

should not be left in that condition. My gift to you here is a gentleman/artisan named Adrian Kirchler of [www.akdrums.com](http://www.akdrums.com) in South Tyrol, Italy. Go to Adrian's website and look under "Restorations" and you will see the before and after of 5 deluxe/engraved shells that Adrian has brought back to life for me and many other fellow collectors. These are rare drums that deserve to be brought back to life. Besides the excellent quality of the shell restorations (and hole plugging) there is this added bonus – and this is of major importance to vintage snare drum collecting – that the original engraving on all 5 shells has not been re-etched in any way. As you'll see from the website photos Adrian applies some type of "red clay, rouge, putty" to the engraving before he re-blackens the shell then washes off the "red clay, rouge, putty" after the shell has been re-blackened and there you have it, a restored shell with the original engraving untouched and intact. I really believe this is a major accomplishment in the art of metal shell restoration; I wish I knew how to do that. On the lighter

