Smetko



# Of Interest

*Occasionally things come our way that might be of interest to some of our members and we'll post them here.*



Sue and David Richardson recently launched a website dedicated to the study of Asian textiles. There is lots of information about natural dyeing and weaving. They also led their third textile boat tour around the Lesser Sunda Islands of Indonesia. Here are their links:

<http://www.asiantextilestudies.com/>

<http://seatrekballi.com/island-to-island-textile-tour-in-eastern-indonesia/>

Sarah Light, designer, and Simon Clayton, artist/maker, own and operate The Tour Studio, offering specialized workshops and design tours in Italy focusing on weaving and textiles for small groups. In November there is a workshop in Umbria. Here are the links:

[www.thetourstudio.com](http://www.thetourstudio.com)

[info@thetourstudio.com](mailto:info@thetourstudio.com)



## Classifieds

### **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)

### **Supplementary Warp Patterning: Turned Drafts, Embellishments & Motifs by Barbara J. Walker**

This comprehensive book by the authority on supplementary warp weaving will teach you that two (or more) warps are indeed better than one. Chapters on methods, design, and warping are included. \$35 USD plus shipping.

[www.barbarajwalker.com](http://www.barbarajwalker.com)

## Events

### **Nature in the Making**

Travelling exhibition by weavers Stacey Harvey-Brown (UK) and Agnes Hauptli (NZ) features jacquard art works and 3D installation pieces inspired by geology and the power of nature.

Galerie de Sleedoorn, Zetten, Netherlands. November 4-27, 2016

[www.facebook.com/natureinthemaking](http://www.facebook.com/natureinthemaking)

### **Bingata! Only in Okinawa**

This special showing of textile treasures from Okinawan museum collections will feature brightly colored *bingata*—traditional resist-dyed fabrics—and contemporary works by Okinawan artists and fashion designers. The Textile Museum, November 5, 2106 - January 30, 2017.

### **American Style and Spirit**

Walk through a living catalog of American style spanning 130 years that brings the lives of the entrepreneurial Roddis family into sharp focus through fashion. Dozens of wearable time capsules — discovered carefully boxed up in the attic — tell an engaging epic of American style and spirit. The Henry Ford Museum. November 5, 2016 - April 2, 2107. <https://www.thehenryford.org/current-events/calendar/american-style-and-spirit-exhibit/>

### **Southeast Fiber Forum Study—Connect—Relax**

Offering 14 workshops in tapestry, weaving, spinning, dyeing, felting, design, sewing, crochet, rug hooking, basketry, and wood turning. Registration opens October 1 for SFFA members, October 15 for non-members. Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN. April 20-23, 2107.

[www.sefiberforum.org](http://www.sefiberforum.org)  
[www.facebook.com/SoutheastFiberForumAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/SoutheastFiberForumAssociation)

# 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.

### **2017 Publication Schedule:**

February 2017: Deadline November 30, 2106

June 2017: Deadline March 31, 2017

October 2017: Deadline July 31, 2017

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

Newsletter Editor: Christine Jeryan at [cjeryan@comcast.net](mailto:cjeryan@comcast.net)

Editing Team: Mimi Smith, Janet Stollnitz, Prue Hill, and Elaine Plaisance

Advertising: Angela Schneider at [akspins@comcast.net](mailto:akspins@comcast.net)

Membership/Mailing List: Amy Norris at [CWMembership@amyfibre.com](mailto:CWMembership@amyfibre.com)

Printing and Distribution: Lynn Smetko at [CWPresidentLFS@gmail.com](mailto:CWPresidentLFS@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.