



Most far-out garden, man: James Riley's "Psychedelic Garden" in Glenview features foam-art friends that dance around gardens called "Fish Row" and "Enlightened Man Way." His was a refreshing garden that screamed personality.

Other entries of note

In many of the entries we saw, the judges were taken with one enticing detail, the gardener's unique approach, or some other noteworthy aspect of the garden. Here are some that were singled out for special mention:

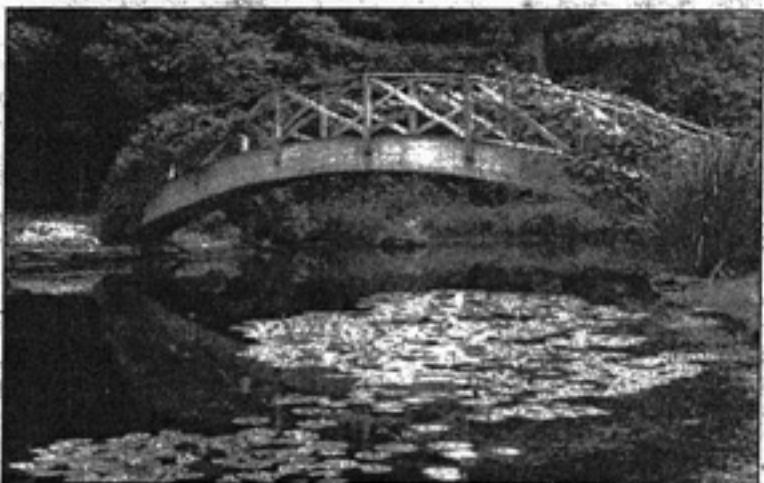
Most improved in one season: Debbie Carver ripped out an enormous bank of bland evergreens in front of her house in La Grange Park and installed bold and inviting cottage-style perennial beds in their place.

Most likely to grow up to be a botanist: Kevin Keating, a Bolingbrook 9-year-old, created a vegetable plot that is full of research projects—from a pyramid that pumpkin vines can climb to a rain gauge he made in Cub Scouts.

Most far-out garden, man: James Riley's "Psychedelic Garden" in Glenview features a colorful foam art Sun God and other foam art friends that hover and dance around gardens



Best collector's garden: Brent Markus' assortment of conifers gives his Highland Park yard a distinct look in summer and winter.



Most productive garden—and gardener: Don Wickman's garden sits near the home he designed and built on 6 acres in St. Charles. From his woodsy garden, Wickman makes maple syrup, cider and wine. (Smoked trout is made from the fish in his pond.)

called "Fish Row," "Enlightened Man Way" and "Cosmo's Cover." His was a refreshing garden that screamed personality.

Best collector's garden: Brent Markus' fine assortment of conifers gives his Highland Park yard a distinct look both in summer and in winter.

Best contest presentation: Amy Shaw's sophisticated spiral-bound entry (shown on our cover), with its illustrated excerpts on gardening terms and sewn slide pockets, would win the praises of Martha Stewart and many a garden-book publisher. And, oh yes, her artistic eye had a lovely effect

on her Lake View garden.

Most productive garden—and gardener: Don Wickman's garden sits near the home he designed and built on 6 acres in St. Charles. His woodsy garden not only offers beauty, but, with "Donnie Appleseed's" help, also maple syrup, cider and wine. (Smoked trout is made from the fish in Wickman's pond.)

Best gardener's names: Tom Bracken of Rogers Park in Chicago
Ivy Johnson of St. Charles
Fred Moss of Palos Hills
Jill Worm of Lake View in Chicago

Dennis Rodkin