

# THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER&SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956

www.TheUSB.org



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Dear USB friends:

It's hard to believe that 2019 is already more than half over! Our second quarterly newsletter of the year is accompanied by our heartfelt wish that our readers will be inspired to help us spread the USB's nonreligious teachings to their beloved family and friends, most especially to those who may be seeking to expand their knowledge of universal spiritual truths, and to practice living out those truths in this earthly realm. We invite anyone who is interested to sign up for a [free subscription](#) 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-14 of February 2019) you can find it [here](#) (scroll down the page for a list of past newsletters). It included:

*Close Encounters of the USB Kind*

*Recent Notable Dates*

*When Lincoln Spoke to Michael Flagg*

*Notes on Spirit Communication*

*Foundational Pillars of the USB*



## *West Meets East – A USB Member’s Trip*

It’s exciting when USB members who live on opposite sides of the world are able to meet each other in person and, in so doing, strengthen the bonds of universal brother-and-sisterhood that form the foundation of the USB.

Earlier this year, we were delighted to hear about Mary Lou Nelson’s trip from her current home country of Spain to Australia. Although she recently retired from full-time work, Mary Lou has provided many years of volunteer service to the USB as a key member of the team that has been working on the Spanish translation of *Spiritual Light (SL)*. During her travels “down under”, Mary Lou operated as a roving USB ambassador of sorts. Highlights from her trip included meeting up with USB member and group leader, Philip Crouch in Hobart, and with Victor and Wendy Zammit, who have been dedicated researchers of objective, scientific evidence for the afterlife for going on three decades.

We thank Mary Lou for her dedication in helping to spread the USB’s teachings, and for enabling us to vicariously share in her travel experiences through some of her photos.



## ***Do Animals Have Souls?***

Some people question whether animals, and especially beloved pets, continue into an afterlife. Some have heard that animals return to a "group soul" in spirit life. And some readers of the USB's book, *Spiritual Light (SL)*, ask if its teaching that animals have no spark of the divine like humans means that animals have no afterlives. We hope the following, based on those *SL* teachings, will help readers better understand these subjects.

First, we should note that reports of animals and pets in spirit life are far too numerous to deny. Topic 1308 in *SL*, particularly paragraphs 3-7, specifically discusses them, including pets. It states that animals retain their form, identity, and individuality in spirit life, so therefore they also retain their feelings and special bonds with other animals and humans. It also notes the importance in spirit life of the love tie between former owners and their pets. We presented an article about *The Spirituality of Pets* in our [eNewsletter number 6](#), mentioning their psychic abilities and their appearances at séances.

Second, we should be aware that many words like "soul" and "spirit" have multiple meanings and the USB uses "souls" with at least two meanings. It uses one when it describes spirit beings, of humans or animals, as souls (e.g., the USB's Illumined Souls). It uses the other when discussing an infinitesimal but important *part* of ourselves that it calls our spark of the divine or our soul (*SL* 601:2, 602).

Illumined Souls assert that only humans possess a divine spark and we know of no evidence to support or oppose their assertion. However, this assertion does seem to make great sense. For our limited understanding of the infinite, divine Creator suggests that God has abilities that only humans have among all of God's creations on earth (such as conceiving and executing elaborate, complex plans). And many human abilities are vastly different from those of animals so it may well be that our divine sparks give us such abilities. Illumined Souls teach that those sparks are what enable human mentalities to be enlarged without limit (503:6, 602:3).

In summary then, besides always having a spirit body (1310) and a physical body while living on earth, human beings also always have a spark of the divine (soul). Animals have spirit bodies and physical bodies while living on earth, but Illumined Souls teach they do *not* have a spark of the divine (soul).

## ***The Importance of Spiritual Truth***

Justice is important. So is love. Also freedom. Just think how many have sacrificed how much for these. So what could be more important than *those* three?

The USB says the answer is Truth (which it defines as *that which is eternal*). Why is Truth so important? Because it is constant and eternal, so that it always points the way and is our guide in all matters.

Well then, is there anything even more important than Truth?

Yes, there *is*. And it is *spiritual* truth. And why is spiritual truth so *very* important? Because it points the way to our spiritual development, which is the very *purpose* of our lives on earth. In other words, it guides the development of our character and noble qualities from the many challenges of life on earth.

### ***“Nobody Dies” – A Song by Lorie McCloud***

USB member Lorie McCloud experienced music from a very young age. Her mother was musical, sang and played piano and organ, and listened to classical music. Lorie remembers playing with the piano in the family home and feeling almost like it was a living thing. She made up her first song when she was eight years old. Hearing folk music on the radio and TV, Lorie found herself transfixed by it. After getting her first guitar at age 10, she really took to the instrument and by the age of 12, she was playing in coffee houses and at hootenannies. Greatly inspired by the folk group Peter, Paul and Mary, she learned a lot about guitar-playing by listening to their records and copying what she heard.



In the summer of 2018, Lorie composed "Nobody Dies" as she was warming up her fingers prior to a visit to her family in August. She had been thinking about all the fear and sorrow that surrounds death and was looking for a way to say: "It doesn't have to be this way."

When Lorie first heard the introductory USB videos after they were published in Victor Zammit's [Friday Afterlife Report](#), she played them and got charged up—feeling like she was electrified. Until then, she'd had no idea that an organization like the USB existed, with members on both sides of the veil. For Lorie, the most compelling aspect of the USB's teachings is that humans are responsible for themselves, that our fate doesn't depend on any set of rules or rest in anybody else's hands. And that we have guidance from the Spirit side so that we can develop a true understanding of the way things work.

You can hear “Nobody Dies” and other songs by Lorie by [visiting SoundCloud](#) or [her YouTube channel](#).

## *The USB Leaflet*

The USB leaflet was created to provide a good (2-page) overall introduction to the USB. Supporters can keep copies ready to give (including by mail) to anyone expressing initial interest in the USB. They can make copies available to audiences at USB talks. And they could make them available (with permission) at conferences on subjects that relate to the USB mission. No doubt there are other good uses.

The leaflet describes in some detail the USB's origins, its high spirit leadership, and its methods and activities. It lists its nine principles and seven purposes. It explains the USB's emphases on humility, simplicity, personal freedom, the use of reason, total personal responsibility, and giving selfless service. And it provides references to the USB's principal book and website.

Free copies are available for download from the "[Bookstore](#)" [page of the USB website](#), for printing on either A4-sized or US "letter" sized paper, each with its own preparation guide. The wording in the leaflet is also provided in Appendix E of *Spiritual Light*.

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We leave you now with the following words from an Illumined Inspirer:

While we are indeed linked together as sisters and brothers in this great undertaking—those of you who are by yourselves or are gathered together in small groups, attempting in your own fashion to spread the light, know that you have the blessings of The Most High (*SL*, Topic A08:3).

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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