

2020

CVIDS:



Storm Cloud with Train: July 11, 2020, 10:44 am, 5 miles east of Lisbon, Iowa: **THE DAY OF OPEN GARDENS FOR REGION ONE (IF CVIDS WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HOST THE REGIONAL IN CEDAR RAPIDS)**. Photo by Lyle Moen Heavy Rain & Light Hail



**Darrin & Shelly Lett**  
**Open Garden**  
**West Branch, Iowa**  
**July 11, 2020**





**Heather Harroun  
Open Garden  
July 11, 2020**



**Barb McCreight Open Gardens July 11, 2020**





Gary Oster Open Garden, Lowden, Iowa; July 12, 2020



Ginger Pruess  
Open Garden  
Lowden, Iowa;  
July 12, 2020

**From Bentonsport to Bellevue and beautiful flower beds between.**

With the ability to have time to spend with some social distancing; Mom, Mel and I took to the roads of Eastern Iowa on several weekends and a few days of the week. We really toured from the bottom of the region to the west and to the eastern peaks. We greatly enjoyed just being able to tour the countryside and have great conversations with the guardians of the gardens. We are truly blessed to have such a splendid variety of gardens from patios that are used to entertain, to small corner gardens, to the wide open prairie with the different conifers and evergreen to an extraordinary view of the mighty Mississippi and 3 states. I know that if we had been able to hold the Region 1 meeting on our planned day, we would have truly had the Perfect 2020 vision in our gardens on display.

Each host was so very gracious and gave wonderful information about growers, different hybridizers that they have met and the stories of how they acquired their beautiful bloomers. We all have such different choices in what we appreciate. I love hearing the history of the creators of our favorite perennials. I also really enjoyed the personal touch that came from having undivided attention as we were often the only visitors at that moment.

For the very first time, I held an open garden. With all of the extra time to be outdoors, my garden was truly at a prime viewing day on Sunday, July 12th. It was such a lovely day to just sit outside and enjoy the garden at its peak and the peace and quiet. I need to do that more often just for self-care. I know our touring group was not able to get to every garden, but thank you for being a COVIDS open garden host. I now can appreciate even more the effort that it takes to be a garden host.

*A Garden Tour Contribution to Newsletter, Submitted by Nancy Carlisle*



2 Beauties

Barb shares one of her own blossoms while at Heather's Open Garden, with Nancy & Lyle looking on.



Tony, Kim, & Everett Open Garden

