

## *The Magic Tree 2015*

**Please note that the hours of the Magic Tree are dusk to 11:00 PM. It is turned off at 11 for the sake of residents who live well within ear shot through closed windows of loud motors, the clunking of car doors closing and the voices of a crowd. Please respect these hours and do not tamper with the plugs, circuit breakers and timer of the tree, but come back at the regular hours for the Magic Tree. Please visit the Magic Tree Facebook page for more information and to give us your feedback.**

Thanks to the The Village of Cherry Hill Business Association for hosting the official Magic Tree every year since 2010. Another word of thanks to the nearby residents who graciously live with the nightly noise of the crowd that come to enjoy the tree. Thanks too to all of you who come for a dose of colorful light and inspiration. While I light other "magic trees" around town and elsewhere, it is here at Cherry Hill that the official Magic Tree resides. I volunteer the time to light this tree. Cherry Hill provides the space, the electricity, and helps with the cost of the equipment through a generous donation to the general effort. The Village of Cherry Hill hosts the Magic Tree for the sole purpose of continuing the gift of holiday cheer that the annual lighting of the Magic Tree brings to the community. The opinions expressed in this flier and on the Magic Tree website (magic-tree.org) are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect those of The Village of Cherry Hill or any of its residents, businesses, or customers. Please remember to express your thanks to the businesses of Cherry Hill without whom the official Magic Tree would not have such an accommodating home. *Will Treelighter*

It seems we are playing musical trees here at Cherry Hill for the Magic Tree. For the first 3 years of the Magic Tree at Cherry Hill it was the cherry tree opposite this one just to the west of the gazebo. Because of damage to that tree from heavy snow, in the 4th year we used the present tree. But this tree was damaged by wind about a year and a half ago and so last year we lit the maple tree by the water fall. Now it seems in this 6th year for the official Magic Tree at Cherry Hill this present tree, a cherry like the first one, has recovered enough to serve again as the frame for the Magic Tree. It has approx. 40,000 lights on it (about 75% of them LEDs) and took about 60 man hours for myself, my son and an employee to put up (not withstanding getting the bucket truck stuck in the rain soaked grass.) It will take a similar amount of time to take them down again and to properly put them away for use in subsequent years. (Yes, they must come down every year to avoid damage to the tree and to the lights.)

This is the 21st year for the Magic Tree. For the first 15 years it was one of two crab apples that I used in my yard for the purpose. When traffic became too much for our small neighborhood we moved its official location to The Village of Cherry Hill. A crab apple tree has been planted at the north end of the park which we hope will eventually serve as the official Magic Tree when it has matured.

This is the 12th year I have produced a flier to hand out at the Magic Tree. Old technology for sure, but accessible to all, whether they have access to the internet or not. (It will also be posted to the magic-tree.org website as are all the past fliers.) I use this flier to answer the most FAQs and then to attempt something inspirational, because the Magic Tree is symbolic. What it symbolizes is ultimately up to you. Take this flier as merely a primer if you will and thank you for taking the time to read it.

Can Beauty save our world?

The Magic Tree is made of light. Light is attractive. We gravitate toward it. We want to be bathed in it and absorb it. Light is symbolic of higher mind - abstract mind in contact with Spirit. It is a common enough analogy - a light bulb over a cartoon head represents fresh ideation - a new idea. Similarly the Magic Tree is like a many faceted light bulb symbolizing the light of mind, which infusion with Spirit has lent fresh ideation into the lower realms of the mundane. Just to be clear - the Magic Tree is just a tree with a lot of lights on it. It is not what it symbolizes, but is merely a symbol of it.

Let the Magic Tree be understood to represent the Universal Principle of Light, Life and Love of the One Source of all that is, the Word if you will, speaking the message of Spirit Life into the minds of the many.

“Principle” in this context refers to something that is a given. For example, mind is something we can all agree exists without giving any further proof, because we all experience it and so know it is true. It is a given, a Principle. So is Light, Life and Love. There are many Principles. They indicate a certain set of Universal Laws about the way things like Light, Life, Love or Mind for instance, works. Science is the system for working out and discovering what these laws are.

Let it be understood that all good ideas regardless of where they are found come from this One Source of all Creation (that all participate in merely by virtue of existing) and through this Universal Principle of Light, Life, Love and Mind or Consciousness. When we pay attention and hold to Universal Principle we are able to see it wherever we look. It takes the form of beauty which symbolizes love or, in other words, abundant life, but we have to look beyond the mundane, and sometimes behind the horror and terror, to have a clear vision of it. We have to look beyond prejudice, hate, exclusivity, appearances of all kinds and remember the Universal Principle of Light and Life that has brought all into being in order to recapture a sense of the good, the well and the true - the beautiful.

By right of being human we have the Higher Mind capacity to bring the Light of this Principle through into the lower realms of everyday human activity. But, are we awake to it enough to consciously participate? Much of the time we are sleep walking through life preoccupied by the bodily dream of form, matter, money, politics, prejudice, social standing, etc. Countless are those of us who go through our entire lives dreaming the mundane is really living! The Magic Tree is symbolizing a cry of WAKE UP! WAKE UP! WAKE UP! we're dreaming! There is more to Life than our material form and its comfort or well being. It is temporary, a tool, a vehicle of expression, but not the Life that we are. All that is objective is precipitating out of the subjective and abstract Higher Mind. If we want to live, really Live, look to this Universal Principle. Its names are as bountiful as the cultures of the Earth. I like Beautiful Mind, Great Encourager, Good Teacher, the Principle in Spirit that is Love Supernal, that illumines the lower self, encouraging it and irradiating it with the Light of Spirit Sourced Love that melts away cares for wealth and status, as well as prejudice, hate and other negatives; enlightening us with Life that Lives forever.

Take a selfie under the Magic Tree but don't stop at posting it to Facebook. Look at the image again, holding it in your mind while recognizing what it *represents*; the illumination of you from Beautiful Spirit Mind Principle. Then close your eyes to the outer world (including your selfie) to wake up to the Spirit within you. Behold the Beauty of the Center of All Love that is at your very heart. This is your Good. Share That - your Spirit infused love of life, your Spirit infused inspiration, your Beauty, your Love. This is what people need. Sure people need warm clothes in the cold, we need shelter and we need good food, education, healthcare and self determination. These basic human rights help sustain life at the material level, but what we need to really Live is the Spiritual Light of the Beautiful Mind called Christ Principle, called Only Begotten because there is just the one Word from the One Source by whatever name you want to give It. Share *THIS* and Beauty (the signature or symbol of Love) can save our world.

There is actually just One Life manifesting through all of us just as there is just one electric current lighting all the different lights on the Magic Tree. This means that when we do something to someone else we are doing it to our selves. This beautiful idea, if remembered in each moment, will guide us into a future of good will, harmony and peace such as the world has never seen to date. Imagine everyone in the world with enough to eat and a roof over their heads, with opportunity to improve themselves through know how and improvisation garnered from education and through seeing others as they do themselves. Imagine open borders between nations because of the good will garnered from fair sharing of resources, because if another is getting ripped off we recognize that it hurts us too. (Consider how hurtful terrorism is - it doesn't just happen in a vacuum. Only Spirit Sourced Love can undo the causes.) This One Life is re-cognized through an awareness that comes from the Spirit Infused Beautiful Mind. This is an awareness that produces Life Everlasting. This is an awareness that saves our planet and brings Heaven to Earth through our activity in concert with what is beautiful. This is how Beauty can save our world.

The Teacher is in the world. Be awake. Be beautiful.

*Love's in everything, beauty is its signature, Will Treelighter*