Favorite quotes from the Dowager Countess of Downton Abbey:

#### VIOLET, DOWAGER COUNTESS OF GRANTHAM

How about some house parties? (Discussing how to introduce Lady Mary to men following the death of her betrothed on the Titanic)

#### CORA, COUNTESS OF GRANTHAM

She's been asked to one next month by Lady Ann McNair.

#### VIOLET, DOWAGER COUNTESS OF GRANTHAM

That's a terrible idea. She doesn't know anyone under a hundred.

### CORA, COUNTESS OF GRANTHAM

I might send her over to visit my aunt. She could get to know New York.

### VIOLET, DOWAGER COUNTESS OF GRANTHAM

Oh, I don't think things are quite that desperate.



### May 9, 2014

How To Get Rid Of Your Neighbor For Dummies 101. Hire a bull dozer and demolish the home when nobody's looking.

Yeah. Probably won't work. She got caught, BTW. She apparently told authorities that she thought her neighbors were unsavory. Right. I bet she said that word. But she lives in Florida-or maybe lived, because she's now going to be living in a prison somewhere. I've never understood the attraction of Florida. Too many bugs. But it does have cool theme parks, like the new Harry Potter Park in Orlando. But that's another story.

Anyway, I had some neighbors once with really irritating barking dogs that barked at shadows all night long. I called the cops and told them I thought there was someone wandering around the neighborhood, because, of course, these dogs had never barked before. Cops came. Dogs were ever after quiet. Problem solved. But I never called my neighbors unsavory.

I have a friend who had noisy, bothersome neighbors. To protect the innocent, I'll just say that a bunch of her friends, older than teenagers but spry enough not to get caught, borrowed (loose term) a bunch of for sale signs and, one night, stuck them all in the neighbor's yard. Imagine waking up and finding your house for sale, by multiple realtors. That probably didn't work, either, to get rid of the neighbors, but you can bet that no one called them unsavory. Lots of other names, many unprintable. But never unsavory.

Who uses the word unsavory? Is it like the word "vehicle" that only cops and PA announcers use, as in "Would the owner of the vehicle whose car alarm is going off, please disengage the alarm." Seriously. No one talks like that. When I looked up the word unsavory, hunting for a sentence in which it's used, the first sentence I found was: "His unsavory reputation as a mobster came back to haunt him when he ran for mayor of New York City." So maybe mobsters use the word. I didn't watch the Sopranos, so I wouldn't

know about things like that.

But I'm sure you don't want to know about a crazy woman whose first choice in getting rid of the neighbors is to bull doze the place. No, I'm sure you're wondering what is happening with my refrigerator.

I'm happy to report that I have ice again. It started working Sunday night. The moral to this story is to never give up on your old frig. But hedge your bets. So I continued my search for a new one. It was a little bit like the Goldilocks story - too big, too wide, too tall - led by sales clerks who know less about refrigerators than I do. I went back to the store with the pimply faced kid. The store manage was there, too, this time, all decked out in a black suit and red tie, and he proudly proclaimed the kid as "our refrigerator expert." He was just pontificating to impress me, the customer. I had to tell the kid where to find the only KitchenAid unit on the floor. But I was kind. I did it in the stacks, so his manager wouldn't know how uninformed his "expert" was.

I checked another big box store & found one that I feared was too tall. So I left depressed, hoping against hope that I had 68 ½ inches of clearance and I could order my new frig. Nope, and don't start on me about not knowing by heart, the dimensions of my cubby hole of a space for a frig. Just be glad that I measured twice and bought once.

So I started a new search on line and on the phone while sitting on my couch. At the next big box store, the clerk brightly suggested I look on line. Sigh. I explained that their website took a while to load and navigate and that I didn't want to look at 30 different frigs to find the one that fit my dimensions. Perhaps she would know better, being an expert in refrigeration? Of course, I'm not sure she heard all of this because she was busy talking over me. And I, of course, didn't quit talking. I figured that was her job to listen to me. Clearly, we didn't get anywhere.

I called an outlet store in Ft. Collins, but he didn't deliver past the border. He could drop ship it, which means they'd leave it on my door step. I know that Cassidy & Becca would be no help in carting it inside, so that wasn't an option.

So I gave up and started watching House of Cards. I figured I might pick up some tips on how to manipulate people, which could help when buying a frig. Maybe.

The next day I called a local outfit. Now, I had started my search here a couple of weeks ago, without any luck. But this time, wonder of wonders, I got a guy on the phone who knew his stock. And yup, that's where I am buying and it will be here next week. Not July 1. Although, when I went down to the store the next day, a different guy quoted me a price about \$500 higher than I had been told on the phone. I was ready to walk out and start all over again. But then he turned the page in the catalog - I'm not making this up - and found my frig. I swear, this shouldn't be this difficult.

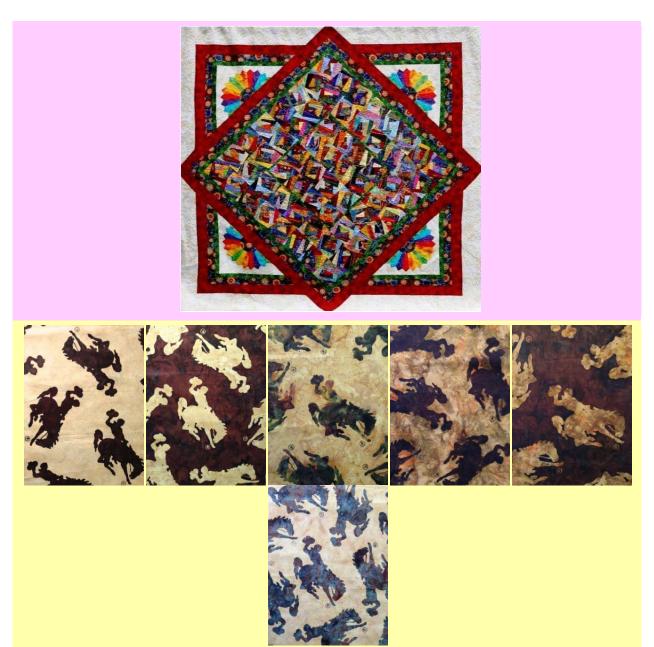
So now I will use the word unsavory in a sentence: Buying a refrigerator is an unsavory experience. This is when being affiliated with the mob might have an advantage. I would have had a frig 3 weeks ago. It would not have fit, but there would have been guys, big guys, who would have knocked walls out to make it fit. And I would have said, Thank you very much.



Come to our last concert of the year! It will be a routin' tootin' time. We have local artisans, food, wine, cowboy poet, dancers and singers. And best of all -- or maybe not -- you'll get to hear me sing!

# QUILT WYOMING!

It's not too late to sign up for classes. Check it out at wsqg.org for a list of all classes. Enrollment is now open to everyone. And the best news!! Quilt Wyoming is being held in Cheyenne this year. July 10-13. Don't miss an chance to win the opportunity quilt showcasing this year's theme: Quilter's Gone Crazy.



## **Bucking Horse and Rider fans!**

Hoffman is printing our beloved "Steamboat" on fabric! If you are interested in this fabric, please let me know quickly. I have placed my order, but I did order extra bolts. If you haven't yet placed an order and want the fabric, don't wait until it gets here. It may sell out before it arrives.

If you want to put the BH&R on backs or borders of quilts, you must think in yardage. 2-3 yards for borders (depending on size of quilt) and 5-10 yards for backing.

You may want to make curtains, pillow cases, purses, skirts, chair covers, pillows, aprons, napkins, t-towels.

Call me and let me know approximately how much yardage you want. I have started taking payments now with any pre order.

Fabric should arrive in late June, in time for traveling tourists. Just so you know. Price will be

\$12.50 per yard.

Left to right: Bison, Saddle, Moss, Buckskin, Palomino, Denim

Yardage still available, 5-9-14:

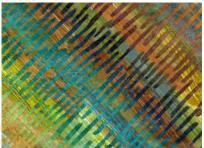
64 yards of Bison; 83 Saddle; 64 Moss; 36 Denim; 88 Buckskin; 73 Palomino.

# WHAT'S NEW!!

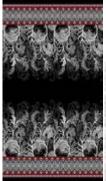
From Timeless we got 7 whites and 5 blacks.

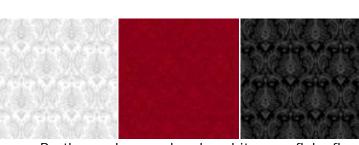
From Red Rooster: digitally printed





From Henry Glass:





Flannels from Marcus Brothers, plus a red and a white snowflake flannel.









From Benartex:



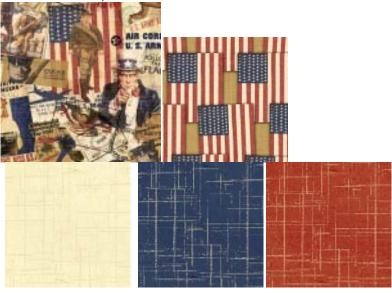








From Windham, the Freedom collection:



### From Benartex:



From Clothworks:



## **May Classes and Special Events**

# Hand Embroidery Club Sat. May 10, 10-11:30 FREE Kathy Sconce

(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)
This year we're stitching "penny squares" using simple drawings that we create! During class we will draw various designs and stitch then on 5" squares. Each month we will learn new stitches and trade designs and ideas. Then these 5" squares can be made into a sampler quilts, or stitched into a "book" of stitches. You will also make your own notebooks so you can keep your squares, ideas, floss, needles & scissors in one place. You can join anytime.

# Let's Knit Socks! Mon. May 12, 1:30-3:30 OR 6-8:30 Carol Moler

Learn the basics of top down knitted socks with heels and toes. Continued class.

### Hand Applique Club Thurs. May 15, 6-8:30

Every 3rd Thursday, we're getting together to practice our hand applique skills. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and sew. More and more patterns are showing applique work, and while sometimes you can just fuse it down, learning how to hand applique is a wonderful skill that can be carried anywhere you go.

## BQ Quilt for Railroaders! Depot Days in Cheyenne! Sat. May 17, 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

The Model Railroaders are in town and we thought it would be a perfect time to make a train quilt. The BQ pattern is well suited for a quick project that showcases fabulous fabrics. I'm working on getting some great train fabrics in stock. Click on link to see Train Flyer: <a href="Train Class Flyer">Train Class Flyer</a>

# Catch up on the Monthly Minis: Sat. May 24 10:30-5 Barb Boyer

Stitch on the last 4 Snow Bud blocks, or even start on Block 5. Get caught up on your monthly minis!

Field Day Quilt Mon. May 24, 10:30-5 \$25 or free with kit

### **Barb Boyer**

This cool quilt is made with 2 1/2" strips and squares cut from the new Hoffman line - Home is Where Your Story Begins. This quilt is quick pieced and will brighten any room.

### Friday Nighters Fri. May 30, 5:30-9 \$10 (one time fee for year)

This class will help you get organized for Christmas 2014 -- 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.

### Turning 20 Sat. May 31, 10:30-5, \$20 Barb Boyer

This fun, simple quilt is easy to make and stunning to look at. Perfect for any beginner. You may even get the quilt top sewn in class.

May 2014											
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
				1	2 Open Sew1-4	3 BOM 10:30-11:30 Make it Do 1-2 Monthly Minis 4-6					
4 Closed	5 Monday Morning Quilts 10-2	6	7 Beyond Basics: Flying Geese 6- 8:30	8 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	9	10 Embroidery Club 10- noon Mini Take 5 1-5					
11 Mother's Day	12 Socks, cont. 1:30- 3:30 or 6-8:30	13	14 FullMoon	15 Hand Applique Club 6- 8:30	16 Open Sew1-4	17 BQ quilt for Railroaders 10:30-5					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Get Caught up on Monthly Minis: Free sew from 10:30-5					
25 Open sew 1-4	26 Field Day Quilt 10:30-5 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	31 Turning 20 10:30-5					