



September 2024 | Number 143

President's Letter

In this issue

President's Letter

In Memoriam

Study Group
News

CW Nonprofit
Status

Seminars 2026

Complexity 2024

Weavers
Handshake

Sandra Ogg Rude
Grant

Sandra Hutton
Fund

Volunteer
Opportunities

CW Journal
Update

Board Happenings

Classifieds

Weaving Decisions

Hello! My name is Elizabeth Bryan and I am quite honoured to be the new president of Complex Weavers. You will notice that I spell colour with a "u". For those that don't know me, I am from Canada, near Toronto, Ontario.



When I first started weaving in 1989, I never imagined that I would weave anything someone might consider "complex". I was quite happy with my textured yarn and simple patterns. Somewhere along the way I transitioned from a "colour" weaver to a "pattern" weaver. At least that is how I described myself. Today, I can say that I enjoy both but colour is still my favourite part of the planning process.

I would like you to know that there are a great many volunteers who help to keep CW going from all over the globe. My thanks go to all of them for not only keeping the ship running but for helping me navigate my new position. I feel like it started off with a sprint because a week after taking office we held our 3rd quarter board meeting. I appreciate each and every one of our board members who put so much of themselves into CW. They do this for us all.

I would like to send a special shout out to Michele Belson and her team, and also Linda Schultz. Michele provided us with a wonderful Seminars in Wichita this past July after 2 years of planning and Linda made sure the Complexity Exhibit was spectacular.

One of the big decisions that the Board made during the 3rd quarter meeting was that for Seminars 2026, CW will uncouple from HGA. This decision was not made lightly but after careful consideration and input from our members. Michele and her team are already hard at work!

The other major decision that was made during the board meeting was for CW to remain a 501(c)(3) organization, under the US tax code. Again this decision came after quite a lot of discussion, input and advice from both members and our legal representative. What this means is that we need to continue making great

Continued page 2

President's Letter, continued

programs and making them available to members and non-members alike. The exciting introduction of our learning platform The Weavers' Handshake is one of the ways CW is reaching out to you. This Fall The Weavers' Handshake will feature recordings of some of the wonderful sessions from Seminars in Wichita.

Thank you for your vote of confidence in making me your President. I look forward to the next 2 years!

Elizabeth Bryan
CW President 2024-2026
president@complex-weavers.org

In Memoriam Leslie Killeen

Leslie from Durham, North Carolina, passed away in Wichita, Kansas on July 13, 2024.

Leslie was perhaps best known for her creative vests, now numbering 30, as they were often the highlight of Seminars' informal fashion show. She combined handwoven and commercial fabrics and, more recently, hand-felted pieces to create unique garments meticulously stitched together. Many of the vests were embellished with unusual pins and buttons. In 2019 Leslie self-published "Woven Vest Designs: A Perpetual Calendar to Record Important Days" featuring some of her vests.



Inspired by nature and her travels Leslie wove complex fabrics on her 8-shaft Schacht Comby Loom. The limitations of 8 shafts provided a design challenge, as she was determined to create interesting and unusual fabrics. Leslie organized CW's now-defunct 8-shaft study group. She was the current coordinator of the Fabric Design Challenge study group.

She participated on several CW committees including Complexity and "Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning (Personal Approaches to Design)." A list of her contributions to the CW Journal and other publications is on her website, Warp and Byte Designs.com. Leslie was a member of the following textile organizations: Handweavers Guild of America (former board member), Weaver's Guild of Boston, Cross Country Weavers, Triangle Weavers Guild, and WARP.

Her gentle, kind, caring, and sharing spirit will be missed by all.

Janet Stollnitz

Dimensional Textures Study Group

Did the recent *Journal* section with articles from the Dimensional Textures study group pique your personal curiosity? The group will be starting a new study year in September, looking at ways to create dimensional texture through layer exchange double weave, and has a few spaces for people who love experimenting and sharing their ideas with fellow members. If you're interested in finding out more about the group, look at www.complex-weavers.org/study-group/dimensional-texture/ and contact wendy@wendymorris.co.uk if you want to take it further.

Complex Weavers Remains a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit

After much discussion and research, the Complex Weavers Board of Directors decided at its 3rd quarter meeting that it is in the best interest of the Complex Weavers corporation to remain a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

There were reasonable arguments on both sides of this choice, and we appreciate the feedback and insights offered in the member poll and via email. That poll showed 39% of respondents favored staying a 501(c)(3), 27% favored the 501(c)(7) status, and 32% saw both sides but did not have strong feelings either way.

In the end the Board decided to remain true to the educational and charitable tenets under which this corporation was established. This from CW's original Articles of Incorporation:

“ARTICLE II: Objects and Purposes said corporation is organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes of studying, teaching, promoting, and disseminating the techniques and ideas of Complex Weaving, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.”

You may review the full Articles of Incorporation on the [CW Website](#). You will need to login first.

Following the advice of CW's attorney, this means CW will expand its focus on and budget for public-facing vs. member-only services to ensure our corporation remains in compliance with the IRS's latest views governing 501(c)(3) charities. Some of the necessary operations are already in place or have recently begun, including public availability of any issue of *CW Journal* and inviting non-CW members to register for both *CW Seminars* and *Weavers Handshake*, CW's new online learning classroom.

The Board will continue to examine other programs and services for potential adjustments, but with an eye toward preserving benefits of membership, including discounted fees, early registration, participation in CW Study Groups and borrowing privileges from the CW Library.

A committee was formed earlier this year to review and update CW's By Laws and Policies and Procedures. The committee will be recommending updates and policy revisions as needed, per our attorney's advice. We thank them for volunteering to take on this important task.

The Complex Weavers Board of Directors

Notes from a Reluctant Seminars Chair — 2026!!!!

Well, reluctant or not, I had so much fun and learned so much I agreed to stay on for another *Seminars*. But I'm not doing it alone. I have a wonderful new Co-chair, the very capable (and much more technically savvy) Sandra Paddock and my Administrative Assistant Jan Burkhart. With our decoupling from HGA, Jan, Sandra and I are working hard to secure a FABULOUS venue for 2026. More about that when things firm up!

Harriette Roadman has agreed to step up to the role of Registrar and is already meeting with Cvent to be sure the onboarding process goes smoothly. If you have specific suggestions or requests, let me know and I'll pass them along to Harriette!

We are talking to our fellow Complex Weavers to fill other vital positions so we can plan an amazing *Seminars*. Keep an eye out in future newsletters for more information on volunteer opportunities. We had a great time in Wichita and I'm looking forward to working with ALL of you to make 2026 a *Seminars* to remember!

Michele Belson
CW Seminars 2026 Co-Chair
michele@lunaticfringe yarns.com

Complexity 2024

Complexity 2024 successfully opened on July 6, 2024. The thirty-seven works from twenty-nine artists were on display at Mark Arts in Wichita, Kansas, looking even better in-person. I heard from many visitors how much they enjoyed the show, and were impressed by the quality and artistry exhibited in the accepted pieces. The exhibition can be viewed online at complexityexhibition.org until September 1, 2024. The catalogue can be downloaded from the exhibition website and on complex-weavers.org.

The following recipients of the awards were announced at the opening reception on July 6.

Sandra Hutton Award for Excellence in Complex Weaving:

Kaj Johnson-Kuchina for “The Messenger (Hail Amitabha Buddha)”

Diane Fabeck Award for Best in Show:

Laurie Carlson Steger for “Lyle Just Playin”

First Place/Complex Weavers Award:

Mindy McCain for “Springtime Runner”

Second Place:

Deborah Kaplan for “Night and Day in the Snow Kingdom”

Third Place:

Denise Kovnat for “Harriet Tubman Dreams of the North Star”

Treenway Silks Award for Best Use of Silk:

Lynn Smetko for “Opposites Attract”

Heddlecraft Award for Excellence and Innovation on Eight or Fewer Shafts:

Darilyn Bennett for “Star Trees”

HGA Award for Outstanding Works of Fiber Art:

Melanie Olde for “Cell System”

Handweaving.net Award for Excellence in Weaving with Inspiration from the Archives/Tools on Handweaving.net:

Carol Wooten for Kaleidoscope

This year we introduced a “People’s Choice” Award, with voting via ballots given to all *Complex Weavers Seminars* and *Convergence* registrants. Voting was open for a week before the winner was announced. Most of the ballots were cast by *Complex Weavers* participants and almost 2/3 of the pieces in the exhibit received votes. There were several pieces which were favourites, with one clear winner — Robert Breitzmann for “Letting Go”.

Thank you for making this another successful *Complexity* exhibit. Thanks to all the artists who entered and the artists whose work was accepted. Thank you to Mark Arts for taking chance on fiber art and sponsoring our show and opening reception. Thank you to our jurors Muffy Young, David van Buskirk and Alice Schlein for selecting all these amazing pieces. Thank you to Treenway Silks for sponsoring our exhibit and an award and for our other sponsors — HGA, Heddlecraft and Handweaving.net. And thank you for all the CW volunteers who helped bring this all together.

It’s a very rewarding experience to be part of this exhibit, especially in a leadership role. Please think about leading or volunteering for the *Complexity 2026* Committee.

Start planning your entry for *Complexity 2026*!

Linda Schultz
Chair, *Complexity 2024*



Letting Go by Robert Breitzmann

Are You Ready for The Weavers Handshake on 1st September?

We have 14 sessions from *CW Seminars* recorded and you'll be able to start viewing the first bundle on September 1st. Towards the end of each month there will also be a Zoom catch up about each bundle – our version of the catch up over a cuppa after the seminar. It would be great to have you join us in the new rabbit holes that we, on the CWOOC Committee, are all now inhabiting!

The member \$25(US) coupon code for CW members not attending *Seminars* in person was emailed to you on code on July 9, check you spam/junk folders. You can register at weavershandshake.complex-weavers.org.

Bundle 1: View September 1—September 30 – \$150 US (\$125 US with member coupon)

Linda Schultz – Tessellations are Cool!

Lynn Smetko – Polychrome Summer and Winter

Denise Kovnat – Weaving Outside the Box: Creating Dimensional Cloth

Laura Carlson Steger and Norma Smayda – Pattern Play with Bertha Gray Hayes (BGH)

Giovanna Imperia – Exploring the Design Possibilities of Wire Bundle

Bundle 2: View October 1—October 31 – \$150 US (\$125 US with member coupon)

Brenda Gibson – Joining the Dots – Double Two-Tie Unit Weave Threading System

Sara Nordling – Theo Moorman Explored

Vila Cox – Diversified Plain Weave

Jannie Taylor – Designing Polychrome Taqueté in Weavepoint

Giovanna Imperia – Fabric that Moves – Creating exciting textiles with elastic yarns.

Bundle 3: View November 1—November 30 – \$125 US (\$100 US with member coupon)

Linda Schultz – Double Two-Tie in Parallel

Sara Nordling – Exploring Gradients

Gay McGeary – The Legacy of Star Work Coverlets

Beth Ross Johnson – Shifting Ikat in the Warp and Weft

All-Access Pass (all three packs): View each bundle as it comes online – **\$325 US (\$300 US with member coupon).**

PLEASE NOTE: Courses are available for a limited time and **may not be downloaded** for later viewing. Please see the time frame for each Bundle but understand that you will only be able to view the material during the month that is identified.

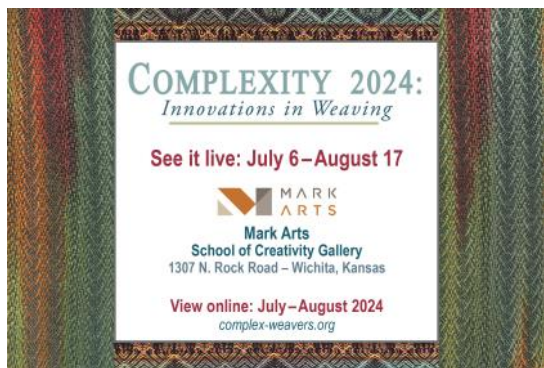
You can register at weavershandshake.complex-weavers.org.

All access pass registration details have been sent to everyone who attended *CW Seminars* in Wichita.C

Liz Croft

CW Online Offerings (CWOOC) Chair

cwoo@complex-weavers.org



To view Complexity 2024 online, go to <https://complexityexhibition.org/>

Sandra Ogg Rude Grant

If you can dream it, CW's Sandra Ogg Rude Grant could help you do it.

What if you could travel to the Handweaving Museum at the Thousand Island Arts Center in Clayton, NY, to research the textile collections and archives for your study of advanced weaving techniques pioneered by Mary Meigs Atwater, Theo Moorman or Klara Cherepov?

Or, what if you could spend one week studying one-on-one in the studio of one of your weaving heroes?

Or, what if you've finally mastered an advanced weaving subject and want to create a class or workshop to teach what you've learned to a live or online audience?

It's time to dream big, you could receive up to \$1,000 from CW's to put towards achieving your goal" thanks to CW's annual Sandra Ogg Rude Memorial Fund Grant, supported by a generous gift from the late Sandra Rude and her husband, Mike.

Applications for the 2025 grant will open in November 2024, but it isn't too early to start dreaming. More information will be coming in future Newsletters, but to learn more now on the [CW Website](#).

If you have specific questions, please contact me.

Karen Donde
Immediate Past President
pastpresident@complex-weavers.org

Great Success--Friends of Sandra Hutton Silent Auction!

Donated towels woven by Sandra Hutton and friends, made the Silent Auction during *CW Seminars 2024* a huge success! Thank you to all who donated Sandra's or your own handwoven towels. All the proceeds will go into the fund supporting the Sandra Hutton Award for Excellence in Complex Weaving.

All the towels had lucky recipients and the auction raised \$1,116. A big thank you goes out to those who made the winning bid! Hopefully the towel received will evoke memories of Sandra and all the wonderful things she has done for the weaving community.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to the many who generously made cash donations. As of this writing, cash donations plus the silent auction proceeds make the total amount in the Hutton Fund \$6,866.

Complex Weavers extends a big thank you to Ray Hutton who challenged us with his generous offer of matching, if \$5,000 was raised. Ray has been kept abreast of our progress and is quite pleased that we have exceeded \$5,000 in donations. Look for future updates with more information on this topic. Thank you to Susan DuBois who transported the donated towels to Wichita and also returned the towel auction banner to Ray Hutton in Denver.



Sally Kuhn presents towel auction banner to Ray Hutton

2024 was the last presentation of the Diane Fabeck Award and the first presentation of the Sandra Hutton Award. Sandra Hutton and Diane Fabeck were good friends and it seems fitting that during *Complexity 2024* there was a transition of a named major award, from friend to friend. Sandra and Diane would have been delighted. One can

Continued page 7

Sandra Hutton Silent Auction, continued

imagine these two having a conversation, in their humble way, about how these awards do so much to recognize complex weavers and promote education about handweaving. Complex Weavers' members should be proud of the progress and accomplishments supporting this activity.

Congratulations to Laurie Carlson Steger for receiving the final Diane Fabeck award. The first recipient of the Sandra Hutton Award for Excellence in Complex Weaving was Kaj Johnson-Kuchina for his beautiful "The Messenger (Hail Amitabha Buddha)."

Susan Bowman

CW Volunteer Opportunities

CW Advertising Chair

Angela Schneider needs to hand off her role managing advertising for the CW Journal and Newsletter, and CW needs a volunteer to take over her responsibilities. Angela can provide more details about the tasks involved, skills needed and time requirements. Reach her at: complexweaversads@gmail.com

CW Communication & Promotions Chair

Oversee CW's content calendar and promotions in coordination with other committee chairs to build CW's identity in the weaving community. Position requires good organizational and communication skills. Marketing experience is helpful, but not required.

Complexity 2026 Chair

Get behind the scenes for the next Complexity juried exhibit in this exciting role. Complexity 2024 chair Linda Schultz complexity@complex-weavers.org can provide a description of what's involved. If you'd like to participate on the committee in a role other than chair, please chat with Linda or Karen Donde.

CWOO/Weavers Handshake

If you have skills in video editing, production, online education development, or project management, become part of CWOO. This global committee includes members from Europe, Australia and North America. The team is working to expand online educational opportunities for CW members worldwide. Contact Liz Croft: cwoo@complex-weavers.org

For more information about any of these opportunities, or if you'd like to talk about other ways you could help, please reach out to me at the email below or via the [contact form](#) on CW's website.

Karen Donde
CW Past President 2024-2026
CW Volunteer Coordinator
pastpresident@complex-weavers.org



QR Code to jump to the CW Website

Treasurer's Report: Quarterly Treasurer's Reports are available upon request.

A Note From Your CW Journal Editor

Those of us who were able to attend the July 2024 AGM (either in person or via Zoom) heard my report on *Complex Weavers Journal* and where we stand in terms of catching up with the publication schedule. A few things were left unsaid that day because of a personal quirk: I can teach classes, give lectures and lead workshops with no difficulty – but if you hand me a microphone and ask me to speak about something that means a great deal to me, my throat constricts, the tears blur my sight, and my voice becomes a strangled, emotional squeak.

As a result, attendees in the room and on Zoom heard me report that as of the June 2024 issue, I have had the honor of being your Editor for ten years. My voice didn't allow the second part of that statement to emerge, but it was this: I love the work and love the inspiration and energy it pulls together; and I very much want to continue as your Editor for as long as you will have me, and as long as I'm able.

And now for the updated progress report: by the time you read this, the June 2024 issue of *CW Journal* will be in the hands of our print shop. When that happens, we will be only one issue away from being back in sync with the calendar. That other remaining late issue will follow soon afterwards – and the October 2024 issue will go to print on time (or at least a stone's throw away from it). And when that happens, wherever you may be in the world, if you listen very carefully you'll hear a chorus of CW voices cheering, then cheering again! We've waited for this for a long time.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Editor, and thank you again for your patience.

Ruth MacGregor
CW Journal Editor
CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com



Now Picture This!

Drawing by *Hand in the Liftplan*

also inside:

- Network Drafting + Color Gradients
- Beautiful 'Stitching': Double Weave Layers
- Chattahoochee Poochie Dish Towels
- and more

Board Happenings — July Board Meeting

July 27 – August 2, 2024

CW Non-Profit Status:

The Board approved a motion that Complex Weavers maintain its status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and create processes to ensure its continued compliance with the IRS regulations.

CW Seminars 2026:

The Board approved a motion that CW decouple from the Handweavers Guild of America to plan Seminars 2026 independently from Convergence 2026. Michele Belson will continue as Chair for Seminars 2026.

New Member Creation:

The Board approved a motion to increase payment to CW's DRIP bulk email service account by \$60/month to increase its outreach with the purpose of soliciting new members. The expenditure will be reviewed annually to assess its effectiveness.

Volunteer Coordinator:

CW Past President Karen Donde has volunteered to become CW's Volunteer Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Bealer, Secretary

Classifieds

Spinning Wheel Sleuth: Hand Loom Supplement #24. \$10

Pennsylvania-German Cantilevered Looms; My Second Weaver Rose Loom; Two Distinctive Band Looms; A Two-Person Tape Loom; Restoring a Tape Loom With a Floating Heddle
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.

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.

2024-5 Publication Schedule:

February 2025: Deadline November 30, 2024

June 2025: Deadline April 15, 2025

October 2025: Deadline August 15, 2025

Journal Editor: Ruth MacGregor at CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com
Administrative Editor: Ally Kraus at CWJournalAdmEditor@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Ingrid Knox at newsletter@complex-weavers.org
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.