

# ***The USS Chenango in World War II:***

***“A Ship with Her Own Private Rabbit’s Foot”***



**Presentation by  
Dr. Edward  
Erickson**

**May 11, 2026  
6:30 PM**

***Few Chenango County residents know there was an escort aircraft carrier in World War II named for our county. The USS Chenango was one of four prewar oil tankers converted to carry a flight deck and aircraft hangar, making her and her sisters unique among the 110 aircraft carriers in the wartime navy. She participated in the invasion of North Africa in the Atlantic and, in the Pacific, in the Gilberts, the Marianas, Leyte, and Okinawa campaigns. The Chenango was a “lucky ship,” neither the Germans nor the Japanese were able to land a single bomb on her. Moreover, she carried aircraft mostly built in New York State by the Grumman and Curtiss aircraft companies. Join historian Ed Erickson as he describes the construction and career of the USS Chenango. A short Q & A will follow the presentation.***



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