UNIQUE AND FUN SHOPS TO VISIT

The Big Chicken Barn Books and Antiques: From 19th Century armoires to books on Zen, the Big Chicken Barn caters to the interests of today's collector of antiques and paper collectibles. Over 21,600 square feet of floor space holds an ever-changing and diverse selection of intriguing items

BOOKS & ANTIQUES

displayed for unhurried and unhindered browsing. They have everything ranging from porcelain, pottery, silver, tin ware, brass, jewelry, fabric, needlework, glass, china, flatware and furniture. You will also find models of sailing vessels, clocks, toys, old trucks, old tools, bottles, prints, paintings, candlesticks, lamps and other lighting devices and much more! They also have Maine's largest selection of books with more than 90,000 rare books, old books, first editions, collectible newspapers, posters, broadsides, pamphlets, magazines, charts, and other paper antiques. Hours:

Open daily year round from 10:00 to 5:00. Call for extended hours during the tourist season. Located between Ellsworth and Bucksport on Route 1. www.bigchickenbarn.com. (207) 667-7308.

Blue Hill Pottery (aka Rackliffe Pottery): In a shady grove overlooking Blue Hill Bay, the Rackliffe Family forms native clay into objects of real utility and charm. Spanning three generations, this 100% family business has been making pottery in Blue Hill since 1968 when Philip and Phyllis Rackliffe started the business. With over 20 years experience working as potters, the Rackliffe Family has great pieces of work that they would love to share with you. **Hours:** Open Monday thru Saturday 8:00 to 4:00 year round. Located in Blue Hill. www.rackliffepottery.com. 888-631-3321



Island Artisans: Bar Harbor's most complete selection of quality arts and crafts by over 75 of Maine's leading artisans. Their unique collection can now be seen in two locations: the original Bar Harbor Shop and a gallery in Northeast Harbor. Some of what they specialize includes textiles, pottery, baskets, paper, wood, glass, silver, stone, and metal. Hours: Check their website,

www.islandartisans.com, for hours. (207) 288-4214



The Argosy Gallery is located in beautiful Bar Harbor, Maine. Browse their downtown location or their website, www.argosygallery.com, for available paintings, which emphasize the scenic beauty of Maine's Coast, Mt. Desert Island, and Acadia National Park. The gallery's approximately 36 artists either reside in Maine or come to paint here from elsewhere in the U.S. They are among the finest living artists capturing for posterity the beauty of this area in American traditional and impressionist styles. (207) 288-9226.

Lisa Hall Jewelry: Unique jewelry made from sea glass. Studio is located in Northeast Harbor. www.lisahalljewelry.com. Call (207) 276-5900 for hours.

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Pyramid Studios: Looking for a good jewelry store? Pyramid Studios is an independent local jeweler who is located in Ellsworth, the crossroads of Downeast Maine and the gateway to Acadia National Park. They have been making custom jewelry for over fifteen years. Dave and Don Harrington with



partner Denise Hue specialize in creating one-of-a-kind pieces that are truly works of art. **Hours:** Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 to 5:30 and 10:00 to 4:00 on Saturday. <u>www.pyramid.ws</u>. (207) 667-3321.

Wendell Gilley Museum: Founded in 1981, the Wendell Gilley Museum of bird carving is the major showcase for the work of a world-renowned bird carver. Wendell Gilley, a Southwest Harbor native,

Definitely a must see for anyone interested in birds or carving. **Hours:** May, November, and December 10:00 to 4:00 on Friday thru Sunday. June, September, and October 10:00 to 4:00 on Tuesday thru Saturday. July and August 10:00 to 5:00 on Tuesday thru Saturday. www.wendellgilleymuseum.org. (207) 244-7555.

Blacksheep Trading Company: Looking for a handmade wool sweater? How about some moccasins? Blacksheep has wool sweaters, sheepskin slippers and mittens, sheepskin auto covers, moccasins, leather and sheepskin hats, sheepskin rugs and throws, cowhides, rabbit skins, and much, much more. Located in Ellsworth. **Hours**: 10:00 – 6:00 May 15 – September 20. Call for more information. www.blacksheeptrading.com. (207) 664-7474.



E.L. Higgins Antique Wicker: E.L. Higgins is Maine's largest antique wicker dealer. You can find the largest, most varied highest quality antique wicker furniture. They stock between 400 and 500 pieces of the finest antique wicker furniture. Their items date from the 1860s to the 1940s, and many of them are signed pieces from the largest makers of the periods, such as Heywood Brothers, Wakefield



Rattan Company, Heywood/Wakefield Company and Whitney and Reed Company. After many years in Bernard, they closed that shop and are now located on the web and at 270 Main Street in Southwest Harbor. If you like antiques, this is a must see. **Hours**: Open by call, glad to let you come browse around. www.antiquewicker.com. (207) 244-3983.

US Bells is a small foundry in Maine specializing in the production of cast bronze bells. The U.S. Bells Store is located beside their foundry in Prospect Harbor and is open year round 9:00-5:00 Monday thru Friday. Also, you sometimes can schedule a tour to view the making (pouring) of the bells. www.usbells.com. (207) 963-7184.

