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LET THE SUNSHINE IN

It's time to pull back those upscale draperies and shutters

BY EILEEN WATKINS

Now that spring has arrived, you probably feel like pulling back the drapes and welcoming the sun into your rooms. For ideas on how to brighten up your home, consult the experts at Metropolitan Window Fashions (formerly Nassaus).

You may want to swap your sheers for the new "café" shutters from Kirtz Custom Hardwood Shutters. These handcrafted, plantation-style shutters let in light from above while maintaining your privacy at eye level. Metropolitan Window Fashions showcases these and many other shutters, blinds and shades, including an entire Hunter Douglas Window Fashions Gallery. For curtains and draperies, the store also offers more than 5,000 fabrics – many by designers such as Ralph Lauren and Laura Ashley – at discount prices.

You can choose from ready-made window fashions starting at \$20 per panel, along with decorative tassels, trims, window hardware and accessories. If you wish, a Metropolitan Window Fashions designer will help you review your options, visit your home with samples, and measure, create and install your new window treatments. Furniture reupholstery and slipcover services are available to help you achieve a coordinated look.

The store also offers a free



PHOTO COURTESY OF NASSAUS METROPOLITAN WINDOW FASHIONS

Nassaus Metropolitan Window Fashions dresses up a dining room window with café shutters from Kirtz Custom Hardwood Shutters and panels and a swagged valance in plaid silk.

seminar for newcomers' clubs and women's organizations, called "Windows, Wine and Cheese: The Ten Steps to Decorating a Perfect Window." The program focuses on ways to "dress" your windows beautifully while dealing with issues of energy efficiency, light control, sound absorption, privacy and security. Held at Metropolitan Window Fashions, the seminar is available to groups from Bergen, Essex and Passaic counties. To schedule one, contact Cathy Guterman at 646-429-8969

or e-mail her at cgpr61@aol.com.

For a free shop-at-home appointment, call (Nassaus) Metropolitan Window Fashions at 201-689-6030 or visit the store at 770 Route 17 North, Paramus – just north of the Ridgewood Avenue exit, and next door to Victor's House of Music. Store hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday.

*Eileen Watkins is Home-
scape editor.*