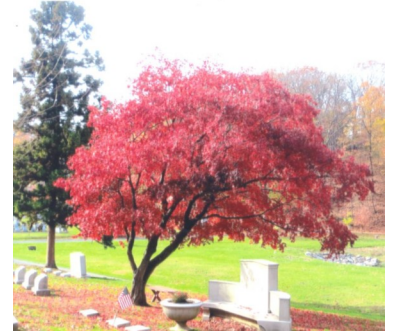


NOVEMBER

“Encore”

Following quickly on the heels of an extravagantly colorful October, November bounds into action to finish up with a jubilant and radiant color performance of its own. Excluding the ‘red sunset’ and the dwarf red maple that have lost most of their leaves, the remaining taller Japanese maples are absolutely magnificent with their deep merlot and garnet color. Their show has started in October, but they are at their absolute best the first two weeks of November; and sadly, by the last week of November, their leaves have all dropped.



Taking up the performance where their mature parents have left off, the young sugar maples in the lower north section are glorious in their yellowish oranges. Aside of them, the sweet gum trees are a treat to behold. On any one tree the star shaped leaves present multi-colors with some still green, some yellow, some orange, and some reddish pink. Competing for attention in the same area, are the dawn redwood with their feathery leaves changing to amber; and the swamp white oak fully cloaked in their leaves of auburn. Not to be

out done, several large Japanese red maple hold their deep burgundy leaves in the background. Two stands of American beech along Valley Rd. near the carriage house, gloss up the hillside with their oranges and yellows. The Siberian elm near the Comloquoy mausoleum, who are tightly holding onto their green leaves, quietly stand watching all the other trees change.

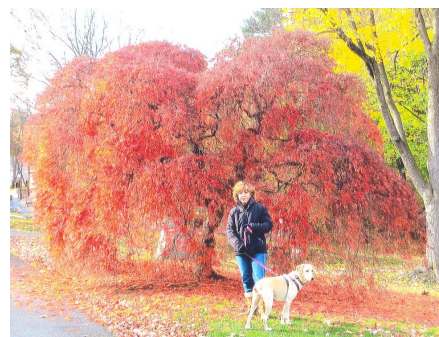
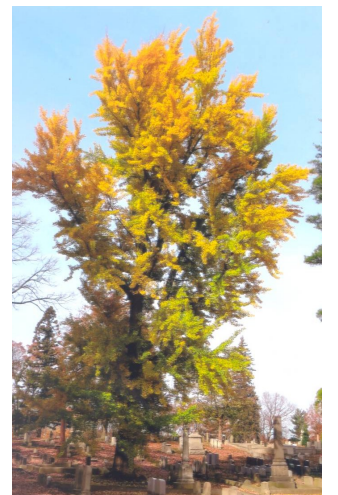


Along Valley Road at 16th Street, on Mt. Laurel Ave. coming up the hill to the chapel, behind the chapel on the hillside, to the east of the chapel along Hillcrest Avenue, and where Hillcrest and Mt. Laurel run together to the far east near 12th Street, the many Norway maple and the sycamore maple are still holding their greenish yellow leaves. Also to the east, the tall athletic male ginkgo, flexes its muscles of gold as it holds its own among the nearby tall green eastern white pine. Along Market Street, the

green chest coats of the European Hornbeam are turning golden.

While the leaves have dropped from the trees in waves that spanned the months of September through early December, there are so many to vacuum, that it becomes almost an impossible task for two full time workers. The work of leaf vacuuming will continue through late December or until an early snowfall makes the leaves too wet to vacuum.

Often some sections can only be left until spring for leaf clean up. Perhaps the city’s truck will come by and vacuum up the leaves if piled along the main road; or perhaps they get overloaded, and with an early snow fall, can not come.



One of the most enjoyable things to do at this time is year, is to stand under a tree as the wind is blowing the leaves off the tree and raining down upon the visitor. Sometimes, particularly under the London planetrees, the piles are so high, one can kick ones feet and scatter the thick piles. As an adult, the child emerges, and it is a simple pleasure remembered from childhoods long ago.