

## Northern Lights News by Jane Rock Costanza

Break out those bags!! It's nearly time for the Northern Lights Bag Challenge. Be sure to bring your bags to the **May meeting** for fun, accolades, and prizes! Judges will be Kris Hill (Table Rock Llamas), Kathleen Orr (Green Valley Weavers), and Donna Brown (natural dye expert). Please fill out the form included in this issue of the newsletter, printing clearly, and give it with your bag to Deb Scott or Jane Rock at the May meeting. Do not attach the form to your bag, please.

The bags need to have been created during this current Guild year (June 2010 - Present), but the materials can be of any age. Approximately 50% of the bag must be either from handwoven or handspun materials or any combination of both. Hand dyed is encouraged. Minimum size must be able to hold a standard DVD case (apx. 8" x 5").

### PPWG Northern Lights Bag Challenge Entry Form

*Northern Lights: Reflections*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bag Dimensions: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Brief statement as to how this bag is representational of the theme (i.e., the inspiration):

## *Thoughts of James Koehler by Cheryl Riniker*

It was with great sorrow that I learned of the unexpected passing of James Koehler on March 3rd, 2011. James was a well known Tapestry Artist and Tapestry Teacher living near Santa Fe, New Mexico. James developed a series of classes on Color and Design that was heavily influenced by the foundation course taught at the Bauhaus school and the theories of Johannes Itten. James meditated on Zen koans as inspiration for his designs. Known for subtle variations of color, James once dyed 140 shades in 2 different types of wool (or 280 dye batches) to graduate from yellow to purple in one commission.

You can view his work at [www.jameskoehler.com](http://www.jameskoehler.com) or in the book about his life and work, *Woven Color: The Tapestry Art of James Koehler*.

I will miss this incredible teacher.