

Estate & Vintage Jewelry

The story and the beauty live on



If you want to join in the reclaim, recycle and reuse trend, and have a love of all things beautiful, then head into one of the many stores in our area that offer estate, fine and/or vintage costume jewelry. You will find jewelry with unique designs and interesting history, priced at a value. It's the best kind of recycling – where the beauty lives on!



Dickinson Jewelers

Claude Dickinson of Dickinson Jewelers, with locations in Dunkirk and Prince Frederick, has been offering estate jewelry in his stores for more than 15 years. In recent years it has gained in popularity and become almost 10 percent of his business. Much of Dickinson's collection comes from customers and their families, but some pieces he buys at jewelry shows that specialize in estate jewelry. Many of the pieces in the estate collection are one-of-a-kind antique pieces that were family heirlooms at one time. Recently Dickinson obtained a diamond that was 200 years old. He placed it in a newly produced, vintage-design setting and the new owners were thrilled with the results.

Both stores have a large selection of distinctive estate pieces, but what you see is only a small percentage of Dickinson's collection, much of which is saved for an annual estate sale where he brings out his estate reserves and invites estate jewelry vendors to showcase their pieces. This year's estate sale is April 20-22 at both locations. Mark your calendars for this rare opportunity to shop. For more information call 301-855-8770 (Dunkirk) or 410-535-4338 (Prince Frederick).

Maertens Fine Jewelry

Maertens, located in Lusby, also hosts events where the store brings in vendors that specialize in estate jewelry. Unfortunately they have not scheduled their next show. But not to worry; they now offer an estate showcase. Started a little over a year ago, owner Heather Maertens finds it to be very popular with her customers. She said she gets the pieces from her current customers, who bring in jewelry that is beautiful but hasn't been worn in years. It's a great way for her customers to trade up the jewelry that they rarely use and have outgrown. Maertens said, "Customers buying the jewelry really like knowing the story behind the piece they are buying, and appreciate the value they are receiving." Many of the pieces are up to 40 percent off what they would have

been if they were new. She said it is a great way for customers to get designer pieces at a discount. Right now in the showcase you will find pieces from Charles Krepel, Gabriel, Levian and David Urman, as well as custom



pieces. Maertens also has pieces of jewelry that she creates using vintage components. She uses 100-year-old mother of pearl gambling coins to create unique pendants. To find out more, call 410-394-3990.

The Apple Basket

The Apple Basket, located in Mechanicsville, has been selling estate jewelry for the past 25 years. Owner Charlene Tsirigotis said that her customers come in the store to sell pieces of jewelry left to them, or pieces they no longer wear or want. She offers a large collection of gemstone, gold and silver rings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, and earrings that people will often buy for their loved ones. Or, as Tsirigotis explained, "They may just buy a gift of jewelry for themselves."

Tsirigotis said many customers will come in looking for engagement rings, which can be purchased at a great discount. The Apple Basket also offers a large selection of vintage costume jewelry, including pearls, brooches, necklaces, earrings and bracelets that are made from beads, rhinestones, enamel and more. For additional information on the large selection of jewelry available at The Apple Basket, call 301-884-8118.

Simply Vintage

You'll also find a great selection of vintage costume jewelry at Simply Vintage, located in Huntingtown. Jewelry designer and vintage vendor Lynn Dove creates one-of-a-kind necklaces, earrings and bracelets out of vintage pieces she has collected. She combines the old and the new to create beautiful, unique and fun jewelry. These pieces have a story and a bit of glitz. They are made from vintage beads, rhinestones and other antique objects. She even has some necklaces made from antique spoons! To find out more, call 443-404-9692.



These are just a few of the stores in our area offering estate and vintage jewelry. Many of the antique and vintage stores listed on page 43 also have great jewelry options. Wherever you do your shopping, you can't go wrong buying estate or vintage jewelry. It's my favorite type of recycling!•