

Gear Up for the Festival Season with Our Annual Guide!

Appalachian COUNTRY

Vol. 6 Issue 6 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010

www.acmagazine.org

Imagine!

A Quality Consignment Store

A Marbleous Tour

The Once a Year Event

Preserving the Summer

Recipes to Keep Summer in a Jar

Poole's Barbecue

A Landmark on 515

North Georgia's

2010 Festivals & Events

*Whether it's Riding Railroads, Shopping for
Gifts or Eating Fresh Food, there's a Festival in
North Georgia for Everyone!*

by Jillian Daniels

Imagine!

*I*magine a consignment store that offers upscale furniture and home accessories—all stylishly displayed in over 5,000 square feet of professionally decorated space. It's all at Canton's Fun Finds and Designs, a different kind of consignment store.

A Different Kind of Store

Fun Finds' beautiful



store is located right behind the historic Dairy Queen—a landmark in the Canton area since 1953.

Fun Finds is brimming with upscale furniture and home décor items.

"People are always surprised at the quality of our consignment," smiles the owner Betty Anderson. "We often hear 'This is Consignment?' from our newest customers, because we are very selective with our



merchandise." With over 600 individual consignors so far, Fun Finds and Designs has a steady supply of new items literally arriving daily.

Personal Contact is Important

Betty certainly believes in personal communication with anyone who becomes a seller. "We're specially connected with all our consignors," she emphasizes. "Sometimes items come in that are very personal in nature—the result of an estate sale or an unexpected requirement to downsize—we try to make the transition as easy as possible and with

This isn't just a business. It's a people-to-people kind of life.

understanding of the persons individual circumstance."

Consignors are even able to get on the Fun Finds' website any time and see the status of their items and how much their next check will be. It's an amazing communication tool to keep consignors informed about their account at all times.

Another thing that makes Fun Finds and Designs stand out from other consignment stores is its relationship with its' customers. "This just isn't another business," Betty asserts. "It's a people-to-people kind of life" and Betty and her staff go to extra lengths to maintain that bond.

Reaching Customers

With over 1400 customers registered to date, regular customers constantly are stopping by to shop and to view the newest merchandise. The friendly staff is always available to answer questions and help solve decorating dilemmas and the customers can also take the opportunity to get their personal Frequent Shopper Card stamped. The Frequent Shopper Card is another innovation Fun Finds introduced to reward their clients loyalty. Once the card is filled, it can be used for an additional discount on the already low priced merchandise.

To stay in touch with her customers, Betty uses an email newsletter to alert people about sales, new items and store events and the Fun Finds' website is constantly updated with pictures of new additions and informative





Owners Betty and Terry Anderson

information for the homeowner.

All the staff at Fun Finds and Designs have retail or estate sales experience. So, they can bring knowledge and experience to the customers.

Interior Decorating Made Easy

Betty and Donna Honkomp are the two interior designers in the store and they work hard at making a customer's shopping experience a delight.

To further help customers find the perfect home décor, Betty and her staff offer free design workshops every other month on different home topics. The evening is always complimented by cheese, wine, chocolates and coffee. "There are usually 50-85 people each time," smiles Betty. "We always have such a good time."

For those who need individual help, customers can bring in photos of their home or the room that needs decorating and Betty does FREE consultations in the store. She also does in-home consultation and complete interior design services for those wishing to have a totally professional touch.

Moving Merchandise

Another Fun Finds' trademark is to provide speedy clearance of items and give customers the best possible deals, so every 30 days an item sits in the store the price drops another 10%. There is even a 50% discount corner for the real bargain shoppers!

Betty has personally been in business since 1983 as an interior designer and five years ago, she and co-owner Terry, her husband of 44 years, moved to Canton from the Roswell-Alpharetta area. "I've always shopped consignment and I realized when we moved into this area that there was very little in the way of interior design shopping," says Betty. They decided to try

and fill that void by completely remodeled a 50-year-old building behind Dairy Queen.

Opened in March of 2009, the store is thriving. In the middle of a



Fun Finds has a wide selection of merchandise to suit any taste.

