

# THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER&SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956

www.TheUSB.org

ENL-02  
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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This second electronic newsletter (ENL) is sent out with our love and blessings to all those on both sides of life who are dedicated to the ideal of The Brother&Sisterhood (USB)—the universal spiritual brother-and-sisterhood of all humanity. We are most grateful for all that our spirit inspirers are doing behind the scenes to help these letters reach those people who are searching for such information.

## ***In This Newsletter:***

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## ***Our Previous Newsletter***

If you missed our first e-newsletter (ENL-01 of July 2015) you can find it [here](#). Its topics addressed:

*Our Most Important News—Our Book, Spiritual Light*  
*The New Electronic Newsletter*  
*Our Spirit Leaders and Inspirers*  
*USB Principles and Purposes as Printed in Spiritual Light*  
*The USB Website*  
*Members, Supporters, and Followers*  
*USB Groups*  
*Recent Activities*  
*Anniversaries*  
*Future Plans*

We remind members and supporters that they are invited to submit material for possible inclusion in future newsletters.

## ***Recent Developments***

***USB tape recordings.*** We are very grateful to the trustees of the [Leslie Flint Educational Trust](#) for recently giving the USB the rights to tape recordings our founder, Michael Flagg, made in 1956–57 with world-famous medium [Leslie Flint of London](#). This means we are now free to make those wonderful recordings available to our members and supporters and to play them to public audiences. Leslie's very rare form of independent direct voice mediumship, using an ectoplasmic voice box a few feet distant from him, allowed spirit communicators to speak to us on earth in their *own* voices. Thus we will be able to hear the actual voices of Illumined Souls and other USB spirit inspirers explaining their mission, a wonderful prospect. However, quite a lot of work remains to digitize and prepare the recordings.

***The 'Afterlife Report.'*** [Victor and Wendy Zammit](#) again very kindly included a complimentary mention of our book, *Spiritual Light*, in their recent [Afterlife Report of October 2, 2015](#). They wrote "you owe it to yourself to explore the next installment of wisdom in this book. Anyone who is familiar with the higher levels of mediumship will immediately recognize that this work is coming from the highest vibration." And in their [report of November 6](#) they quoted teachings by Illumined Souls about spirit guides from *Spiritual Light*. Victor and Wendy have been producing their weekly reports for over 15 years now, first reporting about *Spiritual Light* in their [Afterlife Report, November 7, 2014](#). Their 2013 book, [A Lawyer Presents the Evidence for the Afterlife](#), is an invaluable and unique compilation and is a bestseller on Amazon.com.

***New members and volunteers.*** Recent publicity efforts, largely surrounding the recent publication of *Spiritual Light*, have led to people joining the USB and/or serving as volunteers. This is vitally important to the spread of the USB and its philosophy; we hope supporters will remember to help with this by asking people they think might be interested to consider investigating the USB. One recent new member wrote "While waiting for the book, I read the introduction, preface, greetings and first chapter which are available online. Every word and every idea totally resonated with me. I was totally struck to the core by the simplicity of the truths and the inspiration in those words which seem to correspond with my own beliefs. I have spent some years on a path of study, truth-seeking, and self-realisation, so the basic universal truths that I found in the opening chapter of *Spiritual Light* were like coming home." If you are interested in becoming a member and/or volunteer, please contact us [here](#).

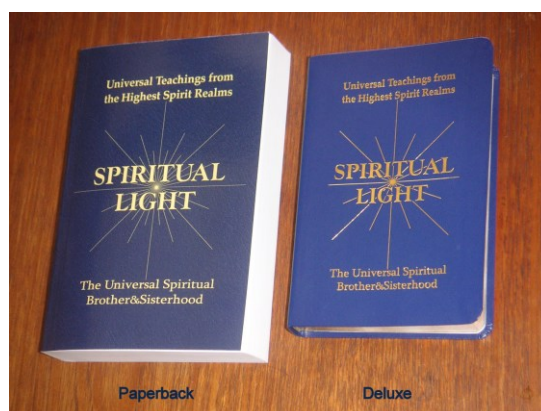
***Website translation now available.*** We have just added Google Translate to [the USB website](#). You will see it at the top left of each web page. It offers translation into 90 different languages—we understand that some are better than others, but they are improving all the time.

***USB now on Facebook.*** We have recently launched a USB Facebook page named 'The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood – USB.' We hope supporters will take a moment to visit and "Like" our page and thus help it spread to many others who may be interested in the USB and *Spiritual Light*. To visit the USB page click [here](#).

***Blog.*** We expect first contributions to the blog page on our website quite soon. Please write to us [here](#) or to [staff@theusb.org](mailto:staff@theusb.org) if you are interested in contributing.

**Volunteer activities.** We are very grateful to volunteers who have helped our publicity efforts by giving copies of *Spiritual Light* to notable people in related fields and by distributing USB leaflets. Some have written very helpful book reviews on [Amazon US](#) and [Amazon UK](#) and of course we would be delighted to see more of these.

## ***A Perspective on the Book Spiritual Light***



The USB's recently-released and acclaimed book, *Spiritual Light*, contains universal teachings for humanity from the *highest* spirit realms. It explains that its teachings are given to us collectively by many of the greatest prophets, enlightened beings, and noble souls this world has known, beings of the highest spiritual attainment and wisdom in the spirit realms, whom we call 'Illumined Souls.'

The following scenario might help keep this in mind, when we are opening the book, *Spiritual Light*, to seek understanding or the answer to a question. Imagine you have entered a wonderful temple and have been led to a special room where seated, in a semi-circle, are many of the world's greatest spiritual teachers, including the inspirers of its major religions, some of whom have been revered by hundreds of millions of people on earth. These wonderful beings are all surrounded by *huge* auras of white light. As you take your place, one of them lovingly says "How can we help you, my child?"

## ***Why Is Spiritual Light So Very Important?***

While many of us may not be conscious of this, illumined spirit teachers remind us in *Spiritual Light* that the *true* purposes of our lives on earth are: To improve our individual nature, expand our mind, and test our character, principles, and spirituality. These are all things we can take with us when we leave this world and they will greatly help us in the afterlife, so we should pay close attention to them now. *Spiritual Light* explains this in many ways.

It explains that knowledge, as well as spirituality, is essential for progress. It teaches that the most important knowledge is a working knowledge of the spiritual Laws That Govern and it teaches about many of them.

It also teaches us about lessons that we can only learn on earth, lessons that we will have to demonstrate we have learned before we can progress further. It stresses the desirability of mental attunement with great souls.

*Spiritual Light* is so very important because it provides us with guidance from those who really know how to develop our own spirituality and so to progress, how to spread this knowledge and practice, and thereby how to make everyone's lives on earth so much more heavenly.

### ***Financial Support***

The USB's spiritual rules do not allow for the solicitation of funds, contributions, or donations. But we may mention the need for funds to carry on the USB's work. An Illumined Soul has said that for the USB's work to be done with love, financial support must come freely and from people's hearts.

I remember that for many years as a member of the USB I received and enjoyed the quarterly newsletters from Michael Flagg but never thought of making financial contributions. I later learned that other members had been contributing and that Michael had himself provided much of the financial support needed.

In Michael's later years, when I asked him how I could help with the USB, he suggested, among other things, that I could contribute financially. I couldn't understand why I had not thought of that earlier.

With more funding the USB could undertake more and/or faster preparation of eBooks, audio recordings, and publicity (YouTube videos, online ads, Facebook, website improvements) and perhaps get a little office help.

Of course, in addition to freely-given financial support, the USB is most grateful for time and effort contributed by volunteers and supporters.

### ***"Informal" USB Groups***

In our previous newsletter we mentioned how spirit inspirers have told us of the importance of small local USB groups, in which people gather together to discuss the USB's teachings. This is because reading the teachings on one's own does not compare at all with the group experience, which deepens one's understanding and builds spiritual relationships.

While formal USB groups are required to be led by someone approved by headquarters, preferably someone who has studied and discussed *Spiritual Light* thoroughly in a previous

group, for people unable to find a formal group nearby we encourage them to form informal or unofficial groups for similar purposes—to study and discuss together the USB teachings. Members should strive to keep to the same standards as formal groups. We list only formal groups on our website and because we usually know little about the practices of informal groups we normally cannot recommend them to others. But informal groups can provide a way for studies to begin when no formal group is available nearby. We do know of one or two such groups. In time, informal groups may become formal.

For people unable to attend any kind of group, they can do what Michael Flagg frequently recommended to me: regularly read the USB teachings.

### *Some Questions and Answers*

Here I will include a few questions that readers and supporters have sent me, and my (John Finnemore's) answers; I hope to continue these in future newsletters.

Q1. What do Illumined Souls teach are the **most important** things for us to learn and do in this life?

A1. This is answered in the topic above, "[\*Why Is Spiritual Light So Very Important?\*](#)" (See the USB's book, *Spiritual Light, SL*, Topics 404-417, 727:4, 1407:3, 1424-1425.)

Q2. Chapter 5 of *SL* discusses **truth and Truth**. Whose truths are these? Because the Illumined Souls "offer us truth as they see it" does this suggest people may accept different truths?

A2. Of course everyone is free to adopt their own definitions. Illumined Souls teach that they understand truths to be *that which is eternal*, and Truth is the collection of all such truths, known and unknown to us. And, being eternal, isn't it everyone's, even if everyone does not recognize it? I think so. The Illumined Souls do not require us to accept this, but I appreciate their far greater progress and understanding. (See book Topics 301:3, 302:1, 303.)

Q3. Is there an **ultimate Truth**?

A3. It seems to me that "truth which is eternal" *is* an ultimate truth. (See book Topic 301:3.)

Q4. What does *SL* say about **sin and original sin**?

A4. *SL* does not define sin, and seems to only use the word loosely or generally. When it mentions that ignorance "is the great sin" I understand it is referring mostly to an ignorance of truth, which includes the spiritual laws, afterlife, and spirit communication.

*SL* does not mention original sin. It teaches free will and perfect justice (the laws of Cause and Effect and of Compensation). (See book Topic 734:4 and Sec. 4.4.)

Q5. *SL* mentions that there are **interpreters** working **in spirit life**, to help communication between spirits. Why do spirit people need interpreters if they can communicate with thought alone?

A5. Some authors mention communication by thought alone as if it is universal in spirit life. Perhaps they misunderstand, do not know, or have not fully explained, that all such skills have to be earned and learned. There are many different levels in spirit life, where different conditions exist.

Even when spirit people can communicate mentally this does not mean that they can do so in a universal language. On the contrary, *SL* emphasizes the importance of vocabulary in spirit life. (See book Topics 1301, 1324-1325, 1327:5.)

***A closing note on questions:*** During our lives we cannot hope to find answers to *all* our questions, but we can try. However, while doing so, we need to remember to concentrate our efforts on those areas that will help make us, and the world, better!

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We pray that all members and supporters will always be joyful in the knowledge they have gained and be ever ready to share it with other seekers.

In love and peace and brother-and-sisterhood,

Your brother,

John Finnemore

<p>If any teaching and/or philosophy in this USB document is in conflict with or is not supported by <i>Spiritual Light</i> (ISBN 978-0-9912422-1-4 deluxe flex-cover, 978-0-9912422-2-1 paperback), which contains the only complete <i>official</i> teachings and philosophy of the USB, then <i>Spiritual Light</i> governs. The inclusion of this statement, in a box in a prominent position, and worded as in <i>Spiritual Light</i>, is required on every authentic USB publication containing its teachings and/or philosophy.</p>
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