

# Do you know the Metal Man?

BY MARY SHUSTACK

**M**aria White of Pelham was doing some renovations on her 1915 home.

The windows' brass hardware had long been painted over, and she wanted the latches and locks restored to their original splendor.

"To clean this myself would be impossible," she remembers thinking.

One night soon after, White was driving down Fifth Avenue in Pelham and saw a new storefront.

Within days, she had paid her first visit to Metal Man Restoration.

In the few months since that spring evening, White has had Metal Man restore not only her locks and latches, but an antique door knocker, entry light and silver teapot as well.

Next up is a crystal chandelier.

White says she's pleased to have finally found a reliable metal restoration company that provides old-fashioned service.

"It's such a unique thing," she says. "There are really, really so few people that can do it ... It's a dying art."

Sentiments like White's are what Metal Man

Anthony Guglielmo count on, as the special

service continues to carve out its niche. The men have worked together for the past few years, out of a workshop in Pelham, but it was just last spring that they moved to the new location.

Guglielmo have combined their experience as electrical technicians, locksmiths and metal crafters and fabricators to offer a range of services.

They polish and plate. They remove

Above, antique door-knobs fill a bin and right, metal keyholes being restored for a Victorian home.



rust and restore finishes. They re-wire and re-tin. They solder and weld.

They do this on brass, aluminum, copper, pewter, stainless steel, silver and bronze.

"We do a lot of things that are a dying craft," says Guglielmo. "We're basically like a one-stop metal shop."

The small showroom is filled with examples of their work.

Doorknobs sit side-by-side, lining the counter. They have been stripped and refinished. There is the high-polished one and the satin one, the chocolate-brown one and the antiqued-brass one. These are examples; will work to accommodate a customer's request.

spends a few minutes finding the leak in a vintage cocktail shaker, while Guglielmo shows off an old coal scuttle. Once the paint and rust is removed, the piece is destined for a second life as a dec-

### If you go...

Metal Man Restoration is at 446 Fifth Ave. in Pelham. The hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. Call 914-738-7773 or visit [www.mmresta.com](http://www.mmresta.com).

orative object.

And then there is the ongoing work for a Victorian house in Garrison. The owner is constantly stopping by with more hardware to be spruced up as his renovation continues.

Metal Man continues to seek out more business. Items arrive in the mail from other states, with the company's detailed Web site bringing in plenty of business. And the partners have made appearances at local antiques shows, offering tips on restoration and preservation.

As Guglielmo says, people can



easily find places to have their furniture reupholstered, but when it comes to metal, it's not so easy.

"Metal finishing is a lot rarer," he says. "I always get people who come up to me and say 'Oh wow, you do this.'"

And he's happy to confirm that yes, he does. ■

**Anthony Guglielmo** the owner of Metal Man Restoration in Pelham. Above, antique door hardware. Below, doorknobs demonstrating different finishes include, from left, weathered brass, chocolate-brown, copper antiqued, high polish with lacquer, high polish, blackened copper and sand-blasted natural steel.

