



# Hotchkiss Family News

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Lin Meeker, Editor

## 2013 Reunion Will Be Held in Lyons, New York

### 2013 Will be Held in Lyons, New York

An exciting and informative reunion is being planned for August 2-4, 2013. Events include a program by Dick Kelley.

Dick has won many awards as an Antique Bottle & Glass Collector. He has a large collection of Hotchkiss bottles and other Hotchkiss items and has been

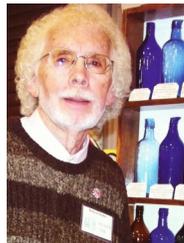
collecting for over 30 years.

From the Wayne County Historian's website, "Lyons was known for being the home of one of the most successful and prestigious businesses in the world. The H.G. Hotchkiss International Prize Medal Essential Oil Company was founded by Hiram Gilbert Hotchkiss in 1839 in Phelps, New York. By 1841, the business had been moved to Lyons to be nearer the Erie Canal.

It was found that Hotchkiss oil was purer than any other oil available. The oil sold for more per pound than any other, and the Hotchkiss Essential Oil Company became the largest of its kind in the world. It was said that travelers on the

Erie Canal could always tell when they were nearing Lyons -- they could smell the peppermint."

collecting for over 30 years.



### HFA Newsletter Is On the Internet

HFA will be posting the newsletter on our internet site at [www.hotchkissfamily.org/](http://www.hotchkissfamily.org/)

In the last edition we urged you to send your email address to the editor so that you can receive your newsletter via email. Your email address will not be shared with anyone. You'll receive an email with the URL to click. At the bottom of the opening page, you'll see: "To read the latest Hotchkiss Family Newsletter, click HERE" The newsletter (a pdf file) can be opened by both PC's & MAC's.

If you have not already sent your email address and name to Lin Meeker, editor, **please do so today.** Those who do not have email, will be sent a hard copy. Send your email address to the editor at :

[dlmokdoki@aol.com](mailto:dlmokdoki@aol.com)

Plans are being made for a boat ride on the Erie Canal which is right outside the door of the Hotchkiss Building. The Erie Canal is navigable all the way from Albany to Buffalo NY. The Finger Lakes Wineries are also close by with tours and wine tasting. Just of the few of the state parks close by include: Buttermilk Falls Park, Chimney Bluffs Park, Watkins Glen, Taughannock Falls Park, Newtown Battlefield Park as well as the Lighthouse Museum. Accommodations will be in nearby Geneva. More reunion plans will be provided in the next newsletter. **Hold the dates, Aug 2-4, 2013.**

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#### Action Notes:

- Put August 2-4, 2013 on your calendar for the HFA Reunion in Lyons, NY
- Have a Hotchkiss male in your family participate in the DNA project
- Send your email address to [dlmokdoki@aol.com](mailto:dlmokdoki@aol.com)

## 2012 Reunion at Virginia's Historic Triangle A Great Time

The 2012 reunion was held in the Virginia Historic Triangle. Attendees attended tours of both Williamsburg and Yorktown. We immersed ourselves in the history of colonial times, trade shops, activities and the rising feelings that the country should be free of British rule. Yorktown is known as a battlefield in both the American Revolution and the Civil War. Be sure to check out the pictures from the area on page six and more on the HFA website.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great Civil War Battle at Gettysburg

*Hotchkiss' can participate in the reenactment in the same unit in which many Hotchkiss men served.*

Next year, 2013, marks the 150th anniversary of the great Civil War battle at Gettysburg, PA. We had over 35 Hotchkiss cousins fighting there at the time on both sides. Many in the 20th Connecticut and other units such as the 154th NY Volunteer Infantry.

Don Hotchkiss, our military historian, is currently reconstituting Company K, 154th NY Vol Inf and will be headed to Gettysburg the first week in July (4,5,6 and 7) to participate in this once in a lifetime national reenactment.

The 154th had seven Hotchkiss men in its ranks and was commanded by Capt Arthur Hotchkiss. Arthur recruited the unknown soldier of Gettysburg, a man named Sgt Humiston who is buried in Gettysburg National Cemetery along with our O. W. Hotchkiss of the 120th NY Vol Inf. *Editor's Note: Some may remember that we held a dedication ceremony at O.W.'s grave in Gettysburg a few years ago. It was a poignant moment when during the service given by Reverend Thomas Hotchkiss of Tennessee [if memory serves] a butterfly landed on O.W.'s headstone, stayed several seconds and then flew off to the sky.* All the descendants of the 154th NY, the famous Cattaraugus Regiment, were alerted to the fact that this company will be back in action and so far 22 have signed up to participate.

Cousin Don would like to extend an invitation to any able bodied Hotchkiss cousin (or friend) to join the unit and participate in the reenactment. No experience is necessary, training will be provided between now and then. Don has a collection of 50 union infantry uniforms, tents and muskets that can be borrowed for the occasion to keep costs down (Don uses them for JROTC programs). The 150th anniversary will come only once. Women are invited to participate as well.

Contact Don Hotchkiss by email at [cpth65eng@aol.com](mailto:cpth65eng@aol.com) or call him at (702) 875-1893. Don wants to get everyone registered by the end of November (\$25.00). If you want more information on what is going on that weekend, check out the web site [www.gettysburgcivilwar150.com](http://www.gettysburgcivilwar150.com)

Even if you don't go as a participant, plan on being there for the spectacle. We had 27,000 reenactors there for the 135th Gettysburg; this will eclipse that.

**Don't Pass Up this Wonderful Opportunity to Participate in History!**

## Hotchkiss Men's DNA Project Needs You

The Hotchkiss DNA project requires more participation to be effective. If you have questions or would like more information on how to participate, please contact Ross Hotchkiss at 905-469-9148 or by email: [hotchi@pathcom.com](mailto:hotchi@pathcom.com)

According to their website, 90% of genealogists choose Family Tree DNA – with the largest DNA database. More records are added everyday. We have at least one person in the DNA project for each of Samuel's sons so we need male descendants of Joshua, Samuel and Thomas to step up.

With five people from John's line we have a number of mutations but all are unique to one person. As a result we cannot yet use DNA results to sort out Hotchkiss lines that are not yet proven but we have been able to prove these five are all related through Samuel's first son, John.

Ross says, "based on working with another of my family lines, it appears that we will need five to ten men per line to get results that would allow us to trace lines using the DNA markers." **Participation is quick and easy.**

## Your Donations Are Needed

The Hotchkiss Family Association operates on donations in lieu of dues. An annual donation of \$10 or more supports record keeping for the Hotchkiss family lines, newsletters published two/three times a year, and more important, the incidental costs of preparing our books for publication. We have to care for and preserve hundreds of records. Please give today to insure the preservation of these records.

Hotchkiss Family Association  
c/o Joan Johnson  
36 Beach Drive  
Prospect, CT 06712-1603.

## Early descendants of Samuel's sons, John, Samuel and Thomas all migrated to the Finger Lakes Region.

There is much to see and enjoy in the area: Visit the wineries, check out Cornell University, a great research site, or visit Syracuse University. There is boating on the canal or any of the Finger Lakes. Visit **Buttermilk Falls State Park**, **Taughannock Falls State Park** the Lighthouse Museum, **Fillmore Glen State Park**, or **Watkins Glen State Park**. These are just a few of the sites to see. How accommodations will likely be in Geneva which is on Seneca Lake.

## -Hotchkiss Passings-

**Howard Hotchkiss** (137-748-424)

Howard Hotchkiss was born Sept. 14, 1928 in Raton, New Mexico. He was the son of John and Lora (Messick) Hotchkiss. Howard grew up on the family ranch near Raton, and graduated from high school in Des Moines, NM.

During the Korean War, Howard served his country in the U.S. Army from 1950-1956. Howard was united in marriage to June Johnson on Jan. 11, 1953 in Las Vegas, NM. To this union two sons were born: Dan and Marcus. Following their marriage, Howard and June moved to Alma, Nebraska where they ranched with Howard's parents.

Following the death of Howard's father, Howard and June moved to Livingston, Montana where they ranched for 12 years. They ranched near Big Timber, MT for 5 years, and for past 32 years they lived and ranched near Reva, South Dakota.

Howard was a man of faith, and always had a love for serving the Lord. He taught Sunday school and served the churches they attended in various ways. He was a member of the Buffalo Assembly of God Church. Howard will be remembered for being a hard worker, and for his love of ranching. Howard was awarded "Conservationist of the Year", and he worked hard bringing water pipelines to his ranch and helping other ranchers in the area. He was proud of his two sons and loved working side by side with them. He loved his wife and family very much, and he will be greatly missed.

Howard died peacefully in his sleep at his home on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Jr.; and sister Reta Hall. Howard is survived by his wife, June of Reva; sons, Dan (Sandy) of Reva, Marcus (Jill) of Reva; brother, Dub (Mozelle) Hotchkiss of Miles City MT; grandchildren, Ty and Jessie Hotchkiss; and nieces and nephews.



**Artillery  
at  
York-  
town**

## Notes from Joan, HFA Genealogist

Joan is in the process of proofreading 2900 pages, more or less, of the genealogy from John, Samuel's first born son, including biographies. As in all genealogies, it will be incomplete due to so many of Samuel's descendants of the 8th to 16th generations losing contact with the HFA and their cousins. It has not been possible to include data that has been received during the last couple of years so the book could go to the printer ASAP. "Thank you for your patience, y'all have been waiting a l-o-n-g time for this HUGE project. Don't despair.....etc to end."

## H G Hotchkiss' Essential Oils Formulas Still Used Today

Although the Hotchkiss Essential Oil Company has gone through many changes over the years, his legacy lives on. Mark Moran of Essex Labs on Hotchkiss Essential Oils, "We highly prize the legacy of quality that was passed from the Hotchkiss Family to the WM Lemman Company and then to us at Essex Labs. The mint heritage runs deep with us as the five owners of Essex have about 200 years of collective history in the mint business. My Father was a mint farmer in the Willimette Valley of Oregon and as a young boy I would work as a goose shepherd weeding the mint fields. As a company Essex has tried to follow in the H.G. Hotchkiss tradition providing top quality American mints as well as demonstrating the American spirit of innovation in production methods and flavor creation.

Mark has kindly offered to send us samples for those who attend the reunion.



**Just a few  
of Dick  
Kelley's  
bottles**

2012

**Hotchkiss Family  
Association Website**  
[www.Hotchkissfamily.org](http://www.Hotchkissfamily.org)



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## Coat-of-Arms

This rendition of the Hotchkiss coat-of-arms is printed in six colors on 11" X 14" parchment, a handsome gift. The cost is \$6.00 each plus \$4.00 handling and postage fee for mailing to one address. It will be mailed to you with good protective backing. Enclose a gift card with your order if you wish it to be shipped to someone else. Send your order to: Mrs. Brenda Hotchkiss

P O Box 63  
Mexico, NY 13114

*Make checks payable to: Hotchkiss Family Association, Inc.. Your order should include your name, address, check, number of copies requested, & note your family relationship.*



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## The Hotchkiss Peppermint Building

*Some parts excerpted from the August 2011 edition of the Antique Bottle & Glass Collector Magazine*

Dick Kelley of Lyons, NY has been collecting for more than 30 years, including Clyde Glass Works items, miscellaneous bottles and flasks, and peppermint bottles from various companies, especially Hotchkiss bottles.

For the uninitiated, Dick explained that “for over 140 years, the purest, best tasting peppermint oil in the world was processed and sold by the H.G. Hotchkiss Essential Oil Co., of Lyons.

In 2002 he attended a collectors show in Syracuse, he and two other collectors combined their collections to form an incredible Peppermint Industries Exhibit. Two weeks later The Hotchkiss Family Association came to Lyons for their annual reunion. We visited the Hotchkiss building and the Wayne County Historical Society & Museum.

In 1987, the Hotchkiss building in Lyons was named to the National Registry of Historic Places. The Lyons Heritage Society now owns it and is dedicated to restoring it and keeping it open as a museum. The building is right on the Erie Canal which was a key factor in the shipping and exporting internationally of the Hotchkiss Peppermint Oils. Anne Hotchkiss the last descendant of Hiram G. Hotchkiss that owned the Hotchkiss Peppermint business passed away in 2010. Dick says the Lyons Heritage Society plans for the Hotchkiss Building include adding a mint still, growing peppermint to bottle and sell.

The Hotchkiss Family Association reunion there next year will be just part of great get together of Hotchkiss cousins in a lovely and historic setting.

## Scenes From Williamsburg & Yorktown



Top: The men of the town are called to militia drills on the town green

Above: The Williamsburg Magazine and Guardhouse



**Some of the  
HFA 2012  
Attendees at  
Williamsburg,  
Virginia**



### Pictures from the 2012 Hotchkiss Family Reunion in Virginia's Historic Triangle



The Apothecary Shoppe

A Sword Lesson in the Town Square



Printing Office

Milliner & Tailor Shoppe

