

Vote for 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!](#)



July 1, 2016

It's time to pat ourselves on the back. Wyoming ranked 14th on this year's list of the most patriotic states. This comes just in time for our July 4th celebrations. And it's not just because we allow fireworks to be bought, sold & shot off in the state.

No, it's more important things, like how many streets are named "Liberty." Actually, that's what put Virginia in the #1 slot. I'm kidding. Virginia got to be #1 because that is where they docked the U.S.S. Enterprise, the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. If you've never been to Norfolk, or otherwise have had an opportunity to see this carrier, you could park the Starship Enterprise (Star Trek) on its deck, it's that big.

Ranking is actually based on things like voter-turnout, military presence and civic activities, like volunteering. Civic activities can also include things like how many American flags are flown in the state, just so you know.

But one of the criteria examined involved volunteering: how many people volunteer and how many hours per week they volunteer. Which brings me to the main focus of this post: Sue Frerich. Now, lots of us volunteer our time to help others and quilters are some of the most generous people I've met. Quilters make quilts for veterans, kids, shelters, homeless, and they donate fabric and time to these worthy causes.

But Sue is doing something a little different. She is teaching women, who are incarcerated in the local jail, to quilt. The local paper ran a story about this, but in case you missed it, Sue teaches once a week at the jail and the women who participate must be approved for the program, part of which means they are allowed to handle needles, scissors, and, now, rotary cutters. The women make quilts that are donated to Needs Inc., Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Laramie County Head Start, STRIDE Learning Center and several local nursing homes. They are also able to keep one quilt that they have made.

Sue told me that many of the women start out with limited sewing skills, but their creativity skills are boundless. They are not always constrained by the "quilting" rules - often because they don't have the resources - but Sue said she's always delighted to see what the quilters come up with outside of her class.

And because of Sue, these women have color & creativity in their lives, something of limited supply in a jail cell. And by their efforts, they also contribute to the well being of the community, through the donation of their quilts to others in need.

I am humbled beyond measure by Sue's dedication in helping these women learn a skill and bring some measure of enjoyment to their lives. And kudos to all of you who have volunteered your fabric and quilting tools for this program - and many other programs that donate quilts to children, veterans and shelters. Your generosity often goes unacknowledged by the world at large.

So on this July 4th weekend, let's celebrate our patriotism and love of this country and community and let's remember those individuals who helped get us to rank #14 -- all the volunteers who help make our community a great place to live.

And be careful where you shoot your fireworks.



Road Trip! Row by Row! Opera!

**What do these 3 things have in common?
Lots of fun, good food, beautiful scenery,
wonderful music. Aug. 18-21.**



Santa Fe hosts an open air opera season during the summer. For those of you unfamiliar with the Santa Fe Opera, it is recognized as one of the world's leading cultural festivals.

And to get to Santa Fe, we'll be stopping at as many participating Row By Row shops as possible: Pueblo, Colorado Springs, Raton, Taos, Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Albuquerque and potentially others if there is time.

Here's the plan: Depart 7 a.m. Cheyenne Aug. 18 (Thursday). First stop Colorado Springs. Then on to Pueblo and Raton.

We'll spend the night in Cimarron, NM (no quilt shop, sorry). Then it's through the Cimarron Canyon, on our way to Taos for lunch, shopping & Row By Row quilt stores (Taos).

Then onto Santa Fe and/or Albuquerque. There are quilt stores in Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Los Alamos. I plan to stay in Santa Fe 2 nights (Friday and Saturday).

Saturday we can spend going to quilt stores or looking around Santa Fe or both. That night is the opera Don Giovanni at 8.

Sunday we come home. We'll stop at Ruth's Stichery in Colorado Spring on the way home.

It's ambitious. It's jam packed with stuff to do. And it's the perfect time of year to visit Santa Fe.

Cost: \$650 Includes: Ticket to Opera (basic upper level seats), 3 hotel nights (double occupancy), van & gas. Food and fabric, on

your own.

Dates: Aug. 18-21.

I need to know no later than June 30 if you want to go. I know it's quick, but I need to rent the van, hold the hotels and buy the Opera tickets. \$300 will hold your spot. Final payment due before the trip starts.



WHAT'S NEW!!

From Alexander Henry:

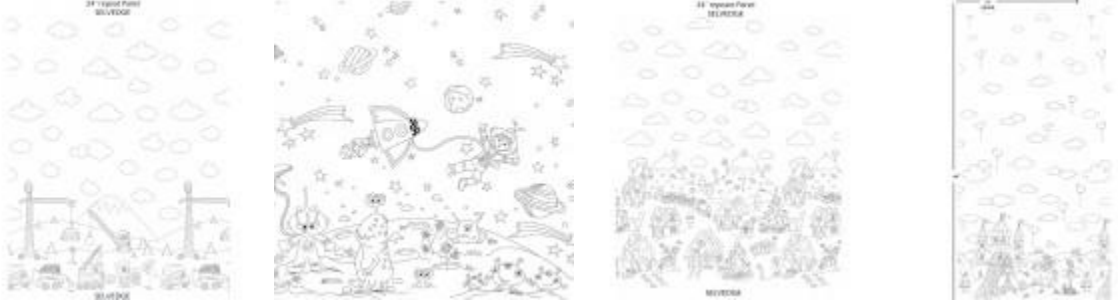




From Benartex:



From Michael Miller:



These are coloring panels. We will be getting in fabric markers, but you can color with crayons, sharpies or colored pencils. Great for placemats for kids, napkins for kids, quilts for kids and coloring for adults!

From Henry Glass:



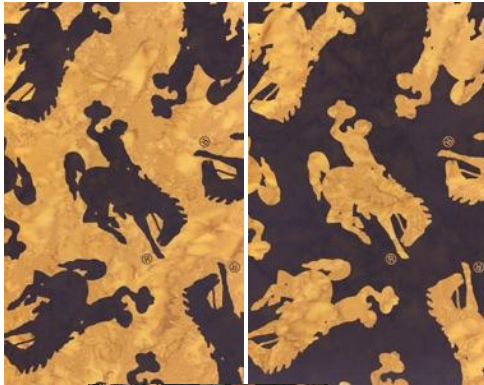
From Hoffman, wildlife (bison, bear, elk, moose, wolf, salmon/trout, horses, big horn sheep) & Bucking Horse & Rider!:



M2790-267 Palomino

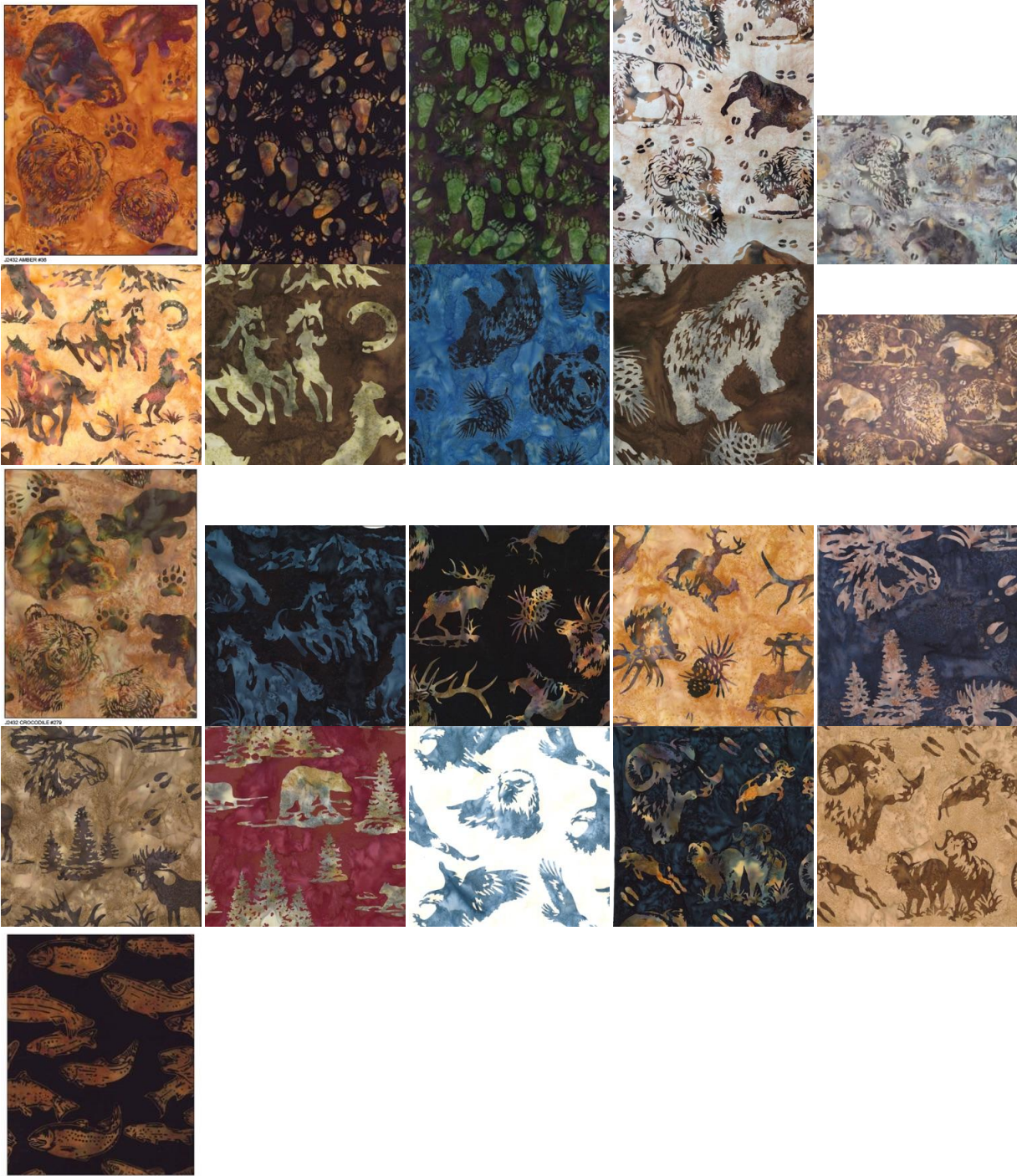


M2790-65 Denim



M2790-372 Saddle





J2432 AMBER 406

J2432 CROCODILE 4079

J2431 ANTIQUE BLACK 404
J2431-A4 Antique Black

July 2016

Block of the Month Ongoing. First Sat of month 10:30-11:15 FREE Barb Boyer

Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block. This year we're making a red, white & blue quilt-patriotic theme, if you like.

Ornament Club 1st Sat of the month, 1:30-3:30 Free, if you buy that month's kit

Each month we will feature a different pieced ornament. Some of the ornaments can be used as gift tags & gift card holders. You can pick & choose which ornaments you want to make-each ornament will be displayed prior to class. You can make the March ornament & skip the April ornament, for example. Kits are limited, though, so if you are interested in a particular kit, be sure to sign up for that month & let me know.

Monthly Minis First Saturday of the Month. 4-6 \$10 for the year (plus patterns or kits)

This year we are doing various table runners/ door banners/small wall hanging celebrating each month. Some of the quilts are long & skinny, some square, some round. Most of the quilts will be kitted.

English Paper Piecing 1st & 3rd Mondays (In July dates are the 11th & 18th) 2-4 Barb Boyer \$20

English paper piecing dates back to the early 1800s. It is a hand sewing method that uses paper templates to help sew complex angles together, like hexagons. Any number of different designs can be made, including Grandmother's Flower Garden. Several patterns will be available, including traditional Flower Garden and the Downton Abbey free pattern.

Hand Embroidery Club Sat. 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)

This year we're still doing birds-state birds. We will have between 40-50 birds (some states use the same bird) for you to stitch. Various setting for turning the birds into a quilt will be provided. Color suggestions for the birds will also be offered. As a bonus, you will get the state outlines, state flowers, and other patterns to compliment the birds. You can join anytime.

Lace Houses, block of the month 2nd Sat. of month 1-3 Kathy Sconce \$25

Lace Houses is a Crabapple Hill pattern. It combines fusible applique, laces & trims, crayon coloring, minimal piecing, and, most importantly, embroidery. Each month we will concentrate on a new block or part of the quilt. The class will run from February through November, maybe December. Come learn from our master embroiderer, Kathy Sconce.

Bucking Horse & Rider Quilt July 10, 1-5 \$20 Barb Boyer Free if you buy the kit

For the special someone who is going, or will be going, or already has gone to UW or who is just simply a fan of the Bucking Horse & Rider logo: Make them a Bucking Horse & Rider quilt. This quilt is simple, dramatic looking and showcases the BH&R fabric.

Wrapsody Purse Thurs July 7, 21, Aug 4, 25 1-3 Sue Frerich \$25

This is the coolest purse I've seen in a long time. It is light weight (uses a new kind of interfacing), has lots of pockets and very cool zippers. Sue learned this purse at Houston

last fall. The detail work on the purse is exquisite and with Sue's guidance, it will be a snap to make.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd Thurs. of month, 6-8:30 Carol Moler

Every second Thursday, we're getting together to practice our knitting. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit.

Christmas Row Quilt 3rd Sat of the month, starting May 21, 1-4 \$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!

Turning Panels into Quilts Sun. July 17 1-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

We like panels, but we don't know what to do with them. Bring your favorite panel to class and you will learn various ways to turn the panel into a quilt-using free patterns, retail patterns and patterns you make yourself. We'll discuss design, math and colors. Panels make quick, easy & beautiful quilts. Bring your sewing machine as well. We might have time to sew!

Jelly Roll Race Sat. July 23 10:30-4 Barb Boyer \$20

Ready, Set, Stitch! Well, you don't have to race if you don't want to. This is a quick & easy quilt made from 2 ½" strips - you can either purchase ready cut strips or cut your own. And that's all you use, just strips (unless you want to add a few accent pieces). If you haven't made a Jelly Roll Race quilt, they are lots of fun and we have lots of fun 2½" strip precuts just waiting to be used.

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.

S.O.S. Quilts 5th Saturday of month 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

This is another of our Save Our Scraps quilts. This quilt is made with 2 ½" strips in cascading colors. So, of course, if you like our version, we have kits. Or you can use your "scraps" and make your own cascading quilt.

Pillow Case Party Sun. July 31 1-4 FREE

If you've never made a pillow case, or just want some time to sew a pillow case, this class is for you. This is a great mother/daughter styled class and pillow cases make great presents!

August 2016

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Disappearing 9-patch Quilt Sun August 14, 1-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

Using just one charm pack and a couple of yards of extra fabric, you can make this delightful lap sized quilt. Of course, you can make it bigger. We have some wonderful new charm packs (5" squares) that would make a gorgeous 9-patch (disappearing) quilt. This quilt is quick & easy to do. Perfect for beginners.

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!

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July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Open Sew1-4	2 BOM 10:30-11:30 Ornament Club 2-4 Monthly Minis 4-6
3 CLOSED	4 CLOSED Independence Day	5	6 Beginning Quilt 1-4	7 Wrapsody Purse 1-4	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Lace Houses 1-3
10 BH&R Quilt 1-5	11 English Paper Piecing 2-4	12	13 Beginning Quilt 1-4	14 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	15 Open Sew1-4	16 Christmas Row Quilt 1-4
17 Turning a Panel into a Quilt 1-5	18 English Paper Piecing 2-4	19 Full Moon	20 Beginning Quilt 1-4	21 Wrapsody Purse 1-4	22	23 Jelly Row Race 10:30-4
24	25	26	27 Beginning Quilt 1-4	28	29 Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	30 S.O.S.Quilts 10:30-5
31 Pillow Case Party 1-4	Color of the month: Blue					

August 2016

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