

# Cousin Emma's Bed & Breakfast

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

<http://cousinemmas.weebly.com>

December 2018

*Have a sit down and relax in Mayberry.*

## What's News?

Happy Turkey Day.....my do-for-others upbringing has kicked in



so I volunteered to go to the community turkey-and-fixings free lunch at the largest church in town where any and all are invited break bread together. I was the shuttle-driver last year picking up and giving rides home but I didn't have the energy for that this year. So, I sat and cut pies and cakes and laid them on on paper plates

for others to serve. The wonderful young man who sang for Cousin Emma's open house 2 years ago has remained in town and formed a huge kid's choir and they performed and helped serve from noon until three. Last year they ranged from about 3 to high school and were really into the singing and helping out big time.

Local restaurants and local donors contribute the food for the event. Melva Houston, one of my artist-friends, began the community dinner maybe twenty or so years ago but turned over the reigns last year when she was diagnosed with lung cancer. She is a jazz singer who grew up in Mt Airy and has performed all over the world....if anyone can beat lung cancer she will.....she is one of the nicest folks in town and a real doer. I have never seen her not smiling!

**Visit Mayberry!**

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

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

I enjoyed an all day, pre-Thanksgiving mini-class reunion with 26 of a rapidly diminishing group of childhood friends. Great fun, we laughed a lot and told tales and had varying memories of our many capers.

One smart-assed one suggested we play "Show of Hands" - like truth or dare without all the effort- We went around asking questions to see how we had all fared growing older. Some of the questions included, "How many of you wear a wig or a weave? Who is still with their original spouse? Who can drive after dark? Which of us only walks with a cane unless they are trying to get sympathy? Who can tell a joke without ruining the punchline? Who still wore their own underwear, had no hearing aids, and could remember where they were yesterday? Such fun folks but we're dying in bunches and are the last of the wholesome but mischievous Mt. Airy urchins of the early 1940-60s.

## High Tea, Tales, & House Tour



Enjoy an old fashioned high tea with sweets in Cousin Emma's formal dining room. Hear legends and tour the house.

The price of admission goes to fund a week of summer camp for a needy local child.

Tea, Tales, and House Tour is available most Sundays  
Other days by appointment

Attendance Limited  
\$10.00 per person

To schedule this special afternoon event,  
call 336-756-5656 or email [slewisbrown@earthlink.net](mailto:slewisbrown@earthlink.net)

We did, however, talk fondly, yet unmercifully, about each other and about some of our friends that had passed on. We remembered one of our number – he had been an old boyfriend of mine back in high school, who, before he passed, would set his dentures on the dinner table so they could smile at us while he ate. He found it easier to gum his food. We also recalled some tales from when we were kids. We remembered a high-ranked school official we called Blinky due to a vicious facial twitch that convulsed his whole face. Why he couldn't say good morning without making you feel the urge to blink and twitch back at him. We also recalled a former resident of the big house across the street from the B&B. He had one of the best and highest paid jobs in town, but he was crotchety and cheap. We remembered every year at Halloween, he gave out penny tootsie rolls which he would cut it in half with his pen knife and only gave one half for each trick or treater. When I told my parents how that old man was so stingy with the a toostie roll, they just laughed. Of course he was younger then than I am now.

Getting old is bittersweet. While bodies change and ache and get stiff, one can also fall back on fond memories of simpler days. The number of us friends who can remember all of those capers gets smaller, but the memories are always precious. We grew up in a supportive community where we could play and grow up safe. We didn't have cell phones or video games, so we had to

entertain ourselves with games, family, and community activities. I only wish today's young people could experience what we enjoyed.

### High Tea, Tales, and Tour

This holiday, I am donating two high teas for up to six adults to several local holiday fundraising galas with silent auctions.

This year, Cousin Emma's hosted several small weddings. It is a great space for a small, memorable afternoon event. Home-made sandwiches and cookies along with refreshing tea complement the history and tales about this pre-Civil War historic home. High Tea proceeds fund summer camp costs for a needy child.



*“High Tea, Tales, and Tour”*

**Cousin Emma’s Historic  
Bed and Breakfast Inn**  
*(with original slave cabin – circa 1854)*

*501 South Main Street  
Mt. Airy, NC 27030*

*Book your reservations now for an  
afternoon full of historic lore!*

*Call (336) 756-5656*  
*Emma Suzanne Lewis Brown, Owner*

**\$10 per person** *(can accommodate 4-6 at a time)*

*Proceeds to benefit the Salvation Army’s “Send A Kid To Camp” program*

### Opie's Corner

Now its time to get ready for Christmas. The usual charm and character of this antebellum house really come alive once the halls are decked. Of course some folks, especially Opie, think the decorations are for his benefit. It would not be so bad if he didn't try to climb and jump from the Christmas tree. Well he has not tried that yet, but we are only just now putting it up. Oh well, he looks harmless enough for now.

**Thanks for visiting Cousin Emma's.  
Happy Holidays and be well!**