

WILMETTE LIFE

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WILMETTE, ILLINOIS, MAY 2, 1930

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Wilmette Civic Association Seeks State Charter

WILMETTE THEATER IN GRAND OPENING SUNDAY

**New Motion Picture House
Offers Finest in Facilities,
Magnascreen is Feature**

The inaugural program of the Wilmette theater, located on Central avenue, will be presented Sunday afternoon. Final tests of projection and sound reproduction equipment were conducted late this week, following which the announcement was made that all is in readiness for the formal opening. The feature picture will be "Melody Man," a new production just released.

A new theater in every respect will greet the eyes of patrons with the opening of the doors for the housewarming at 1:30 o'clock. While the latest addition to the business family of the village occupies a building that formerly housed the Central theater, in exterior appearance only does it resemble its predecessor.

Completely Modernized

Started more than three months ago, the modernizing process has been so complete and so effective as to completely change the bearing of the house. Taste and simplicity are the keynote of its decorative scheme. Its mechanical appointments are the latest and finest offered by the industry. They are comparable in quality to the best utilized in the finest of Chicago theaters. These projection facilities even include the latest of developments in the motion picture art—the Magnascreen, by means of which the projected film is stepped up in size and given character not before possible.

While the opening of the new house is significant in itself, in that it marks the arrival of entertainment facilities within the village, it is particularly noteworthy because it marks the consummation in success of extensive effort on the part of local merchants to bring such an enterprise here. It likewise marks the termination of an interlude of well over two years since the closing of the old Village theater on Wilmette avenue. Centrally located, it offers accessibility not possible with other houses and should prove equally popular from this viewpoint with both adults and children.

Experienced Theater Men

The Wilmette Theater corporation, owners and operators, is comprised of Peter M. Kalleres and Phillip Adams, both of whom have been identified with the theater business in Gary, Ind., for the past four years. They are at present operating the Grand theater and previously operated the Cosmo and Tivoli theaters, all in Gary. The Tivoli is a new theater, built within the past year at a cost of three-quarters of a million dollars and is at present leased to the Publix Theater corporation.

Mr. Kalleres has been associated with the theater business for sixteen years, the last twelve of which have been devoted to the management of his own houses. He and Mr. Adams will personally supervise the operation of the theater here.

Newly Elected Officials Take Office Tuesday

Newly elected Wilmette Village and Library board officials will be formally inducted into office next Tuesday night. Three trustees, the Village clerk, Village treasurer and two Library trustees will assume their duties at that time.

Those who will be inaugurated are: Village trustees—Mrs. Ruth Hurd Snyder, Carl C. Renneckar, and Wilford W. DeBerard; Village clerk—Lea J. Orr; Village treasurer—Harry W. Miller; Library trustees—J. R. Harper and E. G. Bently. The retiring members of the Village Board of Trustees are Gordon Wilson, Albert L. Grinnell and C. Miles McDonald. In all other offices, the present incumbents succeeded themselves.

Following the procedure of past years, the present board will conduct its final meeting, during which routine business will be transacted. The new members of the municipal family will then be sworn in, the retiring officials will relinquish their seats in favor of the officials-elect and the newly constituted board will hold its first meeting.

It is probable that the meeting Tuesday will be attended by a large number of residents. Floral offerings in honor of the event will undoubtedly be in evidence and tokens of appreciation of their services to the Village will be extended to out-going members of the board.

Village Manager Streed, Kenilworth, Back on Job

Village Manager F. L. Streed of Kenilworth was back at his desk Monday of this week after an absence of more than a month and a half caused by a complication of ills. Mrs. Streed, who has been suffering with a severe case of scarlet fever, has returned to her home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Streed were at the Evanston hospital.

FIREMEN GET 4 CALLS

Two automobile fires, one prairie fire and one tree fire were responsible for the four calls that the Wilmette Fire department received during the week ending Wednesday, April 30. None of the fires resulted in any damage, Fire Chief Walter Zibble reports.

In This Issue

	Page
Amusement Directory	64-65
Automobiles	59-61
Book Comment	46
Boy Scout Affairs	44
Church News	66
Classified Ads	72-74
Club Activities	50
Editorials—Shore Lines	40
Home and Garden	52-55
Junior Life	56
Music Pages	42-43
Recreation News	76
Society News	48

Luncheon Club Moves to Broaden Scope of Activities in Community

**Plan to Make Organization Truly Representative of Residents;
Will Sponsor Positive Action in Village Affairs and
Bring Problems Up for Constructive Attention**

Steps were taken this week to give Wilmette a permanent and village-wide civic organization and to incorporate under the laws of the State of Illinois the "Wilmette Civic association."

The applicants for the state charter are Dr. D. M. Gallie, Edwin B. Knudtson, George Iliff, Dr. N. P. Colwell, G. T. Hellmuth, Hoyt King, Hayes McKinney, Herbert B. Mulford, Arthur B. Seibold, and Dr. L. W. Strong. The first three named of this group are respectively president, treasurer, and secretary of the Wilmette Civic Luncheons, which for more than four years has conducted a "round-table" on Wilmette and north shore civic problems. The other men make up the board of directors of the luncheon group.

Would Broaden Scope

The significance of the action this week, according to the organizers, is to broaden the scope of what heretofore has been simply a down-town lunch club so as to make it an association of Wilmette residents and property owners who will take positive action in civic affairs in Wilmette.

The lunch club now has a membership of over 160 Wilmette residents. When this group was organized over four years ago it was with the thought that Wilmette men who were engaged in business in down-town Chicago would like to meet once a month, get acquainted with their neighbors and hear discussions on live home civic problems. Since its organization this group has been addressed by many civic leaders on problems of village and school management, zoning, city planning, street construction, taxation, parks and playgrounds, grade separation, etc. Last Friday Village President Earl E. Orner spoke on past and present village problems.

Announce Plans

The scope of the enlarged organization is indicated by the following plans, which the organizers hope to carry into effect:

Addition to membership in point both of numbers and geographical location of members so as to perfect the representative character of the association.

Evening dinner meetings in Wilmette can be held quarterly or oftener if necessary when important subjects possibly requiring action can be discussed. These may be attended by women and guests.

Mass meetings of citizens may be held under the auspices of the association when necessary.

Continued monthly "round-table" luncheons will be sponsored by the association.

Appointment of standing committees on obvious civic subjects to which current and future problems may be re-

ferred for study and recommendation. Wide publicity is recommended on problems under discussion.

While the application for state charter is going forward a committee is engaged in drafting a new constitution and by-laws which will be considered at a meeting of the incorporators in Wilmette next Monday. After the finishing touches have been given this document, it will be presented to the members of the lunch club for their approval at their annual meeting to be held at Shawnee Country club Friday evening, May 23. When this approval is given the action will in effect convert the Wilmette Civic Luncheons into the new and incorporated Civic association.

Plan "Ladies Night"

Plans for the approaching annual meeting are to make it novel in the history of the group by having it "ladies night." The program, which, aside from a dinner, will include music and a prominent speaker, will be announced later. Election of officers and directors of the new association will also be held that evening.

Dr. Donald M. Gallie, who has been president of the Wilmette Civic Luncheons for the past two years, made the following statement regarding the action of the club's directors.

Favor Militant Group

"Many of the members of this luncheon group have felt for several years that a more militant organization would be of benefit to Wilmette. A need for it seems to exist at the present time. This group was already organized and running smoothly. It should be an easy transition from a lunch club with a large and growing membership to a live civic association of still broader scope. Such an association should be definitely responsible and obviously on a permanent basis; hence the incorporation.

"There are many questions asked by citizens regarding policies and actions of Village, park, and school boards. Frequently because of a lack of information unfriendly criticisms arise. Criticism is a good thing, but it gets nowhere if it is destructive and not constructive. I believe that a civic association with broad representative membership, divorced from business affiliations, and with aggressive yet conservative officers and directors, can study civic problems in an unselfish, non-partisan way, and that the results of their deliberations will be very helpful to citizens and to public officials alike. If such an association in its operative effort is successful in making sound recommendations public opinion in due time should give force to its judgments. It is hoped that the Wilmette Civic association will meet the confidence of all the residents of Wilmette."