

## **Vote for my row!**

**We still have 85 votes so far! Yea! I think we're in 2nd place, behind by only 3 votes!  
My continued thanks to all of you for supporting my row!**

Creative Grid has sponsored a Row Challenge and our row has been selected for the contest! Last year we participated, but we didn't know we had been selected until right at the end of the voting period. This time we have until the end of the Row By Row Experience to get the vote out.

You can go to Creative Grid's Facebook page to see all of the rows entered into the contest. You need to click "Like" to vote. You can vote for as many rows as you like.

Or you can just vote for mine. :)

To make it easy for you to find my block, you can click on the link below.



[For Around the Block's Row Click Here!](#)



---

**August 19, 2016**

I hate to disappoint you but...I am never going to win an Olympic medal. I know, you're devastated.

I blame this on my parents. They just didn't put me in the right sports or give me the right genes. They tried, don't get me wrong. They taught me to swim when I was very tiny. I competed in events like butterfly & the individual medley. I even dived one year for my local pool. My brother managed that pool and the swim team needed points gained during the diving portion of the meets & I got elected. My friend Heidi & I consistently took 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>, guaranteeing at least 1 point for the team. I wasn't very good. I could do a back dive, an inward dive, a front dive & a flip. I could never figure out how to do a front dive with a half twist. I always got lost partway through the dive & would land in a heap in the pool.

I did learn some gymnastics. I could do a simple walk over, a hand stand into a back bend, & a front flip. But I was probably too tall to really be any good & to be truthful, I wasn't that good. To give you an idea on how good/bad I was, I was better than everyone in gym class, but that was because I was taking dance, acrobat & tap classes at the time. And only once a week. So I was the best in my gym class. That's pretty pathetic. That's how big gymnastics was in Omaha at that time.

Then my Dad taught me tennis. And I wasn't bad at tennis. Although I never could beat my dad unless I ran him all over the court. Which wasn't fair to him because he was in 60s and I was just 20.

But to win golds in events like swimming, diving & tennis you have to be really good and practice really hard because there are lots of people who compete in these popular sports.

Now, I did play things like badminton & ping pong. Who knew they'd be called sports and would morph into Olympic sports. Kinda like golf. Of course in order to be good at ping pong you need to be Asian and have cool straight bob hair cuts. If you've watched table tennis, volleyball or diving, you know what I mean. All of the other women have long hair tied up in thick braids, buns or other captured hair configurations. But not the Japanese or Chinese. They have stylish cuts that swing when they move. And I have no idea how the Chinese divers get their hair dried between dives. Their hair is never plastered to their head, wet and dripping. Their hair coolly swings as they bound down the board. If an American tried to dry & style her hair in between dives, she'd miss her next dive.

So it's all my parents fault. I learned the wrong sports and don't have the right kind of hair. And I'm either too tall or too short.

I was also born too early-before some of these sports were invented for the Olympics. For example, volleyball was not a competitive sport when I grew up. Even if it was, I would have been too short to play. In fact the Chinese volleyball team, which was really good & which had really cool hair, was too short to compete against the Americans. They even admitted that. And all of the Chinese team are taller than me.

Nope. I needed to be born at least 20 years later, be either taller or shorter & have better

hair. And my folks needed to put me into more obscure sports where the competition isn't too intense.

For example the canoe sprint and the canoe slalom, whatever that is. I did learn how to paddle when I was a kid. But you have to kneel and with my knees, that's out. Or cycling-way too hard. Or equestrian - way too expensive. Sailing-too expensive and I grew up in Nebraska. Wrestling & boxing-I don't think so. Fencing? Maybe. I could stand there and wiggle a sword with the best of them. But I think I needed to attend a college somewhere outside of the Midwest.

So maybe we need to invent our own events, because everyone needs a gold medal (I actually have some from swimming) or a blue ribbon (same for horse and dog shows, but don't tell Becca) or an award of any kind beyond a "Thanks for participating" award.

We could have, "who can bend a sewing needle the fastest," or "who can thread their machine the fastest," or "who can lift the most fabric bolts."

Or who can get awards at our local quilt shows. Kudos to Kathleen whose quilts are now at state, winning I am sure. And Clarice won ribbons. And I wish I could find a list of all of the winners at the county fair so I could congratulate them and heap on the praise. I will work on finding someone who knows who won what and let you know, but for now, if you are a winner, I think you have won the equivalent of a gold medal at the Olympics and congratulations all around.

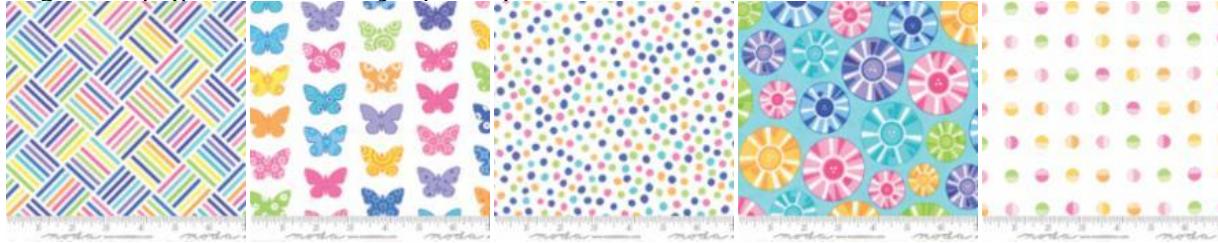
## WHAT'S NEW!!

From Moda:

Hey Dot



Brighten up (plus charms & jelly rolls)



From Blank:



From Stof: I could not capture all of the images for the Stof fabrics. Stof is a Danish company.



(ours is in the  
in bright colors, same with above panel)





(only in more taupe colors) And a

dot fabric.

From Red Rooster:



From Michael Miller:



From Hoffman:





From Moda:



Patterns:



LBQ-0575-P  
Sleigh Bell Trio



All 3 quilts are 44" x 15".

Laundry Basket Quilts

In the Beginning:



Also from Benartex are 2 1/2" strips called Dreamscapes. Couldn't grab a pic.

RJR: Geekery



# August 2016

## **Disappearing Triangles/9-patch Quilt** Wed August 24, 1-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

This quilt is done like the Disappearing 9-patch, but it is made with 10" squares so it is bigger. Sample is made with brightly colored batiks.

## **Christmas Row Quilt** Ongoing 3rd Sat of the month, (in August class is August 27) \$20 Barb Boyer

Each row uses a different pieced block. There are log cabins, stockings, wreaths, ornaments, snowmen, trees, houses, bells, and stars. Each month we will piece a different row. There are 7 rows (2 rows use multiple blocks), plus a pieced border. You should be able to have the quilt done by Christmas!

**Bertie's Year & Companions** last Friday of the month, 1-4 \$20, free if you buy the kit

Bertie's Year & Purfectly Pieced are small wall hangings, (or you can make each block into a mini quilt for display each month). Bertie is done in flannels and wool (kit only includes flannel). Bertie (the bird) and friends (squirrel, pumpkins) are appliqued with crazy quilt embroidery embellishments. The patterns are by Bonnie Sullivan, and you can do any of the series-she has a spring, summer, fall & winter Bertie's, plus the original, and plus the cats. You choose. Class is ongoing-because we need the time to get the embellishing done!

**Friday Nighters** last Fri. of month 5:30-? \$10 Barb Boyer

This class will help you get organized for Christmas 2015 -- or just help you get things done. You give me a list of your "to dos" or unfinished projects you want to finish and then each month I check off what you've completed. Trust me. If you need incentive to stay on track, this is it. You can bring your sewing machine or do hand work.

# August 2016

Sunday	Monda y	Tuesda y	Wednesda y	Thursda y	Frida y	Saturday
	<b>1</b> English Paper Piecing 2-4	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Beginning Quilt 1-4	<b>4</b> Wrapsody Purse 1-4	<b>5</b> Open Sew1-4	<b>6</b> BOM 10:30- 11:30 Ornament Club 2-4 Monthly Minis 4-6
<b>7</b> CLOSED	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Embroider y Club 10- noon Lace Houses 1-3
<b>14</b>  Disappearin g 9-patch 1- 5	<b>15</b> English Paper Piecing 2-4	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Full Moon Santa Fe	<b>19</b> Open Sew1-4 Santa Fe	<b>20</b> Santa Fe
<b>21</b> Santa Fe	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Disappearing Triangles 1-5	<b>25</b> Wrapsody Purse 1-4	<b>26</b>  Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	<b>27</b> Christmas Row Quilt 1-4
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Color of the month: black		

\*\*\*\*\*

### **HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB**

If you want to learn to hand embroider or just brush up your technique, join us on the second Saturday of the month from 10 to noon. We provide free vintage patterns, and this year we will have free patterns of girls with hats, that you can embroider, embellish and color. Each month Kathy Sconce shows us a new stitch to try, plus, she guides us through thread choices, how to knot, fabrics to use, and tracing techniques.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Knit Pickin' Club**

This is another get-together class to sit & knit, work on our projects, share information and get some help. We will share techniques, suggest patterns, but mainly we'll sit & knit (or pick).

### **Toad Toters**

On full moon days (as noted in the calendar) you will get 20% off all purchases (not otherwise discounted) that you can fit in your bag. You must bring your bag to participate. Full Moon Days: June 20, July 19, August 18.

#### **Discount Policy**

We will honor only one discount -- whichever is largest. You can't combine a 10% with a 25% discount to get a 35% discount. On this we can't be bribed.

#### **Color of the Month**

June Brown, July Blue, August Black.

\*\*\*\*\*

Join the fun and come feel the difference of quality fabrics.

Happy quilting!

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyer  
Around the Block  
307-433-9555  
[www.aroundtheblockquilts.com](http://www.aroundtheblockquilts.com)