



May 4, 2023

After all the mass shootings just this week, it got me thinking about 1962 and the nuclear war drills in grade school.

Do you remember those days? Ducking under school desks? I actually don't remember trying to hide under my school desk, but I do remember parading into the halls of the school and lining up along the wall for safety reasons. Those drills doubled as tornado drills.

It's funny to look back on those drills because 1) I lived in Omaha and if Cuba/Russia decided to nuke anything in the U.S., Offutt Airforce Base would be a likely prime choice. Hiding under a desk to protect you from that kind of an attack is just, well, amusing, and 2) hiding in a hall for protection against a tornado or a nuclear bomb is about as ludicrous. Although, getting to an inside corridor is always better than a classroom with almost floor to ceiling windows, if you're in a tornado.

The crouching under a desk for a nuclear attack falls into the KYAG category: (taken from a 1960s satirical poster, listing 7 steps to follow in case of a nuclear attack, abbreviated version): 1) stay clear of windows, ... 4) loosen necktie and other restrictive clothing, 5) remove glasses, etc., 6) when you see a bright flash of light, bend over and place head between legs and 7) kiss your ass goodbye.

But I remember those drills. I think most of us do. Can you imagine what third graders will remember 40 years from now regarding school lockdowns because of mass shooting events in their town and schools? I wonder how many of them will laugh at the memories.

But, as usual, that's not what I wanted to talk about.

I'm coming to you a day early (did you notice?) because today is May 4th. May the 4th be with you! (My brother always reminds me. I love it.) Now tomorrow is also a special day, May 5, which is Cinco de Mayo Day. But I am out of the shop tomorrow, taking a legal class called the Rocky Mountain Professional Landman Conference. I'll learn about federal land issues, carbon capture and storage, and leasing and unitization matters. Which means I will be knitting a sweater during the sessions to help keep my mind focused.

It's free. What can I tell you. When I was practicing law, I attended many classes that were in the areas of my practice. That's what you're supposed to do, after all. But once you are more retired from the business, you take what you can get. I've learned about Medicaid and Medicare issues for tax and estate planning, constitutional rights after covid, preparing for trial as a solo attorney, smart phones, conservation law, brain diseases, practical tips for marijuana defenses in Wyoming, and, my favorite, The Plight of the Packgoat: Legal Issues Concerning the Removal of Domestic Livestock from Public Lands. You never know what info might come in handy some day.

So because it's May 4th, I will suggest that a Star Wars movie night is in order. You can watch the movies in order of release, which is sometimes confusing keeping track who knew what when. Plus the progression of technology gets a little confusing as well. In 1977, I was overwhelmed by the enormity of what I was seeing just after the opening credits: Darth Vader's big flag ship flies over head on the screen and it just keeps going and going and going..... I knew that I was watching a new generation of movie making. And then in 1999 the prequels started coming out, and the technology had to be dummed down a little bit, because these films depicted the world some 50 years prior. It didn't always work.

And now you need a map to help you navigate all of the various independent series, plus cartoons, to help fill in all the gaps of the timeline. I'm here to help.

You have The Mandalorian (with the baby Yoda, which isn't baby Yoda), which is set between the 1st 3 films (released) and the sequels. The Andor series goes before Rogue One, which goes before the very first movie, A

New Hope. The newest series, which is not yet released, comes hundreds of years before anything dealing with Skywalker. You also have to figure out who is part of the Rebellion, what is the Resistance, and is the Republic good or bad. And does it depend on when and where in the timeline you are.

Then you get the Clone Wars cartoon, which takes place between prequel 2 & 3, and the Bad Batch cartoon, which kinda takes place somewhere around the same time. Then there's the stand alone series about the young Han Solo, called Solo: A Star Wars Story. Then comes Star Wars Rebels, another cartoon series, that spans the gap from the last movie (and cartoons), to the first of the second to last trio, released first. Got it?

Then between film V & VI, or the second & third released films, you get The Mandalorian. Presumably. The timeline is a bit strange in this section. And the Book of Boba Fett, who is the cloned child of Jango Fett, the bad guy in film II, the 5th film released.

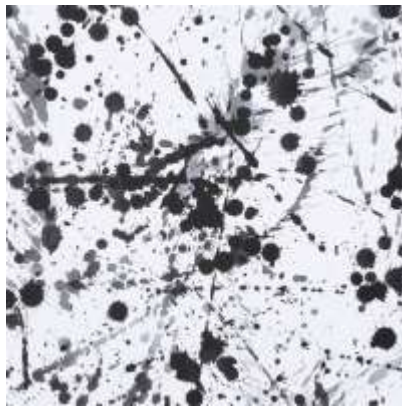
And then there are the last 3 films, where one character, if not 3, from the original films (IV, V & VI) SPOILER ALERT die. And there is the Obi Wan Kenobi series set after I, II & III, but before IV, V & VI.

Needless to say, it's hard to keep track who is who. And because the actors age in real time, they have to be computer generated (CGI) to make them look the age they should even though they are 50-70? years old, or even dead, for the specific period in which the specific series is being shot.

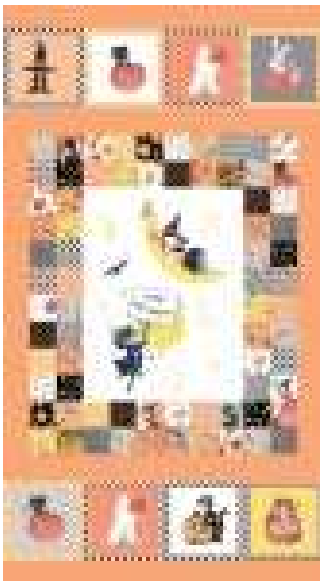
So.....May the 4th Be With You as you navigate your way through the Star Wars Universe. And, if you're wondering, no, the story lines are not always consistent. And yes, some of the cartoon characters have real life actors in some of the shows. It's just best not to question a lot of it, and just enjoy what you are watching in the moment.

And do I have a favorite? Of course. The very first film. Because when I saw that ship pass overhead, I knew sci fi movies would never be the same.

What's New



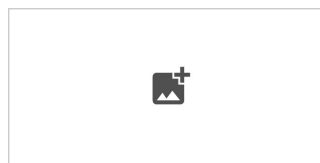
Alexander Henry

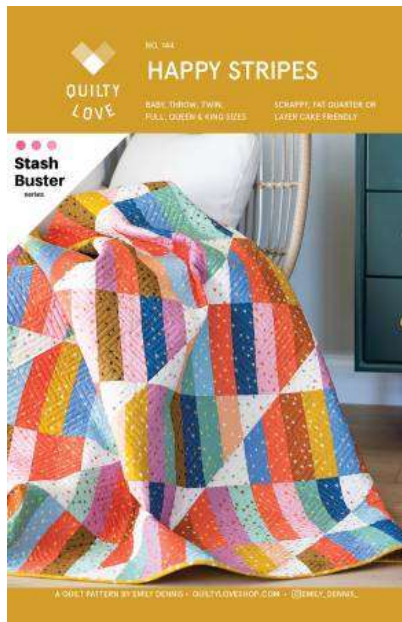


From Riley Blake



From Michael Miller
The two florals are overwide, and
the bundle is actually 2 1/2" wide
strips in Fairy Frost--the bundle
just shows the colors better



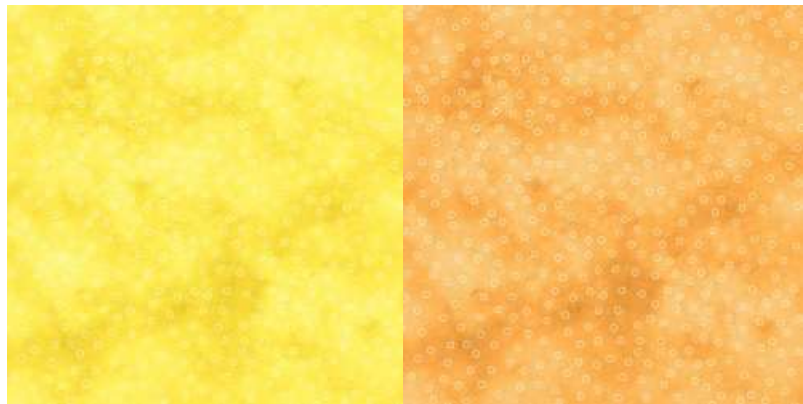
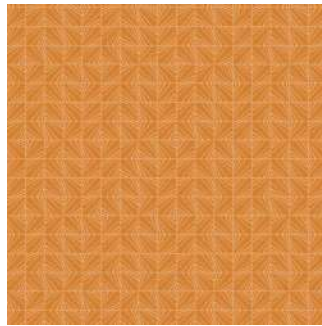


Happy Stripes



A —And here in the room, That stand in Rarolus.	O for Oil-cloth, bright as new, Made so by Rarolus, too.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
B steps words for Buffalo, What words are? Rarolus.	P for Pot that kissed the bottle, Rarolus Rarolus Rarolus told.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
C is for Canada, Canada, Clerk, Rarolus did look away from work.	Q for Quacking all around— What can't Rarolus be found?	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
D for Diet, so wide now, Since Rarolus made the law.	R for Rest, which all may know Who use Rarolus with and Rarolus.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
E for Easy—work is so If you see Rarolus.	S for Success—just the thing For clearing up in Fall and Spring.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
F for Fun, which they enjoy Who Rarolus's aid employ.	T for Tide—such are they Who use Rarolus every day.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
G for Gilt—good ones think Rarolus perfect for clean- ing the sick.	U for Umbrella of copper or tin, Rarolus cleans them without and within.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
H for Home, where all is bright If Rarolus's need might.	V for Village, you should know Rarolus's found where you go.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
I for Imit—plenty so— Never used Rarolus!	W for Women, who can know How to use Rarolus.	T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
J for Joke—you'll find so If you see Rarolus.		T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer
K for Knees; all women know What chance them have.		T Selen to Go The 3 To speak clear count evils death afflict and a Bakes the in Dance Knew Bread eight shies dancer

From Riley Blake





From P&B



From Clothworks



Prism: From In the Beginning
We have a couple of extra kits
available. Patterns are subtle in the
fabrics.

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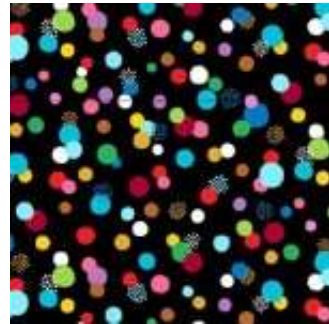


From Michael Miller

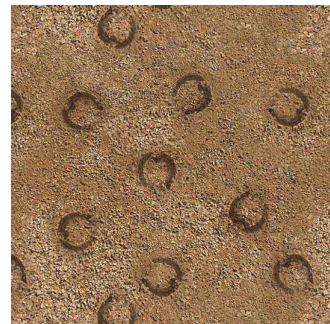
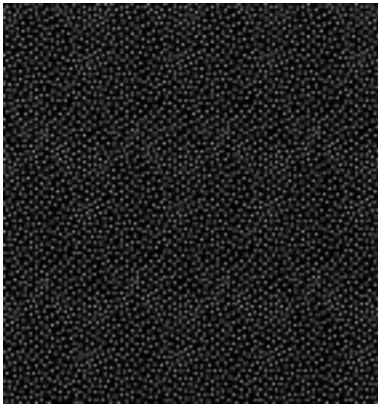
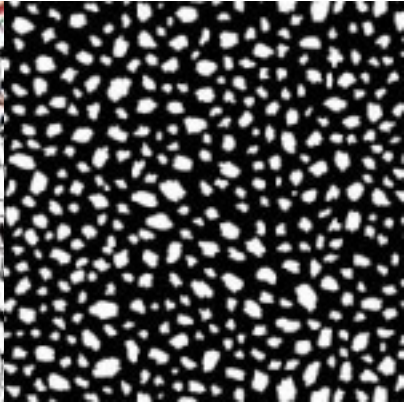


From Windham





From Michael Miller



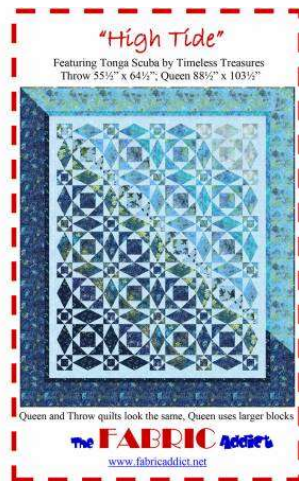
From Kennard & Kennard



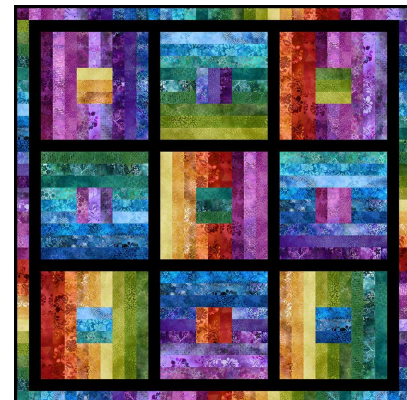
PANEL SIZE APPROX 24" x 44"



Spring Newsletter



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Class Pictures of some of the quilts: Storm at Sea (High Tide); Shakespeare in the park; Two Scoops, Prism; Happy Stripes (Striper); San Marcos, English paper piecing bag (one of several options); Exploding Hearts.

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates.

Ongoing Classes & Clubs

Block of the Month 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 the challenge will be Starry Skies. Challenge #1 is to use at least 25 different fabrics in the quilt – should be easy. Challenge #2 is to choose backgrounds for the blocks that aren't the typical cream/white neutrals that we generally use. Instead, we will mix it up a bit, using both traditional backgrounds for some blocks, and then choosing "colors" in both light and dark fabrics for other blocks.

Hand Embroidery Club 2nd Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

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. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing, which is Garden Belles. Each block features a lady in vintage costume, in the garden, or similar outdoor setting. These are old fashioned ladies in dresses, which offer all sorts of stitchery creativity.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler

Come join our Knit Pickers' Club. We knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, from 2-5. The Club is open to all skill levels and, despite the name, includes crocheters as well. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit. We may work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. We can even help you get started—teach you the basics.

Hand Sewing Club every Tuesday afternoon 2-5

This club is open to everyone. Bring your hand sewing (embroidery, binding, knitting, crochet, etc) and sit & stitch.

Third Monday (usually) Open Sews 10-4 \$10

The classroom is now open on the third (usually, check calendar) each month for open sewing. There is a charge for the use of the space, but you will have access to the flannel boards, all the cutting tables, AccuCutter, fabric (of course) and help, if you need it. I chose the 3rd Monday because in January & February, that day is a holiday. If I get enough interest, we can look at having other open sew days.

May Classes

One Block Wonder Saturdays May 6 noon-5 & 20 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

If you haven't tried making a one block wonder quilt from panels, you are missing out on a spectacular quilt. This quilt uses 7 panels; 6 are cut into triangles and the remaining panel is incorporated intact into the quilt. You will learn how to accurately stack your 6 panels, cut them apart into strips, which are then cut into 6 identical triangles. After piecing your half hexagon units, you will design your own quilt. Jean has great tips and suggestions on how to make this quilt, how to incorporate additional fabrics into your quilt, and how to evaluate what panels make the best One Block Wonder quilts.

Shakespeare in the Park Sat May 13 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt is made up of stars and Snail's Trail blocks. The pattern is an old time favorite from the legendary Judy Martin. It is a classic quilt, one of those on the bucket list of "to do" quilts.

Quilt #5, CHANGE: SSEARCHLIGHT: Fat Quarter Favorite Quilts Sat May27 10:30-4 Jean Korber & Barb Boyer \$35 (or \$120 for all 6 quilts)

The fifth quilt is called Searchlight. This quilt takes 15 fat quarters plus background. You'll learn the "square in a square" technique plus a unique way to make pieced corner triangles. It's a speedy version that doesn't involve cutting triangles!

CLUBS

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUBBFREE!

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. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing.

Hand Work ClubBFREE!

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-5, join us to just sit & hand stitch, crochet, bind, or knit group. Bring what you're working on, sit up at the table in front by the window and work on your projects for a while. You can get advice & suggestions from your fellow quilters and share your experiences about your projects.

Knit Pickers' Club FREE!

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).

Block of the Month Club FREE!

First Saturday of the Month, 10:30-11:15. Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block.

Toad Toters Club

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: January 6; February 4 (observed); March 7; April 6; May 5

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

January purple; February red; March green; April yellow; May whites

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May 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day	Full moon	BOM 10:30 One Block Wonder noon-5 \$45
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
CLOSED		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Shakespeare in the Park 1-5 \$35
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
CLOSED Mom's Day		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		One Block Wonder 10:30-4

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Shop Is now open 1-5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day	6 fat quarter quilts: Quilt #5 10:30-4 \$35	
28	29	30	31			
Shop Is now open 1-5!	Open Sew 10-4 \$10	Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30		Color of the month: whites	



Nolting Quilting Machines



Nolting Longarm Machines

Nolting has 5 main machines, each with different reaches: from 17" to 30" depending on the machine. They are sold with or without a frame, but after I saw & helped set up one of the steel frames this week, I recommend buying the frame. All machines, except for the Standard--the most economical machine-- have a stitch regulator. I recommend a stitch regulator. All machines can be equipped with a computer and there are a couple of different ones to choose from. In addition, you can get an extended table base so that you can use rulers, you can get larger bobbins on some of the models and on the frames you can get hydraulic lifts to raise and lower the tables. In the coming weeks, I will print out more information on each model.

The best entry level machine is the Fun Quilter. It comes in 17", 20" & 23" reach. It comes with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The Pro Machine has the Intellistitch Turbo stitch regulator, single stitch option, standard speed control, needle up/down and customizable handles in the front & rear. The Pro Machine comes in 20", 24" and 30" reach with 10-12" of inside height. There are easy dials on the front to set stitch length and other options. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The NV Machine is the newest in the fleet of Nolting machines. This machine has a touch screen with programmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needleup/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 1-5

Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 7-May 22)

Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5.
Check the schedule.

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

