

The "Land of Milk and Honey", is sacred in our special place of Mother Earth. With this book, we honor the spirit and wisdom of its people, the productive power of the land, the importance of the animals and the legacy of our ancestors, from ancient civilizations to the recent past of 1836.

While we thank the many people who are sharing their reflections in this book, we know they represent but a fragment of the families who have contributed so richly to our history. Remaining steadfast through the years, they have surmounted sorrows and disappointments, natural disasters and financial failures to thrive and succeed.

As we surround ourselves with the beauty of our seasons, may we remember it is now our turn in time to enrich the quality of life through our thoughts, our actions, our celebrations and ceremonies. Everything counts, with vibrations spreading throughout the world...may they instill a renewed spirit of peace, equality and the goodness of life as we know it.

*Pat Lunde*

Published in commemoration of the 150th Sesquicentennial Celebration of Wisconsin Statehood and the Historic Hoyt House's Fall/Christmas Designer Showhouse and Gardens, "Christmas At The Hoyt House" in October, 1998. The Historic Hoyt House, located at 32560 Academy Road (Hwy. FF) in Rochester, is a 1841 Queen Anne/Eastlake country estate home built by William S. and Franklin E. Hoyt, father and son. Presently, the Historic Hoyt House is used to bring awareness to historic preservation, to showcase designers, artists and area businesses and to raise dollars for community projects. This Fall/Christmas Celebration will unveil "The World" by Ernst, a renowned sculptor from Rochester, who has recreated the chocolate sculpture "The World of Chocolate" to initiate the Burlington Sculpture Park in Year 2000.

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