



April 2024 | Number 141 ½

New CW Award Medallions Are Coming!

Dates to Remember

June 28, 2024 -
September 5, 2024
[Interplay Exhibition](#)

July 6-9, 2024
CW Seminars 2024
Wichita, KS

July 2024
Complexity 2024

With the incomparable Lillian Whipple retiring from weaving the CW Award medallions (which she had done since the mid-1990's), a new volunteer was needed. Ginger Kaldenbach, chair of the CW Awards, worried about finding a replacement. She had asked the Fine Threads Study Group, which Lillian has chaired, for a volunteer but had not received any responses. She turned to me. I told her if no one stepped up I would be the "volunteer of last resort." I guess you know how that turned out, because here I am.

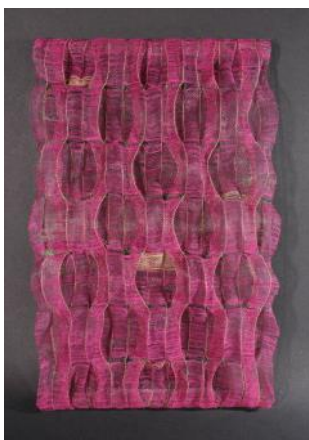
I put together a small design committee – Ginger, Penny Peters and myself – to help make the many decisions for the new medallion. Together we decided to try to recreate the CW weaver's knot logo as much like what appears on the CW Journal cover as possible using the official CW colors: dark teal, moss green and light teal. As in the past, the medallion would continue to be mounted on a white rosette with streamers woven each year by a different CW member.

I have designed and woven a few different weaver's knots over the years and decided to use one of them as a starting point. From past experience, I knew that I could incorporate at least two of the CW colors into the actual knot by using polychrome summer and winter as the weave structure. The committee looked at many permutations and combinations of color placement, considering the three official CW colors plus black and white. It was decided that the knot would be woven in dark teal and moss green, with a white ground cloth. The polychrome summer and winter structure would, in effect, cause the white background to be tinted with the dark teal and green pattern colors, yielding a blended light teal color.

I wanted to use silk both for its shine and strength, and because winners of the CW Award deserve only the best. Susan DuBois of [Treenway Silks](#) generously offered to donate and custom dye the yarn for the medallions. We settled on pattern colors darker than the actual official CW colors because they would appear lightened by interaction with the white of the ground cloth yarns. The "white" warp and tabby weft were actually undyed silk.



Lynn Smetko with Medallion Cloth



Hexagonal Cellular Symmetry - Melanie Olde

Continued page 2

New Medallions, continued

The next hurdle was to create a knot design no more than 1.75” on the long side; the goal was a 2” square to mount in the center of the rosette. My loom is a 40-shaft AVL, which allows for a lot of design blocks. After the committee considered several designs, one was finally chosen – 32 pattern shafts with eight shafts left over for tie-down ends. The math dictated that 120/2 silk was the largest size yarn that could weave a small enough design and that it needed to be used for the warp, pattern wefts and tabby weft. Should I mention that this would be my first time working with a silk that fine? No pressure there!

Now we come to the weaving, and this paragraph should be titled “Slow Cloth.” A 12-inch-wide warp of 1440 ends was put on at a recommended sett of 120 epi, sleyed six ends per dent in a 20-dent reed. The yarn went on the loom well, but the warp was dense and the yarns fine and the sheds did not clear reliably. Before any shuttle could be thrown, I had to manually check each shed. I had planned on using fly shuttles for the two pattern wefts and hand-throwing the tabby weft shuttle, but due to the shed issues and delicate yarns I ended up hand-throwing all three shuttles. Cue the little violin. It took 1.25 hours to weave each row of four medallions, 312 picks.

A few design tweaks were required after sampling to reduce the knot size a bit further. In the end, I switched from plain weave ground cloth to an eight-shaft breaks and recesses pattern – the threads packed in more, thus shortening the design. Wet-finishing caused all threads to draw together, reducing design size a little more – 1.75 inches on the longest side achieved.

The finished fabric was beautiful and had a fabulous hand. I almost regretted having to send it on its way to Ginger to be sliced and diced into little squares, but that’s what it was created for. The end result is that we have a new CW Award medallion with a completely different look. I was able to weave 72 medallions, enough for at least four years, and I am honored that these medallions will grace the works of future CW Award winners.

Lynn Smetko



CW Seminars 2024—Latest Updates

100 DAYS AND COUNTING!! We are soooo excited!

Things are coming along and we are only panicking a little bit. There are wonderful Committee heads in place for most of the activities, but there’s still lots to do and PLENTY of ways to get involved. Any of the fine folk below would LOVE your help and volunteering is a great way to get to know people and make *Seminars* even more fun.



I hope you are all finishing up the amazing things to show off both officially and casually at *Seminars*.

This year will be even more fun and educational, as several of the seminars will be recorded for you to watch later. Even more *Seminars* for your registration fee! As always you will get the handouts from ALL the sessions with your registration. We think *CW Seminars* is the best bargain around, plus there will be tons of fun and camaraderie. There are still lots of great session options and some rooms in the hotel. But act fast! We can’t wait to see you in Wichita!

Michele Belsen and the CW Seminars organizers (a term I use rather loosely!)

CW Seminars 2024—Volunteer Opportunities

Going to Seminars and looking for a way to get more involved? We could use your help. Contact these CW Seminars 2024 Committee Chairs if you are interested:

Fashion Show - Mimi Anderson, mimi_anderson@mac.com

Off The Runway Exhibition – Paula Heller, pheller@nettally.com

Silent Auction – Meg Wilson, weavergamp@me.com and Patrice George, patriceny@earthlink.net

Memorial – Penny Peters, pennyjanepeters@gmail.com

MarketPlace – Susan DuBois, susan@treenwaysilks.com

Poster Sessions - [your name here!](#)

Opening and Closing Ceremonies – Robyn Spady, robyn@spadystudios.com

Registrar – Barbara Cabrol, cw24registrarbc@gmail.com

Seminars 2024 Leader Spotlights: A Bit of Theory, a Touch of History and, of Course, Structure.

By Michele Belson

Vila Cox

Let's start with theory. Vila Cox, a first time Seminars leader, is no stranger to teaching and sharing. She is a steering member of the Boise area's COE study group and facilitator of frequent local classes. Monday morning, Vila's seminar "Diversified Plain Weave" is a glimpse at her successful COE project "Multi-harness Diversified Plain Weave." I can tell you firsthand that Vila can get an amazing variety of textiles from a single warp! She will discuss the elements that make up this structure. And we can visit, since I hope to be in this Seminar myself!



Rosalie Neilson

If history is your thing, check out Rosalie's seminar "Kumihimo: From Defense to Decoration" Tuesday morning. Rosalie's intensive study and travel in Japan gives her a unique and extensive view of this fascinating subject. And it will be a feast for the eye with her slide show from New York and Portland museums and exhibits in Kyoto and Iga, Japan.

Rebecca Winter

When we talk about structure, there are so many amazing presenters it is hard to concentrate on just one. I practically need to toss a dart, but that wouldn't do my computer screen any good! With no other criteria, I'll pick the first structure lecture Sunday morning "Shadow Weave with the Powell Method" presented by the wonderful Rebecca Winter. This is another chance for us to peek in on another successful COE presentation (Rebecca's SECOND!!) You can count on Rebecca to bring depth and insight to any presentation (you will be able to see her again in the Keynote!) and encouragement to expand your own creativity!



Weave to Dye, by Kay Faulkner

I really want to thank CW and especially Kay Faulkner's family and friends for this gift of her book. I hope CW can include it permanently on the website in our 'bookstore'. It speaks volumes about who she was!

Cheers,
Mary Underwood

The book is available to everyone via the [CW website](#).

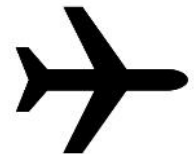
Seminars 2024 On-Demand!

Our Complex Weavers Online Offerings Committee (CWOO) is delighted to announce that sixteen of the scheduled seminars this summer will be recorded. CWOO members are currently working with CW Seminars Leaders on further logistics. The great news is that on-demand versions of these seminars will be available for no extra charge as a bonus for Seminars in-person participants and will be made available to other members to purchase and watch this fall.

Look for the line up of sessions, pricing and more in the coming weeks as CW moves forward with plans to make Seminars more accessible to more members. Make sure your membership is up to date! You won't want to miss this.

Free Airport Shuttle to Hyatt Regency Wichita—What You Need to Know!

The Complex Weavers' block at the Hyatt Regency Wichita still has rooms available, but they are going fast, so book now. As a little extra incentive, the Hyatt is providing complimentary airport shuttle service from and to Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport for all hotel guests between 5:30 am and 10:30 pm.

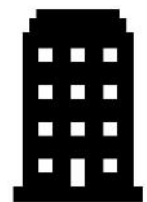


So you'll know how that works, here are details:

From airport to Hyatt:

Guests may call 316-293-1234, OR to prearrange pickup, please email: seminars-admin@complex-weavers.org with your flight details: date, arrival time, airline and flight number.

Pick up location is at the Courtesy Vehicle Pick up, located across from the front entrance.



From Hyatt to airport:

Departures are on the hour and half hour as needed.

Around town:

When the shuttle is not being utilized for airport, the Hyatt will provide complimentary transportation within a two-mile radius of the hotel. There are some great amenities in that radius!



Embrace: Expect the Unexpected: 2024 Exhibition in Print

Each year, Surface Design Association's International Exhibition In Print showcases the breadth and depth of contemporary artists and designers working with or inspired by fiber art and/or textile-based materials, methods, and techniques. This year's exhibition celebrates artists who accept the challenge of embracing the unexpected. Navigating both the positive and negative elements of change is challenging, yet adaptation can spark exponential growth and knowledge.

Accepting mistakes and imperfections, embracing identities and true selves, and confronting difficulties head-on can yield remarkable transformations. At the same time, the embrace from a creative community—whether physical or metaphorical—can provide a positive and supportive system that propels artists and their creations.

Entries can be filled out at: https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=13201.

The deadline to enter is May 31, 2024

There are two special promo codes available:

Use the code NEW24 for 10% off submission fees for both exhibition calls.

Use the code WELCOME24 for 10% off any SDA membership

Seminars 2024 Program: *In Remembrance and Gratitude*

As we gather at *Seminars* to enjoy and learn from each other, let us take a moment to remember those whose talents enriched our own work. Do you know of a member of CW who contributed to our community and is no longer with us? During *Seminars*, we would like to honor those members deceased since 2019, and we are soliciting your help.

The CW member's contribution could have been as an artist, teacher, organizer, writer, or friend who encouraged you. There are so many ways these recently deceased CW members may have enriched our lives.

Would you please send pictures of the person, their work, their impact on you or the community at large, and perhaps a story about their love of textiles and weaving? Send to pennyjanepeters@gmail.com.

CW Volunteer Opportunities

CW Marketing/Advertising Chair

Angela Schneider needs to hand off her role managing advertising for the CW Journal and Newsletter. The Board would like to expand this role to include marketing and promotion. This would include coordinating promotional bookmarks Ruth MacGregor has been producing and other opportunities to build CW's identity in the weaving community. If you have marketing or advertising expertise to share, please contact Karen Donde: president@complex-weavers.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Build your personal CW network and connect with other members by helping match willing CW volunteers with opportunities suited to their skills and interests.

The CW Board seeks to add a Volunteer Coordinator to the leadership team to begin building a database of members willing to volunteer, the experience and skills they could bring to Complex Weavers and their time availability, whether on-going or short-term. The Volunteer Coordinator would also maintain a list of current volunteer opportunities and help identify potential candidates for open positions. Contact Karen Donde: president@complex-weavers.org.

CW Seminars 2024 Volunteers

If you are planning to attend CW Seminars in Wichita next summer, enhance your in-person experience by volunteering to help behind the scenes. It's a great way to meet and mingle with other attendees. Contact Michele Belson, chair: michele@lunaticfringeyarns.com.

CWOO (Online Opportunities)

If you have skills in video editing, production, online education development, or project management, become part of CWOO. This exciting committee includes members from Europe, Australia and North America. The team is working to expand online educational opportunities for CW members worldwide.

Next up is creating on-demand access to recordings of many of the programs that will be presented during Seminars 2024. You do not need to attend in person to get involved, but if you are attending, you can help make it happen. Contact Liz Croft.

By-Laws/Policies & Procedures Update

CW's By-Laws and Policies and Procedures have not been updated since 2006. Obviously a lot has changed since then. We need a member to lead this effort so CW can stay aligned with its corporate charter while embracing management best practices for the future. Two Board members have already volunteered to help. If you are willing to help or chair this committee, contact Karen Donde: president@complex-weavers.org.

Are you on social media? Look for us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (@complex_weavers).