



Winter 2025

Lyons Heritage Society Board Members:

President

Phil Dodson
Vice President.

David Alena
Treasurer

Joan Wallis
Secretary

John Albanese
Carol Bailey
Chris DeRenzo
Patricia Hewes
Diane Marquis
Sandra Wetmore
Linda Fisher
Town Historian

Patricia Alena:
H.G Hotchkiss
Museum Director
95 Water St.

Curators:

Sandra Wetmore
Diane Marquis
Sherry Gibbon

Hours:

May, June, September and October by appointment only

July and August on Fridays and Saturdays 10-12

PEPPERMINT MUSEUM NEWS:

Before we welcome the new year let's take a moment to reflect on 2024. For the Lyons Heritage Society it was a busy year. After officially opening for the 2024 season, the Hotchkiss Peppermint Museum, representing the hospitality of Lyons, hosted many tours, including hundreds of cyclists in July headed toward Albany. Fulfilling our mission to educate the public on local history our history presentations were enjoyed by both members and nonmembers. including Steven Heald's program on the Mora Car Company, as well as our speaker at the annual dinner, Mark Ferrara on his book *The Raging Erie*. Thanks to our members' volunteering efforts, fundraising activities, including bake sales, the Stiver's Cruises in August, our annual dinner and the Holiday Boutique all contributed to upkeep of the museum, and improvements which will help fulfill our mission of preserving Lyons history.

In December, the museum with help from John Albanese, Phil Dodson, Chris DeRenzo, and Sandy Wetmore, the museum's Peppermint Shoppe participated in the WCHS'S Xmas Boutique. A table was set up that sold ALL ITEMS PEPPERMINT! A few books and T's in addition! A BIG THANK YOU for all who participated to help and work!!

The LHS and museum recently received a grant of \$300 through the Hoffman Foundation. The grant money will be used for 2 new file cabinets as well as archival boxes for our new archival room. THANK YOU to the foundation for the grant money to accomplish this!!



Coming Events:

Watch for details:

Lyons Peppermint Days TBD July

Cycling the Erie TBD in July

200th anniversary of the opening of the Erie Canal

Oct 1 Seneca Chief visit on the canal

Lyons Heritage Society

P.O. Box 150

Lyons NY, 14489

Email: LyonsHeritageSocietyNY@gmail.com **Web:** [Http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org](http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org)



Museum plans are in the making for 2025 “Cycling the Erie” in July. For Lyons and communities along the canal 2025 is a banner year. LHS will help Lyons celebrate the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Erie Canal. Look for events throughout the year. We will also present more programs on local history and have new exhibits at the museum. To that end, we ask that when you renew your membership you update our files with your email address and phone number, lifetime members as well. Emails to our members is the most efficient way to alert you to upcoming events. Additionally, you may find it quick and convenient to renew by credit card. Best wishes for the new year.

Members we have lost: Cathy Emmel

John D Albanese



John is a resident of Lyons, New York and one of our new board members. In 2017 he retired from the New York State Canal Corporation as a chief lock operator after 33 years of Service. He joined the Lyons Heritage Society in

2018 and was awarded volunteer of the year in 2019. He enjoys helping with events and helping on projects at the Peppermint Museum. He most recently helped, along with his wife Jen, with the Stivers Canal Cruises which were sponsored this year by Lyons Heritage Society. His hobbies are motorcycles and working in his vegetable garden.

Chris DeRenzo:

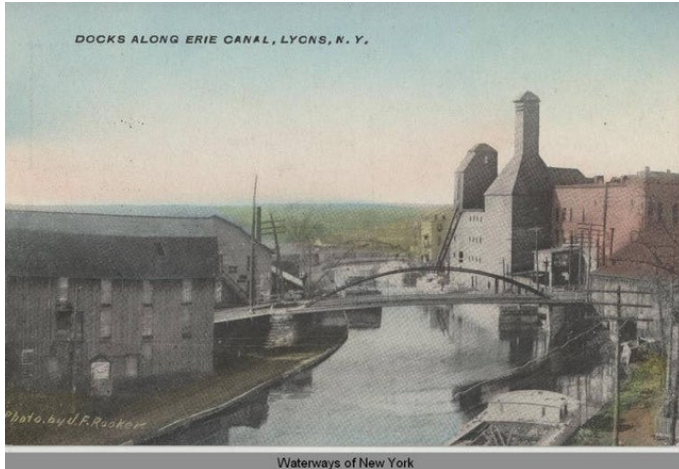
I was born and raised in Lyons, NY and earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Communications & Journalism, concentrating in Public Relations, from St. John Fisher University in Rochester. I spent a short amount of time after college working with the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce in their Tourism

Department. I then joined the Customer Service team for Simon Property Group at their Waterloo Premium Outlets location. I quickly became the Guest Services Supervisor, overseeing a team of Guest Service Representatives while also being a vital member of the Mall Marketing Team. In 2014 I took a position within Simon Property Group as the Guest Services Manager of Southpark Mall in Charlotte, NC, one of their five luxury properties. I had the honor of being the youngest Guest Services Manager in Simon Property Group during my time at Southpark Mall. I returned to the Finger Lakes in 2015 after accepting a position with Samsonite as the Store Manager of their Waterloo location. I also served as the Northeast Visual Supervisor at Samsonite, overseeing the visuals and merchandising for 27 stores. In 2022 I became the Tourism Assistant for the Wayne County Office of Tourism where I am still employed today. I currently reside in Lyons with my Wife, Jenna, and our two Children, Madison and Jeffrey. During my spare time I enjoy boating, biking, hiking/walking, visiting historic sites, photography and simply making people laugh. I also enjoy spending quality time with my extended family, many of whom still reside in the area



Thank you to Sean Dobbins for his support of the Newsletters

Email: LyonsHeritageSocietyNY@gmail.com Web: [Http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org](http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org)



RECENTLY Patty Alena was sent this postcard online and was asked questions on its exact location. As you view it, notice the Erie Canal is headed south. It is actually the parking lot behind William Street in downtown Lyons. The LARGE buildings on the right are the Mirick Malt Industry, the modern WAYNE COUNTY building today. This is around 1848 with the second phase of the canal. The bridges were the Montezuma and Water Street ones. This is a unique photo of the Erie Canal in downtown Lyons.

A Sweet Visit



As he entered the Reception Room, he pointed to the large portrait of HIRAM HOTCHKISS I and said to her surprise, "THAT'S MY GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER!" Completely taken back, Patty gave him a ROYAL TOUR of the museum and after that a tour of Lyons.

To make the visit complete, Edson Ennis, just happen to stop by and was also astonished to meet this WONDERFUL VISITOR!

Annual Dinner September 2024

Annette Harris is recognized for her many years as Curator for the Heritage Society at our annual dinner in September. John Hewes was also named Volunteer of the Year at the dinner.



In early September, a surprise visit took place to the Peppermint Museum. Alan Hotchkiss from California had called Patty Alena to ask about a museum tour. She complied and scheduled a private tour as the gentleman said he was a relative of the Hotchkiss Family.



Lyons Heritage Society P.O. Box 150 Lyons NY, 14489

Email: LyonsHeritageSocietyNY@gmail.com Web: [Http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org](http://LyonsHeritageSociety.org)



Our Corporate and Orgizational Sponsors:

DOBBINS DRUGS, LNB, LYONS VETERINARY CLINIC, LYONS MAIN STREET, MACINTOSH, BOEHLER FOUNDATION, HOFFMAN FOUNDATION, HOTCHKISS FAMILY ASSOCIATION, MUSEUM OF WAYNE COUNTY HISTORY, WAYNE COUNTY HISTORIANS ORGANIZATION, LYONS PUBLIC LIBRARY, WAYNE COUNTY TOURISM and ELY AND LEENE.



Lyons Heritage Society

PO Box 150

Lyons NY, 14489-0150

Address service requested



Thank you to Sean Dobbins for his support of the Newsletters

