



WILTON MANORS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORICAL NOTES

SEPTEMBER 2007

THE WOMAN'S CLUB

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Wilton Manors Historical Society

On July 10, 2007--following unanimous approval by the Planning and Zoning Board--the City Commission granted historic landmark status to the Wilton Manors Woman's Club building at 600 N.E. 21st Court, just east of the current City Hall.

The Woman's Club was chartered in the State of Florida and federated internationally in 1949. It originally gathered in the Village Meeting Hall on N.E. 26th Street, which is now the site of our local public library. As shown in this rare photo, ground for the permanent clubhouse was broken in April 1955 on land donated by Alvar Hagen. Seen left to right are Clayton Leaver, Alvar Hagen, Louama Leaver, and Virginia Hagen. Both Mrs. Hagen and Mrs. Leaver served as Presidents of the Woman's Club.

For almost 60 years, members of the Woman's Club have contributed to the civic, cultural, educational, and social formation of our city. They have supported innumerable philanthropic causes; and they have maintained their clubhouse solely through private means.



Newspaper articles

announcing various community initiatives, such Holiday Decorations, Memorial Day events, and barbecues listed who was on the committee to make it happen. Mr. X., Mr. Y.

Sometimes the "auxiliary committee" was announced. Mrs. X. Mrs. Y. These were the "stay at home moms" who made the community work. And, many of them belonged to the Woman's Club. In the 1950's, these were the women who were deferentially discrete behind

their pearls. They were driving the bus.

Times have changed. The membership aged and new members were hard to find. The Woman's Club hangs on with regular meetings, and card games, but as of January 2011, they have turned their building over to the City of Wilton Manors. The City has been able invest the resources necessary to maintain the building. In an era of intense development in Wilton Manors, it is good to know that some organizations and structures of historic importance to our city still remain and are recognized for their worth.

The Woman's Club still holds regular meetings and monthly luncheons. They continue to do good works. The Club always welcomes new members. Those interested in joining the group should phone 954-565-9867 or 954-491-5114.

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