

Encouraging curiosity, exploration, innovation in weaving

## July 2025 | Number 146 1/2

Newsletter

#### **Complex Weavers Annual General Membership Meeting**

## Dates to Remember

July 26, 2025 12:00 pm EDT CW Annual General Membership Meeting

June 12-14, 2026 CW Seminars 2026 Westminster, Colorado

> June 2026 Complexity 2026



omplex Weavers Awards 202
omplex Ondulé Textiles Study Group

CW Journal February 2024 Coming Soon The 2025 Complex Weavers Annual General Membership Meeting will be held on **Saturday July 26, 2025 at 12:00 pm EDT** via Zoom. We urge you to join us as there will be voting and we will need a quorum.

Zoom Link: Register in advance for this meeting: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/vSfy\_jSNSR2I4gQOI01GEg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

#### Can't Attend the CW Annual Membership Meeting Live? Please Vote by Proxy

There will be an important vote on updates to our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws at the Complex Weavers Annual General Membership Meeting, Saturday July 26, 2025 at 12:00 pm EDT on Zoom, will be coming soon, but we need to remind you of an important upcoming vote, outlined in the May 2025 <u>CW Newsletter</u>.

We very much hope you'll be able to join the Complex Weavers annual meeting live to get the latest on all our activities and be able to vote in person to accept or reject the updates your Board is proposing to our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. However, if you know you won't be able to join the meeting live, you can register a vote to be cast in line with the Board's recommendations.

Just send an email to the <u>CW Secretary</u>. State that:

"At the 2025 CW general membership meeting July 26, I (your name) hereby authorize the CW Secretary to cast your vote on the proposed updates to the CW Articles of Incorporation and By Laws in line with the CW Board of Director's recommendations."

Please take the time to do this - we need as many members as possible to make sure the meeting has a quorum so our work on the Articles of Incorporation and ByLaws updates can be completed.

Thank you, CW Board of Directors

Complex Weavers https://www.complex-weavers.org

## **CW Asset—Our Volunteers**

Complex Weavers is run almost entirely with volunteers – everything from organizing *Seminars* and the Complexity exhibit to running the Study Groups and producing the *Journal*. We are hoping that we can find and attract more members to help keep Complex Weavers going.

To offer inspiration, we are highlighting members who have volunteered for CW. For this newsletter issue, we are putting the spotlight on Eileen Driscoll and Ginger Kaldenbach, both long time volunteers.

#### How have you volunteered for CW, what jobs have you held?

I was treasurer for CW way back in 2004. I returned to the board in 2020 as 1st Vice President, with a focus on social media.

## Why did you get involved in the first place and why did you continue?

I was recruited by a very enthusiastic member. At first I found that the articles in the Journal were

completely over my head, but over the last 20 years I have begun to understand more. Sometimes I go back to old issues of the Journal to discover what I missed the first time around. I remained a member as a way of giving back to the weaving community, as a way to keep learning, and as a way to keep myself motivated.

## How has volunteering for CW benefited you personally?

Volunteering has kept me connected to weaving through the Journal and through Seminars. I have seen CW projects pass through many iterations before becoming reality. I loved our latest teaching and learning project, the Weavers Handshake. I understood so much more watching seminars for the second and third times. Seeing the works created by our members has been inspiring and motivating, with so many new ideas to try weaving.

What advice do you have for members about taking on volunteer CW roles? Taking on any volunteer task will teach you so much. CW turned me loose and said 'start posting on social media'. I had to learn more about social media, what kind of content works for CW members, and how to stay organized and on top of the schedule. When volunteering for CW, you will find autonomy, you will meet and learn from so many experienced members and you will learn more about how organizations work, how a group can deal with issues and how to merge ideas into reality.

**Do you have a favorite color and fiber?** My favorite color is purple, followed by blue and green — nature colors. I like the feel of silk fabric and thread. I have so much yarn and so many new things to try. Even now I can get excited about the next new project and idea and class.

## Do you have a weaving challenge you are still interested in investigating?

I have been trying to combine my weaving with my feelings about the world I would like to see around me. One piece of mine combines symbols from several different religions, one piece uses the poem on the Statue of Liberty and my current project examines the upward trend in daily temperatures in my own small city.

## In Memoriam—Hedy Lyles

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our cherished CW member Hedy Lyles who passed away June 21, 2025. A talented and dedicated master weaver and fiber artist, she was an active member of the Philadelphia Guild of Hand Weavers, Handweavers of Bucks County, and Jockey Hollow Weavers. Her work, published and recognized with numerous honors and awards, reflected her joy of both mastering new techniques and sharing her craft with others.



Eileen Driscoll



## Pauline Verbeek—Complexity 2026 Juror

Pauline is a Professor and Chair of the Fiber Department at The Kansas City Art Institute. A native of the Netherlands, she received her BFA in Fine Art from the Maryland Institute and her MFA in textile design from the University of Kansas. Her creative research involves all areas of constructed textiles but is primarily focused on weaving. She is one of the leaders in the use of new technologies in hand weaving and has also conducted research using industrial looms in The Netherlands and the US. Her industrially woven work crosses boundaries between Fine Art and applied textiles and is directed toward structurally textured fabrics. Her work has been exhibited extensively in both national and international venues including France, Austria, Germany, Japan, Korea and Australia.



Pauline Verbeek

Silk Vortex



Kuba Lace



Felt Lace



Complexity 2026

I just returned from Colorado where I got to see the <u>Lakewood Cultural Center</u> in Lakewood, CO, the site for *Complexity 2026*. I think it's a wonderful venue for several reasons: it is in a community center with great hours and someone watching over the area anytime the building is open. The exhibit will be in a very large lobby with lots of natural light and spotlights and in a smaller gallery also with natural lighting and spots. This building is full of activity so we will have a wonderful opportunity to introduce the public to the very best weaving around! Besides people coming into the building on city business, there are classrooms on the second floor with lots of traffic from adults and young students (and often their parents). This building also has a 320 seat theater. This summer there are 16 performances at the theater, so plenty of chances for the public to see our weavings. *Complexity 2026* will run for over 11 weeks, May 29 to Aug 16, 2026, including the 5 weeks of Lakewood's Annual Community Art affair.

This picture doesn't do this place justice! This picture shows the two biggest walls in the very large lobby. There are two other smaller walls in the lobby, then there are multiple walls in the smaller Corner Gallery to the left of the North

Gallery. (Note: there will be another exhibit in the North Gallery) In total, there are about 87 linear feet of wall space, plus two glass cabinets for smaller pieces and eighteen stands of various heights and sizes that we can put wherever we want! There will be plenty of room for our reception on June 11; a time to see the exhibit and visit with old a and new friends!

Because *Complexity 2026* will have such a public face, I thought this might be an excellent opportunity for our organization to do some education and outreach to the public about weaving. As part of this, I would love to include a picture of the weaver's loom (feel free to include yourself in the picture) on the labels we will have on each piece. If you



Lakewood Cultural Center Lobby

are planning, or even thinking of weaving a piece to enter, please take a picture or two while you're weaving it and then I will ask for them in the acceptance letters. And with some technical help, we might be able to include a QR code with videos of you weaving too!

The Prospectus and *Complexity 2026* pages on Complex Weavers website are days from being posted. So check on complex-weavers.org frequently to see the information. The on-line entry window is open November 1, 2025 until February 6, 2026. I look forward to seeing many wonderful entries in *Complexity 2026*!

Jami Johnson Complexity Chair 2026 complexity@complex-weavers.org

## CW Volunteer Spotlight—Ginger Kaldenbach

#### How have you volunteered for CW, and what kinds of jobs have you done?

I started out with small tasks—helping with the silent auction at seminars and reviewing a book for the Journal. Now, I'm in my ninth year as the CW Awards Coordinator, which has been such an enjoyable role. I also chaired a committee that the Board created to set up a memorial fund in honor of Sandra Hutton.

## What inspired you to get involved in the first place, and what has kept you going?

I've always felt it's important to pitch in and help an organization thrive. I joined CW when I was still pretty new to weaving, mainly because many of my guild friends were members and always returned from Seminars bursting with new ideas to share. Since then, I've discovered so much inspiration myself—through seminars, study groups, and the Journal's incredible resources.

## How has volunteering for CW enriched your life?

As the Awards Coordinator, I've had the chance to connect with so many members, including people from all over the world. Serving on the Board has also given me a deeper understanding of how the organization works.

## What advice would you give to members thinking about volunteering?

There are countless ways to get involved in CW, no matter what your skills are. The Board recently created a Volunteer Coordinator position, so it's easier than ever to learn about volunteer opportunities. My advice? Jump in and give it a try!

## What's your favorite color?

Honestly, it's easier to name the one I'm not fond of—fire engine red! Otherwise, I love almost every color. Blues and blue-greens, burnt orange, magenta, purple, chartreuse, and rosy pinks are all favorites.

## What's your favorite fiber to weave with?

I mostly use cotton because I've collected just about every color you can imagine. Like Amy Norris, I think towels are great for sampling. But when I'm weaving a scarf, I love working with Tencel.

## Is there a weaving challenge you're still excited to explore?

Right now, I'm diving into two exciting challenges. Bonnie Inouye just released two chapters of her revised book, Exploring Multishaft Design, so I'm setting up my 32-shaft loom to study them. I'm also part of a study group exploring designs with multiple ties—a continuation of a workshop we took years ago with Kay Faulkner.

## CW Journal Update

Step by step, we are making progress on the long-plagued production schedule for *Complex Weavers Journal*. And there's good news: the next issue of *CW Journal* (with its cover bearing the date, "February 2024") is at the printer right now! If the print shop can operate with their normal turnaround, we can expect to see copies of our *Journal* appearing in mail boxes in about a month. Much of the final acceleration out the door comes from helpful members of the CW Board, who contributed editing, layout and proofing assistance. (Thank you, my friends.)

Featured in this full and inspiring issue: the superb winners of the Complex Weavers Award (2023) and the fascinating explorations of the Ondulé Textiles Study Group.

The next belated issue of the Journal is currently on my desk, and it will bring you some pretty exciting treats, too:

- a report from the first recipient of the Sandra Ogg Rude Memorial Grant,
- an exploration of sumptuous historical fabrics,
- the intersection of spiritual experience and design...and more.

Stay tuned for the next installment (coming your way soon, truly) -- and thank you for your patience!

#### Ruth MacGregor Complex Weavers Journal Editor







A polychrome double huck cowl scarf inspired by a workshop with Cally Booker.

## Articles of Incorporation and Bylaw Changes

# We'll be asking you to vote on proposed changes to our Articles of Incorporation and our Bylaws at the Complex Weavers Annual General Membership Meeting on 26 July 2025 at 12:00pm EDT on Zoom.

Our Articles of Incorporation (AOI) and our Bylaws are official documents which define us for the revenue and regulatory authorities and set out how we govern ourselves. When the Board considered last year whether we should change our charitable status we decided we should review both documents to ensure compliance with whichever option was chosen, and so the Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Committee was set up. That review is now complete and we will be putting the proposed changes to members for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

At least 45 days before the meeting, you'll receive formal notification and a link to the proposed changes on the website, but we thought we'd fill you in on the rationale behind the changes in advance. And when the time comes we'll be urging you to sign into the meeting – we really need to have a quorum of the membership at the meeting!

#### **Articles of Incorporation**

Because the Board decided not to change our charitable status after all, no significant changes are necessary but we are suggesting only three changes. They are:

- Update a name and address an administrative detail
- Update the non-discriminatory policy to the current norm (to include sexual orientation, gender identity, and family status).
- Insert a phrase in our Objects & Purposes to emphasize public outreach; we are mindful of the concern expressed by the Board's attorney that we might not be doing enough for non-members.

#### **Bylaws**

It's normal for the Bylaws to need updating more than the AOI, either in response to changes in the world around us or where an operational detail has become impractical, and so the Bylaws Committee is recommending more changes to this document.

Most are minor:

- Some are linguistic changes, for example "chairman" to "chair", or standardizing the way the Board of Directors is referred to.
- Some clarify the current status quo where operational changes have taken place, for example membership ends on the date recorded in the membership database, not the day before the following *Journal* issue is due to go out.
- Some are updates to means of communication, for example "telephone conference" replaced by "conference call, video link".
- In the same vein but slightly more substantive: paving the way for means of communication not yet in use by changing "by mail or electronically" to "in print or electronically or in another accessible information standard agreed by the Board". Communication changes can happen very quickly, changes to the Bylaws much more slowly; twelve years ago CW had to continue mailing ballots for more than a year after the membership were requesting online voting.

There are two more substantive changes:

- The removal of the family membership category. We have only had two family memberships in the last fifteen years or so and none for the last five or six years.
- The removal of any mention of the Corporate Seal. No-one is aware of CW having one and we're not required to have one.

The biggest change is in the section where the duties of the Officers are laid out. In the existing Bylaws, many of these are very task specific and as a result have become outdated. For example, the I<sup>st</sup> VP used to be responsible for handling the CW Awards program but hasn't done so for eight years now; the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP used to have no specific responsibilities but now has charge of the area liaisons.

[Continued on page 6]

#### Articles of Incorporation and Bylaw Changes, continued

We feel that the Bylaws should focus on the unchanging or seldom changing key responsibilities of the Officers and that specific tasks that might come and go or be reassigned to other people are better covered in Role Descriptions. Complex Weavers should not be in the position of breaching its Bylaws if, say, the Secretary were to decide to ask the Membership Chair to send "thank you, get well, sympathy and other correspondence" instead of doing it themselves!

Wendy Morris Chair, Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Committee

#### **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: <u>complexweaversads@gmail.com</u>.

#### **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. <u>complexity@complex-weavers.org</u>

#### **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 <u>cwoo@complex-weavers.org</u>.

#### **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 <u>seminars@complex-weavers.org</u>.

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

Are you on social media? Look for us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> (@complex\_weavers).