Hi Everyone,

Once again it's time for one of our favorite club activities, the CVIDS Summer Garden Tour, scheduled for Saturday, July 9th! In addition to four wonderful member's gardens to visit, we will also enjoy a unique shopping experience.

To start our morning, Sue and Dave Kramer will greet us at 8:30 AM at their home and flower business, "Kramer's Flower Farm", located in Cedar Rapids at 3592 Rogers Rd. NW.

Next, we'll travel NW on Roger's Road from Kramer's to Highway 94 (aka W-36 or Covington Road) for 7.6 miles to "Rubideau Antiques & Garden Decor", 201 Vinton Street, Palo, owned and operated by Kathy Zellar.

Return to Highway 94 (Shellsburg Road, which becomes 66th Street) and drive first west for 3 miles, then north onto 32nd Avenue at the overhead flashing light for 1.7 miles into Shellsburg. Turn left onto Commercial Street past the grain bins and continue north onto Canton Street. In 3 miles you'll arrive at 6161 32nd Avenue, Jackie Westhoff's "My Savanna".

Leaving "My Savanna", head to the left (north) back onto 32nd Avenue for 1.4 miles; (at this point, <u>do not</u> follow the instructions of your Google map or GPS companion, who will take you miles out of the way to Urbana and back down the interstate!) Turn right onto 59th Street Trail for 1.6 miles. At the bottom of the hill go left onto 33rd Avenue for 1.3 miles, then head left onto Lewis Access Road for 2.6 miles into Center Point.

Many dining options are available, as no one venue is likely to accommodate groups of our size. The Center Point Travel Plaza is a large truck stop on the north side of the road, boasting a Subway, McDonald's and Fireside Pizzeria, as well as prepared wrap sandwiches, fresh fruit, coffee, etc. If you prefer, continue on Franklin Street for another 1.1 miles to reach Joensy's, known for their tenderloins and assorted menu items. Club members - hang on to your lunch receipts.

After lunch, follow Franklin Street for 2 miles from the truck stop or 1 mile from Joensy's, and turn right (east) onto Grubb Street (Central City Road) for 8 miles, turn left onto N. Alburnett Road for 1.9 miles, turn right onto Justins Road for 1 mile, and finally onto N. Marion Road for .1 of a mile. On your right will be Zora and Paul Ronan's, "Bloomies". (During your time in the garden, please turn in your lunch receipt to either Sue Kramer or Jackie Westhoff, and you'll receive \$5 towards your meal.)

Leaving the Ronan's, travel south on N. Marion Road for 2 miles, turn left onto Central City Road for 3.3 miles, then right (south) onto IA-13 for 7.3 miles, left onto County Home Road (E-34) 6.5 miles, turn right onto Alderman Road, then turn left at the first cross street onto Hodgin Road for .6 miles. You'll find Mary and Verne Moore awaiting our arrival!!

Hoping we have a beautiful day weather-wise to enjoy the beautiful blooms and the company of our CVIDS friends!!

Jackie Westhoff, 2016 tour organizer Nancy Carlisle, President CVIDS

OTHER GARDEN TOURS and NEWS:

Lynn and Sherry Moffit will hold their garden walk on July 2nd.

The Linn County Master Gardners are having their garden tour also July 9th from 10-4. Check out their website www.extension.iastate.edu/linn for more information if you are interested.

Gary Oster's 80th Birthday Garden walk is July 10th.

Muscatine Garden Club garden Walk is also July 10th.

Did you know that member, Sam McCord got to be a vendor at the National Daylily Convention this week in Louisville KY with his premium garden market products. Visit his website at www.mcgbiomarkers.com for more information.