



# Hotchkiss Family News

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Lin Meeker, Editor

## HFA 2021 Reunion Update Plan to Attend

### Hotchkiss Reunion Plans Even Better for 2021

**August 6-8**

Plans are set. August 2021 will be the 137th reunion of the Hotchkiss Family Association. Don Hotchkiss has planned a wonderful event filled with interesting tours and programs. Plan on attending our reunion on August 6-8, 2021 at Gettysburg, PA.

The weekend will include Friday evening 'Welcome' and program. Saturday includes a visit to the Gettysburg Cyclorama, a guided battlefield tour by bus. We'll see the reenactors camp with 'show and tell'. An evening program with awards by President Jim Hotchkiss, a program by Don Hotchkiss and optional Ghost tour. Sunday morning a special program by Mark Dunkelman, "Brothers Cpt. Arthur and Ephraim Hotchkiss of the New York 154th Volunteer Infantry" and an optional tour of the Eisenhower Farm. See the full schedule on page 6 and registration form on page 5.

Don has set up a block of rooms at The Inn at Herr Ridge with breakfast included. There are several other hotel/motels in the area as well. Mark your calendar today and plan to make it a family affair; bring your children and grandchildren. Visiting historic sites helps us to appreciate our history. See page 3 for information on other ideas to complete your vacation in the area.

**Hope to see you all in Gettysburg!**



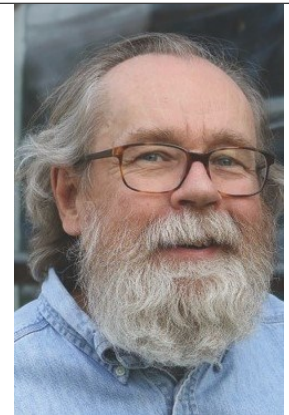
### Mark Dunkelman Our Featured Speaker for the 2021 Reunion

The unique approach Mark H. Dunkelman has taken to the study of Civil War history dates from his childhood, when his father and aunt passed along stories and relics of their grandfather, with whom they had grown up on a farm in Western New York.

Those tales and mementoes of Corporal John Langhans of the 154th New York Volunteer Infantry gripped Mark with a passion to learn more about his great-grandfather's regiment that has never abated.

During a lifetime of study, he has had the good fortune to connect with more than 1300 descendants of members of the 154th New York. Since 1986 he has organized annual reunions of descendants in Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties, where the regiment was raised.

In 1988, an 80 foot long mural Mark designed and painted with artist Johan Bjurman was installed at Coster Avenue in Gettysburg, site of the 154th's fight on July 1, 1863. In 1996 Mark led the regimental descendants to raise funds to erect a monument to their ancestors at Chancellorsville, VA, the 154th's bloodiest battlefield. In five decades of work, Mark has located and copied more than 1,700 wartime letters, 27 diaries, portraits of 281 members of the regiment, and a great mass of other material. Those sources served as the basis for six well-received books and dozens of articles he has written on various aspects of the 154th's history. Twenty-six letters written by brothers Ephraim H. and Arthur Hotchkiss are in Mark's personal collection. Those letters, augmented by other sources, have enabled Mark to piece together the story of the brothers' lives, and their experiences in the Civil War, which he will share with the Hotchkiss Family Association at the 2021 reunion.



Mark Dunkelman

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### Hotchkiss Cousins We Need Your Help!

The costs of printing and mailing a six page newsletter continues to increase. You can decrease our costs by receiving it by email. We send an email for each newsletter (2-3 yrly) by blind copy. It includes a brief overview and a link directly to the newsletter at our website or go directly to the website if you prefer. We **don't share** our mail list. **Please be sure to update us with your current email.** You can send it to my email:

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

### The Hotchkiss Family Books: Update

The end of September, there were 4500 people in 1917 families. By the end of January 2021, 4757 people in 1984 families were entered. Once each name is entered, research begins to fill out a family sketch; census information (1790-1940), birth, death, and marriage information, etc. It is a long term project! Don't delay in sending your family history in to be included.

In cleaning our HFA storage space, these HFA books were found: Vol. 2 (qty-3) Joshua, 5th Child, Vol. 3-4 (qty 3) John, His First Child. These are the very **last** of these books. The Joshua book is \$60 and the John books are \$200. The cost includes shipping for each. Send a check to our treasurer, made out to HFA.

*A note on the books that cover John & Joshua's descendants. We continue to collect errata information on these books. Your editor will be posting the updated information on the webpage under a separate tab in the coming months.*

### Hotchkiss Passings

**Emma J. Hotchkiss Merow** 1925-2020 144-346-222-2  
**Clarence G. Merow** 1925-2020

**Clarence Merow**, husband of Emma Merow for 75 years passed away August 25, 2020. He was the son of Edward A. Merow and Emma Dorothy Goldberg. They were parents of Dale (Lorraine) Merow of Coraopolis, PA and Darlene Fleming of Waterdown, Ontario, Canada.

**Emma J. Merow** was born in Endicott on April 15, 1925. She and Clarence resided in Cassadaga for 65 years before moving to Fredonia Place Assisted Living in 2018.

She was employed by a number of companies, retiring from Bigelow's Department Store in Jamestown. She played bridge, took tole painting courses and became an accomplished artist. As an avid quilter and seamstress she created a beautiful legacy for the family because God gifted her with a vision of what each grandchild and great-grandchild would appreciate. These treasures will live on in their homes for years to come.

She & Clarence were members of the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church for the past 20 years.

Besides their children, they leave six grandchildren: Curtis (Lisa) Merow of Coraopolis, PA, Corry (Thom) Joyce of Sewickley, PA, William (Dina) Merow of Coraopolis, PA, Johanne Saraceno of Nanaimo, BC, Canada, Christine (David) Saraceno-Ast of Toronto, Canada, and David (Sara) Fleming of Vancouver, BC, Canada. They were also blessed and cherished 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

**Kenneth Weber Hotchkiss** 1923-2015 111-192-344  
Hotchkiss Colorado resident, Kenneth W. Hotchkiss passed away at his home on February, 2015. He was 91.

He was born Nov 16, 1923 to Clifford and Vienna (Weber) Hotchkiss in Agnew, Nebraska. He spent his childhood in Raymond, NE. After graduation he went to the Univ. of Nebraska for 3 years, then to Oklahoma A & M University where he received his Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering in 1948.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy before he graduated and served as a Naval Air Navigator based in the Pacific theater.

He married the love of his life, Joy Russell in Mountain View, OK on May 30, 1948. They were married for 66 years.

Kenneth was an entrepreneur and started several small business over his lifetime. From drainage engineering in Minnesota to irrigation design in Colorado and plastic injection molding, he held patents in irrigation, telecommunication and medical devices.

He was a school board member, Boy Scout leader and in 1963 became the leader of 45 Peace Corps volunteer engineers and took his young family to Dacca, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) for two years.

In 1999, they moved to Hotchkiss from Golden. A member of the Mountain View Bible Church in Lazear, CO, he also was a member of the Black Canyon VFW and the Kiwanis Club.

Surviving is his wife, Joy of Hotchkiss; daughter Deborah (Paul) Stumme, of Crawford; sons: Robert (Stephanie) Hotchkiss of Riverside, CT and Mark (Karen) Hotchkiss of Boulder; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

### Notes from Past Reunions

#### Hotchkiss Family Reunion Held In Prospect August 19, 1897

*From the Morning Journal and Courier, New Haven, CT, August 21, 1897, page 4. **Ninety Representatives of Gideon Hotchkiss' Descendants Present.***

Over ninety people were present, representing thirty-six families from fifteen towns and two states, all being descendants of Stephen, the father of Captain Gideon Hotchkiss who was one of the early settlers of what is now known as Prospect...After dinner addresses were made by George H Cowell, B.S. Hotchkiss, D.B. Hotchkiss and others, and recitations by Luelle and Minnie Hotchkiss... George H Cowell spoke of the part borne by the colony of Connecticut in the early history of the nation, in the Revolutionary war and in the founding of the republic and its principles; though small in area, wealth and population, furnished more than her quota of men, money and means to carry on the war; that the men were second to none in field of council; that we might



well be proud of our ancestors, their courage, sagacity and sterling worth... All present agreed that the day, the place and the occasion were "just right." The fine old maples, the lovely scenery, the bracing air, were not to be surpassed anywhere. *From Genealogybank.com*

### Hotchkiss Family Reunion

*From the Evening Farmer, Bridgeport, Connecticut, 15 September, 1915, page 4 Also from Genealogybank.com*

*If anyone would like a copy of either of these articles, send me an email and I'll provide you with a copy. Both were longer than we have space for here.*



The 35th annual reunion of the Hotchkiss Family association was held at Lake Compounce, Aug. 25th, with an attendance of about 150. Dinner was served at 12:30, and the business meeting was called to order at 1:45 by the president, Emerson Hotchkiss, of Kensington. It was voted to hold the next meeting at Lake Compounce on the Wednesday before the last Thursday of August, 1916.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Emerson Hotchkiss of Kensington; vice president, Seymour Hotchkiss, Wallingford; secretary, Mabel Hotchkiss, Prospect; treasurer, Charles T. Hotchkiss, West Cheshire; table committee, Charles Fenn, Prospect; Rollin Bird, Waterbury; Robert Hotchkiss, Waterbury; Mrs. Hattie Pardee, Cheshire; Mrs. Frank Sloper, West Cheshire. Social committee, Mrs. Fred A. Sanford, Westfield, Mass.; Mrs. Seymour Hotchkiss, Wallingford.

After the business meeting, an interesting program was given and enjoyed by all. A paper on "The American Flag," by Mrs. Seymour Hotchkiss, was followed by the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner," by Miss Emma Strong, the audience joining in the chorus. Mrs. Oscar Noble of Waterbury delighted the audience

### Don Hotchkiss, Our Military Genealogist

If you have Civil War family history to share, Don would like to be in touch with you, so please contact him.

Don has also asked if there is a member interested in compiling information on Hotchkiss folks who served in the modern wars (after 1900). He would be glad to guide them in their research and share family group sheets he has and the outline of a spreadsheet he's developed to gather the military data.

You can reach him at his email address on page 4.

### Support Your HFA

Our organization was founded in 1880 and we are celebrating our 141st anniversary. We operate on donations in lieu of dues. The officers are volunteers. Thank you to those who have donated to the HFA to fund the website and newsletter. Costs have risen for printing and mailing. We encourage those who want the HFA to be able to continue sharing stories about our Hotchkiss ancestors and to maintain our records, donations are welcome. If you have not made a donation recently, please consider making one. Any amount is welcome. Please give today to insure the preservation of our ancestors records. Make your check payable to the Hotchkiss Family Association and mail to:

Hotchkiss Family Assoc.  
c/o David Strong  
15 Old Middle Rd Turnpike  
Woodbury CT 06798  
Thank You for your support.

### More Sites to See After the Reunion

A few additional ideas for making the trip into a memorable vacation could include: Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in nearby Philadelphia, about 2 1/2 hours away. The new **Museum of the American Revolution** there is getting rave reviews. Here are a couple of examples of what you can see there. Climb aboard a 45-foot replica ship and experience the war at sea through the story of James Forten a 14 year-old free African American, who later became a prominent abolitionist and Philadelphia businessman.

See one of the most iconic surviving artifacts of the Revolution, General George Washington's War Tent, called the "rock star of the collection" by the New York Times.

Chart the action of the War on an interactive map that highlights the encampments, advances, and encounters of the American army and the British and Hessian army at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton and lots more, check it out at here...

<https://www.amrevmuseum.org/visit>



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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 \$7.00 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, PO 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.*



**HFA Books**

**The Line of John, First Child of Samuel Hotchkiss**

John was one of Samuel's most prolific children. His descendants are represented in 2500+ pages in a hard bound two volume set. Only three copies remain. To purchase your two volume set, mail a check for \$200.00 (includes shipping) made out to the Hotchkiss Family Association. Mail to:

David Strong,  
15 Old Middle Road Turnpike  
Woodbury, CT 06798.

Please make sure your mailing address is included.

**ADD**

**Family members to the mailing list. It arrives by email with a link to the HFA website where they can read the entire newsletter, print it if they prefer and share it with their family. Send their email to the editor at dlmokdoki@aol.com**



Lin Meeker  
5915 White Ibis Run  
The Villages FL 32163

137th Annual HFA Reunion Registration Form

Please return this entire page with your check by May 30, 2021. Please send your completed registration form and check (made payable to: HFA) to David A. Strong, Treasurer, 15 Old Middle Road Turnpike, Woodbury, CT 06798.

Below are your choices for paid activities. Please make your selections, add up the costs and enter the total. Your check, made payable to: HFA, should agree with that total.

Your Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*As you wish them to appear on your NAME TAG

1. Friday Dinner\* \_\_\_\_\_ (Kids under 12, \$10.00) \$32 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Saturday Breakfast (Included for folks staying at the Inn, otherwise \$10.60 per) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Saturday Box Lunch (You will select your items Friday Night) \$12.72 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Saturday Dinner\* (Kids under 12, \$10.00) \$35.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. Saturday Activities:

a. Tour of Visitor Center and Cyclorama \$13.50 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

b. Battlefield Bus Tour w/ Guide \$17.40 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

c. Optional Private Ghost Tour (20 people min) \$7.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

6. Sunday Breakfast (Included for folks staying at the Inn) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7. Sunday Breakfast w/Speaker program, \$3.50 (per person if staying at the Inn) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Breakfast Cost for folks not staying at the Inn, \$14.60 per person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

8. Sunday Optional Eisenhower Farm Tour \$9.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Friday Dinner Selections, select number needed:

a. Roasted Herb & Butter Basted Chicken Breast, Pan Jus # \_\_\_\_\_

b. Dry Rubbed New York Strip, Port Wine Reduction # \_\_\_\_\_

c. Kids Meal Chicken Fingers and fries # \_\_\_\_\_

\* Saturday Dinner Selections, select number needed:

a. Pecan Crusted Pork Rib Chop, Caramelized Apple Jus, Herb Scented White Rice # \_\_\_\_\_

b. Roasted Midwestern Prime Rib, Natural Pan Jus, Red Skinned Mashed Potatoes # \_\_\_\_\_

c. Kids Meal Burger and fries # \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK (made payable to HFA) to:  
David A. Strong, Treasurer, 15 Old Middle Road Turnpike, Woodbury, CT 06798

# 137<sup>th</sup> Annual HFA Reunion Schedule of Events

## Annual Meeting Logistical Contacts:

Donald L. Hotchkiss Email: [Donhotchkisslv@yahoo.com](mailto:Donhotchkisslv@yahoo.com)

Phone (702) 875-1893 (Cell) or (702) 295-1194 (Ofc)

David A. Strong Email: [david.strong@snet.net](mailto:david.strong@snet.net)

Phone: (203) 343-2907

## Registration:

Hours: Friday, Aug 6, 4 PM to 7 PM. Upon registration at the hotel, you will receive an updated schedule, name tags & information on the location of events. You will also receive information about transportation to and from the venues.

**Dress:** For all events, except the Banquet, dress is business Casual. For the Banquet, gentlemen should wear a coat and tie, period correct clothing or Military Mess Dress uniforms. Ladies should dress in accordance with the significance of the evening.

**Awards and Recognitions:** Awards and recognitions will be presented at the Banquet on Saturday Evening.

## Special Guests:

James A. Hotchkiss, HFA President

Lin Meeker, HFA Secretary, HFA Genealogist

David A. Strong, HFA Treasurer

Don Hotchkiss, Guest Speaker, Tour Guide, HFA VP Military Historian

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, August 6

Registration – Inn Lounge	4 PM to 7 PM
Dinner with Powerpoint presentation by Don Hotchkiss “An Overview of the Hotchkiss Family in the Civil War”	7 PM to 9 PM

### Saturday, August 7

Breakfast: Herr Ridge Restaurant	7 AM to 8:30 AM
Grave Dedication at National Cemetery	8:45 AM to 9:15 AM
Tour 1: Gettysburg Visitors Center & Cyclorama	9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Lunch – On your Own <b>OR</b> Box Lunch	12:00 PM to 12:30 PM
Tour 2: Battlefield Bus Tour w/guide	1 PM to 4 PM
Dinner with Awards by HFA President Jim Hotchkiss, Powerpoint program by Don Hotchkiss, “The Hotchkiss Family at Gettysburg”	7 PM to 9 PM
Optional <b>Private</b> Ghost Tour of Gettysburg	9:30 PM

### Sunday, August 8

Breakfast with guest speaker, author, Mark Dunkelman	8 AM to 9:30 AM
Topic: “Brothers Cpt Arthur Hotchkiss & Corp Ephraim H. Hotchkiss, 154 <sup>th</sup> NY Vol Infantry”	
Optional Eisenhower Farm Tour	9:30 AM-11 AM