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**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Is Your Membership Up to Date? If you have not sent in your membership, please use the form below. VCSCA is a 501 (C)(3) not-for-profit, dues are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

<input type="checkbox"/> AUSTEN LEVEL / STUDENT	\$15- 39
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CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form with check payable to:

Vladimir/Canterbury Association  
P. O. Box 1262  
Bloomington, IL 61702

SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION  
OF BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL

**Vladimir  
Canterbury**

P.O. Box 6048  
Bloomington, IL 61702



Sister City Association of Bloomington-Normal

Vladimir  
Canterbury

# Communicator

Spring, 2023  
Editor Anita Carney  
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President's Message  
by Margaret Ann  
Hayden

This year the Vladimir and Canterbury Sister City Association has decided to focus on three things:

1. To continue to maintain our relations with both Vladimir and Canterbury.
2. To create a program that focuses on Canterbury.
3. To create programs where we can gather in person with our Bloomington/Normal members/friends.

On April 26 Wednesday, we will start out the year with a program by George Conyne titled *The British Monarchy*. George is from the US and has connections in Illinois but lives and teaches in England. His program last fall on David Davis was outstanding. So, we are anxious to hear what inside perspective he can bring to us. The committee thought that with the coronation of their new King Charles III, this topic would be most appropriate.

On May 2 Tuesday the VCSCA will sponsor a fish and chips dinner at the Bloomington Country Club with light English musical entertainment. This dinner is a thank you to our members for their continued support. Invitation will be sent the first week of April.

On May 17 the *Vladimir School of Painting* presented by Marina Semonova will be available on Zoom.

In the fall we plan a Zoom presentation from the ISU Milner Library Special Collection on *Bloomington and its Connection to the Circus*. In October a Zoom presentation *Canterbury Through the Eyes of Vladimir Artist Olga Zolotova*. In addition, we hope to provide an English movie or a Russian fairy tale through the Normal Theatre.

As you can see we have a variety of programs to attract our members and for members to participate in.

Membership renewals have been sent out. Please respond in a positive way. We continue to work with Sister Cities International in the hope that we can do an in-person program in the future.

An email will be sent out a few days prior to each Zoom meeting. The programs will all be on a Wednesday at 11am.

### Loss of Beloved Sister Cities Member

Long time Vladimir/Canterbury Sister Cities member Judie Bey passed away on January 2, 2023. She had been deeply involved in all aspects of programming including holding a variety of offices, chairing committees, and hosting sister city events in her home. Judie had a beautiful home and was delighted to share it with the guests of many, many Vladimir delegations. The upper level of her "Vladimir Hotel" was a suite of three rooms where delegations stayed. Home hospitality for guests was of the highest-level including Judie and partner Gary Hoover taking guests to Walmart at 10 pm in the evening and Gary picking them up for the return to Judie's at 2:00 am. Judie and Gary delighted in taking delegations to Chicago to see sights and museums, sometimes even staying overnight with them in the city.

Judie was an avid traveler around the world, and this of course included Vladimir. After years of successful exchanges with Vladimir, Judie, Gary, and the Edges decided to host a celebratory dinner in Vladimir that included toasting, good food and loads of good will. Vladimir officials and sister city members did not soon forget that evening.

### A Big Thank You to .....

Steve Friedberg for managing the membership roster for VCSCA since 2016. Steve has recently retired from this position. During his tenure, Steve diligently sent thank you notes to members as they paid their dues and coordinated the emailing and postal mailings to members.



Judie (r) is shown above with Nina Bedvova who teaches at the Vladimir Medical College and who has made several trips to Bloomington/Normal.

### ARCHIVES

This is the link that will take you to our archives at the McLean County Museum of history. Items can be requested and accessed in their library, but not taken out of the Museum. The VCSCA archives can be found at the link below.

<https://mchistory.org/research/finding-aids/collection/vladimircanterbury-sister-city-committee>

### Garden Committee

We are looking for members who would like to help with the Sister City Garden in Normal along the Constitution Trail. Mainly keeping the weeds controlled. A new tree is being planted by the Town of Normal.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 2nd at 6:00

As a thank you to our loyal VCSCA members, we ask that you join us for a fish and chips meal and English music, as we celebrate 34 years as a sister city with Canterbury. Held at the Bloomington Country Club. No charge for VCSCA member families. Invitations will follow.

### PLANNED SPRING PROGRAMS

DATE	PROGRAM
April 26, Wednesday, 11:00 am via ZOOM	<i>The British Monarchy</i> by George Conyne who is a part of our Canterbury Association. Social visit afterwards.
May 2, Tuesday, 6 pm	Fish & Chips dinner at Bloomington Country Club with music, 6 pm. Invitations sent early April.
May 17, Wednesday, 11:00 am via Zoom	<i>Vladimir School of Painting</i> presented by Marina Semenova. Social visit afterwards.