



Cousin Emma's Bed & Breakfast

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Have a sit down and relax in Mayberry.

What's News?

Howdy all! Mayberry Days wrapped up here after a long and rainy week. I'd say throngs of thousands have passed this house and likely hundreds have visited my porch to rest, rock in the chairs, etc., but thankfully, only three have dared to ring the doorbell. It was raining when the big, giant parade started on Saturday morning. I went out to check the porch just as a huge tour bus pulled up to unload their excited people who then lined up to get their photos taken with the outhouse! Someone saw me on the porch and yelled, "Can we go inside it?" I yelled back, "No, it's only open during winter snow due to the odor....sorry." Wish I'd had a video of all the nodding heads. I think they were from Ohio. Official helicopter fly over said 325,000 folks came through downtown Friday and Saturday.

Lots of tourists enjoyed my front porch and photos of the house and especially the novelty of the outhouse... many business cards were taken off the shutter clamp, and two notes left stuck in the storm door commenting on how "welcoming it felt here at 501 but sorry to not meet Cousin Emma in person."

Fall is painting bright colors with the leaves even after the sweltering summer we all want to forget; and that means fall festival season is upon us. Even now, the tourists are still cruising through Mount Airy from far away. I do enjoy visitors. I might not be so curious as

to visit their hometowns, but visitors bring a special energy and curiosity that reminds me that the world is wide and wonderful. They blow some fresh perspective into my little corner of the world.

In other news, I went a few days with no phone calls and then turned on the computer to discover the internet was out too. With no way to communicate, I jumped in the car to my service provider and told them that I was without service and asked if they could help. Either the receptionist really respects the elderly or I must have looked really pitiful because she sent the emergency repairman to follow me home on the spot. After he assessed the situation, he called me out back and showed me the scene of the crime...

I have previously mentioned the large groundhog who taunted Opie through the window and jeered at Ella Mae from its lair in the backyard. Well, he made his last insult by chewing through a utility wire and electrocuting himself in the process. When the technician exclaimed that no one would believe how big this groundhog was, I told him to take the carcass with him as proof. I am so glad he was kind enough to dispose of it for me. So I finally have my utilities back and my pets are free of harassment. Even after all of these years, life's ups and downs still surprise me. In the big scheme of things, this was not a big problem, but maybe the groundhog would disagree.

For Halloween, I layered up and went witching downtown in broad

daylight. I added eye make-up to my already dark circles and think I was a very believable witch. I gave out individually free wrapped yellow candy of some sort and told people to keep it warm and in spring it would open with roaches galore. One poor soul asked me if the piece really was some sort of imported roach egg....mean ol' me responded, "They're not imported, they are very common here in Mayberry." However,



my misbehavior was noticed by the locals. A man walking a Llama down Main Street- Yes, you read that right; a Llama. The man has a ranch of them and brought the nicest one to Main Street for Halloween. Well, the llama loved me and he followed me down the middle of blocked-off Main Street until his owner finally called him...pronto the Llama turned around and headed back....amazing to me, I think I want one here if they can be house broken.

One somebody asked me if city funds were paying me for coming down, etc. I responded "no, my cult wouldn't allow it." People continue to amaze me! I guess a delegation will come get me as soon as they have time after the holiday season is done.

Three frosty nights killed my calla lily things so I need to chop those down. I'm going to use the concept of Huck Finn and make it look like fun to get a few tourists to stop and help. November has been so dry, I could stomp them down myself if I could keep my balance but taking no chances on that.

Otherwise all is ok here....my raspy voice was good for witching but now am hoping it will rain and wash the air so I can get my normal operatic voice back (smile).

Check out Mayberry!

<http://www.mountainrydowntown.org/monthly-calendar.html> for local events and then book your stay at Cousin Emma's. Find me at <https://cousinemmas.weebly.com/>.

Tea, Tales, and Ghost Tours

I serve high tea with sweets in the formal dining room. While folks eat, I share the legends of the house, then they can walk through anywhere that does not have a guest napping in a guest room. I collect a donation per person that will go to send a needy local child to a week of summer camp next season. Call or email if you would like to schedule this special event

Due to a vast amount of heirloom antiques which little hands can't resist, Cousin Emma's BnB events cannot allow small children. Almost all the furnishings here are family heirlooms, inherited and long cherished

items with interesting and sometimes amusing stories. Reserve your special afternoon event soon.

A letter from a recent visitor:

Dear Suzanne,

Thank you for your hospitality and warm welcome. We immediately felt like we were visiting a friend we had known for years.

I liked the themed-rooms reflecting your travels around the world. I am not sure which room or ensemble on the walls I liked the best. All of them have an interesting story like the boar's head and the dancing and working straw people.

The beautiful gowns, shoes, handbags and hats are dreams of anyone who loves to fantasize about the special occasions.

We climbed to the top of Pilot Mountain. Once I got my breath, the view was magnificent. The information plaques were interesting.

Our trip was lots of fun and met all of our expectations and more. It was especially nice to be so close to "Mayberry" and the Festival. We hope to stay in touch with you and see you again one of these days.

Thanks,



Before you leave, I wanted to share this most recent photo of Boris the wild boar in his witchy splendor. He has multiple personalities and enjoys his 'costume' changes each season, etc. When big holidays slow up after the new year he

may be a drag queen until Valentine's.

Visit Mayberry!

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

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

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

<https://cousinemmas.weebly.com>