

The Heritage Woman's Club

The Heritage Woman's Club of Germantown ("the Club"), was established in 1966, and has made significant contributions to Germantown and the Mid-South for over 40 years. They have, you might say, a gift for giving.

The Club, began with 18 charter members, and has been involved with the Germantown Festival's Arts and Crafts Marketplace since the festival's inception in 1972. Their "trash and treasures" sale began just one year before in 1971.

The main focus of the Club is Germantown. Chief among their accomplishments was raising \$32,000 for the renovation of the Germantown Depot. The members are extremely proud as the depot was on the brink of being demolished. Due to perseverance and eight years of negotiations, the Club persuaded the City of Germantown to allow them to restore the building to the 1940's design. The Club furnished the depot by scouring the Mid-South for railroad memorabilia, particularly Southern Railroad items. The dedication ceremony was held July 5, 1986. Ruth Thorsberg was the driving force behind the project. Members have continued their interest in the Depot by hosting a model train exhibit at the Depot on the first two weekends of each December.

Other noteworthy accomplishments have been scholarships to graduating seniors for the college of their choice. Over 100 scholarships have been awarded. The club also donated seven of the marble monuments to mark historical sites on the walking tour of "Old Town". Each year the Club donates monies to the area schools for their Arts departments and to local charities. Funding for the Club's many projects is provided by the annual Germantown Festival held at the Germantown Civic Center Complex, the first weekend after Labor Day in September.