



April 2026 | Number 149 ½

CW Asset—Our Volunteers

Dates to Remember

**May 29 to
August 16, 2026**
Complexity 2026

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



Missing — Sara Nordling

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 Sara Nordling.

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

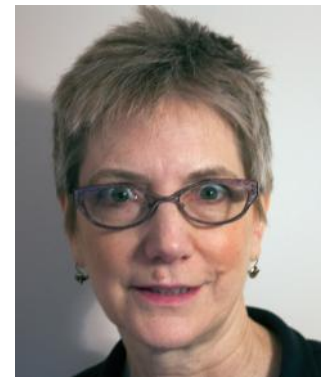
I have volunteered with CW initially as Second Vice President (in charge of area liaisons) and then as Study Group Coordinator.

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

I got involved by responding to a newsletter request. The nominating committee was looking for a 2nd Vice President and put out a general call to interested people. I saw it as a good way to meet more like-minded weavers from all over the world and expand my weaving horizons. The position did not take up an inordinate amount of time and I did get to know many people much better. I was then asked if I would switch to being Study Group Coordinator because that person needs to be in the USA where the 2nd Vice President can be anywhere in the world. So I did switch. The work load is about the same and I got to meet a new set of weavers. One side advantage is that I no longer had to stress about using Excel Spreadsheets (something I'm not very good at, but proof you don't need to know everything to be able to volunteer) as I had to do with the first position. The people I work with are great; someone is always willing to help you. I have met many interesting people on the Board and others I have met in my various positions. It's so exciting to see all the enthusiasm in the weaving world and all the various techniques people are studying.

How has volunteering for CW benefited you personally?

Volunteering has given me the chance to give back. It has allowed me to meet many more weavers who are interested in exploring beyond recipe weaving. It has expanded my horizons on what is possible and what people find exciting about weaving in a way that just reading the *Journal* or attending *Seminars* never could. You get to know people at *Seminars* even before you get there.



Sara Nordling

[Continued page 2]

CW Volunteer Spotlight — Sara Nordling, continued

What advice do you have for members about taking on volunteer CW roles?

My advice to someone contemplating getting more involved is to not be afraid of it. Most jobs don't take up too much time and the rewards are worth the time you put in. You don't have to be particularly skilled in weaving or tech to volunteer either (depending on the job for the last one) — you just need to be willing to learn. That is a trait that most Complex Weavers have already.

Do you have a favorite color?

I don't have a favorite color. All colors are good. It depends on how much of the color there is and what it's combined with. If I really had to pick though...it might be mallard.

What is your favorite fiber to weave? My favorite fibers to weave, well, at least the ones I use the most are 20/2 and 10/2 cottons. I mostly hand dye them.

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

What weaving challenge do I still want to investigate? That depends on what day it is. I can easily be distracted by the newest technique or "eye candy." Some of the ones I want to try more of are networked double weave, tied weaves, and weaves that create textures/collapse when off the loom.

COMPLEXITY 2026: *Innovations in Weaving*

Just before I sat down to write this on March 27, I looked at my calendar and realized *Complexity 2026* opens 9 weeks from today — May 29! Lakewood Cultural Center will be home to our wonderful weaving exhibition from May 29 to August 16. So, if any of you are near Denver, I encourage you to make a stop and see the exhibit — you won't be sorry!

Our three jurors were busy last weekend. After 5 weeks of studying the scarves, table linens, wall hangings and other creative weavings, they met on Zoom to make their selections for our show and to choose the award winners. They told me it was a series of difficult choices and some good discussions. For the next 9 weeks, the *Complexity 2026* committee will be doing various tasks to get everything ready for both the general opening on May 29 and June 11 — CW's reception. Entries from the United States will be sent to our sponsor, Schacht Spindle Company. They have graciously offered to be our shipping recipient. Another long time sponsor, Treenway Silks, will receive all entries from other countries. We appreciate both for their generosity.

And when all those packages arrive, Cheryl Nachtrieb and her crew will be hanging the show with care, to show every piece as the gem that it is. I know she is excited to see these pieces in person and realizes that she gets to do what probably all of us would like to do: touch them and look at the back side! I know she will take very good of them, both when they arrive and then when they are repackaged and returned to their owner.

June 11 is the day that we will announce nine of the awards as the first event of *Complex Weavers Seminars 2026*. The Sandra Hutton Award for Best in Show, Complex Weavers Award/First Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place are all sponsored by Complex Weavers. Five more awards are given by our generous Sponsors: Treenway Silks, Heddlecraft, Handweavers Guild of America, Handweaving.net, and Surface Design Association. And the final award, the People's Choice Award will be given on June 14 at Complex Weavers Seminars final lunch. Almost \$2000 and other benefits will be given to our weavers during our conference!

Through Teresa Edmisten's wizardry, our gallery cards will have a QR code. With your cell phone, you can find more information about the artist, technical details and pictures, etc. It might start to answer the question I always have at *Complexity*: 'How did they do that?' And start you on a journey down the rabbit hole to find your next design!

I know that *Seminars* will be the highlight of my summer. See you in Denver!

Jami Johnson, Chair, *Complexity 2026*

Notes from a Reluctant Seminar Chair—CW Seminars 2026



Spring is here (quite early!) in Colorado. We have a taste of the gorgeous weather you will be able to experience at *Seminars 2026*.

There are a few spaces left to attend *Complex Weavers Seminars*. Come and share a weekend with the best, brightest and most amazing weavers, in a beautiful setting. If I can answer any questions, or say anything to encourage you to join us, email me at seminars@complex-weavers.org.

We are finalizing the schedule of events for *Seminars* and looking forward to sharing that in an email and putting all the cool activities on the website before the end of April.

Be thinking of what you'd like to share:

- Items for the Silent Auction (Meg Wilson would appreciate a heads up to be sure we have table space or whatever we need to display your generous donation. Her email address is weavergamp@me.com)
- Your fascinating Poster Presentation (If you have questions or just let Suzannah Day know what you are bringing. Her email address is smisle@gmail.com)
- That great outfit for the Fashion Show (Cards will be available before the Fashion Show Friday evening. If you have questions contact, Fashion Show Chair Astrid Tauber at eweniqueastrid@gmail.com.)
- Your beautiful project for the Off the Runway Exhibit (Try to let Paula Heller know, so we can have enough tables, though we also love last minute submissions. Paula's email address isn't working well. Text or call at 850-933-5484. She is in Eastern Time Zone.)
- And a bit of extra cash to support the Silent Auction, get the latest book or gadget from the MarketPlace and maybe even to acquire one of Leslie's gorgeous vests.

Another bonus is that Schacht Spindle Company will be open for tours on June 10th. Times will be announced. Let us know if you'd like to be on the list. The tours are free, but please let us know if you'd like a tour. At this time, we haven't planned transportation. It is about 20 minutes from The Westin hotel to Schacht. If there is enough interest, we will try to arrange to have a van. For more information, contact Paula Becker at psbecker1@yahoo.com.

Speaking of transportation, the buses from the hotel to the *Complexity* exhibit are rather expensive. We want to be sure we have enough seats for everyone, without spending more than absolutely necessary. Please email our Administrative Assistant Jan Burkhardt at seminars-admin@complex-weavers.org and let us know if you will or will not be riding the Party Bus to *Complexity*.

And while you are emailing Jan, let us know if you are flying in, if you need transportation to the hotel, when you are scheduled to arrive and we will try to help set up Uber or Lyft sharing. A single Uber/Lyft is around \$60. Shared ride shares (that's an awkward set of words!) are not much more. There is also economical public transportation. We will try to get complete instructions for public transportation on the website soon.

I can't wait to see you in Denver!

Your Reluctant *Seminars* Chair

Michele Belson

seminars@complex-weavers.org



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

Weavers Handshake

With Seminars approaching here are a few things to keep in mind regarding [Weavers Handshake](#), CW's on-demand online learning experience.



- 25 of 30 Seminars will be captured during *Seminars* for online viewing beginning in September 2026. Thank you instructors for participating!
- In-person *Seminars* attendees have been issued discount codes for purchasing an all-access pass for every captured seminar - check your confirmation email for the code. This is a great deal so save yourself some note taking and stress over remembering every little gem and fear of missing something cool in the next room by taking advantage of this benefit.
- For those who are not attending, *Seminar* access can be purchased in several bundles from all access to session groups (5 seminars per session) to individual seminars.
- Seminars will be released monthly in 5 session groups for 3 months of unlimited access beginning in September 2026.
- Proceeds from sales go to covering the expenses of capturing the sessions with any remaining income split 50/50 between the instructors and CW.
- Learn more about Weavers Handshake, the sessions coming in the fall and other online learning opportunities here: <https://weavershandshake.complex-weavers.org>

Classifieds

Color Alchemy Masterclass Summer Session

The Color Alchemy Masterclass is an in-depth online course for weavers and fiber artists who want greater confidence and control when working with color. The course focuses on translating inspiration images into precise, usable color palettes while preserving their visual character. Participants develop a structured approach to color theory and dyeing that supports consistency, repeatability, and thoughtful creative exploration.

Registration is June 19 and if people register before April 24 they can receive a \$200 early bird discount.

Learn more at alannawilcox.com.



COMPLEX WEAVERS JOURNAL
February 2025 - Number 17
Challenging artists, exploring innovation in weaving



Complex Weavers Awards 2024
Fabric Design Challenge Study Group
Sixteen Treasures from the Sixteens
and more

CW Journal

The next issue—February 2025 is at the printers. The *Journal* team is working to get caught up with late issues.

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.

Journal Editor: Ruth MacGregor at CWJournalEditorRM@gmail.com

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

Editing, Layout and Proofing: Brenda Gibson, Samantha Bielanski