

The Bell Tower

The newsletter of the Oswegoland Heritage Association...

December 2021 facebook Roger Matile, editor

The Oswegoland Heritage Association's

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We are tax-exempt!

Remember, the Oswegoland Heritage Association is a federal tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization. All cash donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Annie Jordan is the Little White School's new Museum Manager...



Annie Jordan began her duties as the Little White School Museum's new museum manager on September 7. She replaces Tina Heidrich, who held the position for 10 years.

Museum professional Annie Jordan has taken over the duties of Little White School Museum Manager.

Jordan began her duties during this year's PrairieFest community celebration, working her first day at the museum on Sept. 7.

She replaces Christina Heidrich, who served as the Little White School's Museum Manger for the previous 10 years before leaving this past summer to become a 4-H coordinator with the University of Illinois Extension Service.

Jordan, a resident of Downers Grove, earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from Ohio State University with a minor in history. She went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in museum studies from Indiana University, Purdue University Indianapolis. She graduated with specializations in education and public history.

Her background also includes internships and experience at Colonial Williamsburg, Wa; the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site, Indianapolis, IN; The History Museum in South Bend, IN; the Mc-

Continued on page 2...

Send in your OHA membership today!

It's time to renew your Oswegoland Heritage Association membership. OHA memberships run from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of each calendar year, so send your's in now.

Annual dues are \$20 for Friends, \$75 for Sponsors, and \$150 for Business/Organization members.

Member benefits now include three issues of *The Bell Tower*, the heritage association's newsletter, each year, one free copy of the *Oswego Discovery Walk*, a self-guided walking tour of some of old Oswego's most historic neighborhoods, and other perks.

Current membership categories and benefits include:

Friend: \$20 one-year membership includes three newsletters each year; one free admission to an OHA-sponsored program, a 10% discount at the museum store, a Little White School Museum stylus pen, and one

free copy per family of the *Oswego Discovery Walk* self-guided historical tour of the village per family.

- **Sponsor**: \$75 (or more) one-year membership includes all the benefits of Friend membership.
- Business/Organization: \$150 oneyear membership includes all the benefits of a Sponsor membership, plus recognition in three consecutive newsletters.
- membership includes all the benefits of the Sponsor membership, a free copy of 150 Years Along the Fox: The History of Oswego Township, Illinois, a 192-page hardcovered book; plus a special permanent membership card and framed Lifetime Gold membership certificate.

Memberships are designed to keep sup-

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Museum Manager..from page 1.

Cormick House at Cantigny in Wheaton; and at Naper Settlement. Her published works include "Tidying Up Museum Collections" in *Active Collections*, 2020 winner of the National Council on Public History book award. She began working Tuesday, Sept. 7, at the museum.

The Little White School Museum's exhibits and extensive archival collections

Memberships... from page 1 porters informed about OHA activities, promote participation, and provide operating revenue for Little White School

Museum activities and projects.

"Oswegoland Heritage Association memberships also make great Christmas and birthday gifts," OHA President Judy Wheeler noted, "Especially for friends, family, former neighbors, and others who would appreciate keeping up with efforts to preserve Oswegoland history."

To join or renew your membership, just fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter. For a gift membership, send your name, address, and phone number, along with the name and address of the person you wish to gift with the membership, and a check for the appropriate amount to Oswegoland Heritage Association, Membership, Box 23, Oswego, IL 60543.

Looking for an Oswego history fix?

Can't get to the museum but need an Oswego history fix? Just drop by virtually! Visit the Little White School Museum's web site at www.littlewhite-schoolmuseum.org, and click on "Visit" in the upper right and select "Galleries to Go." You'll find a wealth of Oswego-related history from brochures to videos, or click on "Learn" at the upper right for newspaper transcriptions and much, much more.

Have a comment, question, or suggestion? Contact us at info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org. You can also find us on Facebook.

tell the story of the Oswego area from prehistoric times to the present day. The museum, built in 1850 as a Methodist-Episcopal Church, converted to a school in 1915, and restored from 1977 to 2002, is a joint project of the Oswegoland Park District and the non-profit Oswegoland Heritage Association. Regular hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday mornings

from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Mondays from 4 to 9 p.m. The museum is closed to visitors on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Admission is free.

For more information, including the most up-to-date museum hours, programs, and other information, call 630-554-2999, email info@littlewhite-schoolmuseum.org; or visit their website at www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org.

Winter programming will feature eclectic mix of Oswego history

Looking for some history-related entertainment close to home this winter? The Little White School Museum will host a variety of historical programming for all ages. Here's a brief rundown of programming scheduled so far:

History Happy Hour, Thursday, Jan. 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., ages 21 and over, \$10 registration fee: Ever hear the story about Al Capone's doctor here in Oswego? Or how about the Oswego connection to the John Dillinger gang? And wasn't there a bank robbery here? For a sleepy, small town, Oswego has tons of scandalous stories! Join the Little White School Museum staff at the Oswego Brewing Company as we talk about the outrageous ordeals and rousing rumors of Oswego. Admission comes with one beer ticket to enjoy during the lecture.

Mixers and Shakers—Tracing Bartending Ancestors, Sunday, Jan. 30, 12-1:30 p.m., ages 16 and over, \$5 registration fee: Taverns and saloons have been crucial American institutions, and the men behind the bar were the social rock stars of their era. Join genealogist Debra Dudek as she leads you through the pre-prohibition records and resources which will help you add an extra shot of flavor into your research! Pre-registration is recommended however walk-ins will be welcomed, space permitting.

Elizabeth Keckley—Presidential Seamstress, Sunday, March 6, 12-1:30 p.m., all ages welcome, \$5 registration fee: Initially known for the clothes she created for Mary Todd Lincoln (Abraham Lincoln's wife), Elizabeth Keckley gained a reputation as a first-rate dressmaker while enslaved. For over two and a half



years, she used her hands and needle to provide for the seventeen people of her Master's household. After Elizabeth's freedom, she eventually started her own business and employed 20 women, a feat unheard of in those days.

This is the life that heritage interpreter Marlene Rivero will bring to the stage, offering the audience a glimpse into the past with a story deserving our attention. This event is presented in partnership with the Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Speakers Bureau.

For more information on these programs and on other activities and events at the Little White School Museum, call 630-554-2999 or email info@littlewhite-schoolmuseum.org.

Watch the websites of the Oswegoland Park District, https://www.oswegolandparkdistrict.org/, and the Little White School Museum, https://littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org/, for more upcoming fascinating history-related programming.

Matile honored with state genealogy society's community service award



Jean Kent presented the Illinois State Genealogical Society's Community Service Award to Little White School Museum Director Roger Matile at the association's October 28 board meeting

Little White School Museum Director Roger Matile was honored with the Illinois State Genealogical Society's Community Service Award during the society's annual virtual convention in September.

The award is presented annually to an individual, company, or institution for service or contributions to genealogy.

Nominations may be made by local genealogical or historical societies. Matile was nominated for the award by Jean Woolley Kent, a member of the Oswegoland Heritage Association (OHA) Board of Directors, where she serves as treasurer. She is also a member of the Fox Valley Genealogical Society, as well as the Illinois State Genealogical Society.

Kent presented the award to Matile at the heritage association's Sept. 28 board meeting.

"I really consider this award more a tribute to the Oswegoland Heritage Association's dedication to preserving local history by providing the Little White School Museum with the resources to help so many people research their family histories," Matile said. "Nor would it have happened without the strong support of the Oswegoland Park District that has been the heritage association's faithful partner in preserving the history of the Oswego area since 1976."

Also honored by the ISGS was former Kendall County resident the late Elmer Dickson, who created and maintained the KendallKin website until his death on Sept. 16, 2018 at his home in Chico, California. Dickson, a Yorkville native, also created numerous census and other records transcriptions that aid family historians in their research efforts.

Your business name could be right here!

To become a Bell Tower sponsor, purchase a Business/Institutional membership, and your name will appear in this space in three consecutive issues. See pages 1-2 for membership information.

Matile has volunteered with the OHA since 1976 when he was elected to the organization's first board of directors. He left the board briefly during the early 1980s to work on 150 Years Along the Fox: The history of Oswego Township published to commemorate the township's 150th anniversary of its settlement. He also organized and wrote the 2008 pictorial history, Oswego Township, on behalf of the heritage association.

Matile rejoined the board in 1988 and helped coordinate the restoration of the historic Little White School Museum through it's completion in 2002. He also helped organize the museum's artifact collection and developed the museum's artifact and archival cataloging system. He was appointed to his current position as museum director by the OHA Board in August 1994.

History continues to arrive on our doorstep... Donors assure Oswegoland's rich history will be preserved

Little White School Museum staffers have nearly finished clearing up and organizing the accumulated backlog of museum donations that were dropped off at the museum in the years prior to 2001, while they're attempting to keep up with cataloging new donations that arrive at the museum on a regular basis.

Since the last newsletter was published in August, the museum has received several historically significant donations. As The Bell Tower went to press, the museum database contained 33,276 items. That's 1,316 more items than were in the database last year at this time.

Staffers engaged in cataloging during the past year included volunteer Roger Matile, along with museum staffers Sarah Kimes and Noah Beckman.

New acquisitions and their donors since our August newsletter included: four original paintings by Murley Wheeler, Eva Maria Gates, Edith Schlapp Arnold and Carol Schillinger Dodd from Judy Wheeler; a 1922 Kendall County plat book and atlas, Bob Nelson; wedding dress and a collection of Oswego-related memorabilia, Wilma Penn Simms; a 1969 photo of the dragster "Barbarian" at the Oswego Dragway, Gerard Wagner; a large horseshoe recovered from the Fox River near the William Wormley house grounds, Phillip Chioppetta; photos of Elwyn, Roland, and Harold Holdiman, Janet Foxworthy; photos of the Wayne brothers during World War II and Korea, Bill Wayne; Ralph Ross World War II Navy photo, Jeff Ross; Capt. John W. Potter Sr.'s World War II

military uniform, John Potter Jr.; and World War II uniform leggings and framed photo of the USS Arizona, Debra Heinze.

Museum staffers regularly check eBay for Oswego-related items, and when warranted, purchases are made. Purchases since the last newsletter include a picture postcard of the Red Brick School dating to about 1955 a medicine bottle from Dr. Weishew's office in Oswego; and a World War I postcard from Clarence Murst.

The museum is open 8-12:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 4-9 p.m. Monday; and 1-5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. The museum is closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Direct Oswego area research queries to 630-554-4494 or email info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org. \$\vec{\pi}\$

Successful fall programming season wraps up...

With the let-up in Covid-19 restrictions, the Little White School Museum resumed limited programming in the late summer and autumn of 2021.

OHA Board Members Ted Clauser and Linda Heap Dean partnered, along with museum assistant Shawna Sullivan, to present "Oswego History Walk--Business and Industry" through downtown Oswego in August.

Those walks proved so popular that Clauser, Dean, and Sullivan created a new series of walks, "Oswego History Walk: Downtown Barns." The Oswegoland Park District provided a van to transport participants on Sept. 19 and Oct. 3 on a visit to the many urban barns still existing in Oswego. The walks were very popular, and more will be on tap next year.

On Sept. 11, the museum hosted "Boulder Hill at 65," a celebration of the huge subdivision's 65th birthday that in-

cluded a special exhibit in the museum's Roger Matile Room as well as a media presentation.

The annual Oswego Cemetery Walk, hosted by the Oswegoland Park District and backed by heritage association and museum research, was held on Oct. 7. More than 200 area residents enjoyed the tales told by "ghosts" of early Oswego residents at the Oswego Township Cemetery. For the first time this year, the walk was by reservation only.

OHA Program Chair Tina Beaird presented a program for family historians on Oct. 9 at the museum outlining the oncea-year opportunity to use Illinois State Library on-line databases for free.

And then on Nov. 11, the museum's annual "Remembering Our Veterans" exhibit officially opened to good crowds. The annual exhibit, canceled due to the pandemic last year, again filled the Roger



Oswego's wonderful collection of urban barns was the subject of two very popular history walks hosted by the Little White School Museum this past autumn.

Matile Room with hundreds of photographs, uniforms, and artifacts related to Oswego area veterans.

In December, be sure to visit the museum to enjoy the annual "Toys from the Attic" exhibit of vintage toys, holiday cards, sheet music and other items related to Christmas holidays past.

Park district funds Little White School maintenance and upgrades...



The Oswegoland Park District has been trying to get permission to install a mailbox at the Little White School Museum. In October, permission was granted and a new mailbox was installed. This will assure mail addressed to the museum at 72 Polk Street will make it to the museum. Previously, the post office refused to forward mail addressed like that to the museum's post office box.

During the past summer and autumn, the Oswegoland Park District has funded a number of maintenance projects at the Little White School Museum, making sure ongoing maintenance of the historic building is a top priority.

Money for the projects is generated by the separate Museum Fund real estate tax levy that is part of the Oswegoland Park District's real estate tax rate.

"Without the support of the Oswegoland Park District, for funding staff, maintenance and operations, the museum could not continue to operate," explained museum director Roger Matile."

Enhancements completed and planned at the museum during the current calendar year include gradually changing out the building's fluorescent light tubes with energy-efficient LED tubes; replacing the building's computer hub and wireless router; installing a mail box on the museum grounds; and adding a centralized dehumidifier in the museum's basement storage area.

The new mailbox was installed in October, and the new dehumidifier was installed in early November and was working to keep museum collections safe.

Also, thanks to a state grant, a new wheelchair ramp will be installed that will wrap around the 1936 museum addition to a new handicapped accessible doorway in the museum gallery. The new ramp will assure access to the museum by all visitors.

In addition, the Hilltop Garden Club has continued to brighten the museum's grounds—Heritage Park—during the past year by completely revamping the Heritage Garden along the park's east border with a new collection of heirloom perennials.

"There are flowers blooming there during just about every month during the growing season," noted museum director Roger Matile. "We really appreciate all the work the gardeners put in every year."

A major project planned for the coming year is installing a handicap accessible ramp to the museum gallery room, using grant funds..

"Without the park district's assistance, we simply couldn't afford to keep up the museum," Matile said. "This is one public-private partnership that's worked well.

Help us collect Boulder Hill history

Helping Boulder Hill celebrate its 65th birthday...



Driver Dugue Juan Pierre loads his passengers for a trip to downtown Aurora in 1960. Don L. Dise, Inc. sponsored the shuttle bus service in the era when most families only had one car.

In the summer of 1955, Don L. Dise, Inc. purchased the 716 acre Boulder Hill Stock Farms owned by the Bereman family, with the hope of building a new community mirroring those already under construction in Pennsylvania and New York by the Levitt family.

During the summer of 1956 utilities were brought in, roads were laid out, and six model homes were built. The first house at 22 Briarcliff Road at was sold in May 1956 to Mr. and Mrs. Bev R. Skaggs of Aurora. The model homes, two of which were completely furnished, were opened to the public in September 1956.

By the end of the year, 11 families were living in Boulder Hill, including Mr. and Mrs. Dise and their two children, who moved into the large Bereman house on the hill, and the A. C. Hydes, who had rehabbed the farmhouse.

On Sept. 11, the Little White School Museum opened a special exhibit, "Boulder Hill at 65: An Anniversary Celebration," recognizing Boulder Hill and its effect on the Fox River Valley. In addition, museum director Roger Matile presented a program on Boulder Hill's history based around the photographic record of the development created starting in 1956 by Bev and Ruth Skaggs. From the time the Skaggs' purchased their home, the couple took slides of Boulder Hill's development, a collection that Ruth later turned into a popular slide show she presented to many area groups.

As the years passed, Dise's vision of a complete community with schools, churches, and businesses was realized as the Boulder Hill Neighborhood Church of the Brethren and St. Luke's Lutheran Church opened, along with the Boulder Hill Market shopping center, and even a

McDonald's restaurant a few years after the U.S. Route 30 Bypass was completed and opened in July 1959.

Seeking Boulder Hill memorabilia...

For many years, the Little White School Museum has been gathering as much Boulder Hill-related historical material for its collections as it can.

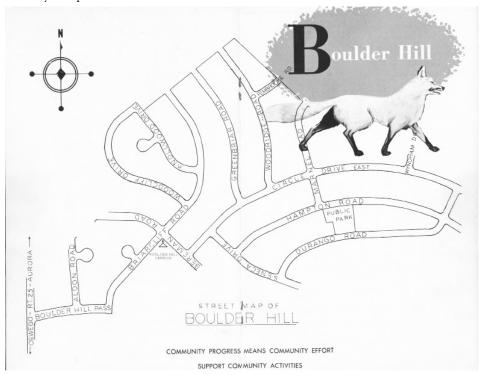
Among other items, the museum's Boulder Hill collection includes photos, a nearly complete collection of Boulder

Hill Directories, *Hill-a-baloo* community newsletters, home plans and sale documents, Dise, Inc. advertising materials; information, photos, and documents related to the Boulder Hill Playhouse; the records of the Boulder Hill Civic Association and a few other organizations, and more.

Do you have any documents, photos, slides, artifacts, or other items related to Boulder Hill's rich and interesting history including house plans, sale documents, or other items? If so, the museum is eager to acquire them for their collections.

"Our goal is to preserve Boulder Hill's story," Matile explained. "Boulder Hill had a huge effect on the entire Fox Valley. For instance, the first park owned by the Oswegoland Park District was SuzanJohn Park on Hampton Road, donated to them by Don L. Dise. We need to preserve as much of Boulder Hill's history as we can now while memories are relatively fresh."

To donate materials to the museum, call 630-554-4494 for an appointment. For more information, email info@littlewhite-schoolmuseum.org. **



Map of Boulder Hill from the 1959 Boulder Hill Directory, the first comprehensive directory of the subdivision published. The directories listed every residence, family members who lived there, and where the family's parents worked.

Oswego area themed holiday gifts available at the museum store...

Latest "Cat's Meow" historic miniatures on sale



The latest architectural miniatures in the OHA's series, manufactured by Cat's Meow, are now on sale. This year's featured miniatures are the iconic 1961 "Follow Us" sign to the Boulder Hill model homes, and the landmark Robert Johnston House at III. Route 25 and U.S. Route 34 in Oswego. The Boulder Hill sign encouraged visits to Don L. Dise's model homes off the then-new Bypass U.S. Route 30. When Robert Johnston decided to quit farming and engage in a profitable new career as a farm implement dealer, he had a fashionable four-square home built at what was the intersection of Chicago and the East River roads in 1907.

Two new entries have been added to the Oswegoland Heritage Association's Cat's Meow miniature Oswegoland building collection for 2021.

New this year are the iconic 1961 sign advertising Boulder Hill's model homes and the Robert Johnston House at Oswego's busy "Five Corners" intersection.

The Boulder Hill sign is offered to help celebrate the community's 65th anniversary. The first families moved into their homes on "The Hill" in the autumn of 1956. The new sign was designed to lure drivers on the then-new U.S. Route 30 Bypass to stop and see the new Boulder Hill model homes.

In 1907, Robert H. Johnston quit farming on the west side of the Fox River and moved into Oswego. He had a new home built in the popular "Foursquare" style at the intersection of Jefferson Street, Chicago Road (U.S. Route 34), and the East River Road (Ill. Route 25). Construction began in March and was finished in late fall. The Johnstons—Robert, wife Minnie, and daughter Floi—moved to their new home in December 1907. Floi, who never married, lived in the home until her death in 1971. Since 1971, the home, located at one of Oswego's busiest intersections, has

been used for a number of commercial purposes, most often real estate offices.

This is the seventh year Cat's Meow historic building miniatures have been sold as the OHA's main annual fundraiser.

Past buildings featured (most still available for sale) are the Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist, Korte-Zentmyer Building, the Hoze-Cherry House, the Chapman House, the Crothers-Jolly-Denney House, the Dairy Hut, the Schwartz House (Tripp Insurance), the A.O. Parke Building (American Male & Company), the Durrand House (The Village Grind), the Oswego Fire Barn (Oswego Cyclery), the Knapp Building (Masonic Hall-Oswego Family Restaurant building), the Rank Building, the Schickler Building (The Marmalade Tree and barber shop), the Little White School Museum, and the Oswego Woman's Civic Club's iconic "Welcome to Oswegoland" sign.

Each building facade is accurately rendered, and measures approximately 6 x 4 inches. A brief building history is included on the reverse of each miniature. Buildings are available at \$20 each. Proceeds benefit the heritage association and the Little White School Museum's operations.

Complete building sets offer a quaint,

and accurate, depiction of Oswego's historic architecture in and around the downtown area.

All buildings in the series are on sale at the Little White School Museum, 72 Polk Street (Jackson at Polk), Oswego.

Also available at the museum store is a selection of fine custom Great Bay Pottery Oswego marked stoneware, along with books and pamphlets on Oswegoland history, and books and videos featuring the Oswego area's home-grown environmental crusader, "The Fox."

Copies of *Oswego Township*, a 128 page pictorial history with dozens of historic images from the museum's collections are \$20 each. *150 Years Along the Fox: The History of Oswego Township*, *Illinois*, a 192 page hardbound volume is available at \$40 per copy.

By Trace and Trail, a monograph on the stagecoach era west of Chicago—including roads, stage stops, post offices and more—is available at \$10. Also available are monographs on aspects of Oswego history at \$1 each, along with a number of other local history-related books and pamphlets, including books and other items concerning Jim Phillips, the ecological hero who called himself The Fox, including "The Legend of the Fox," a video on both DVD and VHS about Phillips' exploits.

The museum store is currently open Thursdays from 1 to 5:30 p.m. and; Saturday morning from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Admission is free.

For more information, call 630-554-2999, or visit the museum web site at www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org.

Send in your OHA membership today!

Remember, all yearly Friend, Sponsor and Business memberships expire on December 31; our membership year is now the same as the regular calendar year. So if you haven't sent yours in yet, why not do it right now? We're counting on you!

We're always looking for more Oswegoland history to save

As they put exhibits together during the past year, museum staffers noted that the Little White School Museum's collections have some holes that it would be good to fill.

When they mounted the "Pollinators on the Prairie" exhibit, for instance, museum staff noted a lack of beekeeping equipment, documents, and photos in the museum's collections. This despite the fact that Kendall County was once a huge honey producer. In 1939, 26 farms in Kendall County produced 9,032 pounds of honey. Beekeeping helmets and nets, smokers, hive frames, and other items connected with the production of honey in Kendall County and Oswego would be welcome gifts to the Little White School Museum.

Likewise, when museum staff started putting the "Boulder Hill at 65" exhibit together, they encountered a lack of artifacts dealing with the subdivision.

"We have a fine collection of Boulder Hill Directories, a nearly complete of the old "Hill-a-baloo" community newsletter, and a fair number of house plans as well as Ruth Skaggs' wonderful collection of Boulder Hill history slides," said museum director Roger Matile "But we don't have many three-dimensional artifacts connected to Boulder Hill."

The museum is looking for everything from Don L. Dise, Inc. memorabilia to advertising materials from stores that were once located in the Boulder Hill Market.

"You'd think, as long as Grimm's Drug Store was such an integral part of the community—and not just Boulder Hill, either—that we'd have more memorabilia from them, but we don't." Matile added.

Matile also noted that when the museum began combing through its collections to create the "Milk and More" exhibit featuring Oswego's dairy industry past, staffers found several gaps in the collection.

"While we have a milking stool, we don't have a milk pail," Matile noted. "Nor do we have a old-fashioned milking machine from an area dairy farm."

The museum is always looking for items with direct connections to the 67

square miles inside the Oswego School District. If you think you might have something of interest to the museum, email info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum. org.

Moving? Changing your home or email address?

If you're moving, changing your home or email address, be sure to let us know so that we can keep you fully informed about how we're protecting and preserving Oswegoland's rich history. Send your changes to: info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org

Benefit the OHA and local history while you shop!



amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives

Do you occasionally buy items on Amazon.com's web site? If so, you can use your purchases to benefit the Oswegoland Heritage Association and the Little White School Museum. Here's how:

Go to https://.smile.amazon.com and sign in with your Amazon user name and password. For the organization you wish to support, type in Oswegoland Heritage Association. After you sign up and use the AmazonSmile site to shop, a percentage of your purchase will benefit the OHA and the Little White School Museum.

It would also be a good idea to bookmark the AmazonSmile site so you can easily go to it the next time you buy something. After you've used AmazonSmile a bit, the regular Amazon.com site will ask if you want to go to the same page on the AmazonSmile site.

Joining AmazonSmile is a quick, easy way to help support the mission and goals of the OHA.

Memorials create lasting tributes to family members and other loved ones

A memorial gift to the Oswegoland Heritage Association is an especially meaningful way to recognize friends, family, business associates, and special occasions, while at the same time supporting the collections, educational programs, and mission of the only organization dedicated to Oswegoland's rich history. All families have to do is make sure their funeral director is informed that memorials should be addressed to the Oswegoland Heritage Association, Box 23, Oswego, IL 60543.

During the past calendar year, financial gifts to the Oswegoland Heritage Association have been received from Roger and Sue Matile, Jean Kent, the Chicago Suburban Antiques Association, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kinnear, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Hinzmann, Sarah Skilton, Mr. and Mrs. James Back, and the Gleaners Antique Study Group in memory of Fred Mitchell; the Oswego High School Class of 1957 in memory of Linda Gates, Jackie Mundsinger Perkins, Dean Salmons, Charles Lippincott, Roger Heap and William Schroeder; and Cathy Cutter in memory of Robert B. "Bob" Cutter..

Memorial gifts to the Oswegoland Heritage Association are deposited in the association's Endowment Fund. While the principal of the Endowment Fund is to be conserved, the fund's earnings can be used for heritage association operations and activities upon vote of the OHA Board of Directors.

All contributions are acknowledged with a personalized thank-you note sent to the honored individual or family without reference to the amount of the gift. In addition, the names of the individuals being honored will be listed in future issues of *The Bell Tower*.

Free! Please Take One

Oswegoland Heritage Association Box 23 Oswego, Illinois 60543

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