



Ronda Hughes
VIP Connection Travel Director

Hello Friends,

Are you as tired of rain as I am? I am definitely ready for sunny days of summer. I apologize if you have been waiting for your new VIP letter, but Jodi had to wait for my letter - thanks to my sweet grandson, Charlie, sharing the flu with Grandma and Grandpa. We are doing much better and I actually sent Jarry off fishing with his friends on Saturday, and I worked in my gardens today and am including a couple pictures in the newsletter. I hope you all have your gardens planted and your flower pots filled. Our bird feeders are amazing with Baltimore Orioles, Grossbeaks, Indigo Buntings, Goldfinches, Woodpeckers - just to name a few. I could sit for hours and watch and listen to our summer guests.

Jarry and I are looking forward to all our summer activities with you - 'Lady of the Lake and the Surf Ballroom' - 'Branson' - 'America's Music Cities'. It will be a summer filled with music, cruising, exploring, stepping back in time, and dancing to the oldies. Thanks to all of you who are going on the road with us and filling the buses. These are all sold out, but always remember you can get on our standby lists because cancellations always come up, especially with all that goes on in the summer.

Enjoy June with family and friends and take in all the best that Northeast Iowa has to offer this summer with festivals, community celebrations, and county fairs. Add to that graduations, showers and weddings. Where does the time go? Be sure and check out Katie's inset on the Cresco Community Theatre's summer production - '9 to 5 The Musical', with Katie in one of the lead rolls. Visit Cresco and support "our Katie" on the stage and see our beautifully restored opera house.



New trips - On November 17th we head back to the Ames Center for the newest installment of 'The Church Basement Ladies in Hark! The Basement Ladies Sing'. What a wonderful way to kick-off the holiday season. We may have to practice Christmas carols on the bus so we are ready to sing - get ready, Suzanne!

I am really excited about our trip on December 6th when we head to Rochester for a tour of May-owood Mansion with the halls decked for the holidays. Olmsted Historical Society is doing two special late afternoon tours in conjunction with Rochester Holly Jolly Christmas Light tours, and I was fortunate to secure the first one they are doing. We will have a beautiful tour of the home with the holiday lights all aglow, each room beautifully decorated, and the stories of the mansion shared with us. Then we are off on the Holly Jolly Trolley for dinner at the Centerstone Plaza Hotel, then followed by a Christmas Tour of the Rochester area in the heated Trolleys. And, we just may see Santa.

Enjoy all that summer has to offer. I look forward to seeing you this summer and creating more new adventures and memories.

See you on the road...

Ronda