

March 2025 | Number 145

President's Letter

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The snow is flying here in the Great White North, and I assume in all of the northern climes. Even parts of Tennessee and Florida have experienced snow in the past few weeks which is for them an enormous thing to deal with. But as we deal with snow, our friends in southern California are dealing with the unimaginably devastating wildfires. We continue to think of them and all they have been going through.

According to Greek philosopher Epictetus, "Every individual is connected with the rest of the world, and the universe is fashioned for universal harmony". There is much going on in the world right now. Much of it is terrible. But let's acknowledge that it is terrible. Let's be aware and continue on as best we can by helping in any way that we are able. For many of us that will be in our local communities. Pass along your knowledge, teach someone to weave, share your unused stash, create something beautiful for someone less fortunate or going through a hard time. We can make a difference with the beautiful things we create!

Speaking of helping out, please consider volunteering for a position with CW. Karen Donde, our esteemed past president will be happy to discuss the ways in which you can volunteer. Amongst the positions we are currently looking for is an Advertising Chair and people to assist with an exciting new opportunity – planning student scholarships. If you have skills (and we know you do) please reach out to Karen at pastpresident@complex-weavers.org.

Please continue to read on about all the terrific things happening at CW!

Sincerely,

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

Big Huge Celebration! We have the beautiful [Westin Westminster/Boulder](#) outside Denver, Colorado, locked down for Complex Weavers Seminars on June 12, 13 and 14, 2026. Our incredible Complexity Chair, Jami Johnson, is working hard to book space for the Complexity Exhibit and we hope the opening will be Thursday evening, June 11.

Mark your calendars!

2025 Board of Directors Election

The CW Board would like to express appreciation to the 2025 Nominating Committee of Jami Johnson, US and Lois Wyndham, Canada for recruiting an impressive slate of candidates for CW leadership roles. We thank them for their work.

Thank you also to the members who have volunteered to stand for election to serve in the following roles for the next two years:

Brenda Gibson: 2nd Vice President (incumbant)

Sharon Gardiner: Secretary

Vila Cox: Treasurer (incumbant)

Sara Nordling: Study Group Chair (incumbant)

Voting Information

Soon, you will receive an email notification and instructions for voting in the Complex Weavers election via a secure internet site. The electronic voting process is simple, free and secure and we encourage all members to take advantage of the streamlined process to vote. Thanks again to Alison Giachetti for managing the balloting.

Voting begins on March 1, 2025 and ends on April 5, 2025.

Brenda Gibson 2nd Vice President

My journey into weaving began in the 1980s through spinning, which led to my joining the London (UK) Guild in the late 1990s. I progressed from using a 4-shaft loom to a 32-shaft Louet Megado compudobby and a 24 shaft Leclerc Weavebird. After retiring from a career in the financial world in 2006, I joined a weekly weaving class and eventually became the class teacher. I also authored "The Complete Guide to Spinning Yarn" in 2011 and "Color in Fiberworks" online course in 2023.

My involvement with Complex Weavers (CW) began in 2012, and I have since become a seminar leader, covering topics like pleats, shaded satins, and double two-tie/fractals. I really value the knowledge and friendships gained through CW and I am honored to be considered for a second term as 2nd Vice President.



Sharon Gardiner Secretary



There is endless potential to learn more about weaving and related matters. Organizations such as Complex Weavers facilitate the interaction between weavers with a wide range of interests and experience. My desire to continue the learning journey has been facilitated by membership in organizations including the local guild, Ontario Handweavers and Spinners and the Canadian Guild of Weavers, all of which I have had volunteer leadership roles. I also belong the Handweavers Guild of America, and the UK Online Guild. I believe in supporting these organizations and taking advantage of opportunities they provide.

I enjoy taking part in workshops, conferences and online offerings. Not only to learn, but also to meet and interact with other like-minded folks. In 2024, I completed the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Weaving Certification program. Now that I have achieved that goal, I am ready to take on a new challenge, using my skills and experience.

I live and weave in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, with my two cats, Thelma and Louise. Weaving is my primary fibre related interest, but I also like sewing (particularly with my woven cloth), and dyeing.

Vila Cox
Treasurer

I used to be a bookkeeper, by profession. For twenty years I worked as the only office employee of a small company. There I handled all the receivables, payables, payroll, taxes, and even ordered lumber. I wove in my spare time and sold what I created online and at local shows. In 2012, I started weaving baby wraps.

When the company I worked for closed, I turned my part-time weaving of baby wraps into a full-time job. While I no longer weave baby wraps, I am still a production weaver. On a good day, I weave on each of my 16H, 24H, and 40H AVL looms. I also have a Baby wolf, and two Baby Macs that are used for teaching and workshops.

I am an active member of the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley. I have served as the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Webmaster, and Equipment Chair. I teach beginning weaving classes.

I am excited to be able to take on a more active role in Complex Weavers. I have been a member off and on since 2001.



Sara Nordling
Study Group Coordinator

Sara Nordling currently serves as the Study Group Coordinator. She is a teaching artist and weaver. Sara resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana but has lived in various other states in the USA as well. Sara enjoys working with the Study Group Leaders and seeing and hearing about what each group is doing. She sees her role as imparting information and helping the leaders as well as being a liaison between the leaders and the Board.

Her weaving interests include double weave, inlayed weaves and weaving ecclesiastical commissions.

Complexity 2026

The *Complexity* Exhibit Committee is in the midst of selecting a location for our *Complexity* Exhibit. Denver, Colorado will be an exciting place for our show as there is a lively art community in the area!

My committee and I are also busy finding jurors, working on the Prospectus, and planning our social media and other outreach efforts. Keep an eye out for announcements in *Complex Weavers Journal*, newsletter, and websites.

Please start thinking about a weaving *you* could create that would use complex or innovative design, techniques, and/or weave structures. You might amaze yourself with what your mind can imagine!

Jami Johnson
Chair, *Complexity 2026*



Mindbender by Kathleen Fennell

Notes from a Reluctant Seminars 2026 Chair

Volunteer!!

We have the **When** and the **Where** and now it's up to you, dear members, to fill in the **What**. Some of the folks who served as committee heads in 2024 have agreed to stay on. Patrice George and Meg Wilson will once again do the vital job of running the Silent Auction. Paula Heller has agreed to head up the Off the Runway Exhibit again and I think we've twisted Susannah Day to chair the popular Poster Sessions again.



BUT that leaves the huge, but very fulfilling and fun job of lining up our Seminar Leaders. This is a chance to contact some of the best and brightest in the world of weaving and ensure we have amazing *Seminars*. This is a job that needs to be started ASAP. Consider heading up this group or volunteering to help whoever does.

There are several other committees that could use YOU!

Without volunteers we can't have the kind of *Seminars* we all want. And there's no better way to get to know your fellow Complex Weavers than to Volunteer. Email me at michele@lunaticfringeyarns.com to find the best job for you.

Michele Belson
CW Seminars 2026 Chair
michele@lunaticfringeyarns.com

2025 Sandra Ogg Rude Memorial Grant: Free Information Session

What if you were awarded \$2,000 to:

Help fund a two-week residency at The Loom Room France, exploring an advanced weaving subject of your choice? OR

Rent a venue so you can teach a workshop about your latest double weave or other advanced-weaving obsession for weavers from your region? OR

Visit Thousand Islands Arts Center/Handweaving Museum in Clayton, NY, to study Klara Cherepov's work in diversified plain weave in the museum's extensive library and historic textile collection? OR,

Maybe you have another advanced weaving technique you'd like to study in more depth or teach, but need a little financial support. Could a grant of up to \$2,000 make it happen?



Courtesy of Thousand Islands Arts Center

Free Information Session

The application period is open for Complex Weavers' 2025 Sandra Ogg Rude Memorial Grant, with a submission deadline of March 28, 2025. To help you better understand this year's application process and answer your questions, we have scheduled an information session, 4-5 pm Eastern on Sunday, Feb. 23, live, via Zoom. We'll discuss the Grant's history and goals and walk you through the application.

The session is free and open to CW members and non-members, but you will need to register. Can't make the live event? A recording will be available on request.

- Click [HERE](#) to sign up for the Zoom Information session.
- Click [HERE](#) to read more about the grant and review the application on our website.

Questions? Email grants@complex-weavers.org.

In Memoriam

Jannie Taylor

Jannie passed away on January 11, 2025. She began her weaving career in the 1970's on an old used loom. Renowned and highly sought after as a teacher, she taught at many conferences and guilds around the country. She also was featured in published interviews and teaching videos.

She was considered the lynch pin for the Central Coast Weavers: newsletter editor, the study group leader, the contact person who put out group emails, and the organizer of their very successful yearly sale. She helped the guild stick together during COVID by sending out a message every day with everyone's news.



Recently Jannie said she still got a thrill when she was weaving -- watching the piece take shape. She will be missed.

Area Liaison Needed

This is a special call to members in the mid-Atlantic region of the US (DE, DC, MD, NJ, VA and WV). There are quite a lot of you – 98 members at the time of writing, and your region does not currently have a CW Area Liaison as a local point of contact.

The Area Liaison position is quite the opposite of an onerous role, just a named point of contact for anyone wishing to reach out to members in that area for weaving-related information. But there's plenty of opportunity to do more on a regional level and communicate via Zoom on the CW account, *if there's a local appetite for that*. If you would consider taking that on, do please get in touch with Brenda Gibson, Second VP, via the CW website: <https://www.complex-weavers.org/contact/board/> and she will be in touch. Thank you for considering this.

Do You Have Mystery Skills?

Imagine a version of the cocktail game Two Truths and a Lie, except it is Two Favorite Weaving Tricks and a Mystery Skill. In the original, players tell the group two truths about themselves and a lie. The others try to guess the lie.

If you were playing the weaving version of this game, what favorite tricks could you contribute, and what would be your mystery skill?

Complex Weavers has a serious challenge: ensuring every critical function managed by volunteers has a second-chair or back-up if the current volunteer should suddenly be unable to continue. Unfortunately, this is no party game.

Recently the Board has been discussing crisis management and long-term succession planning. We constantly need to replenish the volunteer pipeline with fresh perspectives and ideas just to keep the motor running.

To give you an idea what it is like to volunteer for CW, we're inviting current volunteers to tell their own stories in our Newsletter. As you read them, compare your mystery skills to the list below. Is there a need you can fill?

Now, what about sharing those weaving tips? We're working on that. What skills does CW need?

Organization Management
Social Media
Content Creation
Editing
Video Editing
Proofreading
Desktop Publishing

Accounting
Communication and Messaging
Development (growing membership)
Event planning
Scheduling
Legal/Contract Review

Presentation
Budgeting
Project Management
Teaching
Exhibit Curating
Websites

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 Committee

Get behind the scenes for the next Complexity juried exhibit by supporting 2026 Complexity Chair Jami Johnson. Contact her to see where help is needed. complexity@complex-weavers.org

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 cwoo@complex-weavers.org

CW Seminars 2026 Committee

Now that Denver has been selected as the location of *Seminars 2026*, Chair Michele Belson is looking for committee volunteers. Most pressing is a leader selection committee. It is a great way to help shape the Seminars program and get to know the leaders! Contact Michele at michele@lunaticfringeyarns.com.

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

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 seven [special funds](#) with specific purposes. The seven funds are:

- Complexity Fund
- CW Library Fund
- Friendship Fund
- Manuscript Recovery Fund
- Memorial Fund for Special Projects
- Sandra Hutton Memorial Complexity Award Fund
- Sandra Rude Memorial Fund for Advanced Learning

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!

Board Happenings: January 2025 Board Meeting

Nominations:

The Board approved the slate of nominees submitted by the CW Nominating Committee for the 2025-2027 term: 2nd Vice President, Brenda Gibson; Secretary, Sharon Gardiner; Treasurer, Vila Cox; and Study Group Chair, Sara Nordling.

Annual Treasurer's Report and 2025 General Budget:

CW Treasurer Vila Cox filed the 2024 Annual Treasurer's Report. The Annual Report is published in this CW Newsletter.

The Board approved the 2025 General Budget, which has a projected deficit of about \$15,000, and includes new items such as Zoom licenses and a contractors' budget.

Complexity 2026:

The Board approved Jami Johnson as *Complexity 2026* Chair. The Board also approved moving forward with an outlined *Complexity* funding and budget plan.

Library:

The Board heard a report from CW Librarian Leslie Fesperman on the CW Library and discussed the issue of storage of Study Group materials included in the Library collection.

Braids Sponsorship:

The Board agreed in principle to pursue the idea of sponsorship of morning lectures in conjunction with the Braids exhibit put on by the American Kumihimo Society.

Study Groups:

The Board discussed the issue of digital sharing of Study Group materials.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Bealer, Secretary

Study Groups

Interested in learning something new or connecting with others interested in the same weaving topic? Why not join a Study Group? See the CW [website](#) for more information about each group and whom to contact if you have questions or are interested in joining. If there is a study group that isn't listed below that you are interested in, please contact Sara Nordling, [Study Group Chair](#), for more information.

Current Study Groups

Archaeological Textiles	Inquisitive Drawloom Weavers
Bateman Weaves	Kumihimo
Beyond Plain Weave Garments	Ondulé Textiles ~ Weaving with a Fan Reed
Dimensional Texture	Oscar Beriau Sampling Group
Double Weave	Preserving Our Past; Index and Scrapbook of 20th Century Handweavers
Drawloom Explorations	Sample Exchange the Old-Fashioned Way
Early American Coverlets & Counterpanes	Sixteens
Early Weaving Books and Manuscripts	Structure
Equipment Compendium (aka the Loom Geeks)	Tied Weaves and Beyond
Fabric Design Challenges	Twenty four, More or Less
Fine Threads	

Complex Weavers Treasurer's Report

4th Quarter 2024

Statement of Activity
January - December 2024

	Total
Revenue	
Advertising Sales	1,466.70
Advertising Discounts (contra account)	-92.40
Total Advertising Sales	\$ 1,374.30
Annual Dues	49,508.20
Complexity Entry Fee	675.62
Donations	19,581.00
Interest income	2.80
Journal sales	290.00
Merchandise sales	4,070.38
PayPal Sales	145.00
Revenue - Seminars / CWOO	115,992.30
Seminars Contra Revenue	-1,065.00
Shipping Income	675.50
Total Revenue	\$ 191,250.10
Gross Profit	\$ 191,250.10
Expenditures	
Advertising & Marketing	2,299.07
Bank Charges & Fees	7.80
Complexity Awards	1,950.00
Computer and Web Services	12,957.35
Contractors	3,750.00
CW Awards	174.66
CW Journal Postage	
Postage Canadian	2,796.96
Postage domestic	4,228.01
Postage International	5,117.99
Postage other	304.90
Total CW Journal Postage	\$ 12,447.86
CW Publication	29,920.00
Dues and Subscriptions	98.00
Election	671.60
Equipment-Purchase/Rental	32,868.01
Event Venue	54,692.56
General/Reimbursable Expenses	1,048.14
Honoraria	3,399.18

2024 Treasurer's Report, continued

Insurance	319.00
Judging expense	461.46
Legal & Professional Services	775.00
Library	950.32
Meals & Receptions	5,474.25
PayPal & Square Fees	2,851.00
Shipping	1,430.46
Stipends	19,914.35
Study Group Expenses	33.79
Taxes & Licenses	10.00
Travel / Transportation	1,795.82
Total Expenditures	\$ 190,299.68
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 950.42
Other Revenue	
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	3,646.43
Total Other Revenue	\$ 3,646.43
Other Expenditures	
Seminars	431.87
Total Other Expenditures	\$ 431.87
Net Other Revenue	\$ 3,214.56
Net Revenue	\$ 4,164.98

Special Funds	
Complexity Fund	\$ 40,117.09
Diane Fabeck Fund	\$ -
Friendship Fund	\$ 1,075.12
Kathi Spangler Fund	\$ 850.00
Manuscript Recovery Fund	\$ 4,100.00
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,100.00
Sandra Hutton Complexity Award Fund	\$ 17,646.00
Sandra Rude Fund Net Assets	\$ 24,914.00
Total Special Funds	\$ 89,802.21

Current Assets	
747-02173 Merrill - CDs	\$ 144,102.97
747-02184 Merrill - Long Term	\$ 287,187.38
Checking	\$ 82,603.58
PayPal	\$ 7,885.29
Savings (BofA Investment)	\$ 8,164.33
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 529,943.55

Classifieds

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.

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.

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:

June 2025: Deadline April 15, 2025

October 2025: Deadline August 15, 2025

February 2026: Deadline November 30, 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.