



Cousin Emma's Bed & Breakfast

501 South Main Street
Mt Airy, NC 27030
336-756-5656

<http://cousinemmas.weebly.com>

Autumn 2019

Have a sit down and relax in Mayberry.

What's News?

So another summer's easing its watch and some of the autumn color is starting to creep in all over the Blue Ridges. Its been a good summer in Mt. Airy. Tourists have been steady and eager to experience the magic and charm of Downtown Mayberry which starts only two and half blocks from Cousin Emma's front porch. I will be sad to see the end of porch-sitting season but we may be blessed with some more pleasant weather before the winter cold chases us all inside next to the fireplace.

I enjoy time on the front porch. Its a way to engage the community from the comforts of home. I have always liked houses with a proper front porch. It really is an outdoor room where I can relax, enjoy a meal, and entertain guests outside- and deal with unexpected visitors without letting them in the house.



I like to enjoy the nice weather while I read the newspaper or a book, and wave at people walking up and down Main Street.

Modern technology and today's busy schedules make it too easy for most folks to be anonymous and go about unnoticed. Back in the

days when more folks enjoyed front porch living, there was much more chance to socialize, exchange pleasantries and acknowledge others. I am blessed to be in a neighborhood where that still happens. Usually it's just a friendly little wave, sometimes its a brief conversation, and occasionally I have to bring out some refreshments and we settle in for a long "discussion." But even when no signal is made, there is a certain comfort to just seeing others and being seen.

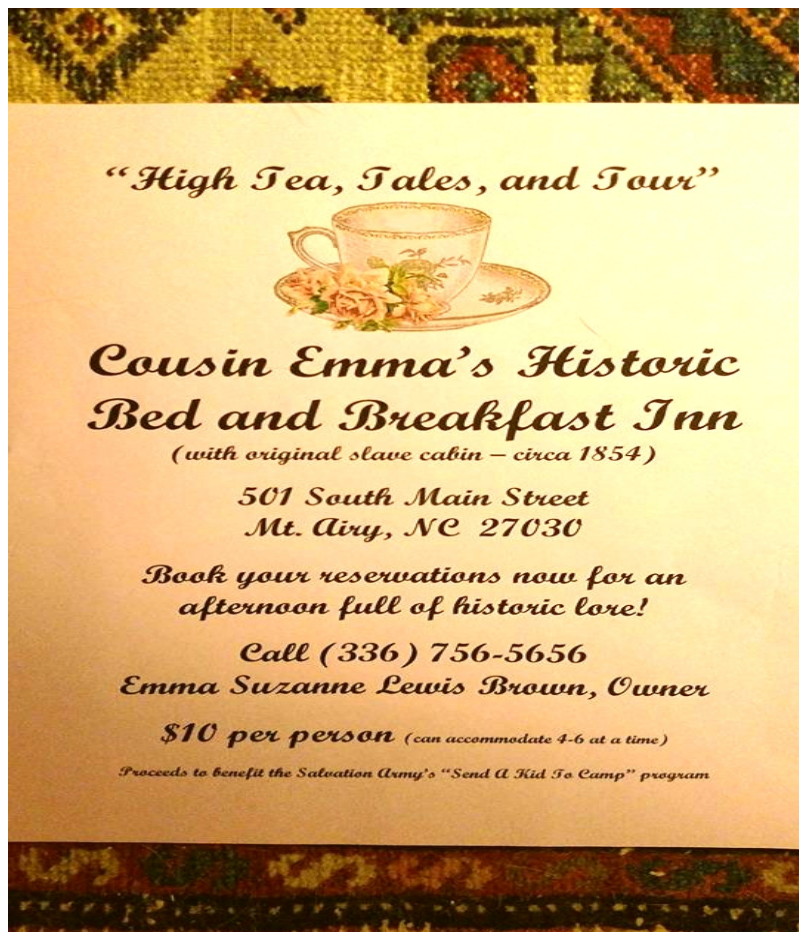
Sometimes the company is unintended. I can overhear my neighbors on their porches sharing stories, or receiving visitors, or sometimes having a disagreement. And I am sure they can hear some of the antics at Cousin Emma's. Maybe that helps me behave since a front porch is private living in the public view. It does give me comfort just to know that I am not alone. I share the block with my neighbors who are making their way in the world as best they can, just like I am. And there is comfort knowing that others in the world know I am here too. Community begins on the front steps; just step out and be a part of it!

Guests of Cousin Emma's Bed and Breakfast like the atmosphere on the porch. Some have a snack, sleep, read the paper, or just soak up the Mayberry atmosphere on the porch. And there is socializing too. One night, some of my guests sat up on the porch, called a friend who lives locally and commenced to sing til late in the night. (I didn't see any bottles, but I had a feeling they had been drinking downtown.) I told them that if the police were called for a noise complaint, I would claim they were trespassing. Then their local friend piped up saying, "I work for the police department!" So I went inside and left them to it and the singing wasn't half bad. Just some more fun on the porch at Cousin Emma's. I can't wait til next spring.

Visit Mayberry!

For Mt. Airy happenings,
check us out and plan a visit!

<http://www.visitmayberry.com/calendar/>



High Tea, Tales, and Tour

Well even if porch season is coming to an end, *Tea, Tales and Tour* will continue through the winter. You don't have to be a bed and breakfast guest to enjoy home-made seasonal refreshments, cookies, and refreshing tea while I share some of the history and stories about my antebellum home. It makes for a pleasant and lovely afternoon event. *High Tea, Tales, and Tour* is a lovely complement to a small, special occasion. I have hosted several small weddings followed by high tea. Advanced reservations are required! The price is \$60 for six people. Not only does High Tea give me the opportunity to share my lovely home, the proceeds fund the summer camp costs for a needy child.

Appointments are required and attendance is limited to six guests because that's how many will fit comfortably around the dining room table. Call 336-756-5656 to reserve your special afternoon event.

So I invite you to book a High Tea, Tales & Tours. Enjoy an old fashioned social call and peek at this season's holiday decorations at Cousin Emma's Bed and Breakfast. Last year several of the locals invited their friends and gave it as their Christmas present. Everyone came dressed for holiday festivity and had a great time relaxing for the 90 or so minutes here.

Of course each room of the house was decorated with a lighted tree and the porches were festive as well. I make Civil War Era gingerbread during the winter months and serve it warm with lemon sauce so good, it brings out "ah's" from everyone when they get their first bite. Once, someone stood up and stated it was her best Christmas present since back in her days of Santa visits!

Opie's Corner

Someone is not allowed on the front porch even though he bolts for the door every time a sun beam shines through the window. Opie, the less civilized of Cousin Emma's two cats, is our local orange rascal. His more refined sister is Kitty Kitty. She doesn't need to beg for attention like certain other characters. Cats don't come into guest rooms, but it's a full-time job keeping Opie out of anything. I have a mind to put that cat on a leash! He keeps things lively though.



Thanks for reading Cousin Emma's Newsletter. See you this Autumn in Mayberry!
<https://cousinemmas.weebly.com>