

New Toad Toter Bags are in!

Info for the Uninitiated: 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 Toad Toter bag. You must bring your bag to participate. Toad Toter bags cost \$25 and they are good for forever. You don't have to buy one every year.

But we have new & different bags this time, complete with a zippered top, zippered inside pocket, a place for a water bottle and other intriguing pockets. So if your old bag is getting a bit worn, come in for a refit!

BTW, The bag got its name because the shop logo, which is on the bag, is a quilt block called Toad in the Puddle, one of my favorite blocks. Thus, if you carry a tote bag, you are a toter of a toad bag. Toad Toter!

We Came in 3rd!

Thanks to all of you who voted. I am getting some Creative Grid rulers, as a result, and I think I can pick which ones I want. So that means....CLASS!

Class fee will be: You have to bring my row to the shop to sign up, either in a quilt or just stand alone. It does not have to be finished. Class will be limited to the number of rulers I can get. Everyone who comes to class will go home with one of the rulers and I will design a project around the ruler. Obviously, class size will be limited. I will announce when sign up for class will begin--and you will know what the ruler is and probably what the project will be and what the time & date for the class. (It won't be until at least November, so if you haven't made the row, you have time.)

This is to thank all of you who supported my row. Now, I know that not everyone was able to vote, so I'm not going to restrict the class to just those who voted (plus, I don't know). But to participate in the class, you have to make my row.



Monthly Mini Class

Next month we will do a beautiful striped (2 1/2" jelly roll works) table topper quilt. So in October, you will need your machines.

Don't Forget

to sign up for the Camden Bag, starting this week! And Chit Chat and Coloring on Fabric are tomorrow! Plus the Barns embroidery class begins.



September 9, 2016

It's time to clean out the DVR player, because the fall tv season will arrive in a couple of weeks. I have my list of new shows I want to try and because I'm not home every evening, I just tape the series and watch later.

So what this means is that I have been binge watching some shows and the US Tennis Open in New York. I'm behind on tennis, but I have caught up with Zoo, Brain Dead and the Masterpiece Mystery shows, although I still have a couple of Wallenders to watch and I have to be in the right mood because, while the stories are fascinating, his life is really depressing and some days that is just not the way to end the night.

For those of you unfamiliar with Zoo, it's a James Patterson novel turned tv show. It's about animals that start attacking people. And then there is the sloth that causes earthquakes, the lizard that turns everything into the ice age, ants that produce electricity, and a saber toothed extinct cat that they are currently looking for (I haven't watched the season ender yet, so I don't know if they found the cat). And yes, I know I said extinct-that's part of the fun of the show.

In another "animal gone wild" show, this time involving politics, and no I'm not talking about Donald Trump, I've been watching the summer series Brain Dead. Essentially it involves insects, of some indeterminable kind, that invade people's brains, eat part of it and spit half of the rest out. You can tell the people who only have half a brain, and again, I'm not talking about Donald Trump, because they walk kinda lopsided and they can't hear out of one ear. I'm pretty sure Trump can hear out of both ears. Anyway, the series is set in DC, during this current election year and it spoofs American politics in a weird sort of way. And watching a show like that brings new meaning to the moth invasion that attacked the east windows of the McDonalds on Yellowstone this week. Makes you wonder.....

Anyway, what all this brings to mind is reading, paired with television shows. Okay, I know that's not a good segue, but it's the best I can do on this Friday. So if you like certain shows, like Brain Dead, Zoo, Scandal, House of Cards, Downton Abbey or Penny Dreadful, here are some books that might be interesting (I did not come up with this list, NPR did).

Politics/Brain Dead & West Wing: [It Can't Happen Here](#) by Sinclair Lewis (novel) because it

echoes the current election season. Also watch the movie, Wag the Dog. You'll never view politics in the same way.

Scandal/tv show: [Bring Up The Bodies](#) by Hilary Mantel (novel), sequel to Wolf Hall & it's all about the Tudors, political plotting, manipulation and over-the-top intrigue. Or the Histories, by Shakespeare (the Henry series, Richard III, etc)

Fantasy/Game of Thrones: [The Crown Of Stars series](#) by Kate Elliott (novels). Apparently this is like Game of Thrones only with lots of women and more magic. I haven't read this, but I'm intrigued. I like this kind of stuff and Game of Thrones is a bit too warish. Too many battles. Actually, it's not the battles so much, it's the over the top description of all of the battles and strategy. Although, I've always suspected that if women ran the world, there would be no war, because women don't play by the rules and after the first war everyone would be so scared that no one would want to tempt the wrath of a woman. I could be wrong. We may find out in November.

Food/The Great British Baking Show: [The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society](#) by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (novel), set just after the end of World War II, with camaraderie, warmth, humor and Upright Britishness.

Mystery/Sherlock: [Night Film](#) by Marisha Pessl (novel) a fast-paced, brainy mystery that's firmly rooted in today's digital world. And speaking of Sherlock/Benedict Cumberbatch, he's starring in a new movie this fall called Dr. Strange.

Manners & mystery/Downton Abbey & the like: [The Julian Kestrel mystery series](#) by Kate Ross (novels), which star a gentleman detective with the seductive allure of Wickham and the moral uprightness of Darcy (Pride & Prejudice) and superbly twist-ridden plots.

Sci-fi/Dr. Who: [The Company series](#) by Kage Baker (novels) because part of the fun of time-travel stories is the way everyone invents their own version of the technology, and Baker's immortal cyborgs working forward through time saving lost things are a fascinating and fresh approach.

Alternate realities/The Man in the High Castle: [The Yiddish Policemen's Union](#) by Michael Chabon (novel) World War II and its aftermath if things went a bit differently. [Small Change trilogy](#) by Jo Walton (novels) a series about a closeted police detective solving mysteries in an alternate-reality 1950s Britain that's been subsumed by Nazi Germany. And [The Man in the High Castle](#), by Phillip Dick, which is set in the Rockies, including Cheyenne.

Digital weirdness/Mr. Robot: [Neuromancer](#) by William Gibson (novel) involving paranoid hackers and vast, nebulous conspiracies.

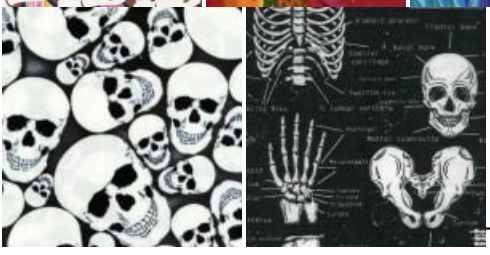
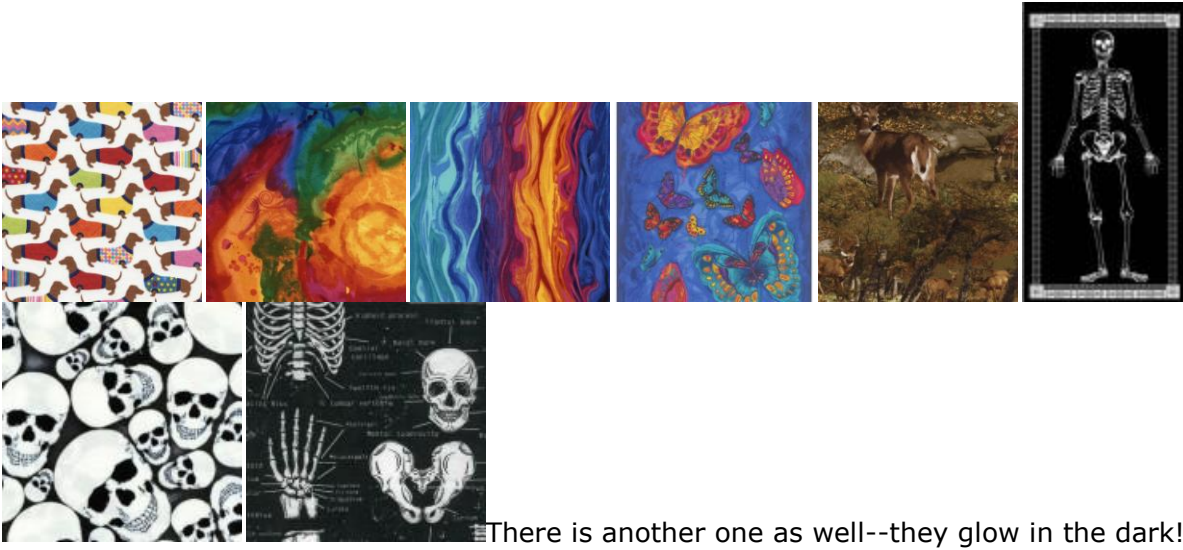
Science/Zoo and Margaret Atwood because it's Margaret Atwood: [The MaddAddam trilogy](#) by Margaret Atwood (novels), the plot is driven by scientific advancements and will leave you wondering: Can science actually do that? And, if so, is this what will happen?

Go back in time stuff/Outlander: [Doomsday Book](#) by Connie Willis (novel) about a young woman thrown far back in time and navigating historical problems with the help of new friends and family.

Vampires & such/Penny Dreadful: [Varney The Vampire](#) by Thomas Preskett Prest (novel) the seminal Victorian serial about a vampire, a heroine and characters and plots that keep changing on a dime at the whim of the writer. This could be interesting because vampires are supposed to be Victorian, but they are sexy creatures and Victorians are not. And who can resist the name, Varney.

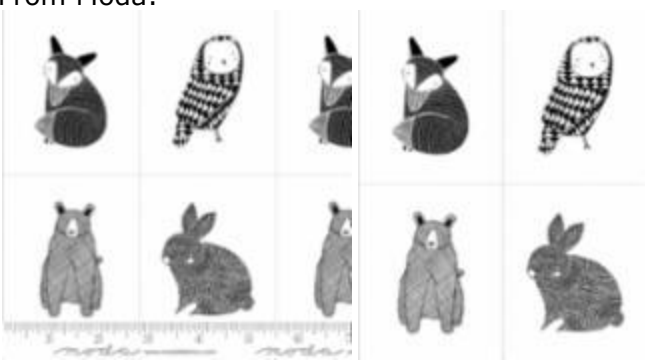
WHAT'S NEW!!

From Timeless:



There is another one as well--they glow in the dark!

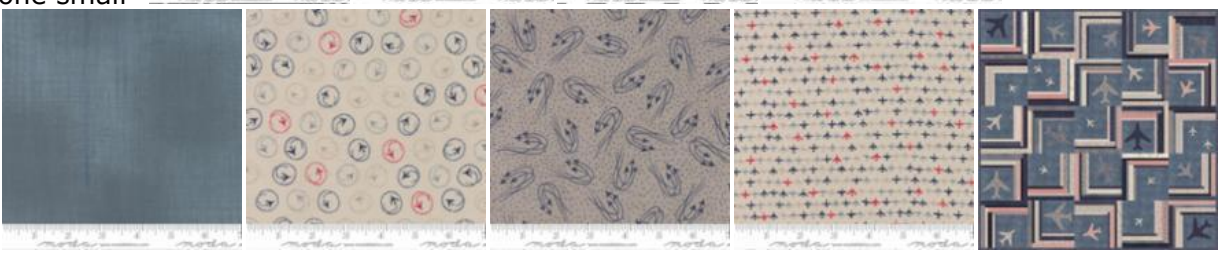
From Moda:



These are 2 different panels, one large,



one small





pattern

laser cut planes

From Anna Griffin



From Free Spirit:



From Michael Miller:





From Moda:
Hey Dot



Brighten up (plus charms & jelly rolls)



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





in bright colors, same with above panel)

(ours is in the

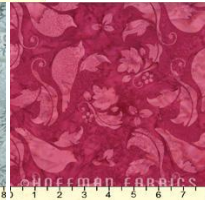
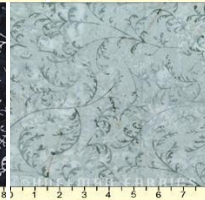
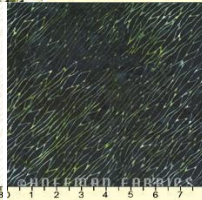
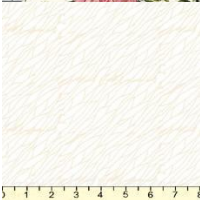
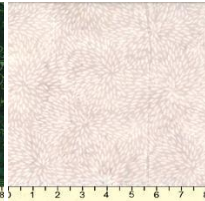
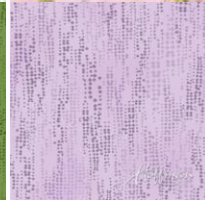
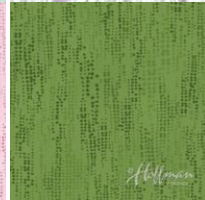
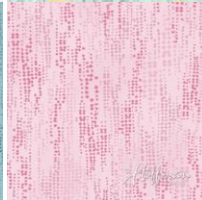
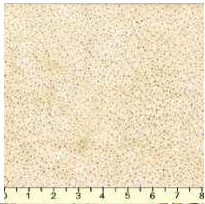
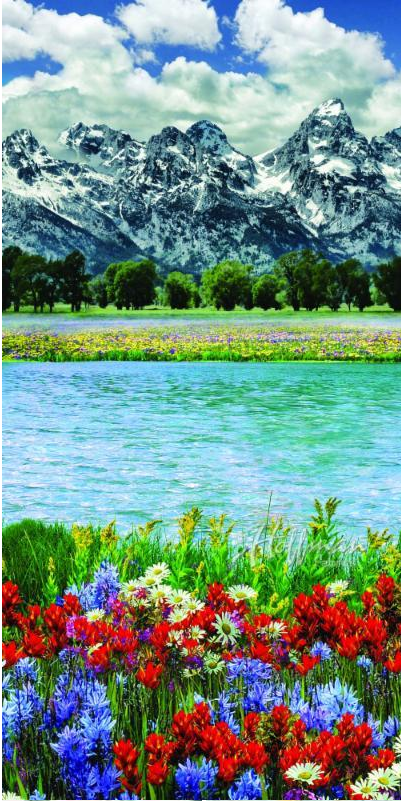


(only in more taupe colors)



And a

dot fabric.
From Hoffman:





From Moda:



September Classes & Special Events

English Paper Piecing 1st & 3rd Mondays 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.

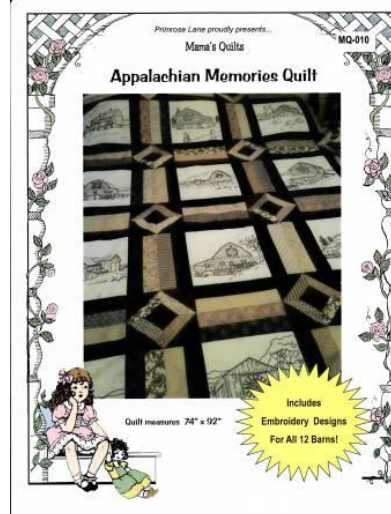
Hand Embroidery Club 2nd Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE
(but see below) Kathy Sconce

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

Starting this fall we are doing barns. If you want to participate, there will be a COST. The patterns is \$20 + \$12 for printing. Each month, I will print the barn on Transfer Ez for you. Bring your fabric and supplies (floss, hoop, scissors, etc), and we will sit & stitch on the blocks during class. Fabric requirements will be provided in the first class.

Coloring on Fabric Sat. Sept. 10, 1-3 \$20 Barb Boyer

We have several panels for coloring projects-some for kids, some for adults, some for both. Experiment with our fabric markers, crayons & colored pencils during class. An advantage to coloring of fabric is you have a finished project at the end: Center of a quilt, a pillow case, or even a table runner!



Chit Chat Quilt Sat. Sept. 10 & Oct. 8, 4-6 \$20 Barb Boyer

English Paper Piecing in miniature! The blocks are tiny, about an inch wide and maybe 2" long, pointed on each end and you will need about 105 of them. The quilt is called a "Chit Chat" quilt or a "Conversation" quilt. Find fabrics that "chit chat" about your life. For example, I will have dogs, cats, parakeets, ducks and horses in my quilt. Plus roses, the word "huskers" because I was born in Nebraska. Find images on fabric that represent your life, where you have traveled, what you have accomplished, your job, your kids, your family, where you've lived, what you like to read, what you like to eat. Favorite flowers, birds, time of year. If you've wanted to learn how to English paper piece, this quilt is quick and easy to learn.

Beginning Quilting Sun. starting Sept 11 1-4 OR Wed Sept 14 6-9 8 weeks

\$65 Barb Boyer

This comprehensive 8-week course will introduce to you almost everything you need to know about piecing a quilt top. Along the way you will learn about color, batting, thread, machines and various techniques to give you the skills to make almost any quilt.



Camden Bag Thur. Sept 15 & 29, 1-4 or 6-9 \$25 Sue Frerich

Zigzag together fabric-covered fusible-batting strips for the sides of this charming oval-bottom handmade bag. The pattern has two sizes to choose from: Large 18" wide x 16" tall x 12" deep Small 13" wide x 9" tall x 9" deep. Sue will walk you through the steps to make this great bag!



Eleanor Burns El's Garden Sampler Quilt Sat. Sept 17 & 24; Oct. 15 & 22; Nov. 19 & 26 10-12 \$20 Barb Boyer

Eleanor Burns has collected attic quilts for years and the sampler in the book Quilts from El's Attic is designed from the blocks in her collection of antique quilts. Each week (2 weeks in a row each month) you will learn different 2 blocks. In December (not yet scheduled) you will learn how to do a scalloped border to finish your quilt.



Christmas Row Quilt 3rd Sat of the month, 1-4 ongoing

Machine Applied Binding Sat Sept. 17, 4-6 4-6 \$20 Barb Boyer

We will explore two different machine applied binding: one that uses a cord and one that used a flange. Bring a small quilt, your binding and your sewing machine-check the supply list to make sure you have the right tools (cording, the correct foot, binding cut at the correct width). Putting binding on by machine cuts your time tremendously and when done well can be award winning!

Back Basting Wed. Sept. 21, 1-3 Sandra Freeburg \$25

Back basting is a template free method of needle turn applique. No slippery freezer paper or chalked lines on top that never seem to get turned under quite right. This method is especially great for traveling, because your pieces will be basted onto your background -- no need for pins to get in the way. This class is great for beginners and all levels of appliquers. Don't let hand applique frustrate you. It's really easy and relaxing!



Jacks All Around Sat. Sept. 24, 1-6

This cute Halloween quilt features easy pieced pumpkins, all with different faces. Choose 12 different oranges for your pumpkins and change up the faces to create your own special Halloween jack o'lantern quilt!

Hand Quilting Wed. Sept. 28, 1-3 \$25 Sandra Freeburg

Hand quilting is an art that should not be lost. By the end of Sandra's class you will be hand quilting with confidence. Everyone has at least one special quilt that calls out for hand quilting. And there is nothing better than the feel of a hand quilted quilt. Do yourself a favor and learn this art that connects us to our past -- our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers.

Wild Orchid Raven Quilt Fri. Sept 30, 2-4 \$20

This block of the month will feature a different raven block, from the Raven book by Blackbird Designs. You can hand applique the blocks, but class will show you how to trace the pieces, fuse them in place and applique around by machine. We have 1 kit left of the original fabrics, but you can choose your own fabrics from your stash.



Friday Nighters, last Friday of the 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.

September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Open Sew1-4	3 BOM 10:30-11:30 Ornament Club 2-4 Monthly Minis 4-6
4 CLOSED	5 English Paper Piecing 2-4 Labor Day	6	7	8 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	9	10 Embroider y Club 10- noon Coloring on Fabric 1-3 Chit Chat 4-6 (English Paper Piecing)
11 Beginnin g Quilt 1- 4	12	13	14 Beginning Quilt 6-9	15 Camden Bag 1-4 or 6-9	16 Open Sew1-4 Full Moon	17 Eleanor Burns El's Garden Sampler 10-12 Christmas Row Quilt 1-4 Machine Applied Binding 4-6
18 Beginnin g Quilt 1- 4	19 English Paper Piecing 2-4	20	21 Back Basting 1-3 Beginning Quilt 6- 9	22	23	24 Eleanor Burns El's Garden Sampler 10-12 Jacks All Around 1-6
25 Beginnin g Quilt 1- 4	26	27	28 Hand Quilting 1-3 Beginning Quilt 6- 9	29 Camden Bag 1-4 or 6-9	30 Wild Orchid Raven Quilt 2-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	Color of the month: orange

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: Sept. 16; Oct. 16; Nov. 14; Dec. 14.

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

September orange; October green; November flannel; December Christmas.

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