

# Dave Correll

Brushwork, Faribault, Minnesota

I don't really get to do a lot of striping, but I enjoy doing what comes in the door. I started out lettering signs, of course, and the striping just came about because when



you live in a small community and someone asks you to do something like striping—well, you have to do it if you want to pay the bills.

Honestly, the typical traditional pinstripe isn't something that appeals to me. I know that sounds weird, but that idea is what has pushed me to make my striping look

different. I stripe vehicles because my customers want striping and I try to make it into something that appeals to me. The way I see it, it doesn't matter if it's striping, lettering or sign design; we look at other people's work, and we're drawn to styles that appeal to us. Then we just put our own spin on it and 'Viola!' Now it's something new.

I do most of my striping in early spring because that's when people start getting excited about their vehicles. And I do a lot of repairs, too, for body shops. Most of my striping ends up on vehicles, but every now and then I throw in some thin outlines and filigrees on signs, but nothing really decorative.

I use a Mack Sword Striper and lettering enamel for nearly all of my pinstriping. Occasionally I'll use some small quills, too. I'm also curious about striping with urethane. It intrigues me, but I don't have the volume of striping to justify jumping into something entirely new like that. I'm not a seasoned striper who can pull off the tight, small stuff every time. I find myself wiping off half the stuff I do, just trying to get it right. •❧

—From an interview with John McIltrout

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We did the original sign for this bar and restaurant long ago. It ran on the cover of the January/February, 1999, issue of *SignCraft*. The business changed hands several times after that and eventually the original owner bought it back. He gutted the interior and wanted to completely refresh the whole place.

There was a space on the wall above the hostess station and he wanted something really cool up there. "How about a big train?" I asked. He didn't know how much he was willing to spend and I didn't know what it would cost to build it since I'd never built a train!

It was last winter and things were slow, so I just started building it. It was fun, getting to build the whole thing from scratch. The sides are HDU and I used the CNC machine to route all the windows and lines. Then I built a plywood box to stick it all to, and bent a PVC panel around the front side. Anyhow, when it was finished he was really thrilled with it. It was 32-in. tall and 10-ft. long. The headlight actually lights up, too.