Clues are normal, but some answer words need to undergo a transformation before being entered into the grid. There are two proper nouns. 32 across is uncommon.

**Across**

1. What questions should be read, somehow, in opposite directions? (Opposite directions? Just the opposite!)
7. Sash used in robing
11. Vehicle in reverse -- dread backing up to club’s track
14. In exile, hopelessly backwards, it goes around and around
15. Fragment half the alphabet, then one last letter at the end
16. Runs off East, then rides
17. Smile, exist, live
18. Dock houses the initial source of power
20. Nearly record faint sound
22. Japanese cent or Spanish gent
23. Outfit doctor with letter
24. Not the first part of month
27. Shake container
30. Hearing note in endless trill
32. Cut off portion (half) of icicle in insect? Just the opposite!
34. Head off deer in children’s game
35. Hangs out to use choppers
36. Monster is repulsed thus
38. Bird, bee hop about
39. Come back into green Terra’s interior
41. Belly dancing -- hot scam
42. The best policy: “Cut, sharpen pen”
43. Vagabonds eliminated regression in eccentric star? Just the opposite!

**Down**

1. She won’t believe an article about a first? Just the opposite!
2. Bar nothing in beauty parlor
3. Bird, right in weeping willow, within beast? Just the opposite!
4. Sack manors, pay the price of freedom
5. Some stations rerun Trek now
6. Illegally stow braces
8. Market’s odd, we hear
9. Time out for something of interest
10. You use it for protection in brothel? Me too!
12. Branched lamp’s container at beginning of dangerous period inside research station? Just the opposite!
13. “Representative-singer in love” in Latin, in personal? Just the opposite!
19. Friends, evenly glowing
21. Marks new phase (excellent to satisfactory) in monthly payment? Just the opposite!
25. Engagement to play up and down
26. Groups (teams) in disarray around North Dakota
28. Nearly touch outside lines (two words)
29. Bloody organ sticking up in runner’s head? Just the opposite!
31. Appearance in traveling E.S.P. act
33. Demand the French knitting implement
36. Love found in tender rejection
37. Promenade among porticoes, to Athenians!