



Visit PHS Exhibit: *Linda Gist—Illustrations*
Now through March 15, 1996

PHS *News*

from THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Volume XXXVII, No. 4

MARCH, 1996

J. Franklin Styer, Former Council Member, Dies Helped Create the PHS Gold Medal Plant Awards.

J. Franklin Styer, 95, former owner of J. Franklin Styer Nurseries in Concordville, died on January 1 at his home in Bend, Oregon.

In addition to being a distinguished member of the horticultural community for many years, Frank was a member of the PHS Council from 1953 to 1965.

In the late '70s, Styer approached the Society with a suggestion that we initiate an award to stimulate the use of a broader variety of quality plants in the landscape.

Originally called the J. Franklin Styer Award of Garden Merit, this is now our

Gold Medal Plant Award Program. Thanks to Frank's generosity, the administrative expenses of the program are partially underwritten.

Since the awards were first made in 1988, we have, with the help of a dedicated team of evaluators, recognized 50 plants and the program is really catching on. In early January, for example, Dora Galitzki, correspondent, *New York Times*, mentioned the 1996 award winners in her column and within a few days our mailbag was full of requests for information from across the country.

Test Drive a Cadillac and Contribute to PHS!

A chance to raise money for PHS, the Nature Conservancy

Through March, every PHS member who takes a test drive in a Cadillac will earn \$25 for PHS and \$25 for the Nature Conservancy.

We are most grateful to the generosity of the Cadillac SuperNetwork for sponsoring the 1996 Philadelphia Flower Show Preview Dinner and

offering PHS members the additional opportunity to raise funds for our Philadelphia Green community greening programs.

We mailed a list of local Cadillac dealers to members in February. If you mislaid yours, give us a call at (215) 625-8280, ext. 29.

'96 Junior Flower Show Shifts Locale, Dates Student exhibitors welcome

The Junior Flower Show turns 21 this year in its new home: **Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park.**

Show dates are **June 5 through 6**, in conjunction with the two-week-long **Philadelphia County Fair**. The partnership with the County Fair and the move to Memorial Hall means that many more people will be able to view the exhibits

of the region's budding horticulturists.

The Show's theme, *Philadelphia In Flower*, emulates the theme of the 1996 Philadelphia Flower Show. In addition to entering any number of horticultural classes, school-age exhibitors will be able to flex their creative muscle in artistic classes that focus on some of Philadelphia's unique attractions:

(continued on page four)

Garden Visits Begin May 5th

Take advantage of one of the most popular benefits of PHS membership when generous garden owners open their gardens to PHS members on Sunday afternoons in May and June.

Garden Visits coordinator **Nancy Greenwood** has arranged three outstanding tours: **May 5** on Main Line from Gulph Mills to Merion (details below); **May 19** in Gladwyne; **June 9** in the Glenmoore area of Chester County.

May 5: Main Line from Gulph Mills to Merion

These seven gardens range from a small, well-designed garden on less than a half acre to a 40-acre estate, home to thousands of azaleas. The styles of the gardens vary as well: visitors will see a backyard woodland and a terraced garden where the texture of unusual conifers provides a key element in a hillside garden. A new home and garden on the site of a former estate has simplicity and minimalism governing the design and choice of plants.

To register, please check the box on the Reservation form (page five). Travel directions and garden descriptions will be mailed in late April. Members \$5; guests \$10; children under 12, \$2.

Look in the April issue of the *PHS News* for information about two additional Garden Visits.

