

May 2023 | Number 139

President's Letter

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You Spoke, We're Listening

Thank you to the 570 of you (41 percent of CW membership) who responded to CW's 2023 Member Survey. That is a remarkable response rate on its own, but I'll break it down further in detail and provide a link to the full presentation at the end of this message.

Since the meeting, CW's Board has been pouring over these results. We are tremendously encouraged and excited by the time and thought you put into your responses. We know we can count on you to help make these stellar ideas for moving Complex Weavers forward realities — wherever in the world members live and weave. Following are a few of the major themes.

Online access to CW Seminars was supported by more than 90% of respondents, with a strong preference for on-demand programs that can be viewed at convenient times anywhere in the world. Interest was also high for a virtual event in the off-year between in-person *Seminars*.

Challenges: For many reasons, most members are unable to attend in-person *CW Seminars*. In addition, time zone differences make real-time participation in online events difficult for many members.

Action Steps:

- Where leaders agree and resources are available, *CW Seminars 2024* programming will be made available online after the conference on-demand. Fees collected from online viewing will be shared with leaders.
- Making this happen will require more volunteers and paid technical assistance, both at the *CW Seminars* venue and for online services.
- All CW online programming is intended to be self-sustaining, with costs covered by CW's share of fees, but this is not guaranteed.

While we are pursuing online content for *Seminars*, none of the respondents said **in-person CW Seminars** should be discontinued in favor of online programming. Opportunities for such informal networking and informal learning were rated among the most valuable benefits.

Challenges: Venue costs are increasing and volunteer time is at a premium.

Continued page 2

President's Letter, continued

Action steps:

- For the first time, CW has hired a production assistant on a contract basis to support the volunteer *Seminars 2024* planning committee. Because members are increasingly unwilling to volunteer the time and energy required for conference planning, this will likely be a long-term addition to the *CW Seminars* budget.
- To cover increasing venue, production and labor costs, member attendance fees will have to rise unless alternate funding can be found.

Increasing **outreach and communication**, both with and between members, was an overarching theme running through comments about engaging newer members, volunteering, Study Group accessibility, finding members with shared interests and learning informally from other members. Additionally, information is needed for **intermediate weavers who joined because they want to become “complex” weavers**.

Challenges: Time-zone differences complicate real-time communication methods such as video- or tele-conferencing which leads some members to have to use their private accounts. Email delivery services are imperfect, and some members get missed. Members have trouble connecting with each other to discuss ideas or ask questions.

Action Steps:

- First, members can easily find others who share their interests, use the same looms, live near them, etc., by using the advanced search on the website [Member Directory](#). An article in this Newsletter explains how.
- Second, our CW Newsletter Chair, Ingrid Knox, has generously offered to try doubling the number of CW newsletters produced each year. She would love to hear your suggestions for information you need to feel better informed.
- Fortunately, CW's Website Chair is already establishing permanent email addresses for every Board position, Committee Chair, Study Group Leader and Area Liaison, the first step in establishing separate CW Zoom access for each role.
- CW Study Group Leaders are updating policies and procedures to clarify joining or starting a Study Group, sharing of knowledge within and beyond the Study Group, ensuring copyright protections and other accessibility concerns.
- Content to help members improve their skills can be included among online offerings, but this will take time.
- An ongoing discussion group for facilitating online communication between CW members can be investigated, but this idea will need a volunteer champion. Respondents preferred such groups avoid current social media outlets.

Complex Weavers Journal was rated the most valuable member benefit by far, understandable in that this information-rich, beautifully designed magazine is delivered to every member individually, worldwide.

Challenges: Production costs have recently exceeded revenue from member dues and our all-volunteer production team is stretched thin.

Action steps:

- Purchase updated design software to enable the editor to spread the workload among more volunteers.
- Weigh potential cost savings of offering members a choice of digital-only *Journals* against any added workload on volunteers.
- Allocate some proceeds from sale of the *Eight Shafts* book toward *Journal* expenses.

The CW Board knew this survey would generate a wish list of services that could be difficult to fulfill. Our purpose was to determine which ideas would yield the biggest improvements in member service and satisfaction so we can continue to fulfill CW's mission and goals. It's going to take Board members and committee chairs more than a minute to wrap our heads around all you've shared. What we can tell you right now, though, is all these initiatives will require additional volunteers, and many will cost additional money.

It's clear that a path to many of the improvements suggested and requested by members in the survey requires more participation and more effective management of volunteer time and expertise. A Volunteer Coordinator will be added to the Leadership Team to help match willing members with volunteer opportunities as a first step.

Would you consider becoming CW's Volunteer Coordinator?

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President's Letter, continued

More about the survey:

Responses came from 18 countries, with 22% of respondents from outside the U.S.. That reflected the geographic breakdown for all CW members, 24% of whom are from outside the U.S. In addition, 210 respondents took the time to write comments, and 25% provided contact information so Board members could contact them with follow-up questions.

If you are curious about the details, you can access the presentation that member Mora Jackson created and presented to the CW Board at its recent meeting. In addition to charting the numerical results, Mora read every comment you wrote, at least twice, looking for common themes, trends and insights, which were included in the presentation. She also is compiling all the comments into searchable PDFs to assist the CW Board and committee volunteers in future planning. To access the presentation, use this link: <https://www.complex-weavers.org/journal/2023-member-survey-board-presentation/>. You will be directed to login to the CW website before seeing the presentation.

Thank you to Mora, Teresa Edmisten, who helped design and manage the survey, and to the CW Board members who helped craft and edit the questions.

Sincerely,
Karen Donde
CW President, 2022-2024
cwpresident22khd@gmail.com

2023 Complex Weavers Election Results

The Election Results are here! Many congratulations to our newly elected officers: Brenda Gibson, 2nd Vice President; Janet Bealer, Secretary; Doreen McLaughlin, Treasurer; and Sara Nordling, Study Group Coordinator.

The CW Board would like to express appreciation to the 2023 Nominating Committee of Penny Peters, Bob Keates and Belinda Rosee for recruiting an impressive slate of candidates for CW leadership roles. It was the committee's second consecutive year managing this critical job, and we thank them for their work.



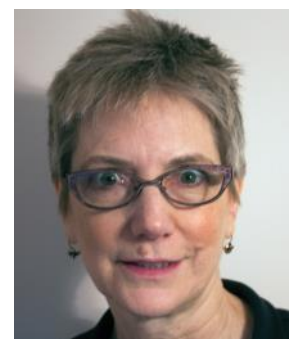
Brenda Gibson



Janet Bealer



Doreen McLaughlin



Sara Nordling

Complexity 2024

We are making good progress in our preparations for *Complexity 2024*. The exhibit will be displayed during the months of July and August, 2024 at the Mark Arts Center in Wichita, Kansas (<https://markartsks.com>). This is a spacious building with several galleries for exhibits, and we will be in a gallery with plenty of wall space and lighted cabinets.

We are also excited to announce that we have confirmed three jurors for *Complexity 2024*: Muffy Young, David van Buskirk, and Alice Schlein. They offer a wide range of experience as artists, educators, and commercial weavers, as well as previous involvement with *Complexity* and *Complex Weavers*. This newsletter will feature a profile of David van Buskirk, with articles about Muffy Young and Alice Schlein to follow in future newsletters.

The Prospectus for *Complexity 2024* is coming together and will be posted within the next two months. There are a few changes from 2022. One change is a plan to subsidize postal costs to encourage international submissions, by leveling the playing field when it comes to shipping items to the USA. We have also increased the number of submissions to a maximum of two per entrant. And we are working on confirming awards — some from new sponsors.

As always, if you are interested in joining the *Complexity 2024* Committee, we can use whatever help you can offer. Please contact me at flschultz@comcast.net.

Linda Schultz
Chair, *Complexity 2024*

Complexity 2024: Introducing the 2024 Juror—David van Buskirk

David van Buskirk is a fiber artist, educator and textile designer. After receiving a BFA in Surface Design and Art Education from the Univ. of N. Colorado, he undertook advanced studies in textile design and handweaving at prestigious institutions in Sweden and a three-year apprenticeship with Swedish Textile Designer Age Faith-Ell. Upon completing his studies he resettled in New York, working for over three decades as a design director for major textile manufacturers. Concurrently he served as Adjunct Professor teaching woven design at the Fashion Institute of Technology from 1999 to 2017.



In 2017 he moved to Denver and rediscovered a passion for woven fiber art. David's fiber art pieces have been exhibited in the Rocky Mountain Biennale (2020), Art of the State (2022), *Complexity* (2022). Concurrently his fiber arts is on exhibit at the Fantastic Fibers Exhibition at the Yeiser Art Center, and in the ATA Biennale 14 at the Appalachian Center for Crafts.

We will be profiling the other *Complexity 2024* jurors in subsequent newsletters.

Notes from a Reluctant Seminars Chair

Complex Weavers Seminars 2024 will be here before you know it and those of us working on organizing are super excited! I went to Wichita and spent three days at the venue getting to know the layout of the Hyatt Regency Wichita and the Convention Center. I also had a wonderful time at the [MARK Arts Center](#) checking out the space, the art work on display and the amazing programs for young and old.



The most interesting and fiberly exhibit was Patrick Dougherty's "Oh Give Me A Home", a stick art installation constructed completely of locally sourced materials. Only the wind, rain, hail, and snow know how much of this installation will be standing when we get there. Hopefully some! I saw another fascinating installation "The Keeper of the Prairie", but I'll save that one for another newsletter!

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Notes from a Reluctant *Seminars* Chair, continued

I drove from Wichita to the airport in Kansas City. It is over 200 miles and takes the better part of three hours, but the connections are better there. Would you like us to see if we can arrange for a shuttle bus or two to expediate getting to *CW Seminars*? Let me know and I'll do some checking!



Oh Give Me a Home, Patrick Dougherty

The Hyatt is very nice and has views of the river from most of the guest rooms. The rooms are quite a bit larger than the rooms in Knoxville. The Hyatt was comfortable. And there is plenty of parking everywhere we went. There are some upsides to being in the wide open prairie! The food on site was very good. I even sampled the breakfast buffet to do advance research on group meals and found the staff and the selections and quality of the food well above average. Do know that it is the Midwest and meat is King, but I got some nice grilled veggies and the evening salads were lovely.

All the classroom and meeting space is on one level and there is elevator access from the hotel. You might want to up your steps, since there is a lot of walking!

We have a great group of instructors lined up. More about them when all the legwork is done. Know there are familiar faces and some new faces too. We can't wait to share them with you soon. Now back to planning a special *Seminars* for us all!

Michele Belson
CW *Seminars* 2024 Chair

In Memoriam

Linda Jarrett

Linda was a prolific weaver, spinner, and natural dyer, and teacher of all three. She won numerous awards in all these categories. Linda enjoyed the designing and sewing her garments; she was an expert seamstress. She was a member of CW for many years and always looked forward to going to the *Seminars* to learn more, to meet new and old friends and enjoy the camaraderie. Linda, like so many of us, was always planning the next warp. While fighting cancer that was a positive focus for her. She was an inspiration to so many and will be greatly missed.



Dori Painter

Dori passed away in March 2023. She was passionate about the arts and found her love in fibers and was very active with the Whidbey Island, Skagit Valley and Whatcom County Weavers Guilds. When Dori learned how to dye wool she found a new interest in creating natural dyes from plants, trees and flowers. Dori said that weaving and dyeing was both relaxing and exciting. She took pride in showing off her projects and loved to educate and teach people about textiles and the dyeing process. Dori had a small space at Whidbey Island Crafter's Market and studios in Oak Harbor where some of her textiles were proudly displayed.



REMINDER! CW Annual Membership Meeting

Online via Zoom webinar July 15, 2023

1 pm EDT, U.S.

To attend:

Admission is free, but advance registration is required. Members will receive an invitation to register in early July. Registration confirmations will include a link to join the webinar at the scheduled time.

What if I don't receive an invitation to register?

If email doesn't arrive by July 10, reach out to the CW President using the website contact form [HERE](#).

Can I watch a recording?

Yes. A link to the recording will be provided to CW members via email after the meeting.

Find it in the CW Membership Directory

Heading off on summer travels?

Shopping for a new loom?

Need advice on a sticky double weave problem?

The Complex Weavers Membership Directory can help you find resources for all of these questions.

Go to our website, www.complex-weavers.org, and log in from the upper right corner. Once you've logged in, click on Members Directory:



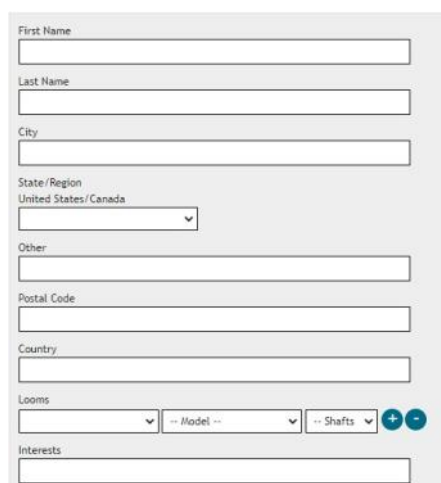
Once you're in the Members Directory, scroll down to find a detailed Search function where you can search by:

City + State/Province

Country

Loom model

Interests

A screenshot of a search form with the following fields: First Name, Last Name, City, State/Region (with a dropdown menu currently showing 'United States/Canada'), Other, Postal Code, Country, Looms (with dropdowns for Model and Shafts, and plus/minus buttons), and Interests.

The Member Directory is one of your membership benefits! Connect with weavers in your area, on your travels, and/or those who share your equipment and interests. And happy weaving!

Try our new QR Code to jump to the CW Website
Thanks Margaret Coe for creating the new codes.



Consider a Donation to CW

As you think about ways to contribute to Complex Weavers, donations are a way to help the organization. In addition to donating our time and skills, or general donations, there are five [special funds](#) with specific purposes. The five funds are:

[Complexity Fund](#)

Manuscript Recovery Fund

Friendship Fund

[Sandra Rude Memorial Fund for Advanced Learning](#)

Memorial Fund for Special Projects

You can make a donation directly through the website via the [Donations page](#).

Please consider a contribution to the fund of your choice to support the mission of CW and the many services provided to its members.

Thank you!

Complex Weavers Journal Update

The October 2022 issue of *Complex Weavers Journal* has been transmitted to the print shop, and they've started their print-preparation processes on it. By the time you receive this Newsletter, the issue will be right in the middle of its printing process. The PDFs of the issue will appear on the website shortly.

The October issue features another chapter of Linda Schultz's explorations in double-tie unit weaves; a touching history of the path of a Jacquard design, through years and changes and a series of looms, from the talented Sheila O'Hara; a revisiting of Egyptian tombs and temples with personal insights from Nancy Hoskins; and another in the series of articles on hemming and hemstitches. The cover is take-your-breath-away gorgeous, but I don't want to reveal it until the issue is posted on the website.

The February 2023 issue is currently on the Editor's desk, but it will be transmitted to the printer in short order. When you see its PDFs appear on the CW Website, you'll know that its printing is underway.

The responsibility for the most recent delays resides solely with your CWJ Editor. They have been caused by health problems, which are gradually resolving. Thank you for your patience. The season of very-very-late editions is almost over.

Ruth MacGregor
Complex Weavers Journal Editor

Complex Weavers Books and Journals

To purchase your copy of *Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning (Personal Approaches to Design)*, go to the [Marketplace](#) area of the CW website. You can also order back issues of the *Complex Weavers Journal*, *Complex Weavers Compilations* 3 and 4, or a CW pin. Great gift ideas for yourself or your weaving friends.

Board Happenings April Board Meeting April 22 – May 13, 2023

The Board of Directors met via Zoom for the first portion of the meeting to complete action on several items, and then finished the meeting using its Groups.io platform to continue discussion of several agenda items.

2023 Member Survey:

The Board heard a presentation and analysis of the responses to the CW 2023 Member Survey by CW volunteer Mora Jackson, and CW Website Chair and CW Online Offerings Chair Teresa Edmisten.

Seminars 2024:

Prior to the April Board Meeting, because a volunteer had not stepped up to chair Seminars 2024, the Board approved a policy to hire a paid administrative assistant with event planning experience on a contract basis to reduce the workload on a volunteer Seminars chair. Michele Belson, who had been working on the venue contract, then volunteered to chair the event.

During the April Board Meeting, Michele reported that the hotel contract has been signed and the plan of events is roughed out for Seminars 2024, to be held in Wichita, Kansas in July 2024.

Complexity 2024:

Complexity Chair Linda Schultz reported that Meg Wilson, Denise Kovnat and Patrice George have joined the Complexity 2024 Committee; and that Muffy Young, David van Buskirk and Alice Schlein have agreed to serve on the jury to choose work that will be shown. The venue for the exhibit is the Mark Arts Center School of Creativity Gallery in Wichita, KS.

CW Area Liaisons:

The Board approved a proposal by CW Second Vice President and Area Liaisons Chair Sara Nordling to add Missouri to a group of states that includes Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin for Area Liaison purposes.

Committee to Engage Legal and Accounting Support:

The Board authorized the Committee to pursue a contract for legal services with Colorado Nonprofit Legal Center (CNLC). CNLC will advise CW to ensure its operations and future programming remain in compliance with its not-for-profit status, and also will advise on other legal questions.

Submitted by Janet Bealer, Secretary

Want to Help?

The Complex Weavers organization has ongoing volunteer opportunities.

CW Seminars 2024—contact [Michele Belson](#)

Complexity 2024—contact [Linda Schultz](#)

CW Online Offerings—contact [Teresa Edmisten](#)

Would like to volunteer but with something different? Contact [Karen Donde](#).



Seminars 2024 QR
Code created by
Margaret Coe

Treasurer's Report

The [1st Quarter 2023 Treasurer's Report](#) is now available in the Members' area of the CW website.

Exhibitions

The International Weaving Network is offering its second virtual exhibition, *Freedom 2023*. The guided tour can be found at: <https://www.artsteps.com/view/63b6cc430049f1b7328b7dd5>.

Woven Art: Two Contemporary Weavers. Artists: Jaimee Veronneau Roberts and Norma Smayda, April 30 - June 25, 2023. Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum, 815 Gilbert Stuart Road, Saunderstown, RI 02874. www.gilbertstuartmuseum.org

Color Stories ROYGBV. Artists: Kate Barber, Ruth Buchman, Jaimee Veronneau Roberts, Norma Smayda, Paula Stebbins-Becker, Laurie Carlson Steger, September 9 - October 20, 2023. Narrows Center for the Arts, 16 Anawan Street, Fall River, MA 02721. 508-324-1926 www.narrowscenter.org

Upcoming Conferences

June 9-14, 2023

[Michigan League of Handweavers 2023 Conference](#)
Holland, MI

June 11-18, 2023

[Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds](#)
Bend, OR

June 12-18, 2023

[Midwest Weavers Conference](#)
Des Moines, IA

June 22-25, 2023

[Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association Conference](#)
Millersville, PA

July 20-23, 2023

[New England Weavers Seminars](#)
Worcester, MA

July 27-30, 2023

[Intermountain Weavers Conference](#)
Logan, UT

August 3-6, 2023

[Conference of Northern California Handweavers](#)
San Luis Obispo, CA

Available now — Complex Weavers Bookmarks!

Fact: Weavers are social creatures.

Fact: Weavers read real books.

Fact: We in CW enjoy sharing and encouraging others.

Fact: We delight in bringing new Complex Weavers into the fold.

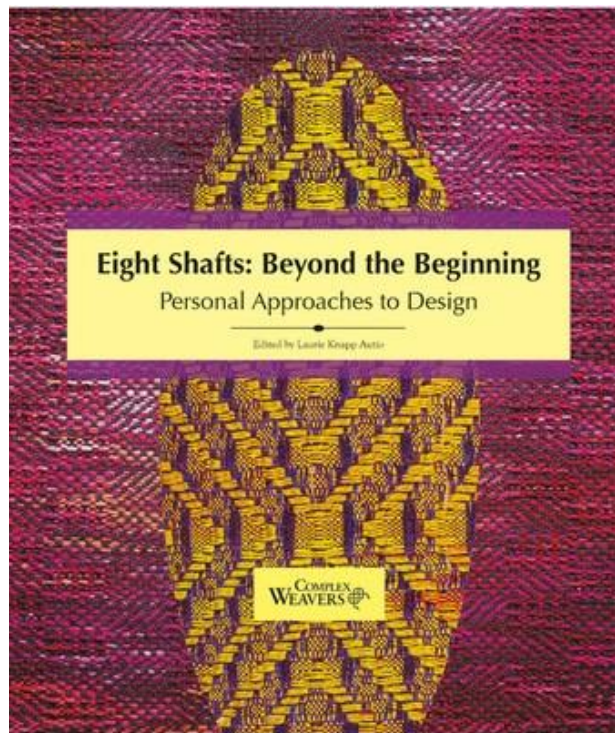
What ties these four things together? Bookmarks!

So let's talk about that. CW has just printed up a fresh batch of bookmarks, with a close-up of Deborah Silver's work on the front and the CW logo and website information on the back.

Would you like some? Just ask, and we'll send bookmarks you can share with weaver friends, or your guild, or your students, or your local weaving supplier. Just email your *CW Journal* Editor (CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com), say how many you'd like, and bookmarks will be on their way to you within a few days. When we run out of this batch of bookmarks, we'll create a new one with a fresh picture on the front.



CW Bookmarks Ready for Distribution



Now available!

Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning Personal Approaches to Design

This book brings the creative processes of 72 weavers right to your weaving space. Capably compiled, edited and produced by Laurie Autio, this celebration of design reflects the heart of Complex Weavers: encouraging curiosity, exploration and innovation in weaving.

Whatever your creative journey, this book offers inspiration and concepts you can use.

How to order:

- Visit complex-weavers.org/market
- Fill in the order form, scroll down to find the 'Submit' button, then click the button.
- You'll receive an email confirmation and instructions for payment.

Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning is only published in paper. **No** downloadable versions of the book have been created, sponsored or authorized by Complex Weavers. Any offer of a digital version of the book should be disregarded and viewed with great suspicion.

Classifieds

Spinning Wheel Sleuth: Hand Loom Supplement #23. \$10 Band Looms from Leksand, Sweden; Early American Hand Looms; Signed Reeds; Constructing a Floating Rigid Heddle; Two Book Reviews. Hand Loom Supplements #1-10 on flash drive, \$15. By check to The Spinning Wheel Sleuth, PO Box 422, Andover, MA 01810; or via PayPal at www.spwhsl.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. \$37 USD plus shipping. www.lulu.com. Enter the book title.

Have Something to Sell? Advertise with CW

You can advertise your product, service or event to our membership of almost 1400 weavers via the *Complex Weavers Journal* or via our quarterly Newsletter. For more information or to see a price list, please check out the CW website: <https://www.complex-weavers.org/contact/advertise-with-cw/>. More Questions? Contact Advertising Chair, [Angela Schneider](mailto:Angela.Schneider@complexweavers.org).

Your Complex Weavers Journal: Share Your Weaving Knowledge and Experiences

Inside every Complex Weavers member is a story and wealth of knowledge! Sharing our experience and knowledge is the heart of CW and our *Journal*. Unlike other publications, we do not solicit articles from people outside our organization. As we strive to “share information and encourage interests,” our *CW Journal* welcomes articles from individuals as well as study group members. If you have something to share, contact us. We will make it easy for you!

Writer's Guidelines are available on the [CW website](#), or by sending a request to the Editor. 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](#) on the CW website to confirm that your membership and contact information are current.

2023-4 Publication Schedule:

October 2023: Deadline August 15, 2023

February 2024: Deadline November 30, 2023

June 2024: Deadline April 15, 2024

Journal Editor: Ruth MacGregor at CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Ingrid Knox at ingridknox99@gmail.com

Editing Team varies from issue to issue, but includes: Alison Giachetti, Prue Hill, Bobbie Irwin, Mimi Smith, Lynn Smetko and Janet Stollnitz

Indexing: Pat Stewart

Advertising: Angela Schneider at ComplexWeaversAds@gmail.com

Membership/Mailing List: Amy Norris at CWMembership@amyfibre.com

Printing and Distribution: Lynn Smetko at CWPresidentLFS@gmail.com

Your *Journal* staff, all volunteers, are ready and eager to help you with your contribution.

Looking for Something New? Consider Joining a Study Group

All of CW's Study Groups are accepting new members. Below is the list of active [Study Groups](#). Don't see one of interest? Want to start a new group,? Contact the Study Group Coordinator via the [Contact Us page](#).

Archaeological Textiles
Bateman Weaves
Beyond Plain Weave Garments
Designing Fabrics
Dimensional Texture
Double Weave
Early American Coverlets & Counterpanes
Early Weaving Books and Manuscripts
Equipment Compendium (aka the Loom Geeks)
Fine Threads

Kumihimo
Ondulé Textiles ~ Weaving with a Fan Reed
Oscar Beriau Sampling Group
Preserving Our Past; Index and Scrapbook of
20th Century Handweavers
Sample Exchange the Old-Fashioned Way
Sixteens
Structure
Tied Weaves and Beyond
Twenty four, More or Less