THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER & SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956





eNL-21, November 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We send out this e-newsletter with love and blessings to all who are dedicated to the universal spiritual brother-and-sisterhood of all humanity—the ideal of this organization. If you know of anyone who might like to receive our nonreligious, free newsletters, please share these with them. <u>Subscribing</u> to future editions is easy and free, and past newsletters are archived on <u>the USB website</u>. We always value receiving your impressions, feedback, questions, or suggestions for future topics at <u>staff@theusb.org</u>.

Our constant reminder which comes from our Illumined Inspirers to all our readers, is 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:

Did you miss our prior newsletter issue (eNL–20, August 2020)? Find it <u>here</u> (scroll down to see a list of past issues). Topics included:

Recent Developments

The Ways and "The Way"

Michael's Corner

On Humility

Closing Inspiration

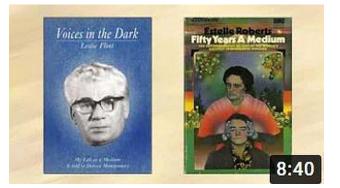
Gratefully Celebrating Anniversaries

With the recent Thanksgiving holiday in the USA, and the arrival of the final month of 2020, we at the USB are reminded of so much for which we are thankful.

On December 23rd, we will commemorate the birth of Michael Flagg, the USB's founder on earth. Michael was born in Shanghai, China in 1903 and returned to spirit life on February 18th, 1992. In the mid-1950s, through spirit communications, he learned that the purpose of his life was to help great souls deliver high spiritual teachings and truths to us on earth. For over three decades, Michael embraced this mission, worked fervently to receive these teachings of great beauty and wisdom from the afterlife through exceptional mediums, and to spread them by means of newsletters which he distributed to a growing number of USB friends and members around the world.

It was at the request of Illumined Souls who have led the USB in the highest spirit realms for many ages that Michael Flagg founded the USB on earth 64 years ago on December 28th, 1956. We gratefully acknowledge the deep and steadfast love of these Illumined Souls and their many spirit helpers for the dedicated service they gave to the world in sharing their teachings under exceptionally difficult conditions over a period of 30 years.

To learn more about these Illumined Souls and their unflagging dedication to the mission of imparting universal spiritual truths for the betterment of everyone on earth, despite the challenges of communicating across vastly different vibrational levels, we refer you to one of our <u>Afterlife Wisdom videos</u>, which is titled <u>How the Spirit Teachers Spoke With Us</u>.



USB Articles in the 'Afterlife Report'

We are very grateful to <u>Victor and Wendy Zammit</u> for their kindness in helping us to extend the reach of the USB's teachings to a larger worldwide audience by occasionally including articles on USB teachings in their acclaimed Afterlife Report.

Visit the <u>Afterlife Report online archive</u> to catch up on all the issues, including the following which feature USB teachings:

- <u>September 11</u> Inspiration from Great Souls: Spiritual Laws
- <u>October 9</u> What are the Rules of the Game of Life?
- November 13 Where did the Spiritual Teachings of the USB Come From?

Dear sisters and brothers, if you feel so moved, please consider being of service to the USB on earth in its quest to spread Spiritual Truth and Wisdom and to work towards Universal Love and Harmony. Share what you learn here with other seekers of Truth.

Spirituality Enables a Nobler Politics

One of the primary tenets of the USB is that it is entirely non-political – *no politics of any sort* is unequivocally articulated as one of the key principles governing all USB activities. *Individuals* in the USB may engage in politics to their heart's content, but they must not attribute *their* political views or actions to the USB. (*Spiritual Light (SL)*, D04:1-2)

The USB's primary focus is to *spiritualize* humanity, to make people aware of The Laws That Govern, and of the truths that are eternal. It stands to reason that once these noble goals are accomplished, all other aspects of human life on earth will fall into their proper place. For the USB Spirit Inspirers explain that, "when people become *truly* spiritual, it is bound to affect every aspect of their existence—their politics, their relationships with others, everything." (*SL*, 101:11)

For all of us desiring to progress spiritually, the teachings presented in *SL* can illuminate our path as we map out our life trajectories and seek to spread greater peace and harmony on our home planet, a place that is too often fraught with strife, division, cruelty, exploitation, and pain.

Understanding and practicing the Laws that Govern is foundational to our spiritual progress. One example is explained in the **Law of Cause and Effect**, and by the teaching that our individual and collective actions shape our futures:

"As we sow, we reap. As we plant, so is the harvest. Each thing we say or think or do brings its inevitable result." (SL, 407:1)

"... *each* era is the natural result of *people's* attitudes and actions in eras *preceding*. But these things, while happening according to The Law of Cause and Effect, do *not* take place in any cycle, for we are constantly determining, by our way of life, what they shall *be*; and as *we* change, so do we change what shall *be*." (*SL*, 928:9)

Also, as spiritual beings living on earth, it's important that we remain mindful of the fact that **freedom and free will are everyone's priceless heritage**. This is true for each one of us - no individual has the right to deny or take this spiritual inheritance from any other. In addition, a balance must be struck between individual freedom and the general welfare. As *SL* reminds us:

"... true lovers of freedom want liberty not only for themselves but for *others*—just as those who strive for brother-and-sisterhood know that it must include *all*

human beings, no matter who they are, no matter what the level of their consciousness." (*SL*, 853:6)

"In any democratic society, there must be rules for the general welfare. The rules may sometimes restrict the complete freedom of *individuals*, but that is indeed a trifling price to pay for the many freedoms they would otherwise lack." (*SL*, 853:10)

While the USB is rigorously non-political in its activities, several reflections on **democracy, freedom, and moral leadership** are included in its teachings. It is the consensus wisdom of the Illumined Souls who serve the USB in the spirit realms that:



"Despite its imperfections, which spring from the imperfections of many individuals, by far the best kind of government yet devised is democracy—a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them or by those they elect under a free electoral system.

"Democracies are frequently threatened from all sides, in these times more than ever. However, their gravest peril often lies *within*, usually when a party in office, fearing loss of power, is unwise enough to form a coalition with

those whose express purpose is to overthrow free systems of government and seize control." (*SL*, 861:1-2)

"Leaders who lack *wisdom*—knowledge of what is true or right coupled with just judgement as to action—can bring disaster to a nation, as history so abundantly illustrates." (*SL*, 861:5)

For further enlightenment on these important subjects, we refer our readers to topics 861 through 866 in *SL* which offer reflections on **Democracy, One-World Government, Eternal Vigilance, Utter Folly, Tragic Happenings, and "News" Disseminators.** Underlying all these teachings are the USB's spiritual tenets that emphasize the brother-and-sisterhood of all humanity.

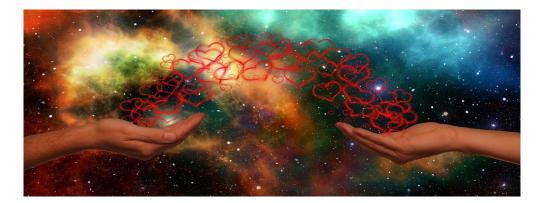
"Freedom is the right of *all* human beings, *all* peoples. But they must evolve in that respect (as in all others): from freedom for self, to freedom for one's own tribe, to freedom for one's own people or nation, to freedom for *all people everywhere*. Those of us who are a little farther along the path are remiss if we do not try, by love and wisdom, to make that evolution less painful.

"Against tyranny and oppression and injustice *anywhere*, let us as individuals raise our voices for those who cannot speak." (*SL*, 865:11-12)

Is it possible to reconcile our desires to evolve spiritually with earthly feelings, thoughts, emotions, and actions having a political component, e.g. patriotism? According to the USB's Illumined Souls, the answer is yes. Their **teachings on patriotism** offer much wisdom, and draw the line between patriotism and jingoism as follows:

"Of course, we should not be *jingoistic:* boasting about patriotism and favoring an aggressive, threatening, and warlike foreign policy. But we should be patriotic. We should have pride in a land that offers us much. We should resolve to be worthy of it in every possible way. We should be ready and anxious to protect it from enemies within and without. And not for just one day in a year, or one year in a century, but during every day of every year.

"Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel, some cynically say, and it may be true in some cases. But patriotism certainly is the first sentiment of a heart full of gratitude for abundant opportunities for a fuller, freer, and nobler life." (*SL*, 752:3-4)



In conclusion, immersing ourselves in the truth and wisdom of the USB teachings, and striving daily to live according to their guidance, our lives will gradually be transformed to attain higher spiritual destinations. We can all aspire to *fight the good fight*, and in so doing, ennoble our spirits for eternity.

"While we are not expected or required to be perfect on earth [1409], we can, *on the whole*, live up to *our* highest conceptions of what is noble. We can show understanding and love and compassion for others, not least when we must discipline them. We can be true to ourselves and maintain our integrity, regardless of what others do. We can live by The Laws That Govern to the extent that we consciously or unconsciously understand them." (*SL*, 1426:1)

Holiday Light, Truth, and Inspiration



Spiritual Light as a Gift. Do you know a friend or loved one who is interested in spirituality, universal truth, and wisdom? Especially in this challenging year of 2020, imagine gifting them with a copy of the USB's *Spiritual Light* book for the holidays – a book for the ages that will inspire and nurture them on their spiritual journey. Choose a deluxe or paperback edition considering the shipping charges to your location—see the <u>USB bookstore</u>.

Encore of an Aviation Ghost Story. We never tire of hearing this delightful holiday story which was first featured in our <u>November 2018 newsletter</u>. The year is 1957. An RAF pilot is heading home from Germany for Christmas. Fog sets in, and all radio communication is lost ... <u>find out what happens next!</u>

Amazon Smile. For all your Amazon purchases this season (and thereafter), Amazon will make donations to the USB if you buy through Amazon Smile (same products, prices, and features, no cost to you). If this appeals to you as a no-cost way to support us, learn more at <u>http://smile.amazon.com/about</u> and enter our full name: The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood.

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Courage for 2021

As 2020 draws to a close, we acknowledge the great challenges that each of us has faced this year. Despite a worldwide pandemic that has devastated so many lives, despite political misunderstanding and division, inequality across racial lines, economic hardships, poverty, and so much material loss and unmet need on so many levels, each of us can draw courage, inspiration, and comfort from understanding and working to address *The Greatest Need*.

"Awareness of the Laws that Govern is always needed. Knowledge of Survival and Communication is always needed. *Spiritual* mediumship is always needed.

"But the greatest need today is *the realization that all people are sisters and brothers*, children of a living and loving God [601:2].

"There is not one of us who cannot express that truth—by the way we live, by the words we say, by the things we do, by a smile or greeting or handclasp for those we meet, and by the love in our heart for all people everywhere.

"The wounds people have inflicted on one another have been bitterest when some have looked down on others because of the color of their skin, or the slant of their eyes, or the way that they worship. We can help to bind the wounds by showing love to *all* who cross our path, and by both proclaiming and *living* by the principles of The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood." (*SL*, 1431:1-4)

Be of good courage friends – as we cross the threshold into 2021, know that there is much each of us has to contribute towards the betterment of our world!

With love and peace 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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