

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



History of the Brighton Area Historical Society's Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale

In early 2017 at the Brighton Area Historical Society's Annual Meeting during the "Call to Order" portion of the meeting, Vicki Vichich offered the idea of a fundraiser she called a "Vintage Jewelry Sale". The idea originated from a meeting at the University of Michigan where there was a used jewelry sale in the lobby where the meeting was held. After her mother's passing, Vicki had a lot of costume jewelry from her mother and thought this would be a way of using the jewelry to raise funds for the historical society. Vicki has a background in the making custom jewelry and some knowledge of the jewelry business. She suggested that she would assembly a team to clean, repair, price and tag each donated items received from the Society's members and the community. (Original Team members: Vicki Vichich, Judith Coebly, Sue Zimmerman) The Society would then in the spring around the "Ladies night out in Brighton" hold a sale at CoBACH and see what happened.

Surprise, Surprise we had nearly 5000 items donated, a very large turn-out and sold more than we thought possible. The sale was again held in 2018 and 2019. The pandemic shut us down in 2020 and 2021. In early May of 2022 were we again up and running as we were in 2023 and 2024. Last year, 2025 was our highest grossing year and saw our largest attendance.

To make this event successful it takes a very dedicated group of volunteers that work a large number of hours preparing the donations of bracelets, necklaces, rings, watches and earrings, etc. for sale. A crew then does the set up at CoBACH and another large crew puts in many hours running the sale.

The 2026 Vintage Jewelry Sale will be led by Beth Ferreyra. This will be Beth's second year to chair the event. Vicki and her crew are still very involved, researching, cleaning and packaging donated jewelry. **The Event will be May 2nd through May 8th at the CoBACH Center 202 Main Street next to the Mill Pond.**

Proceeds from the jewelry sale are used to support the operations of the Brighton Area Historical Society in funding historical preservation projects, maintaining historical sites and our museum, organizing educational programs and engaging the community in celebrating and learning about Brighton's rich history.

The success of the Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale depends on the generosity of community members. If you have vintage, antique, or contemporary jewelry you wish to donate, your contribution will help support the preservation of Brighton's history and enrich the event's offerings. To donate jewelry, contact Nancy Fredenburg at 517-304-5044 for any questions or to arrange a pickup. Your support is greatly appreciated and will make a meaningful difference.

(Thank you to Jerry Damon for assembling the history of the jewelry sale.)

