

Our Personal Bed & Breakfast History

THE INN ON MAPLE STREET— PORT ALLEGANY – PA

When we decided to move from Wilkes-Barre to Port Allegany in McKean County to be closer to family, owning a 4,000-square-foot 19th century home was not on our list of things to do immediately . But while I was searching the local real estate options I came across a large, old house for sale on Maple Street, and everything changed.

When I called Jay to announce that I had found the perfect home that was too big, not practical and not in our budget, my husband sat down to figure out how to make it happen. Jay, who had worked with contractors for years in his former career, asked me if it was time for our retirement plans of owning a bed and breakfast to be put into action a few decades early. Our decision was *'go-for-it'*.

During our planning visits to Port Allegany it was revealed that a local widow known as Miss Lillian had lived in the home for most of her 106 years, (yes, you read that correctly) and during much of that time she had rented rooms to “school teachers of good standing”. We believed that this was a sign that the old Victorian home, which was in need of some TLC, would make an ideal home away from home for travelers. We moved with our family into our “new-old” home in the fall of 2000.

I laugh as I remember about the day when moving in, I realized that all of our furniture from Wilkes-Barre would fit into one large room. I turned to Jay and declared “I need to go shopping.” We became so well known at area antique stores and auctions that dealers would call us.

Meanwhile, Jay and our young sons went to work, wallpapering, adding bathrooms, refinishing floors and upgrading every room in the house. We created each of our guest rooms to be individually special. He added built in speakers for music in every common room. We installed high-speed internet wireless connection to the Inn. In April 2001 we welcomed our first guests, and since then we've never looked back. While I work full time in Bradford, Jay has taken on the role of Innkeeper. Our two teenage sons, who are now in college, help with running the Inn, especially during our busy season. Both now have years of experience with all aspects of the B&B and are part of the



team that makes this all possible for us and our visitors to enjoy.

For our guests I bake fresh each day for Jay to serve at our full three course breakfast. We believe that no one will go hungry when they leave our table. There's always snacks and refreshments on the side buffet with instructions to “help yourself”.

Specials and events are posted on our website for everyone who has an interest in exploring our beautiful area. These include visiting a nearby alpaca farm, a World War II museum, local concerts and summer festivals. The Inn is also a welcome respite for bicyclists and bikers who are following Pennsylvania's Bicycle Route Y across scenic Route 6...which is also the state wide Route 6 Artisan Trail.

We are both child and pet friendly with lodgings to meet our guests needs. We've decided the best time is when we host long weekend family reunions with three or four generations under one roof. The stories and history can't be any better than when it's all shared on our big front porch.

Here's our information:

The Inn on Maple Street Bed & Breakfast
115 E. Maple Street—Port Allegany, PA 16743
(814) 642-5171

www.TheInnOnMapleStreet.com
innonmaplest@verizon.net

We have both Guest Rooms and full Suites with private baths, queen and king beds. Our amenities include free wireless HSI, paperbacks, telephone calls, snacks and a full three course breakfast. We offer specials for military and long term stays. Our rates are \$79 to \$165. We're pet & family friendly and open all year.