



2026 CHALLENGE

America the Beautiful

Using imagination and creativity
to make a quilt that depicts the beauty and majesty of the USA

INSTRUCTIONS

Nine members answered the challenge to create a quilt to depict the USA inspired by a scenic wonder or favorite beautiful place.

- Take your time to scroll through the entries and write down the numbers for your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.
- Then go online to register your vote.
[2026 Challenge Voting Form](#)

Some of the pictures were edited to remove key stoning resulting in some distortion of the blocks and lines of the quilt. In reality, the quilts are straight and true.

#1 Majestic Mountains



Our local beauty is what inspired me to create this year's challenge quilt, Majestic Mountains, that represents my mountain home. But this quilt doesn't represent just mountains. From the mossy ground, to the tall stately trees that reach the radiant sky, I have been in awe of the beauty here on the Oregon Coast. America is amazingly beautiful when viewed from my home in the Majestic Mountains!

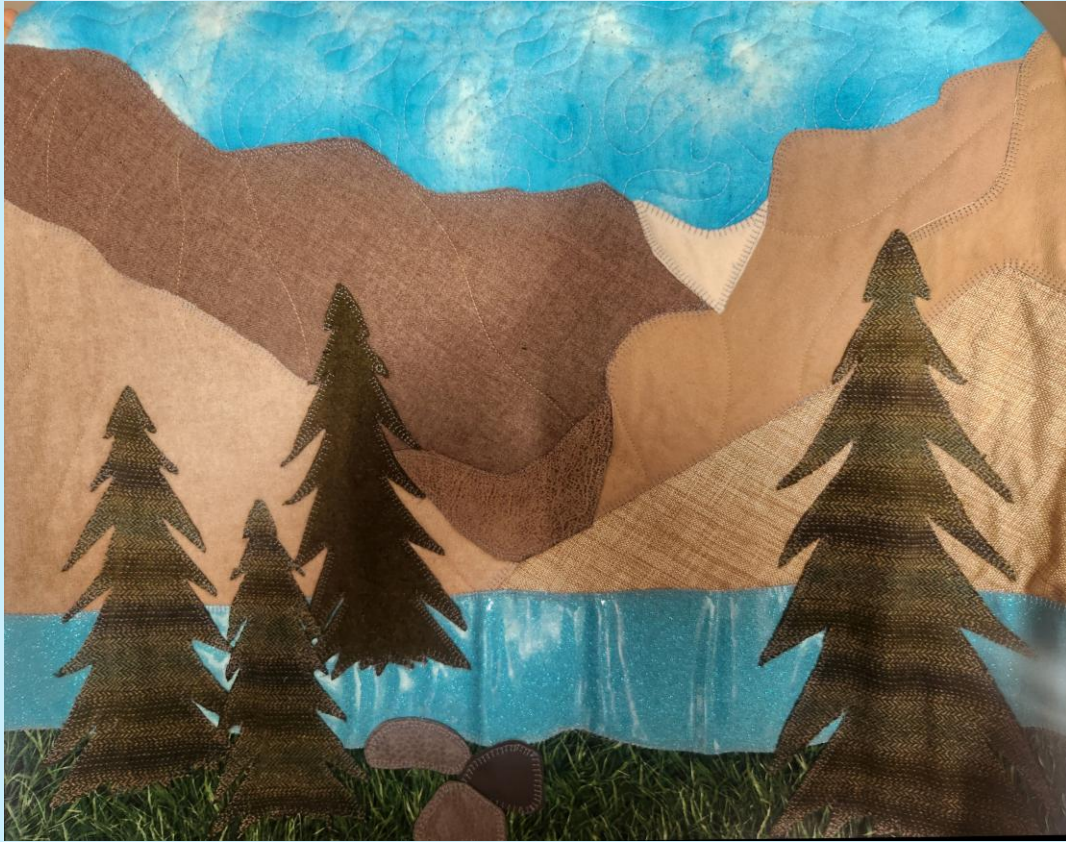
#2 Keep on Trucking



2

Over the years our family members have been farmers and ranchers. We believe that these activities are the backbone of our nation. The barns and vehicles pictured in this wall hanging are a colorful representation of the types of things used to support our culture and support for our people. The beautiful background scenery is enhanced by our activities. Our family takes great pride in our support of our nation and its people.

#3 The Wallowas



The Wallowa mountains are nestled around Wallowa lake in eastern Oregon and are also known known as the "Little Alps of America". The Wallowa mountains and lake hold many family memories starting with my children and husband. We enjoyed camping by the lake, riding horses up into the mountains, and riding the gondola. It also holds early American family history. My great great grandma and grandpa Cole homestead in the Wallowa mountains near Flora Oregon. The traveled by covered wagon from the east coast. When they arrived in the Wallowa mountains, they knew this was their home, and the home of their future family.

#4 National Parks – A National Treasure



Our National Parks include many of the country's most sacred historical places. They provide opportunities for us to enjoy our nation's most beautiful and awe-inspiring landscapes and to protect them for future generations. So far I've visited 19 of the 63.

1957 Yellowstone, 1960 Glacier, 1977 Grand Teton, 1982 Badlands, 1999 Olympic, 2002 Yosemite, 2002 Redwoods, 2003 Death Valley, 2003 Joshua Tree, 2004 Grand Canyon, 2004 Bryce Canyon, 2004 Zion, 2018 Gateway Arch, 2022 Crater Lake, 2023 Hawaii Volcano, 2024 Glacier Bay, 2024 Denali, 2026 Everglades, 2026 Biscayne

The Dry Tortugas will be next year.

#5 Lakota Territory



Long ago on an unexplored continent located between two great oceans lies a beautiful land filled with a plethora of great wonders. There came a gathering of Norsemen seeking a new way of life in a land offering more than could be imagined. The indigenous people welcomed them, sharing knowledge of the land, animals, and resources to obtain a prosperous new future. This eventually led to the Black Hills of the Lakota territory. Mt. Rushmore and Crazy Horse monuments now symbolize much of the history of our great nation.

#6 From Sea to Shining Sea

Yaquina Head, OR to Cape Hatteras, NC



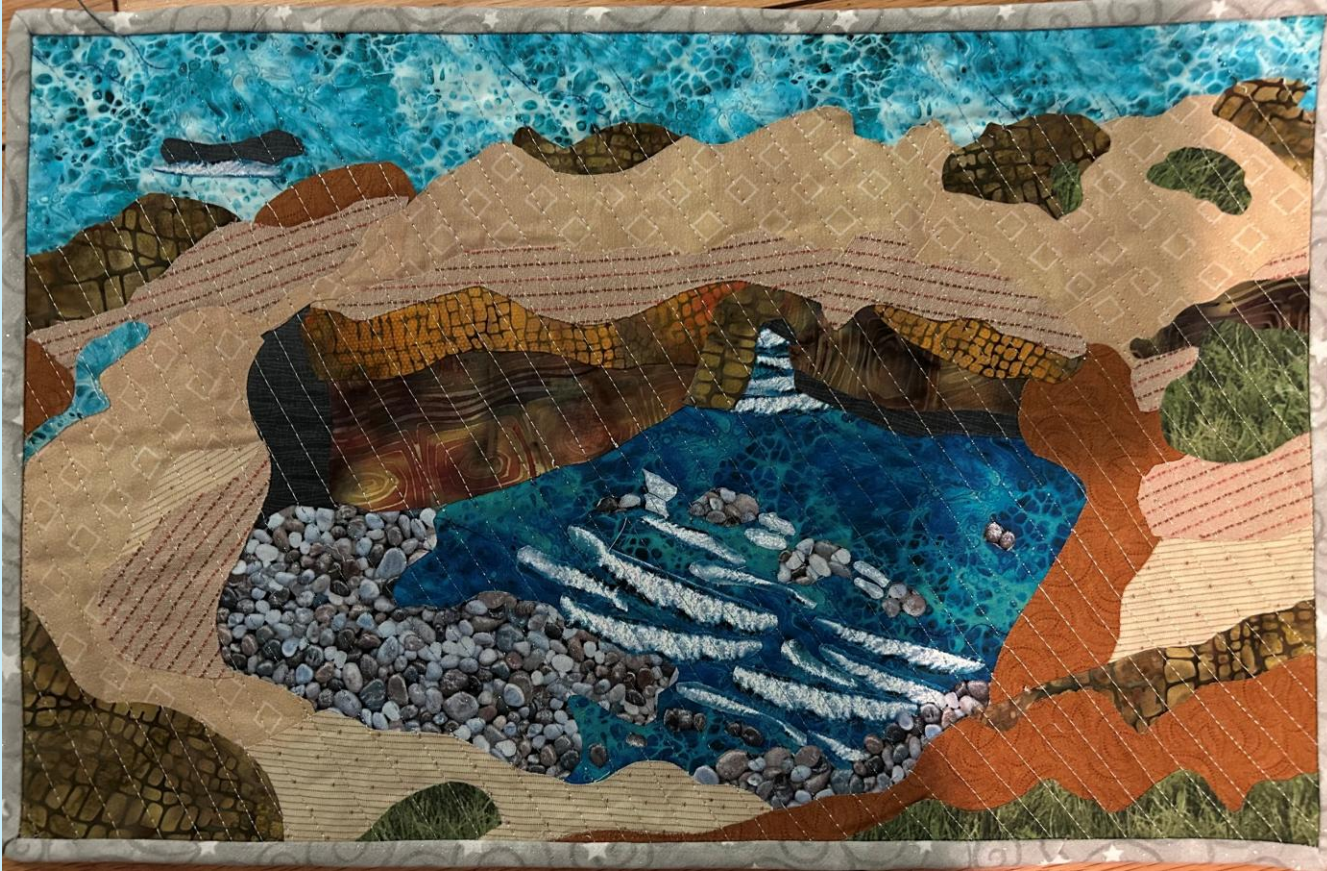
When I thought about our theme and about the song “America the Beautiful,” I was struck by the last few lines: . . . “And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea”. As I designed and made the quilt, I prayed that we will show love and respect for one another from coast to coast!

#7 America's Icons



In the heart of New York, as the city prepares to commemorate America's 250th anniversary, one of the nation's most enduring symbols stands proudly—the Statue of Liberty. Another cherished national landmark is the Liberty Bell, housed at the Liberty Bell Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

#8 Devil's Punchbowl, Otter Rock, Oregon



I've lived most of my life on the East Coast, so the West Coast has been a great adventure. One of the most fascinating scenic wonders that is right in this area is the Devil's Punchbowl. It is so different when it is low tide from when it is high tide. It is one of my favorite dates with my husband to walk around and watch the water come in and go out. It is such a nifty natural wonder.

#9 America the Beautiful



My quilt, America the Beautiful, is more than fabric and thread—it is a collection of moments, memories, and places that have shaped my understanding of this country’s vast beauty. Each section represents not just a landmark, but a personal journey that took me from The Capitol, to Independence Hall, to Mt Rushmore.

Woven throughout the quilt is the American flag that ties everything together. America holds endless beauty. There are still so many places I hope to see, but this quilt captures where I have been and what those experiences have meant to me. Each stitch tells a story, and together, they form a tribute to a country that continues to inspire beauty, and wonder.