



Weathervane creator and designer, Ken & LizAnn Jensen,
Proprietors of West Coast Weather Vanes

Our weathervane studio is located in the mountains of Central California and we are one of only a handful of artists anywhere in the world producing handcrafted copper weather vanes. We specialize in unique handcrafted custom designed weather vanes. We use the difficult "free form" and "repoussé" techniques to create these high quality weathervane sculptures. No molds are used so each piece is slightly different from any others that we make. As each weathervane is finely crafted and completely unique, they will likely become collector's items and should increase in value as they age and acquire their lovely and distinctive greenish copper weathervane patina.

Our weathervane line currently includes over 600 different unique weathervane designs ranging from aquatic to animal, bird, human, mythological and transportation related designs. We are currently celebrating close to 20 years of weathervane making and love what we do even more today than we did the day we started.

WEATHERVANE DESIGNS

[Aquatic Weathervane Designs](#) * [Banner Weathervane Designs](#) * [Bird Weathervane Designs](#) * [Bull & Cow Weathervane Designs](#)
[Cat Weathervane Designs](#) * [Dog Weathervane Designs](#) * [Farm Animal Weathervane Designs](#) * [Human weathervane Designs](#)
[Mythological Weathervane Designs](#) * [Transportation Weathervane Designs](#) * [Unusual Weathervane Designs](#)
[Wild Animal Weathervane Designs](#)

METHODS FOR MAKING A WEATHERVANE

Several methods have been historically employed to create a weathervane. Often, very simple vanes were whittled from wood and perhaps painted. However, because they became victims of the elements, few survive today.

A more permanent weathervane was created by using a second method. First, a mold was carved in wood, and then a cast was made in iron. Sheets of copper were hammered into the resulting depression, forming each half of the weathervane. The two pieces were then soldered together to make a 3-dimensional weathervane. Vanes made by this method ranged from those consisting of just two pieces to complex designs with many different elements. Some of the most popular antique weather vanes available today were made this way.

Another weathervane method uses a press to stamp out large quantities of identical vanes. They may cost less, but they will never appreciate in value or become collectors' items.

The most difficult method to produce a weathervane involves hand hammering sheets of copper into shape without a mold. This "free forming" repoussé process produces weather vanes that are unique in detail, finely crafted, and limited in number. For these reasons, they are highly prized by collectors.

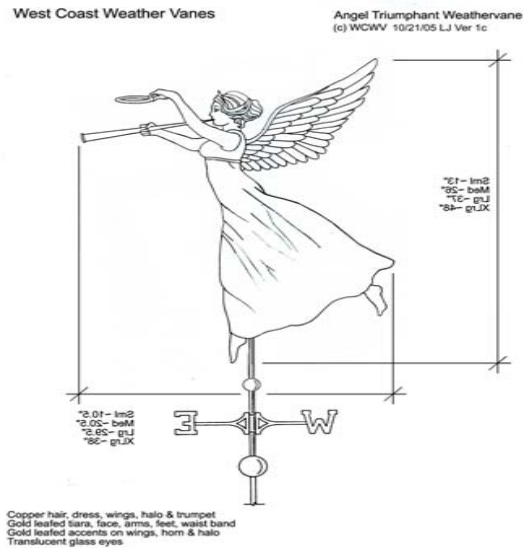
WEATHERVANE APPRECIATION

Appreciation of the American weathervane as a work of art has been growing since the 1920's and has accelerated dramatically during the last few years. It is the wise collector who seeks out those which are rare, well crafted and individually made.

In April 1982, a rare Statue of Liberty weather vane, molded from gilded copper a century ago, was sold by Sotheby's for \$82,500. The same day, an Angel Gabriel weathervane sold for \$50,600. Recently, another specimen was auctioned for an astounding \$770,000!

Today, weather vanes are considered to be classic examples of the finest in American folk art. Astute collectors have been adding them to their portfolios for the past fifty years, prizing most highly those which are both rare and individually produced.

DESIGNING YOUR WEATHERVANE



The Triumphant Angel Weathervane Design

PERSONALIZING YOUR WEATHERVANE

We build each weathervane to individual order and we often personalize the sculpture piece for the person who orders it. There are several ways you can personalize your weathervane. The links below provide additional information on these ways to make your weathervane unique.

[WEATHERVANE LUCKY PENNIES](#) – A penny is placed inside your weathervane commemorating the year the weathervane was made. Add a penny that comes from the year you were born.

[WEATHERVANE GLASS EYE COLOR CHART](#) Choose a specific eye color for your weathervane.

[WEATHERVANE INSCRIPTION](#) Your weathervane can bear a private inscription or insignia.

[WEATHERVANE GOLD LEAF & PATINA PROCESS](#) Gold leaf accents your weathervane and further highlights the copper patina process as your weathervane ages.

[WEATHERVANE ID NUMBER](#)

[COMMISSIONING A "NEW DESIGN"](#)

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