

# TICKET



## A Tour of Homes

### *Preserving Appleton History*

Friday, September 15, 5 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, September 16, 10 am - 4 pm

\$10 per person for 4 homes & 2 gardens

Please: No smoking, no high heeled shoes, no cameras.



Sponsored by the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Assoc., Inc.



## 1 THE JUDGE'S HOUSE

707 S. State Street

Early city directories list this address as a boarding house site. Whether it was a previous structure or part of the house you see today is a mystery. What is known is that George Baldwin and his descendants occupied this house from 1891 to 1984.

Judge Baldwin had many professions during his nearly 78-year life. Initially, he practiced law in Stockbridge and Chilton. He also served in Chilton as Mayor, District Attorney and County Probate Judge. He was a member of the Wisconsin State General Assembly and elected twice to the State Senate. In 1875 George abandoned law in favor of real estate. He moved to Appleton in 1885 with wife Catherine and their two sons. At his death in 1907, his assets were an estimated 4 to 6 million dollars.

Current owners Candice Bradley, Daniel Byrne and their children John, Mark and Camille searched for an historic home for several years before Mark urged them to look at this Craftsman style home in 1999. Candice says she got just a short distance inside before knowing they had to have the house.

## 2 DAVE BLUMA'S GARDEN

621 W. Fifth Street

Walking through the arbor of Dave's garden exposes your visual sense to a color burst provided by an array of unique annual, perennial and tropical plants and bushes. Dave focuses on plants not normally grown in Wisconsin and through his plantings, strives to attract a variety of butterflies to the neighborhood. A hit on last year's tour, the garden is open again for your viewing pleasure.

## 3 THE MERCHANT'S HOUSE

505 S. State Street

For nearly 50 years the land on which this house stands was part of the George Putney homestead. In 1913 Louis C. Wichmann purchased lots 7,8, and 9 from Putney's widow and built a home.



Louis Wichmann was a prominent furniture merchant and undertaker. The funeral home, though no longer in the family, still carries the Wichmann name. A new building for the Wichmann Furniture Co. was completed five months before Louis' death in 1923 and still stands on College Avenue (On the Avenue, Art and Antiques). After Louis died, widow Augusta had the second floor of the home converted to an apartment. The house has remained a two family dwelling for over 75 years.

Current owners, Joe and Chris Vanderwielen, had driven by the American Foursquare style house many times and decided to purchase if the opportunity arose. In 1998 the house went on the market and, after they saw the beautiful woodwork, their dream became reality. Joe and Chris love the historic aspect of their home and may someday return it to a single-family dwelling.

## 4 JOHN and SANDY BARKETT'S GARDEN

409 S. Walnut Street

The Barketts say their garden, despite hard work, is truly a hobby that is a labor of love. Their back yard is filled with traditional perennials, roses and a variety of unusual plants and trees. This garden has been a featured stop on the community annual garden walk.



## 5 THE SHERIFF'S HOUSE

303 S. Walnut Street

A meat market originally occupied the space where this stately Greek Revival home stands. The house was built around the turn of the century on part of the market's original foundation for James Lennon, great, great grandfather of the singing Lennon Sisters (The Lawrence Welk Show). Mr. Lennon was County Sheriff and Justice of the Peace.

The Lennon Sisters visited the home and sang at St. Mary Church. John and Jacqueline Kennedy attended a reception here on a campaign stop. Visitors from other realms have been reported as well. A ghostly woman in white frequents a second floor bedroom too cold, at times, to use and a man in wing tip shoes appears on the first floor.

Mark and Mary Beth Laux were looking for a more spacious, elegant home when they purchased this one in 1976. At the time, the house belonged to Mary Beth's sister and was rental property. A deal was struck and the Laux family moved in, but for Mary Beth it wasn't the first time. When she was a child her parents moved the family in with her Aunt Mae who had purchased the house in 1949 after Clara Lennon's death. Mary Beth loves the history and elegance of her home and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

## 6 THE BREWERY WORKER'S HOUSE

523 W. Eighth Street

This stucco Prairie style house was built in 1918 for Edgar and Ancilla Walter. Edgar was the youngest son of George Walter and worked at the Walter Brewing Co. in Appleton. Edgar sold the home in 1926 to August Tretin and moved his family to Eau Claire where he became president of the Eau Claire Walter Brewing Company founded by George's brother John.

August Tretin was the owner of Bretschneider Furniture and Funeral Home. He and wife Elizabeth raised six children. In 1949, two years after her husband died, Mrs. Tretin turned the home into a duplex by enclosing the side porch and adding a kitchen and bedroom on the southeast corner. James and Elizabeth (Tretin) Long were the first tenants. Mrs. Tretin died in 1969 and daughter Rosemary Tretin purchased the home in 1972. Rosemary's earliest memory is of helping her mother plant tulip bulbs - when, for some reason, she decided to put one up her nose where it got stuck! She will never forget the buggy ride to see Dr. Ryan on Lawrence Street. Rosemary says her favorite things about the house are the family history and beautiful oak woodwork.

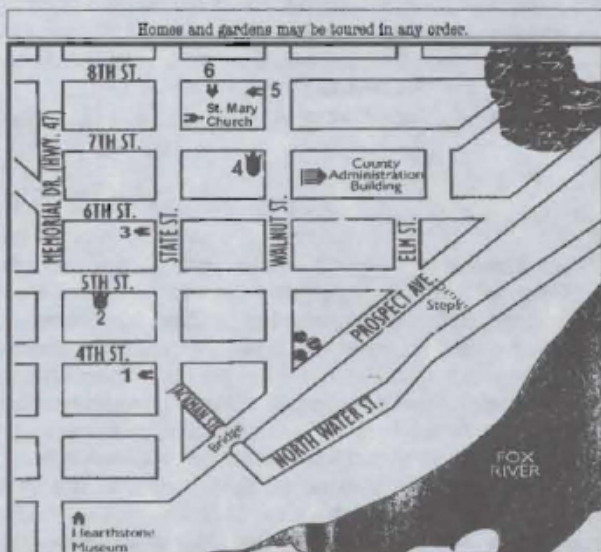


## APPLETON'S OLD THIRD WARD

In 1993 residents of the Old Third Ward, under the leadership of Frank Council, organized to preserve the homes and history of one of Appleton's oldest neighborhoods. In 1994 the Old Third Ward became Appleton's first incorporated neighborhood. Since its foundation, the Ward has been nominated to Wisconsin's "10 Most Endangered Property" list, and one of the most threatened Old Third Ward homes was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The organization helped develop Appleton's Historic Preservation Ordinance and works continually with city and county government, maintaining lines of communication and defining boundaries.

In 1998, the organization received the Lillian Mackesy Award for creation of the Old Third Ward Walking Tour Map and Midwest Living's "Hometown Pride" award for historic preservation. We are proud to share the history of the Old Third Ward and are equally eager to hear stories visitors have to tell.



OLD THIRD WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, Inc. is a not for profit organization that uses funds for preservation efforts.

Donations are not tax deductible. P.O. Box 2874 Appleton WI 54915-2874