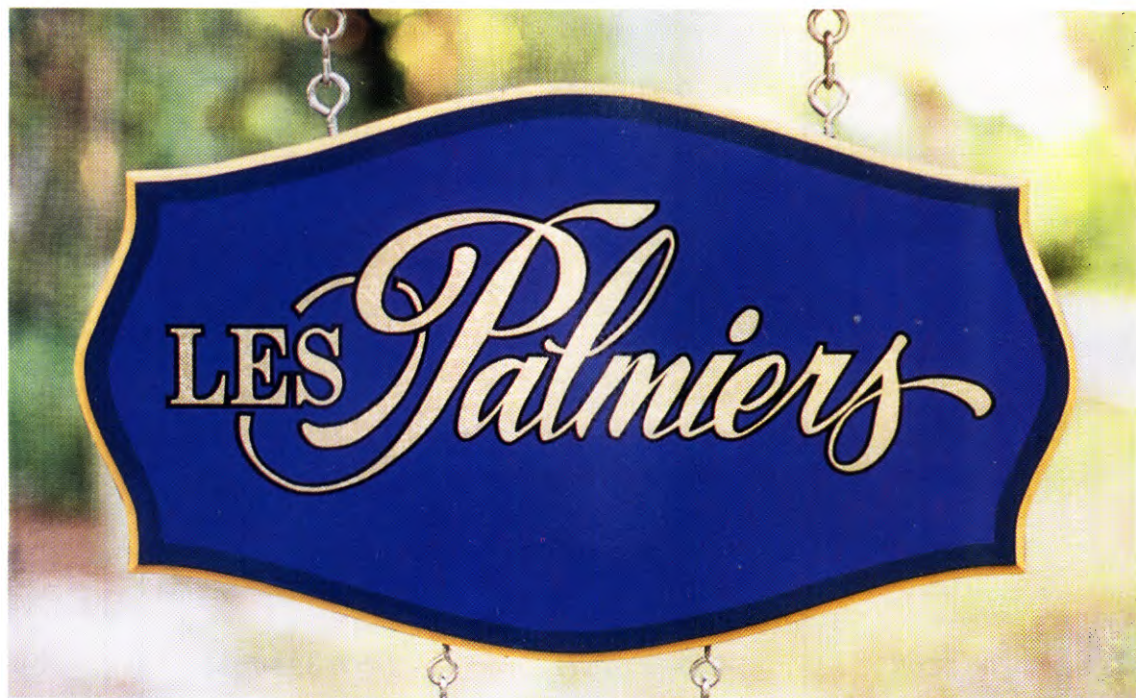


Let's return to the place that provided the cover story for the very first issue of *SignCraft*

Signs of Sanibel: Revisited 15 years later



One of the things that prompted us to publish *SignCraft* 15 years ago was the great-looking sign work we got to see whenever we had a chance to close the shop for a few days and hit the road. The clean, bold commercial signs in and around Atlanta, carved and gilded signs in New England, high-class, high-quality window lettering of Pittsburgh and



Signs of Sanibel: Revisited 15 years later



Youngstown were just some of the inspiration.

As we planned our first issue, we knew we wanted to include a sampling of the signs from a tourist area in our own backyard: Sanibel and Captiva Islands. Tourist towns usually spawn a unique type of sign work. Maybe it's because shopkeepers are more

keenly aware of how effectively an interesting sign can draw customers. Or because tourists have time to meander along a sidewalk (rather than roar by in their cars) so designs can be a little more complex and still be readable.

Vince Brodeur (see *SignCraft*, Mar/Apr 1985 and Mar/Apr 1988), an innovative sign maker who

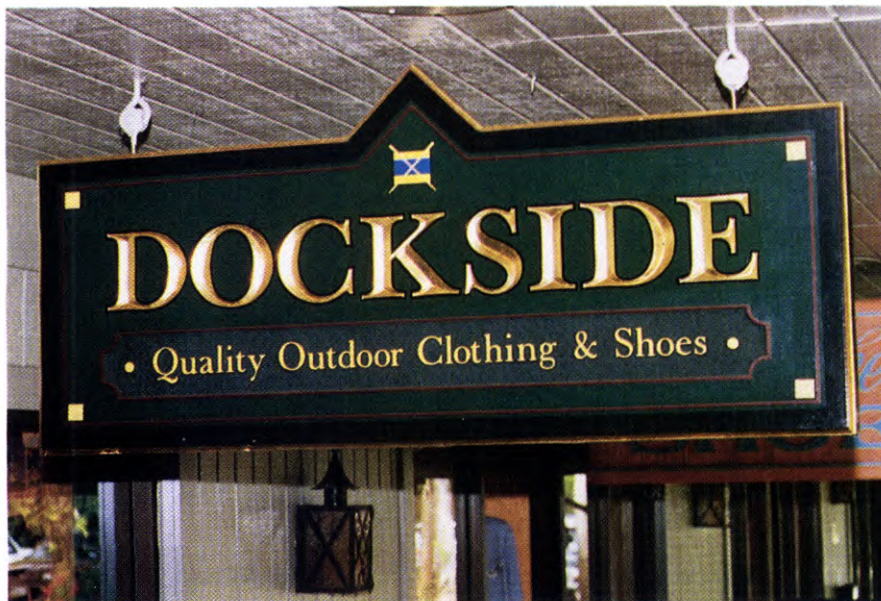


Forever Green Center by Chip Carter, *Island Designs Signs*, Captiva Island, Florida

lived on Sanibel, died in 1987. But area sign shops continue to turn out creative, interesting signs for island businesses. Fifteen years later, filling a roll of film with shots of outstanding sign work is just as easy as it was back in 1980. □



Beach Stuff and & More Stuff by Sable Signs, Fort Myers Beach, Florida



Dockside by Chip Carter, Island Designs Signs, Captiva Island, Florida