

## 2024 Programs & Events

See Schedule on  
page 5 for  
upcoming  
2024 Programs



# Historic Nunda

Volume 13 Issue 3

Fall 2024

## *Open House and Official Dedication of Our New Addition*

The Nunda Historical Society hosted a special open house on Sunday, September 15 to celebrate the completion of its new addition, which includes a History Resource Room and an Archive Room. From 2 to 4 PM, visitors had the opportunity to explore the expanded space and engage with interactive exhibits and enjoy a family-friendly scavenger hunt with prizes. The event featured old-fashioned crafts and games, including writing in cursive with quill pens (made from wild turkey feathers) dipped in India ink.

A highlight of the afternoon was a presentation by Eli Thomas, an esteemed artist, teacher, and wisdom keeper from the Onondaga Wolf Clan. He captivated our audience with a talk on Haudenosaunee traditions at 3 PM, blending cultural education and storytelling.

Guests also viewed a short video presentation about the construction of the new facility. Light refreshments were served and visitors had the chance to shop at the gift shop and purchase tickets for the Rose Shave Fine Art Print Raffle. (Winning ticket will be drawn during "Christmas in Nunda" on Saturday December 7th.) We even welcomed several new members!

The official dedication of the new addition will take place on Saturday, November 2, from 4 to 6 PM. Special invitations are being sent to all donors and all NHS members are welcome to attend. The event will begin with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the parking lot, weather permitting.

The new multi-purpose History Resource Room. can be used as a classroom, research space, additional display space, or special events.



Donated artifacts will be stored in the new climate controlled, light-proof archive room.



Sunday September 15: Eli Thomas presentation at Open House.



Eli presented the Nunda Historical Society with the gift of a print of his beautiful work "Feather Dance" which we have hanging in the new History Resource Room.

## The President's Corner



Fall is here again and it's time for another NHS newsletter! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and had the opportunity to go on some "history adventures" such as reading a good history book, doing some family genealogy, visiting an historical site or museum, or stopping by your local historical society!

As you will find out in the pages of this newsletter, we have had several "adventures" at the NHS this summer and are planning more for the coming months!

Thank you so much for being an NHS member. We hope you will be able to stop by for a visit!

And don't forget - you can keep up with NHS news and activities through our Facebook page and at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org)!

*Tom Cook*

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

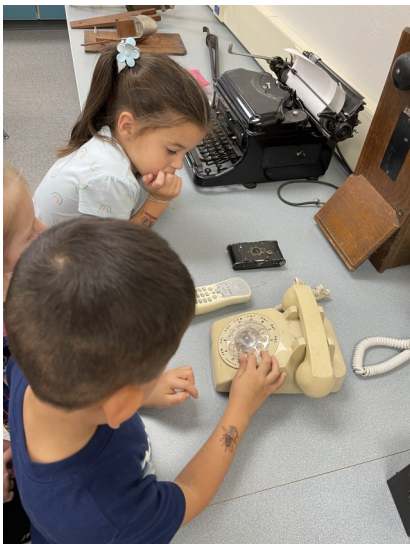
## Dalton History Room Update

Our Dalton History Room is ready for another year of bringing local history to Keshequa Elementary students!

Last June team members met with the teachers and came up with lots of ideas for new activities for each grade, from Pre-K through the Fourth Grade. These "adventures" (as we like to call them) all use artifacts, stories and images from Nunda area history to complement the classroom learning and promote the students' interest in their community. Most of the history adventures will take place in the Dalton History Room, but we also have some trips to the Nunda Museum planned for several of the classes.

Over the summer we were asked by the District to move the History Room across the second floor hallway to the former computer room to allow the old library to be used as a classroom. The NHS Adventure Team made the move in August with the help of the Dalton Custodians.

This fall we took part in the Dalton Elementaries School's open house by opening our room to meet and greet parents and students. We also enjoyed a visit by the Dalton Pre-Kindergarten students.





## Nunda's Americana Day 2024 History Adventures for the Entire Family!

On July 6th, the day started early with a History Walk led by Tom Cook through Nunda's 19th Century "Industrial Park" on State Street between the Village Square and Keshequa Creek.

The recently completed archive room gave us the opportunity to set up a quilt show of local family quilts and some of the quilts from the Nunda Historical Society collection. In the new History Resource Room quilting demonstrations and hands-on activities made it seem like an old-fashioned quilting bee!



Thanks to a generous grant from Once Again Nut Butter, we were able to host several presentations about Native American heritage. The Seven Generations of Stewards brought hands-on experiences with native objects, art works and musical instruments. Randee Spruce, Seneca artist, gave a talk in the museum about Seneca history and culture, and Perry Ground, Onondaga teacher and storyteller, closed out the afternoon with "Stories from the Longhouse."



## Other History Adventures!

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Wednesday September 11: "The Mindset and Background of the Erie Canal and Genesee Valley Canal" by Allegany County Historian Craig Braack



Sunday June 12: NHS members only tour of 19th century barns at the Dickenson/Galton house on Route 436, given by Todd and Meg Galton



### ***Town Historian's Update***

Song writing  
Workshop with  
Don Burger:

Community members brainstorming to write a song  
about the history of Nunda



Greetings from the Town and Village of Nunda Historian's office! A place where we preserve, research, and share local area history. My name is Valerie J.V. Griffing and I am the sixth town and village historian. Can you name my predecessors? (Answers in the next newsletter!)

My office is at the Nunda Government Center, 4 Massachusetts St, Nunda. Office hours are by appointment, but you can reach me anytime at: [historian@town.nunda.ny.us](mailto:historian@town.nunda.ny.us). Some resources in my office include the family index card file containing information on hundreds of Nunda area families. It is the old-fashioned, hard copy version of a modern-day electronic database and is a wealth of genealogical information. You will also find individual family files, topical and general information files on various subjects, area businesses, people and events, photographs, yearbooks, an almost complete set of Dalton, Nunda and Keshequa schools' commencement programs from which a list of graduates has been gleaned and more. What can I help you find?

New York state was very progressive when on April 11, 1919, Governor Al Smith signed Section 57.07 of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, the local government "Historians Law" into effect. The first law of its kind in the country, this section allowed each county, city, town, and village in the state to appoint an official historian to gather and preserve historical records pertaining to its respective municipality. Why? The world was just emerging from World War I and forward-thinking government officials realized and understood the need to document the war and other past and future events as they pertained to New York state.

*Valerie J.V. Griffing, Town Historian*



All programs free and open to the public

**Saturday, December 14th** - Be sure to stop by the Nunda Historical Society during **Christmas in Nunda!**

Enjoy our traditional Christmas decorations and special holiday displays and pick up some local history holiday gifts! Watch for more on our Facebook page and at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org)!

**Tuesday, December 17th 10 AM** Members are invited to join our Tuesday Morning museum crew for our Christmas party! There will be lots of cookies!

## Program Update: "Music in Miniature" Postponed

Unfortunately, Dennis James' "Music in Miniature," originally scheduled for November 24th, has been postponed until next April. We're looking forward to welcoming Dennis back in the spring!

### *Nunda Historical Society's Annual Decorated Christmas Wreath Sale is underway!*

*Beautiful Fresh Wreaths are available  
with Red or Burgundy bows!*



Wreaths with Red or Burgundy are \$25 each  
3 or more Wreaths are \$22 each

Orders & Payments are due by Nov 25, pick up at the NHS on  
Saturday, Nov 30th. Call Fran Ludwig at 476-2749 for more  
information or to order wreaths.

## Annual Christmas Wreath Sale

Christmas Wreath order forms are also available at the Nunda Post Office, the Bell Memorial Library, at the museum and on our website at [www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org).

## 2025 NHS Historical Calendar - "Nunda's Colorful Past"

Our 2025 Historical Calendar, themed "Nunda's Colorful Past," will be available in December during Christmas in Nunda. You'll be able to order online or by mail.

## Photos from other Summer 2024 NHS Activities



**Saturday August 17: Gail Diemoz and Sue Long helping out at our annual bake sale on Nunda Yard Sale Day.**



**Our Yard Sale was a huge success!**



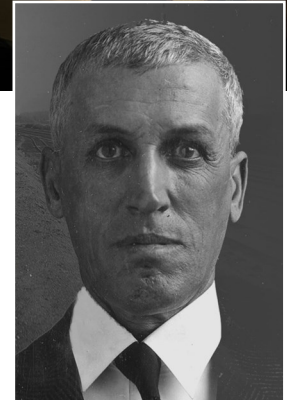
### *Our Mission*

*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.*

**Find us on Facebook! @nundahistoricalsociety**



**Wednesday, October 9, “The Perry Gang, Ossian Train Robbers” by William D. Burt** The Perry Gang rampaged through western New York from 1905 to 1929, robbing trains at gunpoint, looting moving freight cars, breaking into cars sitting in yards, and blowing safes in railroad stations. Though they started out in Niagara Falls and haunted the New York Central Falls Road and Hojack, some of their most memorable heists were on the Erie between Hornell and Portage and the Lackawanna between Atlanta and Wayland. The burglary that sent Bert Perry to state prison in 1929 was at the Pittsburgh, Shawmut & Northern station in Birdsall.



**On Sunday, October 27,** we hosted a unique historical theatrical performance at the NHS. *The Geriactors*, a talented group of actors from Rochester, presented **“We Were There: Ordinary People in Extraordinary Times”**: a series of seven powerful scenes that brought history to life. The performance highlighted the resilience of the human spirit during times of war, drawn from the personal and ancestral memories of the troupe’s members. Scenes from the Napoleonic Wars, the War of 1812, the U.S. Civil War, World War I, the Russian Civil War, World War II and the Vietnam War focused on the impact of these conflicts on everyday people. The program was made possible through funds from the Aid to Localities Program via the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.

**This program was originally planned as our monthly November 13th meeting but had to be rescheduled.**





## 2024 Members

John & Stacey Alioto  
Jeremiah & Susie Axtell  
Eva M. Barbour  
Michael Bauer  
Duane & Rosemary Bennett  
Gary Bentley  
Peg Billyard  
Audrey Blakley  
George Blood  
Sandra Bonadonna  
Ethan Boss  
Rich Boylan & Donna Moore  
Patricia Brady  
Jody & James Bray  
Jo Anne Brocklehurst  
Alberta Brown  
William Burt  
Raymond & Kimala Butler  
James Byrnes  
Thomas & Barbara Byrnes  
Clyde Clancy  
Jerilyn Clark  
Diana Congdon  
Tom & Anne Cook  
Philip Cox  
Eric & Wendy Curry  
Ivan Davis  
Gail Diemoz  
Patricia Dieter  
Joseph DiPasquale  
Robert & Michele Donovan  
Pam Ells  
Pat Ellsworth  
Robert & Peggy Ellsworth  
Alberta Essler  
Barbara Etingoff  
Luke Faulds  
Frank & Linda Foley  
Marge Foose  
Theron Foote  
Toni Fuller  
Doug & Judith Galbraith

Patty Galbraith  
Jeremy Galton  
Paul & Nancy Gebauer  
Cathie Gehrig  
Ira & Nancy Gelser  
Robert Gelser  
Maureen Goho  
Ray & Joanne Goll  
Vicki Goll  
James Goodrich  
John & Karla Gordinier  
Tricia Graf  
Angela Graves  
Mary Ellen Graves  
Brenda & Gary Green  
Carol Griffen  
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  
Peggy Hooker  
Frank Howe  
Janet Hughes  
Vera Hurd  
Paul & Diane Jackson  
Dennis James  
Byron Jefferies  
Valerie Jessen  
Geraldine Kennedy  
Lonnie & Bonnie Kratts  
Joan H Larson  
Kathleen Lauritsen  
Anne Lawson  
Lynne & Clair Lawson  
John Lindsay  
Jim & Linda Little  
Jeff & Sue Long

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 Miceli  
Bob & Jill Michielsen  
Joyce Marie Moore  
Douglas Morgan  
Janice Morris-Pirrello  
Judy Murray  
Rich & Ginny NiCastle  
Marlene Noden  
Julie Osborn  
Phil & Amy Osika  
Ralph Parker  
Gary Payne  
Carrie Pepe  
Alex & Becky Pierce & Family  
Julie Piraino  
Pete & Sue Piraino  
Carolyn Pollock  
David Powers  
Jerry Rease  
Bob & Donna Russell  
Diane Ryan  
Adrian Sanford  
Barbara Sanford  
Dale & Debbie Sanford  
Robert E Sanford  
Sherman Sanford  
Jane Schryver  
Joan Schumaker  
Gretchen Sepik

Patricia Serafine  
Juliann Severson  
Daniel Shannom  
Patricia Simpson  
Richard & Mina Sinsabaugh  
Nedra Smith  
Sue Smith  
Maxine Snelgrove  
Ron & Charlene Strain  
Ted & Karen Gibson Strang  
Charles Strickland  
Anne Theders  
Alice Thompson  
Barbara Thompson  
John & Sandy Thompson  
Tom & Laura Thornton  
Beverly & Dennis VanCamp  
Jennifer VanHouton  
Earl Veley  
Lynn & Erica Waite  
JoAnn Waldon  
Merilee Walker  
Steve & Linda Walker  
Karen Ward  
Brenda & Ken Weaver Sr.  
Carl & Carol Weber  
Isabelle Weir  
Jean Weiss  
Norman Wetterau  
Shareen & Tyler Whitehouse  
Jessica & Colin Wilcox  
Fred & Sharon Willis  
LeRoy & Teresa Wood  
Charles Woolever  
Eleanor Wright

Another **BIG THANK YOU!** to Vinnie Hark and the Hark Homes crew! They painted our Annex to match the completed new addition, giving the whole Museum building a fresh new look!!



## Architectural Scavenger Hunt:

Can you locate these details on buildings in the Village of Nunda?

ANSWERS will be in the next newsletter!

You can also submit your answers to our Facebook page: @nundahistoricalsociety



**A**



**B**





## **NUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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[www.nundahistory.org](http://www.nundahistory.org)

*Like us on Facebook*

### **2024 - 2025 Board of Directors**

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Valerie Velej Griffing -  
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Photographs by  
Tom Cook



**Raffle tickets for a chance to win a copy of Rose Shave's 1907 watercolor "Traveling Shoes" are on sale now through December 7th. A fine art museum quality reproduction on cotton-rag paper with archival ink, the work is professionally framed using double acid-free mats and conservation glass (valued at \$230.)**

**Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. You may purchase tickets at the museum or by mail: Nunda Historical Society, PO Box 341, Nunda NY 14517-0341. If ordering by mail, please be sure to include your phone number. We will put your tickets into the drawing. Drawing will be held on December 7 during Christmas in Nunda.**

**You need not be present to win! All proceeds to benefit the NHS.**

*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*