

## **Northeast Iowa Autumn Adventure October 7 & 8, 2021**

On Thursday and Friday October 7 & 8, 22 members of our club enjoyed two days exploring the beautiful country north of us. Activities included:

- Shopping in the Hazelton and lunch at the Amish Plainview Country Store. The delicious lunch included homemade soups, salads, dinner rolls, and cinnamon rolls. We chose to take our dessert fry pies with us to eat for an afternoon snack
- Tour of the Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch at Fredricksburg. Farmer Dan and his daughter welcomed us. Dan supplied many interesting facts and stories about buffalos. After our sage blessing, we all rode in the wagon to the pasture where their herd of 65 buffalo was grazing and we hand fed ears of corn to the hungry elite of the herd. Interacting with and feeding the buffalo was a highlight.
- Evening meal at the Good Times Grill in Decorah.
- Visit to Decorah Fish Hatchery
- Later many of us drove to the small but beautiful waterfall at the Dunnings Spring Falls to enjoy some outdoor scenery
- Next we were on our own to visit as many artists as we could on the Artist Studio Tour. We had our choice of seeing 42 artists at 31 locations where they showcased their pottery, paintings, woodcrafts, jewelry, weavings, etc. all
- Delicious lunch at the PIVO Brewery in Calmar
- North East Iowa Community College (NEICC) where we had a great tour of its dairy operation at the Dairy Foundation. What pampered and happy cows!
- Evening meal at Bill's Pizza and Steakhouse in Independence with the lively conversation & comradery of our group.

Everyone felt the last two days were relaxing and educational. A big thank you goes to Marian for organizing and leading this adventure. Special thanks go to Shirley and Esther for making the hotel and restaurant reservations and for scouting out our route months ago. Additional thanks go to Darlene and Judy for their help in many other areas. What a great group of women to work with! Marian