



BROTHER MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL

*Holiday
Home Tour*

Special Thanks

ALISSA AND JEFF SCHMIDTKE '97
PATRON PARTY
438 HENRY CLAY AVENUE

JANE AND PHILIP CLARK '83
4104 PRYTANIA STREET

DR. KEITH LESCALE '79 AND HENRIQUE PARAIZO
CHAMPAGNE AND DESSERTS
2702 ST. CHARLES AVENUE

DIONNE AND JOHNNY PARKER
BOUTIQUE
5610 LAUREL STREET

*for opening their homes for the benefit of Brother Martin High School
and the Ladies of the Shield. The Ladies of the Shield Holiday Home Tour
benefits The Brother Jean Sobert, S.C.
Student Activities Endowment at Brother Martin High School.*

*Ladies of the Shield was formed with the intention of establishing scholarships in honor of
our husbands and sons as well as supporting Brother Martin High School, the
Brothers of the Sacred Heart, and their lay colleagues through your continued involvement in
the Brother Martin community. To inquire about membership and upcoming events
please contact the Advancement Office at 504.284.6700*

Special Thanks

BROTHER MARTIN BAND

Dominick Caronna, Jr. '85 (Moderator)
John Breaud, Patrick Donovan, Britt Hatten, Andrew Hays,
Ryan Laurent, Christopher Lindner, Henry Mehrtens, Jared Pelegrin,
Alexander Phillips, Josh Tournillon

CULINARY CRUSADERS

Donald Midkiff, Jr. '03 and Kathy Choina (Moderators)
Chase Alesich, Carson Kennair, Jacob Kinberger,
Bryan MacDowell, Kody Morris, Gavin Ruth, Daniel Winstein

STUDENT MUSICIANS

Jason Arena '21 (Oboe), Zachary Gonsulin '20 (Flute),
Paul Maestri '20 (Piano), Samuel Yuratich '24 (Piano)

Aidan Gibson '20 - Hospitality

Clayton Majeste - Associated Grocers

Kendra Scott

NOLA Gifts

Sandy's Kustom Embroidery

Reverend Michael J. Schneller '64 SA, Pastor St. Francis Assisi Church

Matthew Landry, Facilities' Manager St. Francis Assisi Church

ALISSA & JEFF SCHMIDTKE '97



438 HENRY CLAY AVENUE
PATRON PARTY

Welcome to the “Uptowner” located on Henry Clay Avenue and Laurel Street. Historically a vibrant commercial corridor, complete with a streetcar line, this neighborhood has since seen the conversion to residential living, where Audubon Park is now its main attraction. A few commercial buildings do still exist however, including the restaurants Clancy’s and Patios and the walkable Money Hill Cocktail Bar.

Originally built in 1909, the “Uptowner” served as a corner store with living quarters on the 2nd story and an attached auto repair shop at the rear of the home facing Laurel Street. Throughout the early 1900s the space served many purposes, such as a corner grocery, a sweet shop, and a pharmacy. During World War II, it briefly served as a manufacturer that produced rope for American boats. At that time, the streetcar line ran down Laurel. You can still view the old tracks today from Henry Clay to Audubon Park.

In 1962 the property was converted into a small event and reception hall known as The Uptowner. For several decades, until the early 2000s, the space hosted many events.

Some time after Hurricane Katrina, the City of New Orleans rezoned the building residential, and no further commercial operations would continue. In 2014, Jeff and Alissa Schmidtke purchased the building as The Uptowner reception hall and converted the property into a single-family home where they now reside with their two small children. The auto mechanic shop also saw a full renovation, as the lot was subdivided and sold.

High ceilings, hardwood floors, historic windows, and exposed brick fireplaces give the first floor space that old New Orleans character. The added spiral staircase is a clear focal point and lends the space that much needed ‘home’ feeling it was missing. The bricked courtyard along the side of the house provides ample outdoor space for crawfish boils, BBQs, and watching LSU, the Saints, and Pelican games. It is also a good spot to catch The Krewe of Thoth during Mardi Gras!

Both Alissa and Jeff Schmidtke have a long history with Brother Martin. Alissa’s grandfather Jim Villarrubia was a 1940 graduate of St. Aloysius. Her father, Jim Villarrubia, Jr., was a graduate of Cor Jesu in 1967; and uncles David ’70, Danny ’75, and Tommy ’80 are graduates of Brother Martin. Jeff, a member of the Brother Martin Class of 1997, was an active member in the Choir program, receiving District Honors his senior year.

JANE AND PHILIP CLARK '83



4104 PRYTANIA STREET

Jane and Philip Clark '83, longtime residents of Nashville moved back to New Orleans in 2018, along with their youngest son Bennett, a member of the Brother Martin Class of 2020. Still maintaining their home in Nashville, the Clarks searched for a home in Uptown New Orleans full of historical charm. Their search led them to 4104 Prytania Street. Jane, Philip, and Bennett love their New Orleans' home because it allows them to host family and friends and is in easy walking distance to fabulous restaurants, shopping, and the St. Charles Avenue streetcar.

4104 Prytania is located in Fabacher's Row, which was developed in 1892 by Lawrence Fabacher, a German immigrant and the founder of Jackson Brewery. Records show that he constructed six two-story homes between Marengo and Milan along the 4100 block of Prytania for just \$25,000.

During the last 128 years, 4104 Prytania has had many residents. Notably in 2005, the home was purchased and renovated by *The Young and the Restless* soap opera star Christian Leblanc. Leblanc's renovation of this three-story, 3,859-square-foot home with five bedrooms and five bathrooms resulted in an eclectic mix of beautiful Victorian details and contemporary finishes throughout.

The home is ideal for the Clark family of three. Comfortable, yet refined, the home provides a suite on the second floor for Bennett. The third-floor master suite, with a breakfast bar and a spa-like master bath is just for Jane and Philip. The Clarks also enjoy the two balconies fronting Prytania on the first and second floors.

The accomplishments of German immigrants in New Orleans are often overlooked in favor of the obvious Spanish and French influences on the city, but today thanks to Lawrence Fabacher, a developer, restaurateur, and president of Jackson Brewing Company, we have the beauty of his six homes that grace the 4100 block of Prytania.



*Fabacher's Row - photo of the 4100 block circa 1898
Louisiana State Museum*

DR. KEITH LESCALE '79 AND MR. HENRIQUE PARAIZO



2702 ST. CHARLES AVENUE
CHAMPAGNE AND DESSERTS

Dr. Lescale's career originally led him away from the city, but as every New Orleanian knows, one can never be far from one's heart for long. After his childhood home in Lakeview was decimated by Hurricane Katrina, he resolved to return to family and grow roots here even deeper than before. Dr. Lescale and Mr. Paraizo fell in love with the Garden District, and after renovating one other residence here, were fortunate in 2014 to find their true home at 2702 St. Charles Avenue. They are proud to share their home with you today, and they extend a warm welcome to all Brother Martin family, friends, and supporters.

This residence was constructed in 1965 and is affectionately referred to by surrounding neighbors as 'the new house' on the block. In spirit, however, the home predates that of its prestigious, late 1800s, next door neighbor. The exterior of 2702 is modeled after Chretien Point Plantation in Sunset, Louisiana, which was constructed in 1835. There are many apparent similarities with the original, including the six massive columns across the front, four arched windows on the ground floor gallery, central hall entrance, upper gallery, and solid brick construction.

The columns and upper balustrade were rescued from an antebellum home prior to its demolition in the early 1960s. Although the interior has a more traditional feeling, many of the featured architectural elements were also salvaged from antebellum structures in and around the city and are original to the home. Please note the fireplace surrounds in the living and dining rooms as well as the stained glass and crystal panel of the front door, which is reflected in the ornate design of the dining room service door. There are also two superb large oval stained glass windows upstairs, highlighting the master suite dressing room, and a third stained glass and crystal door at the end of the upper central hall.

The first floor of the residence is ideal for entertaining and is frequently filled with guests, much like today. The owners are passionate hosts of numerous home concerts and salons in support of both emerging and accomplished musicians, as well as non-profit musical organizations in the city. The concert grand Steinway piano is a prized possession and a favorite of visiting artists. In addition to anchoring the living room, it bears the signatures of celebrities and artists who have played it through the years, including Herbie Hancock, Chaka Khan, Ellis Marsalis Jr., and Marvin Hamlisch.

The owners are enthusiastic collectors of local and locally inspired art, a small sample of which is displayed for this tour. The antique ancestor portraits each bears some connection to the home or family. The dolls adorned with estate jewelry are part of a new collection of custom pieces curated specifically for Dr. Lescale and Mr. Paraizo, each bearing personal significance to them. As you make your way towards the rear of the house, you'll enter the dark paneled den, a favorite place of retreat for the owners and their family. Here, you'll notice several examples of more informal New Orleans scenes and landscapes to enjoy, culminating with the breakfast room's lighted curio cabinet, which is filled with an extensive collection of shoes from the Muses Mardi Gras Krewe. The shoes themselves are a vestige of another of the home's key advantages: it offers a spectacular point from which to enjoy the annual carnival pageant of parades, be it the front garden or the upper gallery.

2702 St. Charles was sold to the current owners by the family of its original designer/occupant. In 1965, the family had 4 teenagers, so the second floor is divided into five generous bedrooms with spacious storage and three marble baths. An exterior spiral stair once connected the children's upstairs area to the rear patio and deep in-ground pool, making this house a favorite of lucky uptown teens for many a year. The stairs have since been removed, and other recent improvements include exterior shutters, bathrooms and kitchen renovation, HVAC, security, exterior fencing, landscaping, and the beautiful front garden, which replaces an original crescent shaped drive.

Dr. Lescale is a second generation Crusader, following his father, Dr. Melvin Lescale, St. Aloysius 1946, and his brother Mark Lescale '77. It means a great deal to him that we all support Brother Martin and he hopes you enjoy your visit today. May your holidays be joyous!

DIONNE AND JOHNNY PARKER (JONATHAN '15)



5610 LAUREL STREET
BOUTIQUE

It is with great pleasure and an honor that we were asked to participate in the Ladies of the Shield Holiday Home Tour. We are proud of our home because it is a place where our family gathers and shares much love.

This home at 5610 Laurel has been a part of our family since the early 1960s. Ever since I can remember, my family celebrated Christmas Eve and numerous birthday parties in the lovely side yard. Growing up, I knew this house as the fun, happy party house where music was always playing and the smell of food was cooking on the stove whenever you walked inside.

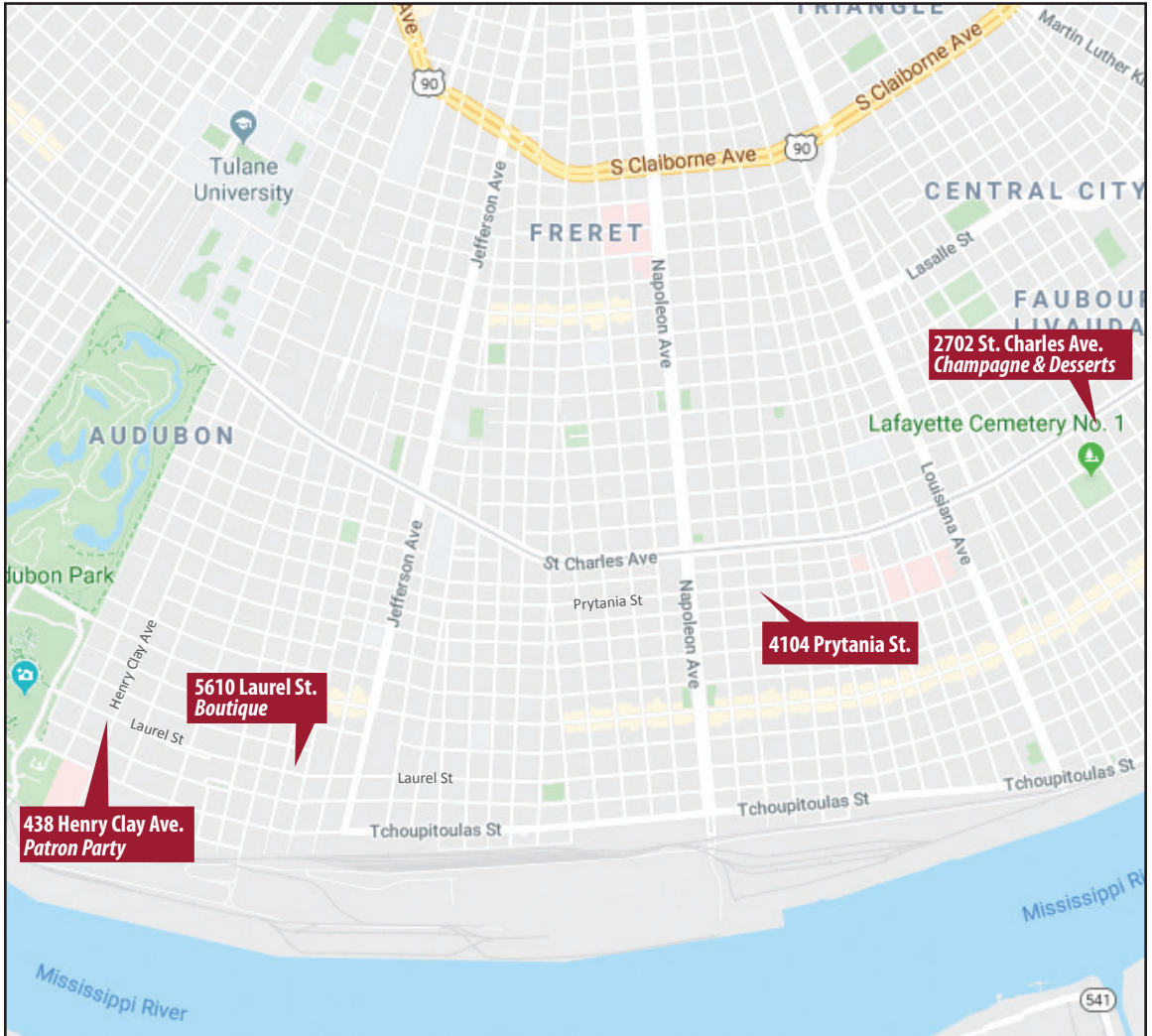
In 2011, I inherited the 750 square foot one story shotgun house from my aunt. My husband and I began an extensive renovation of the home, which took about a year to complete. The home was completely gutted so we could install all new plumbing, electrical, and kitchen. We raised the ceilings to 12 feet and added triple crown molding throughout the house. The hardwood floors, buried under several layers of linoleum and tile, are original.

The first floor has a formal living and dining room, half bath, breakfast room, kitchen, den, laundry room, master bedroom, and bath. My favorite part of the house is the addition of the galley style side porch with its lovely columns. A second floor camelback was added for our 3 children, Lyndsey, Kristen, and Jonathan '15 to have as their own living space in the house. The 2nd floor includes 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 baths, and a small study. The small 750 square foot one story shotgun, now 3,100 square feet, is the Parkers' happy, lovely, safe haven for our family to enjoy.

Simply, my husband and I decided to take on the major renovation of this old house so we could give our children a nice place to entertain their friends and to continue the tradition of family gatherings. Our children are grown now, but we enjoy seeing our children's friends come to visit whenever possible. We have been blessed to host several events at our home for Brother Martin students and their families. Our son, Jonathan '15 was on the football and baseball teams at Brother Martin. We had the pleasure of hosting a Brother Martin "prom" for the baseball team and their dates one year when the team was in a playoff game and the boys were unable to attend the actual prom. Since that first "prom" in 2015, we host an annual December Brother Martin "dirtbags" baseball team reunion for the alumni team members and their families at our home. It is a wonderful feeling seeing the Brother Martin boys, their dates, and their parents reunite each year in our home. This house is a bustling home filled with people and gatherings quite regularly, and it is fun.

We are happy to open our home to the Ladies of the Shield. Welcome to Uptown and Merry Christmas everyone!

Holiday Home Tour



*Please present this program
to gain entrance to each home.*