

Gary Godby

Dimensional signs and more from a veteran sign designer



Gary Godby's career as a sign maker and designer has spanned nearly 28 years. He has worked for commercial sign shops in Virginia and Florida, and of his fifteen years in Florida, thirteen years were spent designing, lettering and painting pictorials for Disney's in-house sign shop. In 1995, he returned to his native Virginia to work for Graphic Services, Inc., a large commercial sign shop in Manassas.

Graphic Services is a full-service sign and

display company that works primarily for builders and developers; the shop's staff numbers 42, and is housed in a 28,000-sq.-ft. building. Gary's primary role is that of designer.

"When you're designing," Gary says, "you see a project go from concept to reality, and I get a lot of gratification out of that. I also like getting to do some hands-on stuff, which happens occasionally. I really enjoy dimensional-type signs when a job dictates it."



High-performance vinyl film on 4-by-40-ft. banner



Letters are two layers of Sintra [Alcan Composites USA, Inc., 800-626-3365, www.alcancomposites.com] cutouts finished with Matthews two-part polyurethane [Matthews Paint Co., 800-323-6593, www.signpaint.com], on 4-by-6-ft. sandblasted cedar panel finished with acrylic latex paints. The gate is grooved plywood framed with cedar, finished with acrylic paints, mounted on stone piers.



1-Shot [219-949-1684, www.1shot.com] enamel lettering with airbrushed blends on 36-by-28-by-3/4-in. overlaid plywood panel. Blends in corner scrolls are hand stippled.



Sign-Foam [Sign Arts Products, 800-338-4030, www.signfoam.com] high-density urethane board lettering finished with acrylic latex paint on 44-by-64-in. high-density urethane board panel over an overlaid plywood structure. The roof is copper over a PVC cap; columns are PVC. Sign is 16 in. thick.



Graphic and *Cheat* are vinyl, printed on the Gerber Edge®; remaining copy is vinyl. Panel is PVC with 1/2-in. PVC ribbon, finished with Matthews. Sign is 36 by 36 in. overall, and is mounted in a wrought iron bracket.



Lettering and graphic are vinyl, printed on the Gerber Edge®. The 28-in. diameter panel is 3/4-in. plywood laminated on both sides with PVC, painted with 1Shot enamel. Bracket is wrought iron.



Vinyl lettering on 24-by-30-in. overlaid plywood panel. Graphic is vinyl, printed on the Gerber Edge®, mounted on PVC panel. Fluted 6-by-6-in. posts, the cap and crown are finished with Ronan enamels [T.J. Ronan Paint Corp., 800-247-6626, www.ronanpaints.com].



Lettering was router cut from 1-in. Sign-Foam high-density urethane board and finished with 23k gold leaf. The *E* was routed in 28-by-30-by-2-in. Sign-Foam high-density urethane board panel finished with copper patina solution from Modern Options [415-252-5580, www.modernoptions.com].



Vinyl lettering and graphics on 24-by-26-in. panel of double-faced 3/4-in. overlaid plywood. Oval and scrolls are routed 1/2-in. PVC, painted with Matthews Polyurethane. Graphic in oval was printed on the Gerber Edge®. Bracket is wrought iron.



Main copy is sandblasted in Sign-Foam high-density urethane board panel. Train graphic is vinyl, printed on the Gerber Edge®, mounted on 1/4-in. PVC panel. *Restaurant & Saloon* is vinyl, mounted on 1/2-in. PVC panel. All are mounted on sandblasted cedar panel, held by iron supports to cedar posts and cross arm. Overall size is 8 by 9 ft.



Main copy is prismatic, routed from Sign-Foam high-density urethane board and finished with 23k gold leaf; secondary copy is vinyl. Fox and mountains are vinyl, printed on the Gerber Edge® and mounted on PVC cutouts. Border is vinyl film. Sun's rays are carved and gilded. This 32-by-42-in. double-faced sign has five layers of substrate and has cedar trim with a copper roof.



Greene's is cutout 1/4-in. Sintra PVC, finished with 1Shot enamel. *Market* is routed in 1-in. Sign-Foam high-density urethane board, finished with 23k gold leaf. Graphic is vinyl printed on the Gerber Edge®, applied to the 36-by-51-by-3/4-in. overlaid plywood panel, which is finished with enamel. Sign is mounted on wrought iron brackets.



Vinyl lettering and graphics on 3/4-in. overlaid plywood faces. *Renaissance* was V-carved on a Gerber router in 1-in. Sign•Foam high-density urethane board panel that was painted with acrylic latex. The lettering was gilded with 23k gold leaf. Post is 8-in. PVC pipe, wrapped with a Gerber Edge® print of a scanned marble image that was made into a seamless tile in Adobe® Photoshop®.





Lettering and sun rays are routed in 47-by-68-in. Sign•Foam high-density urethane board panel and finished with 23k gold leaf. Panel is mounted to 1/4-in. aluminum backer. Secondary copy is vinyl.



Router-cut lettering and border are Sign•Foam high-density urethane board, finished with 23k gold leaf, mounted on 4-by-6-ft. high-density urethane board panel. Finials are PVC components from Fypon, Ltd. [800-955-5748, www.fypon.com].



This 32-by-38-by-3-in. Sign•Foam high-density urethane board panel was lightly sandblasted to simulate a stucco finish. Lettering and border were finished with 23k gold leaf. Maple-leaf panel was cut from copper sheeting and distressed.



6-by-3-ft. cast concrete panel

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