

# THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER & SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956

www.TheUSB.org

ENL-06  
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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This sixth e-newsletter is sent out with our love and blessings to all those who are dedicated to the universal spiritual brother-and-sisterhood of all humanity—the ideal of this organization. If you know others who might like to see our nonreligious letters, please consider sharing this newsletter with them. And they can easily [subscribe](#) for future (free) editions.

We pass on to our brothers and sisters the constant reminder of our Illumined Inspirers to accept *nothing*—not even of what *they* say—that your reason does not wholeheartedly embrace *and* that your inner being does not unreservedly sense is true.

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## ***Our Previous Newsletter***

If you missed our fifth e-newsletter (ENL-05 of October 2016) you can find it [here](#) (scroll down on the webpage to see our list of past newsletters). Its topics addressed:

*Recent Developments*  
*Fundamental USB Teachings on Love and Truth*  
*A Smorgasbord*  
*Reports from USB Groups*  
*How the USB (on Earth) Is Different*  
*Interested in Getting Involved, Giving Help?*  
*Some Questions and Answers*

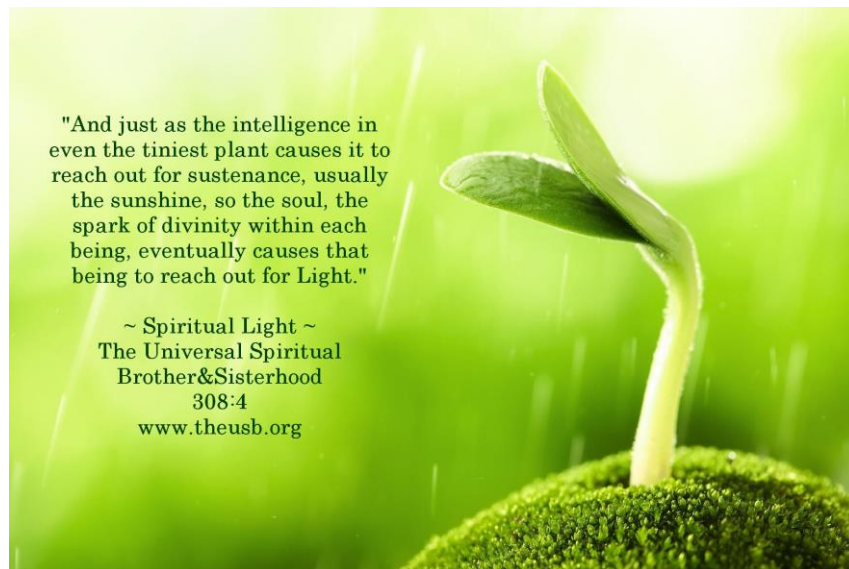
Members and supporters are invited to submit material for possible inclusion in future issues.

## ***Recent Developments***

***Our 60th Anniversary.*** On December 28th, 2016, the USB celebrated the 60th anniversary of its founding on earth.

***NEW ‘Gems’ series on Facebook.*** In December 2016 we began posting ‘gems,’ or brief inspiring extracts, from the USB's book, [\*Spiritual Light\*](#). They are reminders of how USB teachings can impact or uplift our daily lives. The first example gem is included below. From a Facebook account you can visit the USB's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TheUSB.org/](http://www.facebook.com/TheUSB.org/) (save this in your bookmarks) and if you then click the ‘like’ button (just below-left of the large cover image) you will receive future USB gems and posts in your Facebook newsfeed.

Our first ‘gem’:



"And just as the intelligence in even the tiniest plant causes it to reach out for sustenance, usually the sunshine, so the soul, the spark of divinity within each being, eventually causes that being to reach out for Light."

~ Spiritual Light ~  
The Universal Spiritual  
Brother&Sisterhood  
308:4  
[www.theusb.org](http://www.theusb.org)

***Another ‘Afterlife Report.’*** [Victor and Wendy Zammit](#) have kindly featured the USB's book, *Spiritual Light*, in [the December 9th, 2016 issue](#) of their famous and popular weekly *Afterlife Reports*, saying that this book comes “from the highest vibration.”

***The Society for Psychical Research.*** Established in 1882 in England, the Society for Psychical Research (SPR) is the world's leading society for psychical research. The SPR journal has published a letter to the editor of over 1000 words, written about the USB and its book, *Spiritual Light*. It describes the transmittal of the USB's teachings, their nature and purposes, and mentions a number of its teachings and topics that relate to psychical research. The letter appears on pages 62–64 of the January 2017 issue, Volume 81, No. 1, in its Correspondence section. We hope to get permission to post a copy on the USB website. We also donated a copy of *Spiritual Light* to the SPR's extensive library. With this recent outreach, we hope to find more people interested in the USB among the ranks of SPR members.

## ***Reports from USB Groups***

***Javea group discusses and sits for communication.*** Peter, the Javea group's leader, reports they meet on alternate weeks for study/discussion of *Spiritual Light* and for a spirit communication circle. He says that laughter plays a good part in the book learning process. And the home circle, which includes a number of mediums and healers, aims to achieve a higher level of spirit contact; it has had a few initial brief successes but it has taken some time to get the vibrations right.

***Cupertino group receives messages and holds a social.*** In one meeting a group member who is a practicing medium kindly gave brief messages to other members and answered their questions about her mediumship. This helped members remain aware of our spirit friends and their interest in our discussions. At its last meeting of the year the group held a social gathering, in which members' descriptions of their important spiritual experiences were enjoyed by all.

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If you are interested in forming a USB group please [contact us](#).

## ***Some Spiritual Realities of Life***

In a number of places, *Spiritual Light* states that Illumined Souls, through the USB, seek to awaken people to the many spiritual realities of life. In response to inquiries, I will here outline some of those more important spiritual realities.

- We are eternal.
- Our existence is governed by spiritual laws, e.g., the laws of Responsibility, Justice, Service, and Love.
- Every individual, on both sides of life, possesses a permanent, indestructible spark of God, which links us *all* as spiritual brothers and sisters.
- Our purpose is to progress spiritually.
- One's spiritual progress depends *entirely* upon one's self. Personal responsibility governs.
- Spiritual progress requires *both* (a) learning lessons, and (b) developing a working knowledge of spiritual laws.
- How we respond to things, including adversity, determines our spiritual progress.
- Our thoughts and actions may cause us to advance or regress spiritually, but progress is *always* open to us.
- Spiritual compensation and retribution are automatic, perfect justice.
- Humility and simplicity are great spiritual qualities.

## *How the USB's Mission Evolved*

A band or team of truly great spiritual teachers in the highest spirit realms, including the inspirers and founders of many of the world's major religions, some of the wisest spirit guides of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the leaders of earth's immense spirit realms, together have for many ages directed an educational spirit organization that emphasizes teachings of spiritual truth.

Under their guidance, our secular nonprofit organization on earth, The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood (the USB), was formed in 1956 with the same mission: to receive, live by, and spread their teachings for free as far as possible. Its goal is to promote spiritual brother-and-sisterhood and thereby a heaven on earth. Its workers are mostly unpaid volunteers and its publications are at minimal cost.

Over a thirty-year period, and for hundreds of hours, we discussed the teachings directly with those leaders, through exceptional mediums. A series of 93 printed newsletters originally presented these teachings to over 800 members of the USB in 24 countries, from 1958 to 1982. More recently, we have compiled and edited these teachings into the 2014 book, *Spiritual Light: Universal Teachings from the Highest Spirit Realms*. The book and the organization are described on the USB's website [www.theusb.org](http://www.theusb.org).

## *Are We God's Children?*

Illumined Souls, in their approved writings (*Spiritual Light*, 103:2, 763:7-8) and in recorded discussions, repeatedly have taught that we are all God's children. However, they do not require us to accept this; instead, they teach that we should select or accept only the teachings we like, and not accept anything that our inner being and our reason do not completely embrace. So some people will undoubtedly question this teaching. But in view of the exceptional wisdom of these Illumined Souls, we believe they would know better than anyone on earth.

It is important to remember that words often have multiple meanings and "children" is no exception. Besides meaning the son or daughter of human parents, it can mean people strongly influenced by another, people marked by certain circumstances, or descendants, products, and results. Such as a child 'of the revolution,' '...of poverty,' or '...of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.' In this same way, 'children of God' can have a range of meanings.

It seems the probable meaning of 'children' in this USB teaching is similar to 'products of.'

## *Sources of Information about the Afterlife*

Of the many sources of evidence about the afterlife, I [John] believe that three in particular have given us detailed information about conditions there.

First, “modern” mediumship began back in 1848<sup>1</sup>. Mediums (advanced psychics who work collaboratively with spirit helpers) often describe the afterlife. There is now a vast body of literature about many different forms and experiences of mediumship. Second, the International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS) was founded in 1978 to study near-death experiences (NDEs). Experiencers of NDEs often report their experiences of the afterlife, however brief they may be. IANDS is building a large literature base on afterlife from reports by many experiencers, and its many chapters around the world offer regular presentations. And third, the International Academy of Consciousness (IAC) was founded in 2000 to study out-of-body experiences (OBEs), which are often reported to include glimpses of the afterlife; the IAC reports on the OBEs of its members, and offers training in how to temporarily and intentionally leave the body.

Others and I think it important and impressive to note that while these three different sources of afterlife evidence have been quite independent, their findings about the afterlife invariably confirm one another. This greatly strengthens the evidence for afterlife.

Other important and confirming evidence for afterlife, and about conditions in the spirit realms, has come from: scientific investigations, electronic voice phenomena (EVP), instrumental trans-communication (ITC), hypnosis, dreams, and more. An excellent summary of over 20 different areas of evidence is given in the book *A Lawyer Presents the Evidence for the Afterlife* (V. and W. Zammit, 2013).

## *The Spirituality of Pets*



There have been many reports of animals, such as those inadvertently left behind during a trip, traveling hundreds or even thousands of miles—across deserts, mountains, and rivers—to rejoin their owners, even when the owners have moved to places their pets have never seen. There are

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<sup>1</sup> Initiated by events in Hydesville, New York State, in 1848.

also many stories, often widely publicized in the media, of pets coming to their owners' rescue in unusual and amazing ways.

Illumined spirit teachers have told us in the USB's book, *Spiritual Light* (topic 1135), that the most common reason for such amazing achievements is that the animals were successfully impressed and directed by spirit people, usually spirit guides of the family that owned and loved their pets or recently deceased family members that the pets would recognize and respond to. This is possible because, for various reasons, many animals are in fact more psychic than humans.

Illumined spirit teachers have also said that, after bodily death, animals continue their existence in the spirit world just as humans do. Spirit pets have often been seen and described to former owners at séances and by clairvoyants. These spirit pets retain their form and individuality and are as 'real and solid' to spirit people as they were to their owners on earth.

Just like humans, pets form bonds of love and can be motivated by spirit influencers to protect and stay close to those they love.

The love tie, with animals as well as humans, is the greatest tie of all.

### *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 are some common misconceptions about the afterlife?

A1. Common misconceptions include: that some spirit beings (or anyone) can “save” us and/or absolve us from total personal responsibility; that spirit people have no gender; that there is no speech in spirit life; that we will have the same bodily imperfections in spirit life that we had on earth; and that one can retrogress to sub-human levels.

Q2. *Spiritual Light's* title page states that it is “The Complete Official Edition.” Are there unofficial editions or unofficial teachings?

A2. There are teachings that were discussed with Michael but were *not* included in the earlier printed newsletters and so not reviewed by Illumined Souls and approved for distribution, and there are some teachings that were in those newsletters but not included in *Spiritual Light*. Such teachings will be considered “unofficial” if and when they are released.

Q3: Illumined Souls teach, in *Spiritual Light* Chapter 4, a series of spiritual laws that they say govern us all. How could they know that these laws are in fact eternal Truth?

A3: Because, as the most progressed beings of our planet, they have observed life on earth and in the spirit realms for ages, and furthermore, they are able to read in detail the auras of each and every one of us, which, they teach, record everything about us (1311:10-12). These experiences have undoubtedly enabled them to see the evidence for and the working of these laws, across all the many lives and ages of the universe, and indicating their eternal truth.

***A reminder:*** While seeking answers to questions, let us not forget to concentrate on those areas that will help improve ourselves and our world.

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We would be very happy for you to share this newsletter with friends and others who might be interested. They can add their names to our subscriber list (for our quarterly, free newsletters) and see prior issues [here](#).

An Illumined Soul revered by hundreds of millions of people has said:

“Let your light so shine, that those who seek [light] shall absorb it! Let your heart so sing, that those who cross your path shall feel the joy that is yours!”

In love and peace and brother-and-sisterhood,

Your brother,

John Finnemore

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

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