

## In the past

I have often run amuck because my mind sometimes travels a million miles past the doing.... Things that should be done become "a path not taken." (A section and a quote from Progoff's Intensive journal workshop.) Yes, I am an avid journal of all things tapestry, but they are more about memories, place keepers, keepers of time and images for my cartoons. I should have, could have, would have, but did not. So seventy-four zoom meetings later...



The "should have" is write an explanation of what Wednesdays group or Between & Etc Studio hours be and why it exists and send it universe before I invited the world to become part the group.

I have not because it is difficult to form explanations and things that just are - or still seem- magical and so beyond capabilities and knowing. Joseph Campbell would be rolling grave. He long ago out lined why we do things and set up



those things that we do not understand by viewing them as magic and the needful. (Four Functions of Myth by Joseph Campbell). Maybe a few more sacrifices to the priestly techs that create the system

to understanding until it is no longer logical would help, but life is getting shorter and shorter in the labyrinth of my existence.

## In a time before Covid...and Zoom

(or zoom at least by me.)



Figure 1Between &Etc Entry gate  
by Patti Kirsch

I ask you to remember this is me—the late comer to anything that has to do with computers/internet. A person who is being dragged into a world of total mystery and seeming chaos, screaming, and terrified of all things computerized. My Epitaph will read Kathe Todd-Hooker the late comer to everything done on a computer/Internet- she died the death of a true luddite. That said I am finished with the dog devoured my homework self-flagellation scenario. It just is!!

## The more important thing

is my whole life and practice being about being a tapestry weaver and curiosity of all things tapestry-even the yoga I practice is an extension of my tapestry practice in thought, journaling, execution, and practice.



I have been a narrative style tapestry weaver mostly small format/small scale since 1978 when Jean Scorgie set me down in front of a Keith Jellum tapestry loom OSAC (No longer exists) and told me that I no longer needed to sew my fabric to do my designs. to stretcher bars I could weave it...



Still took another two weeks too line up in my thought patterns that tapestry was not and is not a surface embellishment. In the process creating definite technique and tool nerd, A meandering workshop instructor and exhibitor of my tapestry and occasionally my students work. Owner of Between & Etc tapestry studio. I am of the first phase, luddite (not so old that I was an original 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century luddite but (stolen from a Canticle for Leibowitz by Walter Miller Jr in 1958- check out the reference in Wikipedia.) I am also a sometimes blogger, author of several books on tapestry technique, and over many years a writer of dozens of articles on Tapestry, Russian Old Believers, and journaling.

On Facebook I maintain two groups ***Tapestry Compendium & Small format tapestry a place of our own.*** There was a time before Facebook that I owned a tapestry list that I started in 1996 and it existed for 20 years before it was wiped out by Facebook and Instagram.



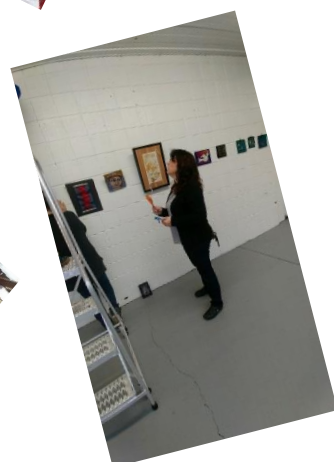
Figure 2 Ken Wong



# All that said & aside-In the beginning...Between & Etc.

Tapestry Studio(me) and other

likeminded people had a



**Wednesday's group**-its name became Wednesday simply by being the middle of the week.

**Yes, I am getting to the point...** by Wednesdays I am ready for a break after weaving 8 hours a day of weaving and 2-3 hours of paperwork a day, but so are most of us. Too quote Tommye Scanlin's goal(I) "weave every damn day!"



I realized years ago that my yoga practice or Asana is related to my tapestry weaving practice. So, what better way to show "gratitude" than a gift of shared time. Wednesdays became that day. Anyone could drop into the studio, share ideas, hang out, ask questions, or share information or skills.

The rest of the week was all about my income and business interests and of course tapestry weaving and being a meandering workshop instructor. Wednesdays became my give back of "gratitude" to the communities and weavers that had supported me as a tapestry weaver, a meandering workshop teacher, writer, and tapestry artist. What I learned from the Wednesday's group was that I received more from the participants it created than I ever thought possible. And people did come. Sometimes from great distances. Sometimes just driving by Albany on I-5 on trips to wherever. Sometimes sandwiching the Wednesdays between days of a class or workshop for one more day of weaving.

**Covid ended the open studio day.**

Will it come back possibly and marginally but I am hanging onto the zoom meeting on Wednesdays.

## **ALL ABOUT: New Beginnings of Between & Etc Studio Hours or Wednesday's group**

With help and support of Mary Walker of Weaving in Beauty (a reliable source for hooking up with superb instructors of the Navajo way of weaving) and quite a few incredibly supportive friends and tapestry weavers, Wednesday's group is 74 weeks old, two hours every week meets @ 1:00 Pacific Standard Time and ends at 3.

Anyone can be part of the discussions. Wednesdays have become something better than the original Wednesday that met in my studio each week, but it is a bit like comparing apples and oranges...

On zoom we have been able to become a bit more international and are able to be more inclusive because no one needs to travel to partake. Participant ranges from 15 to 40 participants a week. The group opens a new world socially for those who cannot travel to workshops and tapestry groups for one reason or another. The group is inclusive of all the



variations of tapestry weaving and techniques. All levels of weavers from never having touched a loom to Master Weavers. Discussions are free flowing and determined by questions and sharing by the group each week. Open to anyone that has an interest in tapestry, educators, conservators, collectors, writers, researchers, tapestry history, dyers, spinners, comparing resources and supplies tools and fibers, tools, books, exhibits, information, support or just hanging out with tapestry weavers.

Wednesday's definition of tapestry weaving is defined by technique not style and the definition "most often a plain-woven construct or unbalanced tabby or twill that often- (or not) includes the weft covering the warp with the possibility of a discontinuous weft. Tapestry can be any shape, any manipulation of warp and weft if it fits into this definition of tapestry-it is!

No dogma. No right or wrong! "Well, we might make suggestions of unusual ways of arriving at the same point...) "Tapestry is what it is..."- "There are no tapestry police that will take your loom away" or decide your "bad" because you follow your own tapestry path.

MOST IMPORTANT-The group has no affiliations or parent organizations, nor fees and you do not need to have taken a class from a specific person to be part of the group or be part of any specific group of tapestry weavers. Discussions are free ranging. Everyone gets a voice and any one can ask or share or hang out. The group is open to any level of tapestry weaver. There is no cost to the participants.

For me it is all about the joy and the 'challenge or search of my curious mind, gratitude of sharing the experience of tapestry for those who have allowed me to explore all things tapestry weaving over the last 44 years (almost 45 years) of tapestry weaving. My hope is that it is for the participants each week.

Please fill free to Join the group everyone is invited. It is all about anything and everything tapestry. You can get an invite and ticket for all of the Wednesdays by tapping the box on my web page or contact me at [Betweenandetc.com](http://Betweenandetc.com) if you need help to join the group. Keep your invite and use it join every Wednesday! Hope To see you all this Wednesday or any



Wednesday!

Cheers and  
all!

Kathe

**FINI**

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