

**NUNDA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



Historic Nunda

Volume 7 Issue 2

Fall 2017

**Programs &
Events**

- Sept. 13- *The Pittsburgh, Shawmut & Northern RR*
- Oct. 7—*NHS Annual Yard & Bake Sale*
- Oct. 8—*Exploring Local History—a walking tour*
- Oct. 9—*Mountain Dulcimer Concert*
- Oct. 26 *Fall Society Tour to Corning*
- Nov. 8 - *Queen of the Bremen: A True Story from WWII*
- Dec 13- *Annual Show & Tell*

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Elmwood – On the State & National Register of Historic Places and Subject of New Book

Nunda Historical Society member Marchelle Vianese and property owner Murial Bucci pose next to a special plaque at the June 24 dedication at Elmwood, the historic home at the foot of East Street in Nunda. The ceremony celebrated the designation of the property on the National Register of Historic Places.

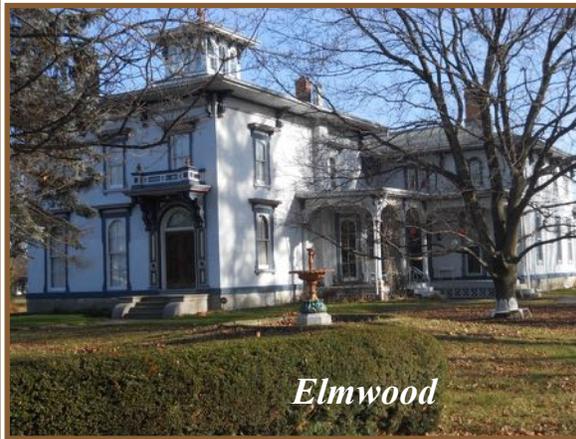
Marchelle, along with her sister Vanessa Robertson and the Bucci Family, started working on the application nominating Elmwood in early in 2013. The initial designation was made in December 2014, but it took several more



years to arrange for the plaque and dedication ceremony.

The ceremony included speeches by Nunda Mayor Bob Cox, Town and Village of Nunda Historian Valerie Griffing, and Nunda Historical Society President Tom Cook. Bucci Family members were present, along with descendants of Michael and Harriet Dowling, the most famous of Elmwood's owners.

Marchelle and Vanessa, with the help of the Nunda Historical Society, are also putting the finishing touches on a book that documents Elmwood and associ-



Elmwood

ated families. Starting in pioneer times, the book also includes: construction of the main house in the 1850s by noted Rochester architect Andrew Jackson Warner; Elmwood's heyday as the home of Michael Dowling; and 20th century changes. Readers will be treated to a "guided tour" of the home using original plans, early and modern photographs, family memories, and detailed descriptions of the many rooms and furnishings. Histories of the Dowling, Ashley, and Martin families are included, as well as, the Paine, Olp, and Vianese families. Family documents, stories, and photographs are used to illustrate the stories of these families.

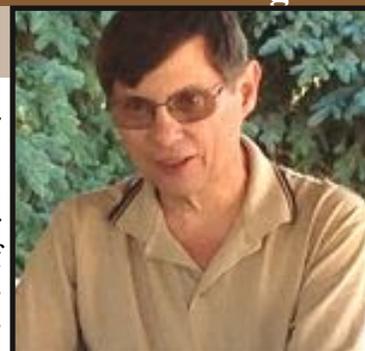
The Elmwood book is being published by the Society and will be going to the printer soon. Watch for details!

Nunda Historical Society Museum & Rose Shave Gallery are open 10 am - noon on Tuesdays, 2-4 pm, on 1st Sundays April through October, and at other times by arrangement. Call 465-0971 or 476-2354

The President's Corner

We did it! Our goal was to publish a second newsletter this year and, despite a very busy summer, here it is!

We purposely timed this issue to come out in September since this is the beginning of our new membership year. If you received this newsletter through the mail, please check your label to see if you need to renew. If so, we have included a membership envelope for your convenience. This can also be used if you are joining the Society for the first time or wish to give a membership as a gift to a friend or family member. Membership/donation forms are also available on our website.



Our Mission

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

Every member is important to the Society. Membership dues and donations help us maintain our facility and carry out our many programs and activities. We also appreciate members who share their time and talents with us. You don't need to live in Nunda to do that - check out the "Volunteers Needed" article for projects you can work on even if you live far away!

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and will visit the Historical Building soon. Don't forget to visit our website www.nundahistory.org and to like us on Facebook! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact me at tscook@rochester.rr.com or 585-465-0971.

Tom Cook

Historical Sign Project

For more than 70 years a New York State historical marker just west of the village alerted travelers on Route 436 to the location of the first of 17 locks on the old Genesee Valley Canal between Nunda and Portage. In recent years, however, the sign had become rusted and hidden by bushes and small trees. It was badly in need of attention, but New York State no longer maintains the many markers it had erected over the years. That's why the Nunda Historical Society decided to undertake the restoration of this important historical sign.

Nunda Village workers carefully removed the sign. It was taken to Chris Grosse who sandblasted and coated the marker with a rust inhibitor. (We thank Chris for donating his time, talent, and equipment!) The sign is now undergoing its final painting by Jeff and Sue Long. When completed, Society members will clear away the brush and the Nunda Village crew will replace the marker on its original pole. Gary Ludwig also helped with this project that will be completed by the end of the year..

This is the fourth historical marker project undertaken by the Society. Over the past few years new signs, obtained through the Pomeroy Foundation, were placed in the Village Square, Oakwood Cemetery, and at Lock 42 at the northern edge of the village.



Summer Recreation

If you happened by the Historical Building on a Tuesday morning in July or August, you might have seen a group of youngsters exploring history. They were participants in the Nunda Summer Recreation Program who elected to spend an hour on a history adventure with a Historical Society member.

Four programs were offered this year. The first program was "19th Century Toys" that gave the children a chance to participate in croquet, graces, quoits, and to play with hoops, tops, Jacob Ladders, and other wooden toys. The next week was a history walk called "Search for the Shamut" in which the participants used old maps, photographs, and physical features to find the route of one of the old railroads that ran through the village. The following program was a Museum Scavenger Hunt where teams hunted for facts about Nunda using the museum exhibits. This was really challenging since participants ranged from five to ten years of age! The counselors were a great help and we managed to find all the items on the sheet! As an award everyone was given a Nunda postcard.

The last session was a chance to learn how to play a tradition Appalachian Mountain dulcimer. Each participant learned both the history and the parts of this early American musical instrument and then played several old songs such as "Go Tell Aunt Rhody" "Frere Jacques" and "Boil them Cabbage Down." Each musician was able to take home a pick.

The Society would like to thank John Gordinier and his team of counselors for giving us a chance to bring some history to area children. We look forward to next year's summer program!



June Picnic



Tom & Bill Pollock play quoits during a 1st Sunday Games Day



Other Society Activities



Dennis James



First Graders visit Preserved Greenman (Tom Cook) at the Museum in June

Diane Freiner demonstrates Theorem Painting at August program

Travel with the Society to Corning – October 26, 2017

The Society is sponsoring a tour to historic Corning, NY where you can enjoy a two hour guided tour of the **Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG)** (9–11am), lunch at Sorge's Italian Restaurant on Market Street (11:30-12:30 pm), a one hour guided tour of the **Rockwell Museum** (1-2 pm), and free time to explore both museums and visit their outstanding museum shops (2-5 pm). A free shuttle runs every 15 -20 minutes between the CMOG and the Rockwell. The Covered Wagon coach will leave Nunda at 7:45 am and return by 6:30 pm.

The docent led tour of the CMOG includes one of the 30 **Daily Hot Glass Shows** (You can always go back for more!) Special CMOG exhibits include *Tiffany Glass Mosaics* and *Curious & Curiouser: Surprising Finds from the Rakow Library*. Other hot glass demos and the Innovation Center are also worth a visit.



Tiffany Glass Mosaics

When you hear the words "Tiffany" and "glass," you may immediately think of leaded glass windows or luminous lamps, but artist Louis C. Tiffany expressed his passion for color and glass most innovatively in the technique

of mosaic. From monumental architectural installations to inkwells for desktops, *Tiffany's Glass Mosaics* is the first museum exhibition focused exclusively on this aspect of Tiffany's extraordinary artistic career. The exhibition features nearly 50 works dating from the 1890s to the 1920s, from intimately-scaled, mosaic fancy goods designed for use in the home to large-scale, mosaic panels and architectural elements composed of thousands of individual pieces of glass. In addition, more than 1,000 pieces of original Tiffany glass are included on loan from The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass, Queens, New York.



Lunch at Sorge's Restaurant on Market Street is followed by a **guided tour of The Rockwell Museum**. Housed in the beautifully restored Historic Old City Hall, the museum is the only Smithsonian Affiliate in upstate New York. *The focus of the galleries is shifting from themes of the West to the American experience and this story is being told through fine art. The diverse collection includes a mix of nineteenth-century American paintings, historic bronzes, and Indian artifacts as well as twentieth-century modernists, illustration art, and contemporary photography. Featured galleries represent the works of Andy Warhol, the Taos Society of Artists, and masterworks of Remington and Russell.*

Exhibits include:

Print+Process (examples/explanations of engravings, etchings, and lithography), *Lock, Stock & Barrel* (historic long arms and handguns), *Contemporary Katsina Dolls* (hand carved from the roots of cottonwood trees, these painted dolls represent Hopi Katsinams, or spirit messengers), and *The Harmon and Harriett Kelley Collection of African-American Art Works on Paper* (works by more than 50 African-American artists from the late 1800s to the early years of this century)

The cost of this tour is \$90 for members and \$100 for non-members. **Reservations and payment must be made by Oct. 12.** Tour details and Reservation Forms are available at: www.nundahistory.org or at the NHS Museum. Questions? Call Fran Ludwig at 476-2749 or Sue Long at 468-3413.

The Society's July Tour to Skaneateles



Our 2017 summer tour to Skaneateles was a success in spite of rain. Fifty-four participants enjoyed a two-hour lunch cruise with the Mid-Lakes Navigation Company on the Judge Ben Wiles. Lunch prepared by the Sherwood Inn was delicious, we had Skaneateles Lake pretty much to ourselves, and our captain provided interesting dialog as we traveled around the lake.

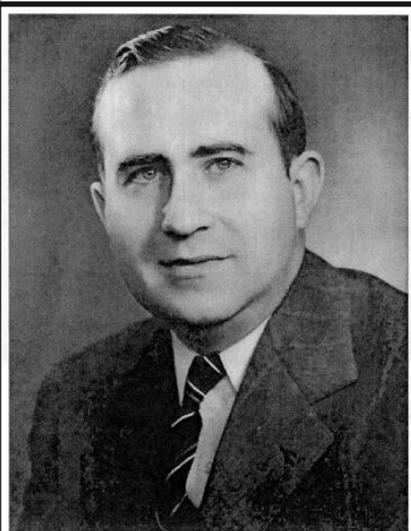
The rain arrived about 1 pm when we docked and needed to travel a couple blocks to the John D. Barrow Art Gallery in the Skaneateles Library. Most of us were prepared with umbrellas and avoided getting seriously wet on our way to the gallery. Once there, we were treated to a most informative talk by our gallery guide and greatly enjoyed viewing John D. Barrow's Hudson River School paintings of local landscapes and also some of his por-

traits. The artist was a trustee of the library in 1900 and he gained permission to design and build the gallery to house his paintings. His landscapes are displayed in either their original gilded frames or in a unique wainscoting installation. The artist arranged paintings in the wainscoting where they remain to this day. Dennis James joined us on this trip and entertained us briefly on pianos he found in both the gallery and the lecture hall. By the time some of us left the gallery, the rain had stopped.

Those who elected to spend the afternoon shopping did spend more time in the rain, running in and out of shops. However, they still seemed to enjoy themselves. Others relaxed at the Sherwood Inn until it was time to board the bus back to Nunda.



The Paul Byrnes '34 Archives



Paul Byrnes, Class of 1934

In November 2012 the Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (ACPHS) held a formal dedication of the College Archives Room in the newly renovated Lewis Library on campus. The Archives Room was made possible by a generous gift from two of Paul's sons, Thomas (class of 1957) and James (class of 1966), in memory of their father Paul A. Byrnes (class of 1934).

The Byrnes '34 Archives collects, preserves, and makes accessible materials related to the history of the ACPHS. The ACPHS Collection includes: Historical Documents, College Catalogs, Yearbooks, Photographs, Scrapbooks, MS Student Theses, Newsletters, Ceremony Programs, Alumni Directories, Student Handbooks & Publications, and College Histories. The Archives consists of over 125 cubic feet of material from the 135+ year history of the ACPHS.

The ACPHS Digital Collections, established in 2016, include archival materials like yearbooks and turn of the 19th century photographs. Access to the Digital Archives can be found in the About portion of the library's webpage and is also part of New York Heritage's Digital Collections: nyheritage.org

Born in 1912, Paul grew up in Sherburne, NY where he had an opportunity to work in the local drug store and was encouraged to pursue pharmacy. He entered Albany College of Pharmacy in 1931 and worked as many as three jobs during these depression years to pay for college and graduate in 1934. In February 1935 he married Ethel Miller who lived in Albany and they moved to Nunda to take over the local drug store beginning in November 1935. The business became a family affair with Ethel and five children all helping. Paul retired in 1983, Thomas and James incorporated the business at that time, the business flourished, and it remained in the family for a total of 70 years. More information is available at www.nundahistory.org

Houses

by Gail Diemoz

Over time, houses evolve. Porches are removed, added or made smaller; windows are enlarged or covered; “bump-outs” or bay windows are attached; shutters are put on or taken off; “gingerbread” trim is removed; roofs are raised and dormers suddenly appear on

upper stories. Can you think of other ways houses change?

Some Nunda houses just disappear and are forgotten or unknown to later generations. Fortunately, the Historical Society has photographs of some of these changed or lost homes. Here are images of two Nunda houses from our collection. If you have similar photographs of houses in the Town of Nunda, please share them with us.

Changes at 33 East Street



Lost



**Corner of Church & Center Streets
Now Trinity Church Parking Lot**

Exhibit Update

The Exhibit Committee, composed of Gail Diemoz, Sue Long, Joan Schumaker and Tom Cook, are working hard on “*Good Times? 1950-1970*”, the next exhibit in the “Story of Nunda”. We hope to open the exhibit by late fall. Watch for details! The committee would also appreciate ideas for the next exhibit that will cover Nunda from 1970 to 2008. What people, places, and things do you think should be included to represent the story of Nunda during that time period?

Volunteers Needed

The Society is looking for volunteers to help transcribe a variety of documents and other resources into digital form so the material can be placed online. This can be done at the Historical Society building or at your own location using copies. To find out more or to volunteer, please contact Tom Cook at 585-465-0971 or tscook@rochester.rr.com.

Membership News - Renew or Become a New Member

The Society's membership year is from September 1 through August 31. This means that except for a few "Early Birds" listed below, members need to renew. Please renew or become a new member by using the enclosed envelope or the membership form on our website. As President Tom noted in his message, your support is most important to the success of the Society. **Thank You!**

2017-18 Members

Sandra Bonadonna
Robert & Michele Donovan
Jeremy Galton

Michael Giblin
John Gordinier Family
Dorothy Marcy
Barbara Randall

Steve & Audrey Rapp
Joan Schumaker
Molly Snyder
Linda Tabor

Clayton Taft
Allen & Jean Thompson
Hugh & Barb Thompson
Fred & Sharon Willis

Memorial Donations Received in 2016-17

Donor/ in Memory of

Julia Donovan
Wm. H. Donovan Sr. & Jr/
(US Navy)
Barbara Essler
David Essler
Karen Gibson
Don & Norma Gibson
Gerry Getman
Albert & Alfred Getman
Sidney & Nancy Love Mann
Betty Love Morris
Thomas & Joyce Gormel
Deceased Gormel/Keating
Family Members

Thank You for Your Thoughtfulness

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Helen Schumaker Swanson
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Darla Ryan
Roger Ryan
Don Thompson
Mary J. Thompson
Merilee Walker
Ralph Walker
Eleanor Boyd Wright
William Wright

In Memory of Charles Ostrum

John Cipolla
David Hoagland
Gary & Fran Ludwig
Jean MacVean Manly
Nunda Fire Department
Janet & John Rapp
Irving Schoenacker
Joan Schumaker
Nunda Methodist Men
Robert Willard

In Memory of Betty Weir

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Maker
Mr. & Mrs. David Gallton
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gallton
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Wood
Mrs. Irene Gallton

Donation to our Building Fund Drive since our Spring Newsletter

+ Mary Ann Walker

Nunda Historical Society 2017 Programs

Note: Programs, unless noted otherwise, meet at 24 Portage Street in Nunda (March – December). Programs are not being scheduled in January and February, but additional programs/events have been added in the spring, summer, and fall months. From March through December, regular programs are usually the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm unless otherwise noted. In April through October, First Sunday Workshops/Programs begin at 2:30 pm.

Wednesday, **Sept 13**, 7 pm - *"The Pittsburgh, Shawmut & Northern RR"* by Ken Clark

Saturday, **Oct. 7**, 9 am - 3pm - *NHS Annual Yard & Bake Sale* – Watch for details on how to donate items for the yard and bake sale and plan to come and shop.

Sunday, **Oct. 8**, 2:pm - *Exploring Local History - a walking 90 minute tour of Nunda Village*

Monday, **Oct. 9**, 2:30 pm—*Mountain Dulcimer Concert: Susan Trump & Genesee Valley Mountain Dulcimer Club*

Wednesday, **Oct 11**, 7 pm – *"Nunda Businesses, Part II"* by NHS Staff

Sunday, **Oct.15** (tentative date) 2:30 pm—*WNY Ensemble of Kimball, Canning, Bolt & McClure with Songs and Tales of the Erie Canal **

Thursday, **Oct 26**.*Fall Society Tour to Corning, NY - See details on page 4*

Wednesday, **Nov 8**, 7 pm – *"Queen of the Bremen – The True Story of an American Child Trapped in Germany during World War II."* Marlies Adams DiFante*

Wednesday, **Dec 13**, 7 pm – *"Annual Show & Tell"* Bring your favorite collectible, Nunda story or "What's It?" to share and enjoy holiday refreshments.

* This performance is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Council on the Arts and administered by Livingston Arts, home of The Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.

NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Photographs by
Tom Cook &
Joan Schumaker

Portage Street Looking West from the Village Square



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*See www.nundahistory.org for updates on
programs, additions to "Nunda's Sports History,"
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explore Nunda's history, and more.*

Visit Often—This is Your Historical Society