

Cousin Emma's Bed & Breakfast

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<http://cousinemmas.weebly.com>

Fall 2021

Have a sit down and relax in Mayberry.

What's News?

Well, in times of political turmoil, social change, climate craziness, plague, medical emergencies and technological “progress,” nothing offers so much comfort and stability as my front porch. This sanctuary in front of Cousin Emma's Bed and Breakfast has provided a welcome respite from some of the uncertainties of today's world.

As soon as the winds and snows give way to warmer weather, I greet the new day with my morning coffee and newspaper on the porch or enjoy twilight's effect on South Main street. When the summer afternoon heat and swelter try to chase me inside, pulling down the awnings blocks out the sun and channels the breeze through the porch and makes existence bearable. I can leave the air conditioned indoors and enjoy fresh air without frying like an egg on the sidewalk. A pleasant front porch is one of God's little blessings for which I am grateful.



In these times of plague and pestilence, sitting on the porch has helped me feel a little less isolated and shut-in. I have not accepted B&B guests for over a year, and I try not to go out unless it is



absolutely necessary, but this porch helps me avoid the deserted island-style of isolation that is so unhealthy. I can participate in the world and still feel safe and comfortable. When I do feel like visiting, entertaining on the porch (with its ample airflow and view) is both pleasant and safer than having people enclosed inside the house. Germs and bad news belong outside anyways; so much easier to sweep away!

Even though Cousin Emma's is closed to B&B guests, Mayberry tourists have been steady throughout the pandemic. They have visited the streets of Mount Airy regardless of weather or pandemic. Still, while safety is paramount, I am an innkeeper and I just have to entertain guests.

The least I can do, or I should say the most I will do under the current circumstances, is extend some porch hospitality. This

Visit Mayberry!

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

[http://www.visitmayberry.com/
calendar/](http://www.visitmayberry.com/calendar/)

summer brought extreme heat along with the tourists who blaze a trail past the B&B between downtown Mount Airy and *Wally's Service Station* to book a Mayberry Squad Car Tour. I placed a sign on the sidewalk inviting visitors to escape the heat with a short porch visit. Its a small gesture to give tourists a little flavor of Mayberry-style warmth and friendliness they can take



home with them. People often enjoy the chance to rest their feet and sit in the shade. They have been great and well-behaved. It warms my heart to know there are still people with respect and who appreciate a kindness. Folks continue to accept my sign's offer to come rock and rest on the porch and some leave little notes of gratitude and take my business card. Folks even straighten the pillows and tote out their trash. If I were nice I'd keep a pitcher of water and cups out there but then shortly someone would knock on the door to use the bathroom....There was one incident though.

On one of our 104°F indexed days, a man collapsed at my front walk and his companion went into hysteria and shrieking. I had to call medics who took them both to the ER I guess. The medics thought they were my B&B guests and that I was refusing to give their names, etc.....I kept saying I'd only seen him fall and heard her shrieking in distress so called 911. I hope they are both okay. I suppose they found out that walking through town on a hot day can be strenuous if one is not in good shape. Be careful out there, everybody.

Check out

<http://www.mountairydowntown.org/monthly-calendar.html>

for local events and

then book your stay at Cousin Emma's!

Find me at <https://cousinemmas.weebly.com/>

I am looking forward to the day when I can host B&B guests again, especially Wounded Warriors. Documented Wounded Warriors and one guest, get the second night free as my personal

thanks for their service and sacrifice. Due to a vast amount of heirloom antiques which little hands can't resist, B&B events are not small child friendly. Almost all the furnishings here are family heirlooms, inherited and long-cherished items with interesting and sometimes amusing stories. Both sides of my family were 'characters' and as the youngest grandchild, I luckily got to know so many of them....we had our childhoods together: my first and their second, and I was a captive audience who urged them to tell their stories. What an amazing thrill for me and when I look at or use many of these inherited gems I often laugh or at least smile at the triggered memories.

Stay safe and well and remember **Cousin Emma's Bed and Breakfast** at 501 South Main Street in Mount Airy, NC of "Mayberry" fame.....conversation and stories are big here and many guests make repeat visits. It is a suburb of Heaven!



Opie's Corner

Someone especially loves the porch guests. Opie is so desperate for an audience, he sometimes performs from his armchair "throne" in front of the fastened storm door. Visitors seem to enjoy his antics and they take lots of photos of the 17 pound lug. So rocking chairs and shade with the added novelty of a show-off orange cat pawing at the glass storm door make for quality porch entertainment in Mayberry.

Thanks for reading Cousin Emma's Newsletter. See you soon in Mayberry!

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