



Newsletter from the Open Grove

forward thinking, interactive radio

Volume 1, Issue 4

October 31, 2001

Welcome to the Open Grove! What a magical month! Did you get a chance to notice some ordinary magic? We at the Open Grove have been overwhelmed with the amount of new and exciting things that are going on within the grove. We have also had many comments and email about people's experiences with ordinary magic. Probably the most surprising was that someone said: "you know, I think people are actually driving better". That's extraordinary magic!

We are busily raking leaves, turning vegetable beds, adding to our compost piles and mulching everything. Our days have been simply surrounded by the magic of the season - brisk mornings giving way to warm and blustery afternoons, beautiful sunsets and the magic of the changing seasons. Ordinary magic has been the focus of many of our conversations and thoughts. How about you? What have you seen & experienced in your month of magic? Let me know at: info@opengrove.com.

As you move through your Halloween celebrations today, let's spend a moment looking at ordinary magic. One hundred years ago, who would have believed that you could get to Europe in less than a day or write instantly to a loved one on the other side of the globe? This is the magic of technology. Do you realize the experience of a daily hot shower was created within our grandparent's lifetime. What about more simple and personal magic like love or respect? Have you noticed how someone will simply light up when you stop to simply listen to them? That's the magic of noticing. Magic surrounds you every day - I encourage you to celebrate all the magic you have noticed and some of it that you have not yet noticed.

I would like to end our discussion on Ordinary Magic by sharing with you a story from my own experiences with ordinary magic. Many of you will remember a time when we had an office in a building that was under construction. After a year of putting up with the mess and noise, we decided to move out when our lease expired at the end of September. Two days after we gave notice, I "turned" my ankle. The doctor assured me that it was not broken, so we continued in our plans to move out of this office space.

Within days we found a wonderful new office. It was exactly where we wanted it to be, easy parking and (more than anything) quiet. We were very excited. We signed the lease at the end of August and planned to spend the month of September moving into the new office space. We spent much of Labor Day weekend contemplating what color we should paint the office and measuring the space for furniture. Returning to work Tuesday morning, there was an urgent message from the leasing agent. The owner of the building had visited a psychic fair over the weekend and was told that her business would expand over the next year. With this information, she withdrew the lease. We didn't have an office space. My next call was from an ankle specialist stating that my ankle was, in fact, broken. In a panic, I immediately called our property manager to see if we could extend our lease for one more month, which she declined. We didn't have an office space and my ankle was broken. I can not express my complete sense of despair.

During that week the magic started to happen. We made some calls and rallied forces. My therapist friends offered their offices to see clients in the interim. My brother-in-law began to visit office buildings to see if he could find us a space. Still my despair did not lift. Friday night I literally collapsed. I slept a troubled sleep. What was going to happen to me? my practice? my ankle? I had this oddly specific dream. In the dream, I saw this doorway - white walls surrounded by dark paneled wood.

