

**NUNDA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

**2023 –2024
Programs &
Events**

- See Schedule on page 8 for upcoming 2023-Programs/Events



Historic Nunda

Volume 12 Issue 1

Fall 2023

Capital Building Fund Drive

Almost There - Our Building Fund Update:

We are pleased to report that our current Capital Building Fund Drive has done very well thanks to the generous support of our members, local businesses and the general public. We started last February with \$70,000 in the fund and as of this writing we now have \$137,701.93! That means we have now scheduled the construction of the additions with Hark Homes to begin in the spring. The first phase of the project will include an 835 sq. ft. addition to the west side of the current building for increased archive space and a new research/classroom space. We will continue our efforts to raise the remaining 22,298.07, which will allow us to side the rest of the existing building. This will improve both the aesthetics and the environmental condition of the museum building.

For more information and a donation form, go to nundahistory.org!

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this project!



West Side of NHS Building with Proposed Addition and Siding

Our Mission

The Nunda Historical Society collects, researches, preserves, interprets, and promotes the history, heritage, and culture of the area of western New York in and around the Town of Nunda and educates the public through its collections and programming.

*Nunda Historical Society Museum & Rose Shave Gallery are open 10 am - noon on Tuesdays, 2-4 pm, on 1st and 3rd Sundays
March through November,
and at other times by arrangement.
Call : (585) 465-0971 or (585)490-3302*

The President's Corner

From the President

Welcome to our latest newsletter. For a while we have been relying on emails and letters to members to keep them informed of our activities, programs and projects. We return once more to the traditional newsletter with the hope of having several a year. This will keep our members up-to-date with the Society news. The newsletters are also available on our website as well as at the Museum, Bell Memorial Library and the Nunda Government Center.

Please note that we have expanded our newsletter committee and thank NHS member Laura Thornton for taking on the role of production manager. Laura is just one of several members who have volunteered to take on some projects, duties and/or new positions in the NHS. Valerie Veley Griffing has joined the Board and has assumed the role of Recording Secretary and keeping the membership roles. Kathy Macomber has taken on Co-Treasurer (along with her role as Vice President) and Jeff Long has joined the Board.

The names of other new volunteers appear in the pages of this newsletter, in the articles on our upcoming calendar, and our exciting new project - the NHS History Adventure Room in the Dalton Elementary School.

Finally, on behalf of the entire Nunda Historical Society, I wish Joan Schumaker a speedy recovery. Joan has been an important part of the NHS for many years and has been facing some health problems through the summer. We are pleased to report she is doing much better!

Tom Cook



Recent Programs and Events



Nunda Fun days June 2023

1824 - County Poorhouse Law

NOTICE
FARM wanted for the accom-
modation of the Poor of the County,
is wanted within six miles of the Court House,
in the village of Genesee, and must contain
about one hundred acres of Land, the Land must
be of good quality, well timbered, and well
supplied with good water.
Any person having a Farm for sale that will
answer the purpose for which it is wanted, is
requested to deliver a particular description of
the same to Wm H. SPENCER, before the
15th day of December ensuing, stating the
quality and quantity of Land, how much is in
timber, what kind of timber, how much is in
meadow, and how much in
pasture, and what buildings on it; also the
ready Cash Price asked for the Farm.
Genesee, November 18, 1823. 52577



May 10 *The Evolution of the Livingston County Poorhouse by Livingston County Historian Holly Watson.*



Part I April 16 by Ray Feller and Tom Byrnes. Part 2 held on July 23



March 8 *Rink Mania in the Genesee Country* by Jane Oakes.

History Adventure Room at the Dalton Elementary School



Our Newest Project!

It is back to school for the Nunda Historical Society as we continue with a great adventure into our area history - the NHS History Adventure Room!

This project began in August of 2022 when Superintendent Lesley Small Powers suggested the possibility of the Society setting up a room in the Dalton Elementary School. After holding some meetings and getting the approval of the KCS and NHS Boards, we chose the original Dalton Central School Library room on the second floor. The original library had been converted into a classroom when the new Media Center was built. It was being used for storage when the NHS selected it as the future home of the History Adventure Room.

NHS members, working with Principal Lisa Farina, attended a professional development day in October and we came away with some exciting ideas of what the new room could be. The District cleaned and painted the room over the winter and by March the NHS was ready to move in!

The new History Room was organized and decorated by the newly formed "History Adventure Team". The Team is made up of volunteers who are members of the Society and have an interest in sharing local history with school students. Many are retired educators, all have experience working with children. At the present time the Team members are Carol Castor, Tom Cook, Ann Crandall, Judy DeGrood, Marge Foose, Karla Gordinier, Margaret Grosse, Sue Long and Laura Thornton.

After meeting with the different grade levels, we began our "history adventures" with the Dalton students. We began with tours of the room in which students were instructed in "Museum Etiquette" (such as "do not touch without permission") and allowed to view the many local history items from the NHS Collection. We chose items we thought would interest the students and get them thinking and asking questions about life in the past and our local history.

The students at all levels showed great interest in the items. The artifact that attracted the most attention was the Livingston Doll House. Marty Livingston carefully constructed the large model of the family's home on Church Street that had been built by the VanNostrand Family in the late 1800's. The doll house and its furnishings will be the center of many history adventures in the future!



Continued on page 4

Did you know? NHS has a YouTube channel! Many of our programs can be viewed on our channel which is called Nunda History

**Find us on Facebook!
@nundahistoricalsociety**

Dalton History Adventure Room, continued from page 3

Other artifacts include old toys, household items, telephones, maps, photographs and even an old desk from one of the local one room school houses! (Even the manual pencil sharpener on the wall seemed to hold interest!). The visit to the History Room also gave the students an introduction into why and how they should take care of “old things” that are important to their family and community’s history!

Team members also took individual classes on history adventures that tied into what the students were learning in their classroom. Second graders, for example, explored what life was like in Nunda during the Civil War. The students even read part of a poem written by Sarah Stilson, Nunda’s first woman college graduate, at the beginning of the War in 1861.

A special spring adventure was the visit by Linda Franke who talked to students Pre-K through 3rd grade about wool and other materials that people made into clothing, blankets and other important uses.

After students and teachers get settled into the new school year, the Adventure Team will be meeting with teachers and sharing our new Teacher’s Guide to the History Adventure Room that talks about the program and presents ideas for a variety of local history adventures that the team members have created for the different levels, Pre-K to 4th grade.

The NHS thanks District Superintendent Lesley Powers, the KCS Board of Education, Principal Lisa Farina and the teachers and staff of the Dalton Elementary Building for making this program possible!



April. 4 Fun With Fiber Arts by Linda Franke At Dalton Elementary

**Photos from the 1940’s by Nunda “Roving Photographer”
Lena Powell Flynn Can You Name Them?**

By Gail Diemoz

In 2021, the Nunda Historical Society received a large collection of photographs from the home of Jake Essler. Many of the photos were taken by Jake’s aunt, Lena Powell Flynn, who for decades was Nunda’s roving photographer, taking pictures of everyday people in the street. In the 1940’s, men in uniform were obvious targets for Mrs. Flynn and her camera. Below are four of those young men, among many, who served during World War II and returned safely to live out their lives in Nunda. Can you name them?
(Answers on page 5)



The Essler photograph albums will be available for visitors to browse through every first Sunday at the museum

A New Canal Project

Local folks and travelers alike will get a new look at the old Genesee Valley Canal in Nunda next year, thanks to a new NHS project supported by the Morris Ridge Solar Project in Mount Morris.

You may be familiar with the NYS Historical Marker on Route 436 just west of the village marking the first of 17 locks that carried the canal from Nunda up to the Deep Cut (near Willet's Corner) in the town of Portage. NHS members restored the sign a few years ago. Now the Society is ready to uncover that lock, long hidden from view!

We applied in 2021 for a mitigation grant from the company that was offered as part of their application process to New York State. Last month we received the news that we were awarded \$7358 for the project to clean brush and trees around the remnant of the locale and the nearby canal bed. The work will be done by Phil Hark in cooperation with the private landowners and is scheduled to be completed by the end of next year.

Nunda Historical Society Celebrates Our 40th Birthday

On June 14, 2023 the Historical Society had a birthday party complete with cake, live music, and a tour of the local landmark Elmwood. The Society has accomplished much over the four decades and we look forward to preserving and sharing Nunda's history with the younger generations of today.

Town Historian Val Griffing cuts the cake with former NHS Presidents Tom Byrnes and Joan Schumaker

Music by Don Dwyer



View from the cupola at Elmwood



Are You a NHS Member? Change in Membership Year

The NHS Board voted in July to change our membership year, from September 1st to August 31st, to the calendar year (January 1st to December 31st.). We made the change to simplify our record keeping and make it easier for members to keep track of their membership status. If you have already renewed your membership for the 2023-2024 year, your name should appear **in bold** on page 6.

For those who haven't renewed yet, your 2022-2023 membership has been extended to December 31st. You will find a 2024 membership renewal form inserted in this newsletter. It is also available on our website.

Your membership is very important to us - so please renew! If you have any questions or concerns regarding your membership, please contact our new membership chairperson, Valerie Veley Griffing or President Tom Cook.

Answers from historical photo quiz on page 4: A. Allen Stanton, B. Martin Gilbride, C. Paul Parker, D. Jim McColl

2023 Members

John & Stacey Alioto
 Jeremiah & Susie Axtell
 Marcia Ayers
 Gerald & Margaret Barkley
 Michael A. Bauer
 BB Accounting LLC
 Duane & Rosemary Bennett
 Lewis Bickle
 Audrey Blakley
 George Blood
 Sandra Bonadonna
Rich & Donna Boylan
 Trish Brady
 Jo Anne Brocklehurst
 Alberta Brown
 Lois Buchinger
 Roberta Buczkowski
 Thomas & Delene Burt
 William Burt
 Jim & Lynn Byrnes
 Thomas & Barbara Byrnes
 Marie Case
 Carol Castor
 Clyde Clancy
 Harlie Clark & Bill Davis
Jerilyn Clark
 Darcel Cole
Diana Congdon
 Tom & Anne Cook
Philip & Avis Cox
 Sean Coykendall
 Ann Crandall
Eric & Wendy Curry
 John & Judy DeGroot
 Gail Diemoz
 Patricia Dieter
 Joseph DiPasquale
 Robert & Michele Donovan
 Pam Ellis
 Robert & Peggy Ellsworth
 Michael Englert
 Barbara Essler

Luke Faulds
 Janice Fitzpatrick
 Frank & Linda Foley
 Marge Foose
 Theron Foote
Doug & Judith Galbraith
 Jeremy Galton
 Paul & Nancy Gebauer
 Cathie Gehrig
 Ira & Nancy Gelser
 James Gelser
 Helen Gibson
 Ray & Joanne Goll
 Vicki Goll
 John Gordinier Family
 Angela Graves
 Mary Ellen Graves
 Carol Griffen
 Don & Valerie Griffing
 Margaret Grosse
 Sally Hall
 Carolyn Hark
Jim & Melissa Hassan
Alex & Debra Heinonen
Sue & Ray Hengelsberg
 Kathleen Henry
 Nancy Holler
 James Holly
 Kenneth Holly
 Frank Howe
 Janice Hudson
 Janet Hughes
 Vera Hurd
 Byron Jefferies
 Valerie Jessen
 Howard Judd
 Geraldine Kennedy
 Lonnie & Bonnie Kratts
Anne Lawson
 Lynne & Clair Lawson
 Marjorie Lehman
 Leonora Letchworth
 John Lindsay

Jeff & Sue Long
 Terry & Connie Lowell
 George & Karen Lucas
 Gary & Fran Ludwig
 Kathleen & Ronald Macomber
 Rennyay Maker
 Melissa Mallaber
 Nancy Mann
 Sherry Marano
 Bob Marsh
 Doris Marsh
 Rachael & John Mc Allister
 James & Linda Mc Master
 Mary Jane Mc Master
Mary Pat McKeown
 Than & Debra Mehlenbacher
 Donna Miceli
Doug Morgan
 Jack & Jackie Morgan
 Gayle Mosher & Harold
 Bauer
 Patti Moss
 Stephen Todd Neese
 Marlene Noden
 Julie Osborn
 Phil & Amy Osika
R. Parker
 Alex & Becky Pierce Family
 Bob & Patty Piper
 Julie Piraino
 Peter & Sue Piraino Family
 Janice Pirrello
 Carolyn Pollock
 Anne & Paul Rangere
 Carolisa Ray
 Jerry Rease
 John Robinson
 Diane Ryan
 Jon & Valerie Ryan
 Robert & Lily Sanford
 Sherman Sanford
 Joan Schumaker
Patricia Serafine

Patricia Simpson
 Nedra Smith
 Sue Smith
 Maxine Snelgrove
 Stephanie Spittal
 Wanda Spruill
 Christine Starr
 William Stoll
 Ron & Charlene Strain
 Ted Strang & Karen Gibson
 Charles Strickland
 Maureen Sturges
 Jeffrey Swanson
 Clayton Taft
 Michael Tallman
 Nathan Tallman
 Anne Theders
 Alice Thompson
 Barbara Thompson
 Tom & Laura Thornton
Beverly & Dennis Van Camp
 Earl Veley
 Mary AnnWalker
 Merilee Walker
 Steve & Linda Walker
 Karen Ward
 Carl & Carol Weber
 Isabelle Weir
Jean Weiss
 Maya Welzmueller
 Norman Wetterau
 Jessica & Colin Wilcox
 Roberta Willard
 Fred & Sharon Willis
 LeRoy & Teresa Wood
 Charles Woolever
Eleanor Wright

**BOLD indicates renewed
 through December 2024**

Coming Soon: Notable Nundaian Part II

NEW BOOK
 by Pete Piraino

Coming in November - Peter Piraino's latest book, Notable Nundaian II. This is the second volume of his collection of stories of modern day "Nundaian" who have made an lasting impact on our area and beyond. The book, which highlights twelve remarkable individuals, will be available for \$12. If you missed Pete's first book, it has recently gone through a third printing and can be found at the NHS and the Nunda Family Pharmacy. The books will also be available online. We will let you know when Notable Nundaian II goes on sale through our Facebook page and website.

★ ★ Notable Nundaian ★ ★ II



By Pete Piraino
 Nunda Historical Society 2023

2023 Holiday Wreath Sale

Nunda Historical Society's Annual Decorated Christmas Wreath Sale is underway! Beautiful Fresh Wreaths are available with Red or Burgundy Bows: preorder by mail or by phone. Order Forms are available on the Society's website and in the lobby of the Nunda Post Office. Wreaths may be picked up at the Society Museum at 24 Portage Street, Nunda on Saturday, December 2nd from 9 am to Noon

Wreaths are \$25 each, 3 or more wreaths are \$22 each

Order forms with payment can be mailed to:

NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 341, Nunda NY 14517-0341

Or to: Fran Ludwig

10131 State St. Dalton NY 14836

If you have questions, call Fran Ludwig at:

585-476-2749



2024 Nunda History Calendars

2024 Calendars will be ready soon! Perfect for Holiday gifts!

Our calendar committee headed by Margaret Grosse is working hard on next year's historical calendar. The calendar will feature the photography of Dr. John Weaver and include information about his long life. We hope the calendar will be on sale by mid-November. Watch for details on our website and Facebook page! This year's calendar committee also includes Ann Crandall and Marge Foose.

Americana Day 2023

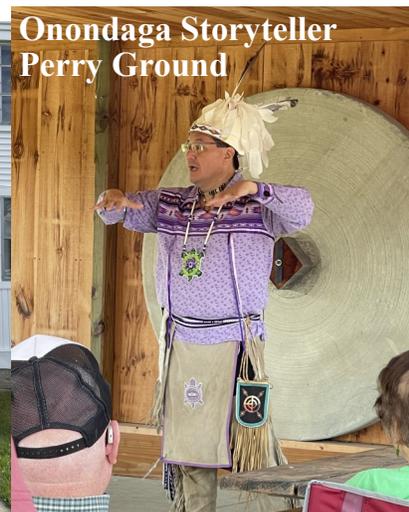
1760s era Seneca encampment



East Street Tour



Onondaga Storyteller
Perry Ground



Thanks for a Job Well Done!

We thank long time members Barbara Byrnes and Philip Cox for the many years of service to the NHS as members of our Board. Barbara also was the Society's long time Recording Secretary. Barb and Phil were honored at our NHS 40th Birthday Party in June and were given gift certificates for the Whistling Farmer's Pub in Nunda. Although they have "retired", both remain active members of the Society.

NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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nhs@frontier.com
www.nundahistory.org

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2023 - 2024 Board of Directors

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Kathleen Macomber -
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Valerie Velej Griffing -
Recording Secretary
Sue Long -
Corresponding Secretary
Joan Schumaker
& Kathleen Macomber -
Co-Treasurers
Gail Diemoz -
Librarian

Directors

Thomas Byrnes
Jeff Long
Francine Ludwig
Becky Pierce

Assistant Librarians

Marge Foose
Sue Long
Alice Thompson

Newsletter Committee

Tom Cook
Gail Diemoz
Joan Schumaker
Laura Thornton

Photographs by
Tom Cook

Remaining Historical Society Events for 2023

Sunday, October 1, 2-4 PM: NHS Open

Wednesday, October 11, 7 PM: Remembering the Erie Railroad by William Burt
The presentation will consist of about 150 images illustrating the history of the Erie Railroad from the Nunda town line near Rosses Crossing westward to Portage Bridge and Mudville. **PLEASE NOTE: This presentation will be held at the G.A.R. Hall (American Legion Post) on State Street in Dalton**

Sunday, October 15, 2-4 PM: NHS Open

Sunday, November 5, 2-4 PM: NHS Open

***Wednesday, November 8, 7 PM: The War of 1812 in Western New York by Ford Best.** Historical re-enactor Ford Best will present the story of America's Second War for Independence and examine the conflict's impact on Nunda and other early settlements of Western New York. Uniforms and other period items will be on display.

***Sunday, November 19, 2:30 PM:** The Nunda Historical Society is sponsoring **Dennis James** with a special program "**Holiday Music Potpourri**" featuring his unique historical instruments. His popular lecture-demonstrations have delighted Nunda music and history fans of all ages since 2013. **PLEASE NOTE: This presentation will be hosted by the Trinity Church of Nunda, 25 East Street.** The program is free, open to the public, and handicapped accessible.

December 9, 12-5 PM: Christmas in Nunda - Visit the Museum for local history programs, special exhibits and activities. The new 2024 Historical Society Calendar and other History gifts will be available.

Wednesday December 20, 7 PM: NHS Christmas Meeting. Watch for details!

*These programs are made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re-grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.

See www.nundahistory.org for updates:
everything happening at the Society, our Gift Shop,
the History Room with ways to explore Nunda's history, and more.
Visit Often! This is Your Historical Society