

## 2025 Programs & Events

See Schedule on pages 6-7 for upcoming 2025 Programs



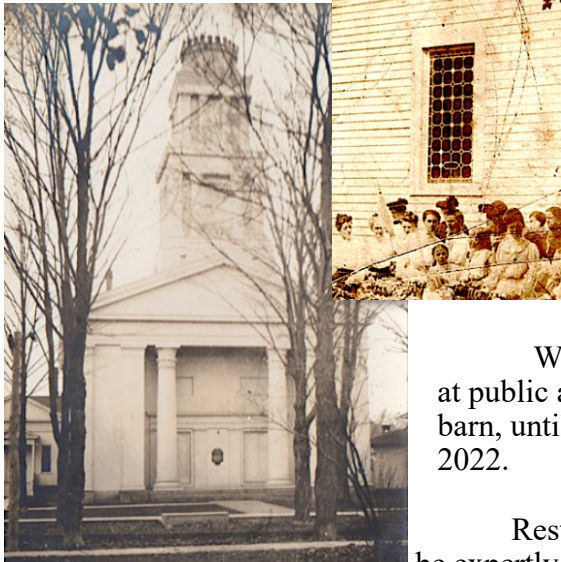
# Historic Nunda

Volume 14 Issue 1

Spring 2025

## 1890's Stained Glass Window Restoration

Our museum is home to many artifacts that preserve and share the fascinating history of the Nunda area. These treasures come in all shapes and sizes, but one stands out for its beauty and compelling story. With your support, a stunning 19th-century stained glass window from Nunda's First Presbyterian Church can once again shine as a symbol of our community's rich heritage.



The First Presbyterian Church pictured here was actually the second church built by the congregation near the corner of East and Church Streets. Their first church, completed in 1834, was sold to the Methodists about a dozen years later and moved across East Street to its present location. The Presbyterians then built a new church, dedicated in 1847. According to *Churches in the Town of Nunda and Vicinity* by Hope DePuy and Sally Hall, memorial windows were added during a major renovation in 1890. This particular window was dedicated to an early church elder, Abram (Abraham) Burgess.

When the church was razed in 1979, the church windows were sold at public auction. For more than 40 years this window was stored in a local barn, until it was generously donated to the Nunda Historical Society in 2022.

Restoration of this historic window will be expertly handled by Mr. Dennis Kenney of Selective Stained Glass in Warsaw, NY. With nearly 50 years of experience restoring stained glass for homes, businesses, and churches, Mr. Kenney will clean and repair the window, ensuring it is structurally sound and ready for display. Once completed, it will be mounted and lighted on an interior wall in our Nunda Museum.

The total cost of this project, including the restoration and mounting, is estimated at \$2,000. Your contribution will help make this restoration possible! Donations can be made by mail to the Nunda Historical Society, PO Box 341, Nunda, NY 14517 (please note that your donation is for the window restoration project) or online at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org) via PayPal. If you wish, you may also dedicate your donation in memory of an individual or family. All donations are welcome! Help us save this beautiful piece of Nunda's past!



*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.*

## The President's Corner

2024 was quite a year for the Nunda Historical Society, and as you'll see throughout the pages of this newsletter, we're off and running in 2025! With a full calendar of history programs, projects, and activities ahead, it promises to be an exciting year.

Of course, "we" includes all of you - our NHS members. Whether you live near or far, and whether your schedule allows you to attend events or simply support us from a distance, you are an essential part of our mission. Your dues and donations sustain the Society, and for those who can participate in person, your involvement enriches our programs. This year, we are launching two special projects that will give members everywhere new ways to help preserve and promote Nunda's history.

Both projects focus on sharing memories. Our **2026 Historical Calendar** will highlight experiences of growing up in the greater Nunda area, while our multi-year **Nunda Memories Digital Archives** project will collect photographs, home movies, and personal recollections. We invite you to be part of these efforts by sharing your own memories! You can learn more on page 4 of this newsletter or visit our website at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org).

I also encourage you to take note of our current restoration project, featured on the front page. We are working to save a beautiful stained glass window, and your support can make a real difference. A donation slip is enclosed in this newsletter, and contributions can also be made via the donation button on our website.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the NHS Officers and Board Members for all they do for the Society - you will find their names listed in the newsletter. A special THANK YOU also goes to our talented Tuesday morning volunteers Ann Crandall, Gail Diemoz, Marge Foose, Karla Gordinier, Margaret Grosse, Sue Long, Alice Thompson, and Laura Thornton, as well as to Jeff Long, Gary Ludwig, Aryah Van Name and Kimberly Van Name who are always on call to lend a hand.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and I invite you to follow our daily local history posts on Facebook! If you're able, please join us for one of this year's many historical adventures!

*Tom Cook*



### *Winner of Our Winter 2024 Raffle*

The winner of the museum quality framed print of Rose Shave's 1907 watercolor "Traveling Shoes" was William Buchinger of Dalton.

The drawing was held on December 7, 2024 during Christmas in Nunda.

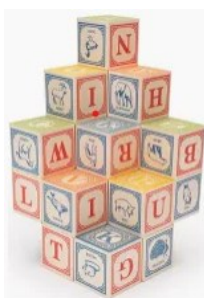
**Did you know? NHS has a YouTube channel! Many of our programs can be viewed on our channel which is called Nunda History.**

## Dalton History Room Update

The NHS History Adventure Team has been busy working with Keshequa elementary students in the Dalton History Room. We participated in the Global School Day of Play on February 6th. Students stepped back in time, exploring the simple joys of old-fashioned toys and games, from marbles and paper dolls to dollhouses, board games, blocks and View-Masters.



In the coming months the team will be busy with more activities and lessons. Plans for a special 4th grade "History Day" at the Museum is in the works along with the annual 1st grade visit to our building in June.



On February 11th, third graders learned to play dulcimers with Mrs. Long and Mr. Cook.

# Our 2026 Calendar Project: “Growing Up in Nunda and Portage” We need your help!!

Page 4

The Nunda Historical Society is excited to announce our 2026 Historical Calendar project, celebrating the experience of growing up in Nunda and Portage. Alongside this special edition calendar, we are also curating a "Growing Up in Nunda and Portage" museum exhibit for 2026. We invite you to participate by sharing your photos, stories, and memories of childhood in our community!

We are looking for photographs that capture everyday life - school days, family gatherings, parades, playgrounds, community events, or any moments that reflect what it was like to grow up in Nunda and Portage. If you have high-quality digital copies (300 dpi or higher), you can email them directly to us. If your photos are not digitized, we are happy to schedule a scanning session at NHS to ensure they are preserved. Each submitted photo should include a caption (200 words or less) with your name and a brief story about the image. Selected images will be featured in the 2026 Historical Calendar, and contributors whose photos are chosen will receive a free copy of the calendar! Additionally, all submitted photos will be preserved in our collection, ensuring future generations can access them and their stories.

We also welcome written memories of growing up in Nunda and Portage. Unlike the photo captions, there's no word limit - just share your favorite recollections! Some of these stories will be featured in the calendar, while all will be part of our exhibit and preserved in the NHS archives.

Every submitted photo and story will be included in our special 2026 exhibit, “**Growing Up in Nunda and Portage**” which will run throughout the year. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the past and connect with others who share a love for our local history. To participate, you can email digital photos and captions to [nhs@frontier.com](mailto:nhs@frontier.com). To schedule a scanning appointment for physical photos or if you have any questions, you can call us at the museum: 585-468-5420 or contact Tom at 585-465-0971.

All submissions are due by August 1, 2025. We hope you will join us in preserving and celebrating the memories of growing up in Nunda and Portage!

## Christmas In Nunda 2024

The Dulcimer Group provided festive music throughout the afternoon.



Christmas themed antiques and crafts were on sale at the museum during the day, along with a FABULOUS selection of homemade Christmas Cookies!



The Dulcimer Group takes a bow by the Christmas Tree.

Our volunteer team, led by Becky Pierce, served complementary cocoa, cookies, and popcorn during the Fireworks after the Christmas Lights Parade in the village.



## An Important Technology Upgrade

While the NHS remains dedicated to preserving the past, we must also look to the future. For years, we have used technology to support our mission of collecting, preserving, interpreting, presenting, and promoting our area’s history. Our Facebook page and website are just two examples, along with virtual meetings and online programs like the one planned for May 2025.

Behind the scenes, computers play a vital role in record-keeping, communication, and projects such as transcribing records and diaries, scanning photographs, and expanding digital access to the materials in our collection. We have also been working to digitize thousands of handwritten accession records of artifacts. However, all three NHS computers and their software were more than a decade old, limiting our efficiency.

Last fall, the NHS Board approved a much-needed technology upgrade. With the expertise of Brian Gordinier of One Stop Tech Shop in Geneseo, we purchased new equipment and updated our software. These improvements will allow multiple volunteers to work on digitizing accession records and other key projects. This upgrade was made possible thanks to generous donations from our members and memorial contributions.



Brian Gordinier of One Stop Tech Shop training Historical Society volunteers in our new History Resource Room.

*See [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org) for updates: everything happening at the Society, our Gift Shop, and the History Room with ways to explore Nunda’s history, and more. Visit Often! This is Your Historical Society*

All programs are held at the Nunda Historical Society building, located at 24 Portage Street, Nunda, unless otherwise noted in the description. Please refer to the schedule below for specific times and locations. Unless indicated, all events are **free and open to the public**. The NHS building is wheelchair accessible. **This schedule is subject to change.** For the latest updates, visit our website at [www.nundahistory.com](http://www.nundahistory.com) or follow us on Facebook.

- **Sundays, March 2 & 16 2-4 PM;** Stop by the Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery as we begin our first Sunday hours of the year! We have some new exhibits as well as our old favorites. Watch for details of possible special activities or programs!
- **Wednesday, March 12, 7 PM; *Pleasurable Pastimes by Jane Oakes.*** Parlor games, bees, and socials were how communities used to get together to work and to play. Have you ever heard of the game Dumb Crambo? What's a Bonnet Party? Have you been to a Poverty Social? No? It's time to find out about these past amusements! Suitable for older children, teens, and adults, with an added hands-on component for your entertainment.
- **Sunday, April 6, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. (Please note we will be closed April 20 for Easter.)
- **Sunday, April 27, 2:30 PM; Trinity Church, Nunda. *Music Masterpieces in Miniature, an engaging "Musica Curiosa" program presented by the renowned Dennis James.*** This unique event explores the fascinating history of miniature and toy instruments, blending performance and storytelling. Discover how these small but mighty instruments, from 18th-century training tools for young girls to mass-produced toy pianos reflect social and musical trends over the centuries. James will showcase some rare instruments from his collection, including a 19th-century Scottish Dulcetone, an 18th-century Italian Salterio, and the whimsical Marxophone, while highlighting their surprising roles in music history. Perfect for all ages, this entertaining lecture-demonstration promises an unforgettable afternoon of music, humor, and history! (*This program is made possible by a grant from the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts Aid to Localities program.*)
- **Sundays, May 4 & 18, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open! Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **Wednesday, May 14, 7 PM; "Are You Smarter Than a 7th Grader?" Trivia Night with Ben Franklin.** Test your civics knowledge in this fun, fast-paced trivia challenge hosted by none other than Ben Franklin himself! Presented by American History Live, this interactive program blends history, humor, and friendly competition. Will you impress Ben with your wisdom, or will he have a lesson or two for you? Join us for a lively evening of learning and laughs!
- **Visit our booth on Friday and Saturday of this year's Nunda Fun Days!**
- **Sundays, June 1, & 22, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs! **This month we are open the fourth Sunday because of Alumni Weekend!** Please join us!
- **Nunda Historical Society's Annual Meeting will be held in June - watch for details.**
- **Wednesday, June 11. NHS Annual History Tour and Picnic!**

From 4:30- 5:45 PM join us for a members only history tour of one of our area historic houses or buildings. (Watch for details of the tour); **6:00 - 7 PM. - Annual picnic at the NHS Pavilion (Watch for details); 7 PM - 8 PM Musician and storyteller Don Dwyer returns to the NHS with a new program "The Music of the Erie Canal"** Public is invited to the 7 PM Concert!



## 2025 Schedule of Activities and Events, Continued:

- **Sundays, July 6 & 20, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **Saturday, July 12: NUNDA AMERICANA DAY!** This year, in addition to our popular history walks and special activities we will be highlighting old fashioned crafts, hobbies, games and activities of our friends and members! Watch for details!!!
- **Sunday July 20, 2 PM: Stories They Brought With Them,** a special program featuring traditional stories from the cultures of the earliest Livingston County immigrants, adapted and told by professional storyteller **Cris Riedel**. This free one hour program is suitable for adults and older children. The Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery will also be open from 2-4 PM. *This program is made possible by a grant from the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts Aid to Localities program.*
- **Sundays August 3 & 17: 2-4 PM:** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **Saturday August 16, 9 AM - 2 PM; NHS Annual Yard & Bake Sale!** This is one of our most important fundraisers. Stop by to look for that special treasure to take home along with some delicious baked goods. Thanks to all who make donations and those who come to shop!
- **Sundays, September 7 & 21, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **Wednesday, September 10, 7 PM; Music from the Nunda Song Kitchen presented by Don Burger and Friends.** Don Burger, host of the Song Kitchen Show on WRAQ 92.7 FM has been holding a Community Song Kitchen activity at the NHS over the past year. The program will include songs written and performed by area residents, including several that celebrate the Nunda area!
- **Sundays, October 5 & 19, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **October (Date & Time TBD) Oakwood Cemetery Ancestor Walk.** Visit Nunda's historic Oakwood Cemetery and meet many of the men and women who have been part of our area's long and fascinating history! (The NHS is looking for individuals or families who would be interested in portraying some of these individuals who are buried at Oakwood. Watch for details!)
- **Sundays, November 2 & 16, 2-4 PM;** Nunda Museum and Rose Shave Gallery Open. Check our Facebook Page and [nundahistory.org](http://nundahistory.org) for any special activities or programs!
- **Wednesday, November 12, 7 PM; When Johnny Came Marching Home, the Role of Civil War Veterans in Nunda and Portage, by Tom Cook .** In honor of Veterans Day Tom will explore the impact returning veterans had on their communities in the years following the Civil War.
- **Saturday, December 14, 10AM - 5PM;** Be sure to stop by the Nunda Historical Society during this year's **Christmas in Nunda Celebration!** Enjoy our traditional Christmas decorations, our special holiday displays and shop for local history gifts. **Don't forget our Cookie Sale!!!** Watch for details!
- **Wednesday, December 10, 7 PM; Christmas Customs: Origins and Oddities by Jane Oakes.** (Jane returns once more to the NHS to close out our program year with a special program for Christmas!) Why do we bring trees and greenery into our homes? Which holiday customs were rejected by early church elders? Which nationality gave us Christmas Cookies? Does Old Saint Nick have a malevolent companion? What does the Winter Solstice have to do with our celebrations?



Find us on Facebook! @nundahistoricalsociety

# Nunda Village Historic District Officially Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

by: Megan Klem



If you've been following along and attending the public meetings, you know that the Village of Nunda and The Landmark Society of Western NY have been working toward a significant milestone: listing the Nunda Village Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. We are thrilled to announce that as of February 2025, the district has officially been listed!

## What does this mean for property owners?

The National Register listing is honorary, recognizing the historic significance of Nunda's architecture, development, and cultural heritage. Importantly, **it does not place any restrictions on private property owners unless state or federal funding or permitting is involved.** Instead, it serves as a point of pride for the community while also offering access to valuable financial incentives.

## Historic Tax Credit Benefits

One of the most significant advantages of this designation is that property owners may now qualify for historic tax credit programs, which provide financial assistance for maintaining and rehabilitating historic buildings.

The **NYS Historic Homeownership Tax Credit Program** offers a 20% state income tax credit on qualified expenses for repair, maintenance, and rehabilitation work. To be eligible: (1) the property must be owner-occupied, (2) located within a qualified census tract (Nunda is!), (3) incur at least \$5,000 in total eligible expenditures, and (4) work must be approved prior to starting.

Income-producing property owners may be eligible for the **State and Federal Historic Tax Credit Programs**. The state program piggybacks off the federal program and offers a 20-30% state income tax credit, while the federal program offers a 20% federal income tax credit on qualified expenses. This means that income-producing properties could receive up to 50% in total tax credits for qualified rehabilitation projects. **To learn more, visit: [parks.ny.gov/shpo/tax-credit-programs](https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/tax-credit-programs).**

For additional information on this project, visit: [landmarksociety.org/nunda](https://landmarksociety.org/nunda).

*Megan Klem is the Director of Preservation Services at The Landmark Society of Western NY, a regional historic preservation nonprofit serving the Genesee Valley and Finger Lakes regions.*



## Help Wanted: Video Volunteer

The Nunda Historical Society is looking for a volunteer to assist with preparing videos of our programs and events for our YouTube channel, *Nunda History*.

If you have basic video editing skills and an interest in sharing local history, we'd love your help! Flexible schedule. For more information, please contact Tom at [tscook@rochester.rr.com](mailto:tscook@rochester.rr.com)



## 2025 Members

John & Stacey Alioto  
 Deb Alloco  
 Jeremiah & Susie Axtell  
 Marcia Ayers  
 Eva M. Barbour  
 Michael Bauer  
 Duane & Rosemary Bennett  
 Peg Billyard  
 Audrey Blakley  
 George Blood  
 Sandra Bonadonna  
 Patricia Brady  
 Jo Anne Brocklehurst  
 Alberta Brown  
 Thomas & Dee Dee Burt  
 Thomas & Barbara Byrnes  
 Clyde Clancy  
 Jerilyn Clark  
 Diana Congdon  
 Tom & Anne Cook  
 Philip & Avis Cox  
 Ivan Davis  
 Gail Diemoz  
 Pam Ells  
 Pat Ellsworth  
 Robert & Peggy Ellsworth  
 Alberta Essler  
 Frank & Linda Foley  
 Marge Foose  
 Christopher Foote  
 Theron Foote  
 Sally Fuller  
 Patty Galbraith  
 Jeremy Galton  
 Paul & Nancy Gebauer  
 Cathie Gehrig

Ira & Nancy Gelser  
 Robert Gelser  
 Maureen Goho  
 Ray & Joanne Goll  
 Vicki Goll  
 John & Karla Gordinier  
 & Family  
 Mary Ellen Graves  
 Don & Valerie Griffing  
 Beth Carpenter Griswold  
 Margaret Grosse  
 Paul L Grover  
 Sharon Hagens  
 Carolyn Hark  
 David Haskell  
 Jim & Melissa Hassan  
 Alex & Debra Heinonen  
 Sue & Ray Hengelsberg  
 Corrine Hooker & Tom Reimer  
 Peggy Hooker  
 Frank Howe  
 Janet Hughes  
 Vera Hurd  
 Paul & Diane Jackson  
 Dennis James  
 Byron Jefferies  
 Valerie DePuy Jessen  
 Howard Judd  
 Geraldine Kennedy  
 Bonnie Kratts  
 Joan H Larson  
 Kathleen Lauritsen  
 Anne Lawson  
 Lynne & Clair Lawson  
 John Lindsay  
 Jim & Linda Little  
 Jeff & Sue Long

Marianne Loper  
 Terry & Connie Lowell  
 George & Karen Lucas  
 Gary & Fran Ludwig  
 Kathy & Ron Macomber  
 Keith Maker  
 Rennay Maker  
 Melissa Mallaber  
 Nancy Mann  
 Susan Mann  
 Bob & Doris Marsh  
 Rachael & John McAllister  
 RJ & Karen McColl  
 Mary Pat McKeown  
 Than & Debra Mehlenbacher  
 Donna Smith Miceli  
 Bob & Jill Michielsens  
 Joyce Marie Moore  
 Douglas Morgan  
 Janice Morris-Pirrello  
 Judy Murray  
 Rich & Ginny NiCastle  
 Marlene Noden  
 Julie Osborn  
 Phil & Amy Osika  
 Ralph Parker  
 Gary Payne  
 Alex & Becky Pierce & Family  
 Julie Piraino  
 Pete & Sue Piraino  
 Carolyn Pollock  
 David Powers  
 Anne & Paul Rangere  
 Jerry Rease  
 John Robinson  
 Diane Ryan  
 Sherman Sanford

Joan Schumaker  
 Patricia Simpson  
 Richard & Mina Sinsabaugh  
 Nedra Smith  
 Sue Smith  
 Maxine Snelgrove  
 Christine Starr  
 William Stoll  
 Ron & Charlene Strain  
 Ted & Karen Gibson Strang  
 Charles Strickland  
 Clayton Taft  
 Nathan Tallman  
 Anne Theders  
 Alice Thompson  
 Barbara Thompson  
 Tom & Laura Thornton  
 Beverly & Dennis VanCamp  
 Aryah, Kimberly & Stella  
 VanName  
 Earl Veley  
 Merilee Walker  
 Steve & Linda Walker  
 Karen Ward  
 Glenda & Ken Weaver Jr.  
 Brenda & Ken Weaver Sr.  
 Carl & Carol Weber  
 Isabelle Weir  
 Jean Weiss  
 Norman Wetterau  
 Kimala Wheeler  
 Shareen & Tyler Whitehouse  
 LeRoy & Teresa Wood  
 Charles Woolever  
 Eleanor Wright

## Architectural Scavenger Hunt: Can you locate these details on buildings in the Village of Nunda? Answers in the next issue!



**D**

**E**



**F**



**C**

### ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE:

- A. Former Village Building, 1 Mill Street
- B. 16 North State Street (above the liquor store)
- C. C. 45 East Street

**A**



**B**



# NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

24 Portage Street  
PO Box 341  
Nunda, NY 14517-0341

Phone: 585-468-5420  
nhs@frontier.com  
[www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org)

*Like us on Facebook*

## 2024 - 2025 Board of Directors

Tom Cook - President  
Becky Pierce -  
Vice President  
Valerie Velej Griffing -  
Recording Secretary  
Sue Long -  
Corresponding Secretary  
Kathleen Macomber -  
Treasurer  
Gail Diemoz-  
Librarian

### Directors

Thomas Byrnes  
Jeff Long  
Francine Ludwig  
Becky Pierce  
Joan Schumaker

### Assistant Librarians

Marge Foose  
Sue Long  
Alice Thompson

### Newsletter Committee

Tom Cook  
Gail Diemoz  
Karla Gordinier  
Margaret Grosse  
Laura Thornton

Photographs by  
Tom Cook

## NHS GIFT SHOP

A Catalog of Local History Items  
For Sale by the Nunda Historical Society



## Rose Shave Gallery



Shop at our Gift Shop online at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org).

*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) 468-5773 or (585) 465-0971*