



# Hotchkiss Family News

May 2012

Volume IX Issue I

Lin Meeker, Editor

## 2012 Reunion in the Historic Triangle of Virginia

### 2012 Reunion at Virginia's Historic Triangle

August 3-4-5

The 2012 reunion will be held at Woodlands Hotel & Suites. The area includes Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown, all within about 25 miles of each other. A great place to take children and/or grandchildren to learn about the history of our country. See page 6 for the reservations page.

Don Hotchkiss, our VP of military records will give us the 2nd half of his program on Hotchkiss' who served in the Revolutionary War. There were some 86 Hotchkiss men & another 23 men married to Hotchkiss women who served.

The reunion includes an icebreaker on Friday evening, Williamsburg tours on Saturday, dinner and program Saturday evening. On Sunday, there is an optional tour of the Yorktown Battlefield area.

Most of us know more about Williamsburg than Yorktown, so included is some information from the Nat'l Park Service on Yorktown.

"Yorktown was estab-

lished by Virginia's colonial government in 1691 to regulate trade and to collect taxes on both imports and exports for Great Britain. By the early 1700s, Yorktown had emerged as a major Virginia port and economic center. A well-developed waterfront boasted wharves, docks, storehouses and businesses. On the bluff above, stately homes lined Main Street, with taverns and other shops scattered throughout the town. Yorktown had 250 to 300 buildings and a population of almost 2,000 people at the height of its success around 1750. The American Revolution had entered its seventh year when, in 1781, British general Lord Charles Cornwallis brought his army to Yorktown to establish a naval base. In the siege by American and French forces that followed, much of the town was destroyed.

By the end of the Revolution, less than 70 buildings remained in Yorktown and the 1790 census recorded only 661 people in town. Yorktown never regained its economic prominence. A fire in 1814 destroyed the waterfront district as well as some homes and the courthouse on Main Street.

Additional destruction came during the Civil War Siege of 1862 and the occupation

### Postal Rates Rise

As printing & postal rates continue to rise, the HFA is considering alternatives. We can put the newsletter on our website. As each edition is published, you'd receive an email with the URL to click. The newsletter (a pdf file) can be opened by both PC's & MAC's.

You will need to send Lin Meeker, editor, your current email address and name so we know who must still receive a snail mail copy. Send your email address to her at

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

## OFFICER ELECTIONS

**Officer elections will be held this year. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please let Joan Johnson know either by email or mail as soon as possible.**

by Union troops that followed.

Today, there are still some tangible reminders of Yorktown's historic past that have survived, giving much of the town a colonial atmosphere. During your visit to Yorktown, stop at the Nelson House on Main Street, the home of Thomas Nelson, Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and commander of the Virginia Militia during the Siege of Yorktown. Today, there are still some tangible reminders of Yorktown's historic past that have survived, giving much of the town a colonial atmosphere.

As you stroll the streets, you have the opportunity to imagine Yorktown as it once was--a thriving tobacco port--that witnessed the last battle of the American Revolution."

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### Action Notes:

- Put August 3-5, 2012 on your calendar for the HFA Reunion
- Have a Hotchkiss male in your family participate in the DNA project
- Send your email address to [dlmokdoki@aol.com](mailto:dlmokdoki@aol.com)

## Hotchkiss Men's DNA Project Needs You

We are still requesting more participation in the Hotchkiss DNA project. The more men that get tested, the more results, the better. 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. As of October 8, 2011, they have a total of 348,889 records.

We have at least one person in the DNA project for each of Samuel's sons:

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 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.

*Excerpted & edited from*

The Daytona News Journal, January 3, 2012

By Mark Lane, Staff Writer

### Preservation group hopes to buy Daytona Beach house near Lilian Place

#### Eli Hubbell Hotchkiss House

The Hotchkiss House, a three-story, five-bedroom, 4,500-square-foot Victorian home at 1000 S. Peninsula Drive, was set for public sale on March 7, 2012.



Preservationists are working to save the more-than-century-old Daytona Beach summer home of Eli Hubbell Hotchkiss, an industrialist whose name was once synonymous with the office stapler.

The three-story, five-bedroom, 4,500-square-foot Victorian home at 1000 S. Peninsula Drive was foreclosed on Dec. 7. The building stands north of Lilian Place, the oldest house on Daytona Beach's beachside, now being renovated by the Heritage Preservation Trust. "It is a unique structure," Nancy Long, president of the trust, said last week. The said her group is pursuing an emergency ECHO grant from Volusia County to buy the home and use it in conjunction with Lilian

Place. The purchase, along with surviving 19th century houses nearby, would create a mini-historic district at the northeast end of the Silver Beach Bridge. "I'm concerned about it possibly being demolished," said Long.

So is Clarise Harty, 67, who now lives in the house. For Harty, the riverfront home with its sweeping porch facing the river was love at first sight. "We saw the sign, driving by, and I said, Oh ... I love that house!" she said.

That was 23 years ago, and she and her late husband, William Harty, immediately bought the place. It cost \$320,000 in 1988.

"It's been constant work," Harty said of fixing and maintaining the property over two decades. She oversaw painting, wallpapering, carpentry and multiple termite tentings over that time.

The green, wood-frame home with a six-sided south tower was built in 1905 by Laurence Thompson, builder and owner of Lilian Place, according to Long. Thompson sold it to Hotchkiss, who used it as a winter home. Hotchkiss made his fortune in office equipment but was especially known for the stapler line that bore the family name.

Hotchkiss staplers were among the first that allowed a user to load a strip of staples at one time. The Hotchkiss No. 1 was introduced in the 1890s. It and its successors were familiar sights on office desks everywhere for the next half century.

The Japanese word for stapler, "hotchikisu," comes from the Hotchkiss stapler, according to the Random House Japanese-English English-Japanese Dictionary. Hotchkiss' place in Daytona Beach also became a seasonal home to his daughter, Gertrude Hotchkiss Heyn. Heyn, who was childless, left a large bequest to Bethune-Cookman University when she died in 1960. The Gertrude Hotchkiss Heyn Memorial Chapel at B-CU is named for her.

In a 1999 News-Journal interview, the late Pat Bennett, who grew up in Lilian Place, recalled living near the house.

"As a child, I lived nearby and played in the yard because it was often vacant. (The family) came down only three months of the year with a staff of servants. A gardener named Mr. Green came every day of the year without supervision," she said.

The house sits atop a small hill but the rolling lot is no longer maintained by a gardener. Now, the grounds are mostly covered with sandspurs and crowfoot grass.

"When it happens, it happens," said Harty about leaving her home. "I'd love to have the people over at Lilian Place buy it and preserve it."

## Joan's Queries

### Query 1

One Hotchkiss cousin, in the Connorsville, Indiana area is looking for other cousins who descend from **John Hotchkiss**, son of the immigrant Samuel. If you descend from John and live in the southeast Indiana area or the south-western Ohio area, please contact Joan Johnson, our genealogist so that she can put you in contact.

### Query 2

#### **Dr. Anson Hotchkiss**

A researcher is writing a book about lighthouse keepers at West Sister Island in Lake Erie. Dr. Anson Hotchkiss spent time there as a lighthouse keeper for three years. The researcher is looking for additional background information about him. If you have some information about his life, please contact Joan Johnson, our HFA genealogist so that she can share it. Anson Hotchkiss is a descendant of Joshua, Samuel's fifth child.

## **-Hotchkiss Passings-**

### **Howard Hotchkiss**

Howard Hotchkiss (Ret) MSgt (USAF) passed away on April 15, 2011 at the age of 81 from multiple myeloma. He was born February 13, 1930 in Fairport, Ohio. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1948 and retired in 1971 and was then employed by the Department of the Army from 1973 to 1992. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Alice M. Hotchkiss; son, Daniel Hotchkiss and wife Robin, three grandsons, Jacob E. Hotchkiss, Clay Hotchkiss and Riley Hotchkiss and sister Shirley Rheberg. He was preceded in death by his son, David E. Hotchkiss and parents: Elmo and Ann Hotchkiss. He was a member of Windcrest United Methodist Church and Windcrest Golf Course.

Howard's sister, **Shirley M. Rheberg, of Rockwall, TX**, who was born April 29, 1926 passed away May 3, 2011 at age 85.

### **Your Donations Are Appreciated**

The Hotchkiss Family Association operates on donations in lieu of dues. An annual donation of \$10 supports record keeping for the Hotchkiss family line, newsletters published two/three times a year, and the incidental costs of preparing our books for publication. Please send your annual donation to:

HFA c/o Joan Johnson, 36 Beach Dr., Prospect, CT 06712-1603.

**Thank You** for your support.

## **Thomas W. Hotchkiss Founder of Interface Devices, Inc., Passes Away at Age 76**

*Posted on the company website*

With a heart full of many fond memories, we wanted to let you know that on June 26, 2011, Interface Devices lost its founder, Thomas W. Hotchkiss.

Tom's legacy includes not only all the products we offer today, but also a life full of family, friends, business associates and more who benefited from his integrity, honesty and sense of fairness. He had the mind and heart of an engineer that spilled over into all that he did both personally and professionally – his joy was to design solutions. Solutions for those who had exhausted all other options, and solutions for situations that simply made for interesting challenges. Professionally, Tom established IDI in 1971, founding the company on his innovative product design and desire to offer customer service that met or exceeded the quality of his products.



With this solid footing and his guidance, IDI has grown into a world-class designer and manufacturer of air-driven fluid pumps, hydraulic valves and custom-engineered fluid power products. Tom holds numerous US patents, including patents for the company's unique Hi/Lo Pump and Zero-Leak Solenoid Directional Valves. Tom retired from IDI in the summer of 2005.

The path to founding IDI began when Tom graduated from the University of Michigan and landed a job as a design engineer at Sikorsky. Tom was born in New York City and resided in Connecticut for many years with his wife, Sandra and their three sons, Thomas, Michael and Steven.

## **Notes from Joan, HFA Genealogist**

### **The Hotchkiss Family - The Line From John**

John is going much slower than I would like. Biographies of some of John's descendants are being written.

Thank you for your patience, this is HUGE project! Don't despair, it is coming along. If you send Joan an email, please use at least 12 point type so your message is easy to read.

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.*



Hotchkiss Family Association  
c/o Lin Meeker  
9986 East Elk Lake Drive  
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## MARTIN HOTCHKISS

Martin Hotchkiss was one of seven brothers who enlisted in, fought in, and survived the Civil War. Martin enlisted in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Co. D, at Edinboro and was wounded at Gaines Mill, Virginia June 27, 1862. According to the Showman genealogy book, he was a prisoner at the infamous Libby Prison. He was discharged from the army by surgeon's certificate on April 10, 1863. He was in one of the top regiments and was permitted to wear a Zouave uniform. He returned to farming in Washington Township and died January 25, 1888 and was buried at Sherrod Hill Cemetery. We know that Martin went to the Civil War reunions and the family still has two of his reunion ribbons.



Reunion Ribbons belonging to Martin Hotchkiss.

Image sponsored by Ithor & Maureen Bemko.



### Hotchkiss Brothers

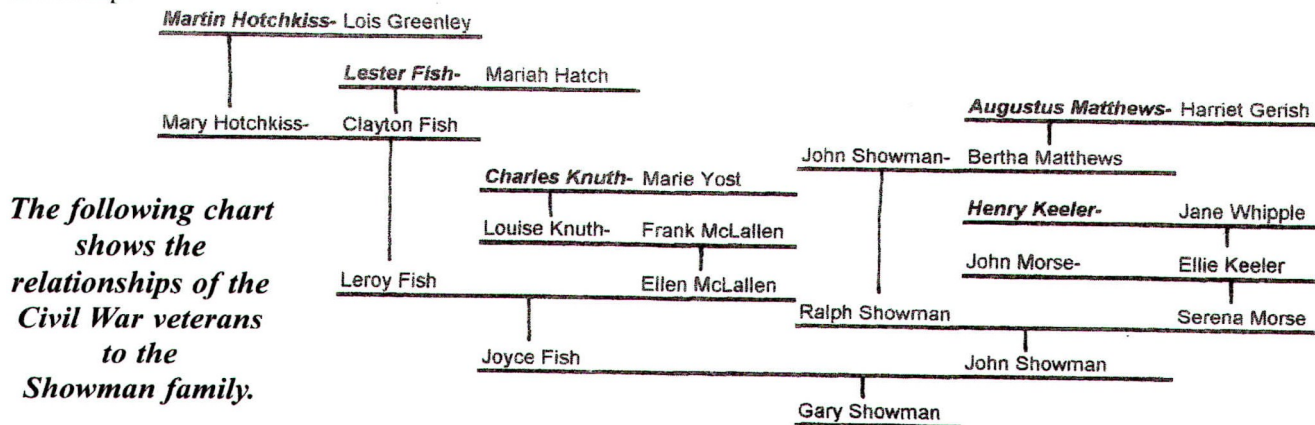
Bottom Row L to R: Luke M. Hotchkiss, 14<sup>th</sup> PA Calvary, Co. I (wearing his Calvary uniform); Lyman W. Hotchkiss, 56<sup>th</sup> Reg. EM 1863 Sergeant; Lewis Heard Hotchkiss, 152<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Co. H; Erastus Hotchkiss, 169<sup>th</sup> Reg. Co. I.

Top Row L to R: Martin Hotchkiss; Dewitt Clinton Hotchkiss, (enlisted with Martin in Edinboro) 83<sup>rd</sup> Reg. Co. D (wounded at Malvern Hill one day after Martin was wounded at Gaines Mill); Luther Randolph Hotchkiss, 14<sup>th</sup> PA Calvary, Co I.

Image sponsored by Lincoln Daniel Bufalino Foundation.

## OTIS MORSE

Otis Morse enlisted in Erie County on September 16, 1861 in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company D. He was discharged on September 20, 1864 at the expiration of his term. After returning to Erie County he briefly farmed on South Hill Road in McKean Township. He then divorced his wife and moved to the New Castle area. He died May 9, 1895 at the age of 65 and is buried in Golden Cemetery in McKean Township.





Reservation Form - 2012 Reunion at the Historic Triangle in Virginia  
Jamestown-Williamsburg-Yorktown

August 3, 4, 5

**Deadline Reunion reservations to Joan Johnson July 3, 2012**

**Make your own room reservations at Woodlands Hotel & Suites deadline for rate July 3.  
Be sure to mention #20879 booking code for Hotchkiss Family Reunion**

Call for your room reservation to **800-261-9530 M-F 8:30 am- 5:00 pm**

Rooms \$124/ night - Suites \$144/night plus 10% & \$2. includes complimentary continental breakfast in the main lobby. These rates will also apply 3 nights before & 3 nights after the reunion.

The price per person is listed below.

**Sunday Yorktown Tour (optional) \$10/ea**

<u>Activity</u>	<u># of reservations</u>	<u>amount</u>
Friday evening Icebreaker, snacks & soda \$8/ea		\$ _____
Saturday Williamsburg Oldtown tour \$18/ea		\$ _____
Yorktown Tour \$10/ea		\$ _____
Saturday dinner & program \$28/ea		\$ _____
Donation in lieu of annual dues (optional)		\$ _____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Make checks payable to: **Hotchkiss Family Association, Inc.**

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

Please Print

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Town** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

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

**Questions about the program?**

**Call or email Don Hotchkiss 702-875-1893 or email CptH65eng@aol.com**