

NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Programs

- *Bell Memorial Library Celebrates 100 Years*
- *Birth of the Nunda His Soc & Annual Meeting*
- *Remembering Nunda's Foote Company*
- *John Carter, Nunda's Horatio Alger Story*
- *Annual Society Picnic*
- *Steeped in Legends & Haunted by a Cure*
- *The War of 1812 in Western NY*
- *Honoring our Veterans*

See Complete Schedule on pg 10

Inside this issue:

- President's Corner 2
- Nunda Notable - John F. Barber - Building Ren. Part 2 3
- 2011 & Winter 2012 Programs 4
- His Soc Tours 5
- 2011 His Society Victorian Tea 6
- 2011 Homecoming 7
- Memorial Donations 8
- Membership Info 9
- 2012 Events 10
- 2012 Calendar 11
- Treas from Past 11
- Early Nunda 12



Historic Nunda

Volume 5 Issue 1

Winter 2012

Part 1 of Building Renovations Completed Celebrated at Open House, Friday, May 27th, 2011



Nunda Historical Society members Charlie Ostrum and Ashley Elizabeth Barkley join Senator Cathy Young as they prepare to cut the ribbon and officially open the newly renovated areas of the Society's Historical Building.

This ceremony was well attended by over fifty people, including NHS members, Town of Nunda and Village officials, and other area resi-

dents. Guests were given a tour of the new areas and treated to light refreshments. The renovations include much needed archives and exhibit space for the Society's growing Collection.

Pictured at right with Senator Young are Society Board members and volunteers. L-R: Sally Hall, Margaret Barkley, Charlie Ostrum, Fran Ludwig, Tom Cook, Kathy Macomber, and Sue Long.

Below, Tom and Marjorie Stamp, Lifetime Society Members, are pictured with Board Member Charlie Ostrum.



Nunda Historical Society Museum & Rose Shave Gallery are open on Sundays, 2 - 4 PM, April through November and at other times by arrangement. Call 468-3879 or 468-5991

For Part 2 of Building Renovations - See pg. 3

The President's Corner

I began my last column by stating "2011 is certainly shaping up to be an important year for the Nunda Historical Society." I don't consider myself a prognosticator, but I certainly did get that one right. It was quite a year!

You will read about several of the Society's activities in this newsletter, such as the dedication of the new exhibit and archives spaces, successful fundraisers, historical programming and ongoing projects. Add to that continued growth in membership and exciting future plans, and you will see what has made this a great year so far!

Our Mission

The Society is devoted exclusively to educating present and future generations concerning the cultural, economic, social, political and technical development of the area of western New York in and around the Town and Village of Nunda.

What makes these activities and accomplishments possible - what makes the Nunda Historical Society a successful organization - is the wonderful support we get from our membership and the Nunda community as a whole

Members have supported the Society in several ways. One is by their generous monetary donations to the Society. This year alone, we have received over \$2000 toward our building fund and other projects and programming. Add in membership dues and several successful fundraisings and we have been able to restore some health to the treasury that was depleted by the building project.

Many members also contributed their talents and time to the Society in 2011. Board Members, our Library/Archives Staff, and other members contribute many hours each month to the Society. Every activity, program, or project you read about in this newsletter is the result of the hard work of Society members. Whether it be working on

the building and grounds, processing artifacts, attending board and committee meetings, working on projects, or doing research, the work of these volunteers is essential to the Nunda Historical Society.

We are also blessed to be located in a community that values history and supports the Society in many ways. The Keshequa School District has been an important partner in our work to bring our local history to the younger generation, and the Nunda Chamber of Commerce remembers us when their special events come to town. An extra special thanks to our neighbors, the Nunda Kiwanis Club for all their help throughout the year. We also appreciate local residents who have made donations, participated in our fundraisers, attended events and programs, and support the Society through the purchase of our local history books, calendars, and other materials.

This is a good opportunity to thank those who have purchased my book "*Nunda, Portage, and Genesee Falls*". I personally thank you for your support and comments, but more importantly the Society appreciates the folks who have purchased a copy in Nunda. Whether you get it at the Nunda Family Pharmacy, Bell Memorial Library, or at the Historical Building, all profits go to the Nunda Historical Society. So far the NHS has made over twenty five hundred dollars on the book!

This year looks to be another busy one for the Society. You will find in this newsletter our exciting line-up of programs which includes the Nunda Homecoming in August and our Nunda History Days in October. We are also beginning work on the 2013 historical calendar and have plans for at least one new publication this year. Committees are working on plans for several historical trips, fundraising activities, and other events. Work continues on our archives project and new museum exhibit, both of which are detailed elsewhere. We hope that you can join us for some of these programs and projects!

As always, if you have any comments, concerns or questions for me feel free to give me a call at 585-468-5991 or tscook@rochester.rr.com. Hope to see you at an upcoming event!

Tom Cook

Nunda Notables: John F. Barber - Part 1 *(Continued from pg 3)*

John married Mary Alward in November 1836. Mary was childless when she died in August 1854. John then married Adeline (Betsey) Newcomb and their daughter Mary Alward was born in 1857. By 1880, John and Adeline had "adopted" Etta Hamilton, age 8 years.

Note: See the next issue of *Historic Nunda* for Part 2 and a listing of references for this article

The Jan. 11 Society Program on the Barber House will be repeated. Watch for details.



Nunda Notables: John F. Barber - Part 1

By Joan Schumaker



The house pictured here, on the corner of Short Tract and Oakland Roads, is known to most local residents and to many who travel through this area. However, few realize that this was the home of John F. Barber (1809-1883), a much respected citizen and most successful farmer, businessman, and banker who overcame many obstacles, hardships, and challenges throughout his life.

Born in Montgomery County Sept. 2, 1809, John F. (for Failing, his Mother's maiden name). Barber moved with his family in 1820 to Portage, then a part of "Greater Nunda." John's father Samuel was a wheelwright who also made huge heavy "bull plows" of wood with wrought iron points and facings. Not yet a teenager, John used a bull plow while driving long ox teams "breaking up the oak openings" for Col. George Williams, Portage farmer and land agent for the 50,000 acre Cottringer tract.

By 1827 both of John's parents had died, leaving him with no home, several hundred dollars of debt, and three younger brothers and a sister to raise and educate. At age 17 John had only his father's tools and, with the help of friends, continued his father's plow business, often working from 4 AM to after midnight in the shop, His skill and perseverance brought him credit and patronage. He succeeded in paying off his father's debts and made sure his siblings received an education. After finishing school, his younger brother Andrew became a lawyer. Unfortunately, Andrew died in 1857.

John preferred using plows to making them. In 1834 he borrowed money for the first payment on a 65.5 acre farm, adding a second farm in 1835. His property was adjacent to Col Williams' large farm, much of which he worked on shares.

John spent his winters lumbering, buying timber by the tree or acre, hauling it at least five miles to the Genesee River, and rafting it to Rochester in the spring by making use of snow melt or rain to swell the river. This difficult and dangerous raft running took about a week and John would return from Rochester on foot, walking the 50 miles on muddy roads in one day. Completion of the Genesee Valley Canal to Mt. Morris in 1840 did away with rafting. Loads of lumber were hauled on the roads and John loaded both ways, carrying salt way into Allegany.

Building Renovations - Part 2 New Archives & Exhibit Spaces

Although the latest renovation project on the Historical Building was completed last spring, work continues on the new archives and exhibit space.

A grant sponsored by the New York State Council on the Arts and administered through the group Museumwise allowed the Society to engage the services of Walter Mayer, Director of Museum Collections at the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society. Mr. Mayer worked with a NHS committee consisting of Margaret Barkley, Sally Hall, Alice Thompson, Sue Long, Joan Schumaker and Tom Cook. In addition to meeting at the Historical Building, several committee members spent a day at the Buffalo and Erie County Museum, getting a guided tour with Mr. Mayer that included suggestions on care of collection items, a look at the Museum's archival storage areas, and an opportunity to visit a variety of exhibits.

The committee felt the consultancy was very helpful. The Library staff has begun the move into the new archives space, and the committee will be working on a procedures manual during the coming year.

Another committee has been working for the past month on the new Nunda history exhibit. When completed in 2013, the exhibit will tell the story of the Nunda area from prehistoric to modern times.

There will be more information on both projects in the next newsletter.

John's biographer noted: "Of medium height, but of full and compact physique, his capacity for hard labor and enduring fatigue few could equal and fewer were willing to undertake." Large gangs of men were needed in hay fields or to harvest and John "had a genius for extracting labor from his men ... he was ever the leader and asked none to do his equal in his work" John became the most successful farmer in the region by "skillful cropping and reasonable seeding."

He continued to enlarge his farm in 1843 and again in 1849, when he purchased adjoining land with a large house that had been started by his brother-in-law, Nathaniel Alward. John made this house into the show place that became known as **Chestnut Place**.

In his personal life, John lost two wives and a baby daughter. In 1830, at age 21, John married Rhoda Tyler from Nunda. In feeble health for a long time, Rhoda died in March 1836 at age 24 and their three month old daughter died in May 1836.

Continued on pg. 2

Late Spring & Fall 2011 & Winter 2012 Programs



On a Sunday afternoon in April, area residents gathered at the museum to share *“Memories of Dalton”* and returned later in the month for *Tom Cook’s* most informative and interesting program, *“Nunda & Portage during the Civil War.”*

In May, *“The Re-enactment of Red Jacket”* was presented by *Alvin M. Parker*, a descendant of the well-known Seneca leader.

The Warsaw Chordbusters, a popular men’s barbershop group, entertained during the *Annual June Picnic at Kiwanis Park.*



Our November veterans program was *“Heroes in the Attic”* by *Dennis Bielewicz*, a 1964 NHS graduate who now lives in Fairport, NY. Dennis shared his research on the lives of two young Civil War soldiers, Benjamin S. Coffin of Portage and his cousin H Seymour Hall of Lima.



In September *Steve James* shared his extensive *“Bottle Collection”* with a full house and provided information on bottles brought by some of those in attendance.



The January 2012 program by *Tom Cook* and *Joan Schumaker* on the *Barber-Gath House* was very popular and

there was not room for everyone. **This program will be repeated - please watch area newspapers for details. See Nunda Notables on pg. 3**

At right *John Gordinier* displays his collection of projectile points (sometimes mistakenly called arrow heads), during his program *“Discovering the Genesee Valley through Archaeology”* in February. This interesting and informative program also attracted a capacity audience, with some bringing fascinating artifacts to share.



Summer & Fall 2011 Historical Society Tours



In July, the Society sponsored a most successful bus trip to East Aurora, NY where the group enjoyed: guided tours of the beautiful Tiffany windows at the Baker Memorial United Methodist Church, the Roycroft Campus, and the Elbert Hubbard Museum; a unique shopping experience at Vidler's; and a delicious lunch at the Roycroft Inn. *Photo: Tour participants - taken in Castile, NY on the return trip.*

In October, the Society sponsored their second tour, this time to picturesque Hammondsport, NY. The morning was filled with a fascinating and informative tour of the Glenn H. Curtiss Museum where we also viewed a large variety of lovely quilts on display in the museum's Biennial Quilt Show. We then traveled to Bully Hill Winery for lunch and a tour of the winery. We also visited their museum, art gallery and, of course, the gift shop. *Photo: Part of group on Curtiss Museum Tour.*



Tour with the Society on July 16th, 2012



This summer the Society is hosting a bus trip to Lockport, NY on Monday, July 16th, leaving Nunda at 7:45 AM. The day will be filled with many interesting and educational experiences and a delicious lunch.

Experience a unique **2-hour Erie Canal Cruise** which includes "locking through" and being raised the 49 ft. elevation of the Niagara Escarpment (the same one that creates Niagara Falls) in the only double set of locks on the Erie Canal. You will pass under bridges that raise straight up, see water cascade over Lockport's famous "Flight of Five" 1840's locks, and travel through the solid walls of the "rock cut" as your Coast Guard licensed captain describes the architecture, sights, and folklore along the way.

The cruise will be followed by a **Buffet Lunch at the Canalside Banquet Center** and, if you choose, a visit to the **Canalside Gift Shop**. We will then visit the **Erie Canal Discovery Center**, a state-of-the-art interpretive center for the Erie Canal, and particularly the role that Lockport, NY played in the history of the Erie Canal. Featured is the 13' x 20' Raphael Beck mural, "The Opening of the Erie Canal, October 26, 1825." This beautiful floor to ceiling mural depicts the celebration surrounding then NY Governor Dewitt Clinton's ceremonial first passage through the now famous "Flight of Five" locks in Lockport to officially open the Erie Canal. **We are most pleased to announce that Dewitt Clinton is going to join us as our host at the Discovery Center.**

The afternoon also includes a guided tour of more beautiful **Tiffany Windows** in the **First Presbyterian Church**, across from the Discovery Center. The Center is part of the **Niagara County Historical Society Complex**, a total of seven buildings that present a glimpse of area life over the last 175 years. The Outwater Memorial Building, an 1863 brick home, features a Victorian Parlor, Historic Pantry, Old Toy Room, the Civil War Room, a Changing Exhibit Room and a well stocked gift shop. Other buildings include exhibits of: early firefighting equipment; tools used by early blacksmiths, coopers, carpenters, and cobblers; and Native American life, including a diorama of an Iroquois village. You will have an opportunity to visit this complex until 4:30 PM when the bus leaves for a 6:30 PM arrival in Nunda.

The cost of bus transportation, canal cruise, lunch, and tours is **\$90 per person**. Please join us for this exciting trip into Western New York history. Questions: **call Sue Long, 468-3413, or Fran Ludwig, 476-2749. Reservations must be made by June 18th.** See Society Board members or our website for Reservation Forms.

The Society's 1st Annual Victorian Tea



In May 2011 the Society hosted our First Annual Victorian Tea at the Holy Angels Church Parish Center on Massachusetts Street, the former home of the Chauncey K. Sanders family. Chauncey founded the Nunda News in 1859. His son Walter (W.B.) took over around 1900, and the newspaper continued until June 1982.

. Last year's Tea was a great success. Everyone enjoyed themselves, especially the children who joined us. Pictured at left are **Tina Stoffer, Marcia Ayers, and Society Hostess Fran Ludwig**. Missy Clark enjoyed tea and was also one of several **Genesee Valley Mountain Dulcimer Club** members who volunteered to provide music for this event. Below we have Connie Mullikin and Sue Smith enjoying tea with **Society Hostess Barbara Byrnes**.



Tea goers could select from a variety of black and green teas from some of the finest tea growing areas in the world, along with flavored, decaffeinated, and herbal teas.

Joan Schumaker provided a history of tea, descriptions of the teas being offered, and provided and brewed the tea for serving.



At right is **Chauncey Sanders**, taking a rest in his office after welcoming the guests to his home and entertaining them with stories from Nunda's past. He may be at the Tea again this year if **Reggie Grosse** is available.

Gary & Fran Ludwig, Tom Cook and Sue Long worked on setting up for the Tea and **Sally Hall** also

assisted. **Judy DeGrood** and **Kathy Lewis** provided an abundance of beautiful flowers for the tables. Food was donated by Fran, Sue, Joan, Judy, **Barbara Byrnes, Alice Thompson, Margaet Barkley, Kathy Macomber, Marcia Ayers, and Anne Cook**. Serving tea were Fran, Sue, Barbara, Alice, and Judy. In addition to Missy, other dulcimer players included **Sue Hengelsberg, Jo Anne Brocklehurst, Maya Weizmueller** and Tom Cook.

THANK YOU to All who worked to make this event a success and also to those who attended. We look forward to seeing you again this year.

Call for Pictures! *Help with 2013 Calendar*

The Society is already starting work on our 2013 Historic Calendar. Next year's theme will be **Farms and Farming**. We are looking for images of farms and farm related activities in the Nunda area. This includes pictures of local farmers and their families. We have some photographs in our Collection, but we really need more for the calendar. We appreciate donations of photographs but can also arrange to scan your images. If you have some to share please contact Tom Cook, Joan Schumaker, Kathy Macomber, or Fran Ludwig.

Join us on May 19th for our 2nd Annual Victorian Tea

We invite you to come and relax for awhile with us to sample some delicious teas, sandwiches, and desserts, while enjoying music by the Genesee Valley Mountain Dulcimer Club.

See pg 10

2011 Nunda Area Homecoming - *Formerly the Reunionists*



On Saturday, August 13, the Society hosted the Nunda Area Homecoming with the following activities: **Reception & Book Signing** for *Nunda, Portage, Genesee Falls* by **Tom Cook**; **"Finding Your Family History in Nunda,"** a panel discussion with **Tom Cook, Val Griffing** (Town & Village of Nunda Historian), and **Merilee Walker** (Secretary/Treasurer, Oakwood Cemetery Association); a **Brief Meeting** - Plans for 2012; **"We'll Rally 'Round the Flag - An Introduction to Nunda and Portage in the Civil War"** by **Tom Cook** (a last minute replacement when the original presenter could not make it - Thank You Tom!); and **"Civil War tour of Nunda's Oakwood Cemetery"** with **Tom Cook**.



Photo: *Flags and flowers are being placed on graves of Civil War heroes by Tom, assisted by Jim and Karen Robinson from Woodbury Conn. The grave of Rufus Robinson, Jim's ancestor and a Civil War veteran, received a marker and flag.*



Above: Tom presents PowerPoint Program on researching family history; Merilee and Val help attendees while Jeff Miller, Dansville Country Express reporter, looks on. Nunda's Oakwood Cemetery Map covers the table.

Things to do

Visit Your Historical Society Museum & Rose Shave Gallery

Attend the Victorian Tea on May 19th

Tour with us to Lockport on July 16th

Visit us on Facebook, Become a fan!

Visit us at www.nundahistory.org
Use our PayPal connection

Get your 2012 Historical Soc Calendar

Plan to attend the 2012 Homecoming on Aug 11th -

Meet old friends & neighbors
See the latest museum renovations
View new additions to the Collection
Enjoy special history programs and tours
or Just Visit
Watch for details

Volunteer to assist with projects at the Society

Do you have keyboard/computer skills?
Are you interested in genealogy/historical research?
Do you have building/carpentry skills?
Do you like to clean? Do you like to bake?
If so, you can help! Call us

Nunda Historical Society 2011 - 2012 Membership & Building Fund Drive

Name _____ Tel: _____

Street/Box # _____ *e-mail: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Membership Level: Youth: \$5 _____; Individual: \$10 _____; Supporting: \$25 _____; Contributing: \$50 _____

Family (includes husband, wife & children at home): \$15 _____; Sponsor (organizations/businesses): \$100 _____

Memorial Contribution: \$ _____ (specify name) _____

Building Fund Drive donation: \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Note: The NHS is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. Your membership/gift is fully tax deductible.

****I want to help save mailing costs and also promote the Society. In the future, please put my copy of the newsletter in a public place and***

- send me a pdf copy of the newsletter* *send me a link to the on-line version*

_____ *Please use my e-mail for special notices but use regular mail for my newsletter.*

Return this form with dues/donations to: NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 341
NUNDA, NY 14517- 0341

Memorial Donations - Remembering Special People

Memorials Since Last Newsletter

Memorial for:

Freeman Barber

Rita Blankenship Barrows

Ivan DePuy

Ken & Ruth Duryea
& Belle Van Gilder

Ethel "Magee" Foster*

Gordon D. Kemp

Arthur Lawson

Deak & Gladys Rathbun

Denton H. & Philip R.

Robinson

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Weir Sr.

Remembered by:

Ralph & Rosalea Cox

Joan Schumaker

Richard Blankenship

Betty DePuy

Carol C. Rathbun

Joseph Guido

Charlotte Kernahan

Jon & Val Ryan

Tom & Laura Thornton

Betty Kemp

Anne Lawson

Alena Farmer

Doris Robinson Jones

Robert & Isabelle Weir

* Other donors listed in last issue of Historic Nunda



***We were most saddened by the passing of
long time Society member Janet Blair.***

*Janet has been Remembered with a very
generous donation from her family through
The Robert W. Graf Family Fund
c/o The Denver Foundation*

***A Sincere Thank You to all of these Donors
for selecting the Society as their means of
honoring friends and family members.***

We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Membership News - Renew or Become a NewMember

The Society's membership year is from September 1 through August 31. **2011 -2012 members to are listed below. A sincere Thank You for your support.**

Please note that we are missing some very familiar names from this list. If you find that you have yet to renew, please do so now. We look forward to growing our membership numbers, so please renew and tell your family, friends, and neighbors about us.

Note: The Building Fund Drive has resulted in donations of about \$18,000. Members who have donated to the BFD since the last newsletter are identified in bold. Our goal is \$25,000 and we still have major expenses ahead as we work on our new exhibit space and other museum projects. Please consider a special donation to the BFD.

Thanks Again for Your Continued Support. Remember this is Your Historical Society!

Jeremiah & Susie Axtell	Steve & Nancy Diemoz	*Harold (Bud) Long	+Elizabeth Russell
Mary Baar	Wendy Downey	Jeff & Sue Long	+Jon & Valerie Ryan
Barbara Bacon	Julianne Dudley	Terry & Connie Lowell	Leona A. Ryckaert
*Craig, Lisa, & Ashley Barkley	+Robert & Peggy Ellsworth	+George & Karen Lucas	*Sherman & Beverly Sanford
+Gerald & Margaret Barkley	Alberta Essler	Gary & Fran Ludwig	++Joan Schumaker
Jean Batzing	Barbara Essler	Kathleen & Ronald Macomber	*+Nedra Smith
Duane & Rosemary Bennett	Alena Farmer	Keith Maker	+Robert & Esther Smith
+Barbara D. Bernstein	Theron & Patricia Foote	Sidney & Nancy Mann	Robert & Maxine Snelgrove
+Audrey DeVinney Blakley	+Marjorie Galton	James & Linda Mc Master	Tom & Marjorie Stamp
*+ Richard Blankenship	Nancy K Gebauer	+Jean Mc Master	Maureen Mc Master Sturges
*Catherine E. Biven	Cathie W. Gehrig	Mary Jane Mc Master	David & Helen Swanson
*Patrick & Kathleen Bly	Stephanie Gehrig	Donna Smith Miceli	Rosella Tallman
Sarah L. Booher	Gerald & Helen Gibson	Mary B. Moore	*Portia & Joe Tamimie
Vera Bowles	Karen Gibson	Ken Morris	+Cecil & Nancy Thompson
*Roberta Buczkowski	*John Gordinier Family	Marcia B. Morrison	Don Thompson
*Patricia L. Budd	Don & Valerie Griffing	Marlene Noden	Gerald & Alice Thompson
William D. Burt	Reginald & Margaret Grosse	*Nunda Nutritional Counseling	Tom & Laura Thornton
Jim & Lynn Byrnes	* +Donald & Sharon Hagens	+Gregory O'Connell	*Evelyn Van Dorn
Thomas & Barbara Byrnes	Sally Hall	*Patricia O'Connell	Earl & Helen Veley
Charles & Carolyn Carlson	Ed & Judy Hamilton	Lyle & Joan Orton	*Mary Pat Vogel
Ron & Virginia Mann Chasey	Nancy Holler	Charles Ostrum	Nancy M. Vogt
*Beverly A. Clark	Kenneth & Melva Holley	*Alexander, Becky, Kimberly, & Emily Pierce	Renee Wager
Jerilyn M. Clark	*Gary & Angel Hotchkiss	*Janice, Andrew, Evan & Sarah Pirrello	Glenn & Lorainne Walsworth
Josephine Clinton	Joyce Hussong	Julie Piraino	Carl & Carol Weber
+Tom & Anne Cook	Paul Hoffman & Jane Schryver	Peter & Sue Piraino Family	+Robert & Isabelle Weir
Denny & Pat Coon	Doris Robinson Jones	Rose Piraino	Betty Weir
+Ralph & Rosalea Cox	Betty Kemp	Carolyn K. Pollock	Dr. John H. Wells
Philip & Avis Cox	Geraldine H. Kennedy	*Ronald R. Powell	George & Beverly Westacott
John & Ann Crandall	+Charlotte Kernahan	Dick & Barb Powers	+Dr. Norman Wetterau
James Cromwell	Jo Kirk & Chuck Strickland	*Sarah Prinzi	+Dr. Eleanor Boyd Wright
Marion Crowell	Joan Larson	John & Janet Rapp	
+Bill Davis & Harlie Clark	+Anne Lawson	Carol C. Rathbun	
John & Judy DeGroot	*John Lindsay	*Jean Richmond	
*+Betty DePuy	William R. Lindsay		
Gail Diemoz	James E. & Linda G. Little		

* New Member

*Help fill this page
Renew / Join*

+ Denotes a generous 2011 -12 membership/donation of at least \$100
++ Denotes a generous 2011 -12 membership/donation of \$500 or more

A very Special Thank You to these members.

*We certainly hope there are no omissions from membership/donor lists.
If we missed you, we apologize and ask that you please let us know.*

*Remember that Museum Renovation
continues with designing and furnishing
the new Archives and Exhibit Spaces.*

You Can Help - Donate!

Come Join Us for Tea! Saturday, May 19th

The Society will hold its 2nd Annual Victorian Tea on Saturday, May 19 with two settings at 1 PM and 3 PM. A light lunch of sandwiches and desserts will be served along with a selection of teas.

The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children younger than 8 years. **Reservations and pre-payment are required. Call Fran Ludwig at 476-2749.** Payment may be given to Fran or sent to the Historical Society at PO Box 341, Nunda. Proceeds will be used toward renovations of the Historical Society Museum.

The Tea will take place at the Holy Angels Church Parish Center, 21 Massachusetts St., former home of the Chauncey K. Sanders family. (See pg. 6 for more)



Feel free to dress up for the Tea: encouraged—but not required.

2012 Programs & Events

The Society usually meets on the **second Wednesday of each month (except for July and August) at 7 pm.** **Note: some meetings may be on Sundays. All meetings, except those noted, will be in the Historical Society Building at 24 Portage Street.** Any Changes in location or time will be advertised. Note that all meeting places are handicapped accessible. The location and time of special events are noted when the event is advertised.

Wednesday, Jan 11 - "Memories of the Barber House, Town of Portage" - Tom Cook.& Joan Schumaker

We were unable to accommodate everyone on Jan 11 so **this program will be repeated. Watch for details.**

Wednesday, Feb. 8 - "Discovering the Genesee Valley through Archaeology" - John Gordinier

Wednesday, Mar. 14 - "The Bell Memorial Library Celebrates 100 Years" - George Lucas

Wednesday, April 11 - "Birth of the Nunda His Soc and the Next 28 Years" & Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 15, 2:30 PM - "Remembering Nunda's World-Renown Foote Company" - Chris and Bill Foote

Chris and his cousin, Bill, are great grandchildren of Chester Foote, a co-founder of the Foote Company.

Wednesday, May 11 - "Johnny Carter, Nunda's Horatio Alger Story & the Carter Memorial Building"

- Joan Schumaker - 7 PM at the Carter Memorial Building

Saturday, May 19, 1 & 3 PM - 2nd Annual Historical Society Tea, Holy Angels Church Parish Center,

21 Massachusetts St., A light lunch of sandwiches and desserts will be served. See above notice for details.

Wednesday, June 13, 6 PM at Kiwanis Park: NHS Annual Picnic with Music by the Bushnell's Basin

Delegation - Bob & Donna Russell - Bring a dish to pass and your table service. Guests welcome.

Monday, July 16, 7:45 AM – 6:30 PM: Lockport Tour -Bus trip to Lockport - Includes: 2 hour Erie Canal

Cruise through locks; Buffet Lunch on the canal; visit to Canal Discovery Center with Dewitt Clinton;

Niagara County Historical Society complex; and Tiffany Windows at Methodist Church. (See page 5)

Saturday, August 11 - "Annual Nunda Area Homecoming" - Watch for details on special programs and tours.

Wednesday, Sept. 12 - "Steeped in Legends & Haunted by a Cure - the Folklore & Legends of the Rochester Area" - Author Michael T. Keene

***Wednesday, Oct. 10 - "The War of 1812 in Western NY" - Ford Best (local expert and re-enactor: 2012 is the bicentennial of a war that shaped the history of our area and America. (Part of History Days)**

***Wed, & Thurs, Oct 10-11: "Bi-annual Nunda History Days" - The Society hosts area students and adults, providing programs related to Nunda's past.**

Wednesday, Nov. 14 - "Honoring our Veterans: The Story of honor Flights" - Steve Rapp

Wednesday, Dec. 12 - "Annual Show & Tell" - Bring your favorite item and the story that goes with it to share!

**Program supported in part by a Community Arts Grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, administered by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.*

Watch for our Fall Tour and other events sponsored by the Nunda Historical Society

2012 Calendar Features *Nunda's Forgotten Treasures*



*Nunda Boys Start for War - June 1917
Big Demonstration in Their Behalf*

Blacksmith Shop on State Street; the Nunda Schools on Mill Street, and the Genesee Valley Canal. The Cooperville Mill from just outside the village is also included.

Treasures featured from Dalton include: the Wheeler Cheese Factory, Dalton's Main Street before the "big fire," the Dalton Banking House, Wells Witherell's Blacksmith Shop and other buildings on State Street.

Some of *Nunda's Forgotten Treasures* featured in past calendars are also pictured as reminders of Nunda's past. Advertisements from early businesses and items of interest

from the *Nunda News* provide additional insight into Nunda's history. The calendar also features a Genesee Valley Canal map and a circa 1965 aerial photo of the Village of Nunda.

Don't miss this special calendar. They are available for \$12 from the Nunda Historical Society, the Nunda Pharmacy, the Nunda Government Center, the Bell Memorial Library, and may be ordered from the web site: www.nundahistory.org

The theme of the sixth annual Nunda Historical Society calendar is *Nunda's Forgotten Treasures*, and includes buildings, businesses, schools or other early ventures, like the Genesee Valley Canal, that contributed to the growth and development of the Town of Nunda and surrounding area.

The following *Treasures* are included from within the Village of Nunda: Hotel St. John on Portage Street; the Emporium Block, the First Presbyterian Church, and the Nunda Cheese Factory on East Street; the Nunda House and Peter DePuy's Banking House, the Nunda Bakery, and Barrett's

Treasures from the Past - *Our Newest Rose Shave Painting*



This lovely watercolor of "Mums" was conserved and newly framed by Joan McMaster Schumaker prior to being donated to the Society. The expert conservation work was completed by Laura Schell in Lockport.

The painting was originally owned by Mrs. Katherine Marsh Holmes, first wife of Clarence Holmes, who was able to enjoy it for several years before her death in 1929. Clarence's second wife, Etta Parker Holmes, was able to enjoy it for many more years in their home on Fair Street in Nunda. "Mum" then graced the home of Clarence's son Jack and his wife Onalee who lived south of Nunda off of Rt. 408.

Joan, who is Etta's grand daughter, is most pleased to have been able to add this painting to the Rose Shave Gallery as a memorial for both Katherine and Etta Holmes. Visit us soon to view "Mums."

NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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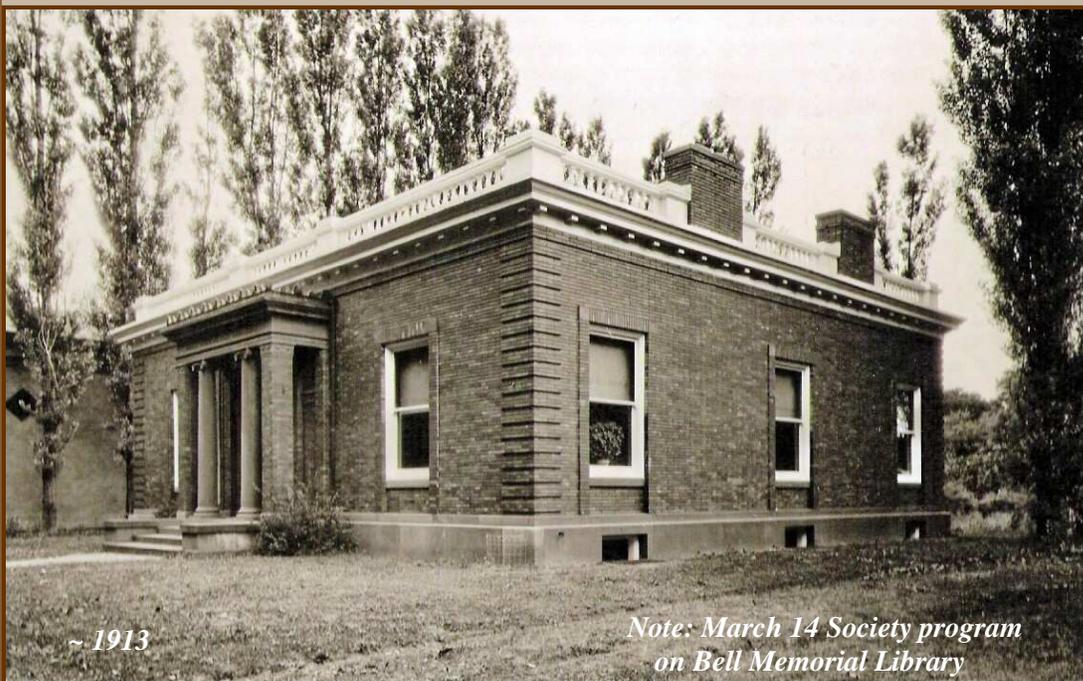
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Early Nunda - *Bell Memorial Library is 100*



~ 1913

*Note: March 14 Society program
on Bell Memorial Library*

Nunda's Bell Memorial Library was a gift of Katherine Bell Lewis of Buffalo, in memory of her mother, brother, and father, The Hon. Alfred Bell, an early Nunda industrialist and NYS Assemblyman for Livingston County in 1857 and 1858. The building was designed by Mrs. Lewis, Green & Wicks of Buffalo were architects, and R. E. Williams of Buffalo, the builder. Mrs. Lewis transferred the Bell Memorial Library to the Nunda Library Association on April 6, 1912 and included 300 volumes and some furnishings. She credited Capt. Hand's "unswerving devotion to gather together 2,500 volumes" that needed housing as the primary reason for her decision to spend \$20,000 on this library building. Her love of her family and her years in Nunda were also factors in her decision.