

Northern Lights News by Jane Rock Costanza

Northern Lights held our first meeting of the year at Table Rock Llamas fiber studio. We picked up a new member when she unsuspectingly strolled into the fiber studio and pulled a spindle and some brand new spinning from her bag to show to Val. Naturally, we sidled over and pounced upon her, and within minutes we were welcoming her into the Northern Lights group. There is something so invigorating in introducing a brand new fiber artist to the many possibilities for learning, creating and sharing that exist in our very own back yard. We're hoping to welcome her to PPWG in the very new future.

Speaking of the future, we promised more details about the Northern Lights Book Bag Challenge. The focus of the October meeting was on fine tuning the details for the challenge and we were successful. Deb Scott brought in several patterns and ideas for resources, as well as some of her own gorgeous "UFOs" that are perfect for transforming into bags. Carole Stewart in a flash of inspiration came up with the perfect theme for the challenge: Northern Lights: Reflection.

Details:

- 1) Entire Guild invited to participate in the challenge (you don't need to be a member of the N.L. study group to participate)
- 2) Bags can be of any size but must be large enough to hold a book -- smallest should hold an average sized paperback
- 3) Bags must be made during the 2010-2011 Guild year (June 1, 2010 as beginning date) You can, however put to use in your bag, textiles that you've woven prior to this year.
- 4) Bags must be comprised of at least 50% handwoven materials and/or 50% handspun materials. Be as creative with technique(s) as you like!
- 5) Limit -- 2 bags per person

Theme: Northern Lights: Reflection -- feel free to unleash your creativity and interpret this in any way your artistic/design aesthetic leads you. Please do, however, prepare a few lines that state how your interpretation lends itself to the theme.

Prizes: The Northern Lights group will be awarding prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd as well as handwoven ribbons. There will be certificates for honorable mentions (and we may even have a few surprise prizes!). Bags must be completed by the April 2011 PPWG meeting. Judges will be announced after January 1. (Date of judging TBA)

Other requirements:

Because major areas of focus of PPWG are upon meeting and exchanging ideas, and to help encourage and educate all weavers, spinners, and dyers to achieve the highest standard of excellence, the Northern Lights study group will compile a samples notebook, from the challenge, to be placed in the PPWG library.

With each bag we are asking for a sample of the handwoven material and a draft (if woven); a 2 yard skein sample if handspun with information about the fiber used; and/or both if a combination of handwoven and handspun is used; and any dyeing techniques used. A digital photo will also be taken of each bag.

The Northern Lights study group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Table Rock Llamas fiber studio. If you're in the spin group that meets in the afternoon 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., feel free to bring a lunch and make a fiber day out of it! Guests are welcome to attend.

Contacts: Debra Scott (debster1939@yahoo.com) and Jane Rock (mizrock@aol.com)

Library News by Debra Scott

The librarians are searching for a book that has gone AWOL- please check to see if you have inadvertently taken this book home: "Pattern Techniques for Handweavers" by Doramay Keasby.