

THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER&SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956

www.TheUSB.org



eNL-14, February 2019

Dear USB friends:

Happy New(-ish) Year and welcome to our first quarterly issue of 2019! It is our fervent hope that this publication will find its way to all those who are dedicated to spreading the nonreligious teachings of the Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood around the world—a USB ideal. Please consider sharing this newsletter with your family and friends who may be seeking to expand their knowledge of universal spiritual truths, and to practice living out those truths on earth. You are also invited to subscribe to future issues or view our archive of past newsletters on [the USB website](#).

First and foremost, we pass on to all our readers 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 prior issue (eNL-13 of November 2018) you can find it [here](#) (scroll down the page for a list of past newsletters). It included:

The Shepherd – An Aviation Ghost Story

USB Spanish Group Receives Spirit Help

An Australian Member Writes

[*Spiritual Light*](#) *as a Holiday Gift*

Spirituality and Mediumship at the UN

Gratitude for Recent Financial Support



Close Encounters of the USB Kind

A quartet of USB members were delighted for the recent opportunity to encounter each other face to face. The meetup occurred during last year's Symposium of the Afterlife Research & Education Institute, held on September 13–16 in Scottsdale, Arizona. We've taken to calling them our "New" members because, as you'll see in the information below the photo, they all hail from locations containing the word "New" in their names.

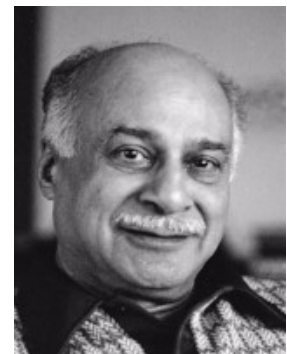


Pictured from left to right are: Marc Suri from Las Cruces, New Mexico; Karyn Jarvie from New South Wales, Australia; Mary Beth Slivka from New Brunswick, New Jersey; and Jerry Gammell from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Recent Notable Dates

Each year in December, we commemorate and celebrate with gratitude two important dates:

- December 23, 1903 – Michael Flagg, founder of the USB on earth, was born in Shanghai, China.
- December 28, 2018 – was the 62nd anniversary of the USB's founding on earth.



When Lincoln Spoke to Michael Flagg

Michael Flagg kept handwritten notes as well as audio recordings of numerous sittings during which he received messages from beings at the highest levels of the Spirit Realms through the mediumship of Leslie Flint, Estelle Roberts, Ruth Cunningham and other well-known mediums. At the end of Michael's earthly life, John Finnemore inherited many of these artifacts. In a current project, John is hard at work transcribing Michael's notes for which there are no surviving audio recordings, with the eventual goal of sharing them with the global USB community.

While working on this effort, John recently ran across an interesting account which we highlight here. On October 7th, 1959, almost three years after the founding of the USB on earth, Abraham Lincoln in spirit life spoke to Michael through the mediumship of Ruth Cunningham. The topic of leadership was the focus of much of this communication. After a long initial conversation about the lack of unselfishly motivated leaders at both national and world levels, about averting war, and about the need for enlightenment of the type that Michael was spreading, Lincoln ended with a parting comment that appears to have been a play on words of Michael's last name, saying ***“Well, they say ‘Strike up the band!’ but I say ‘Raise the flag! ... And it shall wave on the breeze!’”***



To learn more about the nature of truly honorable leadership as described in the USB's universal teachings, we invite you to (re)read *Spiritual Light (SL)*, topics 843 – 848.

In addition, this quotation from Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address delivered in 1865, reminds us of the inherent compassion necessary to the exercise of great leadership:

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Notes on Spirit Communication

Spirit communication is a multi-faceted and complex topic to which we certainly cannot do justice within the limited scope of this publication. For those readers wishing to deepen their understanding in this area, we refer you to Chapter 12, *Survival and Communication* in the USB's book, *Spiritual Light*. Here we highlight just a few aspects relating to spirit communication.

While there are many belief systems whose adherents are convinced of the truth of Survival (beyond death of the physical/earthly body), not all of these survivalists are aware of the reality and normalness of spirit communication (*SL*, 1201:2). The Illumined Spirits of the USB in the highest Spirit Realms, however, caution us not to fall into the error of looking down on those who do not yet possess this knowledge and awareness. A Blessed Soul suggests that we “look upon them as our sightless sisters and brothers, and we try to lead them to the light.” (*SL*, 1203:2)

Spirit communication can occur in a variety of forms, one of the most notable being through the services of a medium – someone with the ability to channel messages from spirit people to humans on earth. Good mediumship is essential to prove the veracity of Survival and Communication. So, what constitutes a “good” medium? The USB has strict requirements for mediums who represent the organization at any time. In *SL*, D25, we read that humility, open-mindedness, the ability to place spiritual progress above personal desires, and to set aside any ambition for personal glory and power are some of the key characteristics of *truly spiritual mediums*. Mediumship takes many forms and according to *SL*, 1236:2 “All forms and types and methods have their use and their place, depending on conditions and circumstances.”

Furthermore, when it comes to methods of communication, USB inspirers tell us: “When there is a *need*, those spirit friends who are close to us will use every and any available method to successfully communicate—even *the Ouija board*, which we would not ordinarily recommend, because it may respond too easily, not only to a sitter’s *own* mind, but also to the manipulation of mischievous or deceiving spirit people. But good communication *is* possible through it; and we know of instances where earthly lives have been enriched and gladdened” by its use.

Finally, for those seeking to communicate with those in spirit life, we suggest a few approaches that may be helpful in establishing a more meaningful connection at a higher vibrational level:

- Read *SL*, 1242 for recommendations on Home Circles and Mediumship.
- Participate in a circle with a group of sitters who are in harmony with one another, who are humble, selfless, patient and whose overriding desire is to be channels for good.
- Elevate the spiritual vibrations of the circle by setting an intention for good, and invoking protection from friendly and loving spirit people ahead of time, bearing in mind that there is no guarantee of receiving the requested help.
- Remember that *negative* spirit messages cannot harm us unless we believe them. We should use our reasoning powers, apply our best judgment, and be just as discriminating as we would be when hearing from someone we do not know on earth.



Foundational Pillars of the USB

In the opening pages of *SL*, we learn that the USB “is an organization of spiritual truth, patterned after the original that has long existed in the higher spirit realms” and that its “goal is to unite all humanity in peace and harmony based on love and service, knowledge of Survival [of death], communication with those in other expressions of existence, enlightenment from Illumined Souls, and on the power of spirit [helpers] to heal.” (*SL*, 102:8)

We consider the following to be the three “**pillars**” supporting the USB’s foundation:

- **What is the USB’s specialty?** Spiritual Truth
- **What is the USB’s authority?** The most advanced spirit beings (Illumined Souls) ever known to us on earth, and including many more who are unknown to us in this current age.
- **Why is the USB’s authority believable?** The authority of these advanced spirit beings is apparent from their teachings, values, principles, and purposes as presented in *Spiritual Light*. Seekers of truth need to study these teachings for themselves and decide which to accept as being unreservedly true based on personal judgment.

We close with best wishes to our readership, hoping that you will be inspired by what we have offered in this issue, and moved to share these universal teachings with other seekers of Truth.

A life well lived is a life devoted not only to self-realization, but to *service* to one’s fellow human beings. (*SL*, Greetings from an Illumined Soul, par. 9)

Peace, love, and light from your USB newsletter team,
JF, PF, FG, PS

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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