

to various bowl games through the years and a Husker Cruise group with some of our past Heisman Trophy winners through the Caribbean. I love to take in a baseball game whenever possible and enjoy visiting many of the ballparks in cities throughout the US. I was fortunate to be the travel agent for a Triple-A team affiliated with the Kansas City Royals.

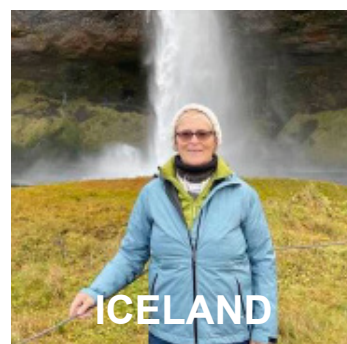
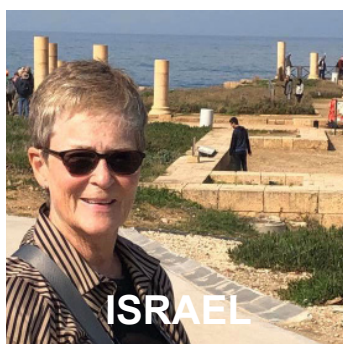
I discovered wine while living in Australia with several visits to the Barossa Valley. I try to visit wineries to “taste the fruit” and have sampled a variety of wines both domestically and internationally. From Napa/Sonoma in California, Willamette Valley in Oregon, French, German, Greek and Italian wines through numerous regions, along with the wonderful pairings of food from each location. This is a favorite way of mine to travel and learn more about local cuisine, along with the art, history and culture each place has to offer.

From hot-air balloon rides over vineyards, road trips through the Smokey Mountains & Tail of the Dragon, cruising through the Greek Isles, or having dinner with WWII veterans in Normandy.

Travel introduces new experiences every time; I've made new friends and beautiful memories.

I hope you'll join us for your next adventure!

Rhonda Wagner,
Ambassador



Women of the Midwest, hello!

Growing up in the middle of everywhere, as my dad used to say, created within me a sense of “I wonder what is over there.” Living in rural Elsie, Nebraska, on a farm, established in 1887, instilled in me an appreciation for family, nature, and hard work. My husband, Steve, and I live on the farm, his family homestead in the late 1800s, with our son and his family nearby. Our daughter and her family live in Gering. They have traveled frequently - we often give each other ideas of new places to go. Steve and I hope to take each grandchild on a special trip.

Fascination with other people's stories developed in me a love of reading and an interest in places around the world, their art, culture, and history. My family, who also came to the Elsie area in the 1800s and still farms there, traveled to Mexico, Canada, and the Seattle World's Fair - by train - (where I saw Elvis film a scene in a movie that lasted 15 seconds but took two hours to film).

Quilting has become a lifelong passion for me, as well, and I sometimes incorporate my travel experiences into my quilts. Check out my website, www.blquilter.com.

While teaching Art and Family Consumer Science, I had the opportunity to travel, first with my daughter, then with many high school musicians, to Europe on nine performance tours. Seeing that part of the world sparked a desire to see more, such as a return with my husband to London and Paris, several parts of Europe, and a cruise through Asia with five adventurous women. I plan to explore areas I haven't yet seen.

Meeting new people and traveling with Women of the Midwest has been a joy. I hope you will come along and explore our country and the world with me on a journey in the near future.

Susan Hanson,
Ambassador

