

THE LIFE AND SPIRIT OF MARC FINNEGAN

I am honored to write these words of tribute and in memorium for our mutual friend, Marc Finnegan.

Like a cut gem, Marc's life shone with many facets. One of the most brilliant was that which we called LES.

Always cooperative, full of fun, he gave of his substance freely and cheerfully that LES might prosper and we the members benefit.

Marc came up through our ranks to be LES U.S.A. President for the year beginning October 1973. He was our LES International President for calendar year 1975 pulling together at our early stages of growth, many views, many nations.

A grateful society, meeting in London, awarded him its Gold Medal, with a lightheared presentation which caused him to laugh and us to laugh with him.

Precipitator of new LES Societies, pusher behind the formation of LES International, he drafted our LES International Constitution.

Peripatetic world traveler and speaker par excellence at LES meetings, prolific author for Les Nouvelles, his friends in LES are as numerous and as diverse as the membership itself.

And oh, how he loved to tell jokes — jokes he researched as if they were a legal brief, moved around so they somehow had a licensing connection, and then (smiling as he did so) sprang them on us to warm our otherwise staid meetings.

Marc was optimistic and a good listener, two characteristics of a true leader. Always seeking a sense of balance and looking for the middle ground, he was tolerant of all views, the aspirations of all peoples and nations. His words of wisdom and warmth of personality will be missed at our Delegate and Board meetings.

Marc's life, responsibly and courageously lived, was an inspiration. Each of us is more blessed by having known him. And as we continue the good works of LES, therein will lie our true memorial to Marc.

We miss you, good friend.

Dudley B. Smith

(Additional tributes are published in the Les News section of this Les Nouvelles.)