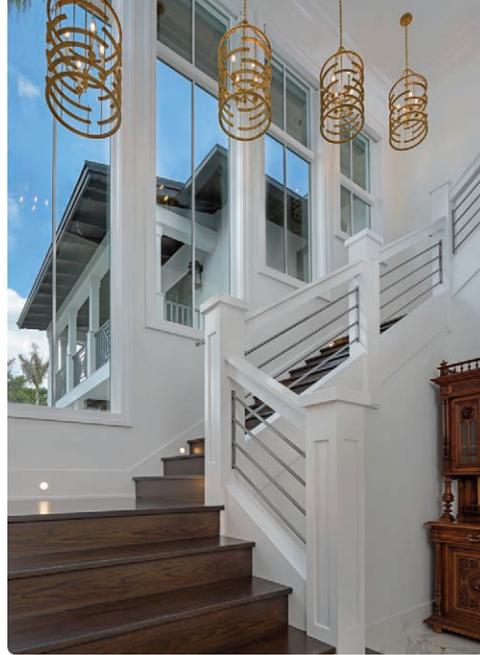




Tropical modern designs offer breathtaking views — from stunning oceanfront homes like this one on New Smyrna Beach to riverfront sunsets, all within an hour's commute. The following pages feature award-winning builders, architects, general contractors, and interior designers, many of whom you may see at this year's Parade of Homes, May 4-12. Whether it's a custom design or an ambitious renovation, these visionaries are the best in the business, creating extraordinary spaces all around our beautiful state.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JON WHITTLE

HOME DESIGN



Charlie Clayton III, Owner



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Charles Clayton Construction, Central Florida's premier custom homebuilder, specializes in one-of-a-kind new construction and home remodels while remaining committed to quality craftsmanship, community and family. A Winter Park resident, Charlie Clayton III and his family have been building homes throughout Central Florida for nearly 70 years. Please call us at 407.628.3334 today to schedule a complimentary review of your upcoming project.



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Ted Maines, Owner

TED MAINES INTERIORS

Ted Maines Interiors is an award-winning interior design studio in Winter Park's "Design District." We are the only boutique curated showroom in Central Florida, offering the very best in modern furniture, lighting, accessories and fine art. We pride ourselves on creating bespoke interiors that reflect the personalities and lifestyles of our wonderful clients. Our projects have been featured in national magazines and have won many awards, but our best accolades come directly from our clients.



TED MAINES
INTERIORS

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Owners Ken and Cheryle Martin love that their New Smyrna Beach home makes them feel like they're living in a museum — one that captures all the elements of nature.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JON WHITTLE

BEAUTY & THE BEACH

Architect Kevin Schweizer Talks about His Family's Legacy and What It Takes to Deliver the Best in Beachfront Living



BRAINS BEHIND THE BEAUTY: General contractor Don Smith (left) and architect Kevin Schweizer (right) designed this beachfront home perfectly perched on the sand dunes using polyurethane ICF construction, the first of its kind in Florida.

ASK ARCHITECT KEVIN SCHWEIZER why he has devoted his life to his profession, and he'll tell you that he "builds to heal." First spoken by his father — famed architect and Frank Lloyd Wright's student Nils Schweizer who pioneered midcentury-modern architecture in Central Florida — these words guide every blueprint Kevin pens. It's this philosophy and respect for good design that defines the symbiotic relationship between Kevin and general contractor Don Smith, who worked for two years with Kevin and homeowners, Ken and Cheryle Martin, to bring this 1950s-home-turned-oceanfront-gem on New Smyrna Beach to life. We recently had a chance to sit down with Kevin and Don to talk about architecture, beach life, inspirations and aspirations, and why salt is anathema to architects.

Kevin, the midcentury-modern influence of your father, Nils, is immortalized in Winter Park and beyond. In what ways did your dad inspire your path as an architect?

After completing my undergrad at the University of Florida and my master's at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, I worked with Dad, my brother, Garth, a landscape architect, and my sister, Tamara, an interior designer, building small churches of 300 seats and less, which was Dad's passion. He loved creating spaces for people to come together. This is where architecture took on a new purpose for me.





BELOW: Ken and Cheryle Martin discuss their favorite parts of their oceanfront oasis, like the custom-designed water feature and how the home itself feels like a sculpture. **RIGHT:** Another of Schweizer and Smith's New Smyrna collaborations is this modern marvel on the Indian River.



Don, what do you enjoy most about building? Well, it's certainly in my DNA. My father was a contractor, and my grandfather was a contractor. I started working with my dad when I was 9 years old on construction projects, and it really became who I am. I love building unusual one-off homes — ones with lots of architectural details — and I love seeing it all come together.

Kevin, what's the most important things to consider when building a beachfront home? Salt, salt and salt. Did I mention salt? Our Florida coast from Titusville to Ormond Beach has one of the highest airborne salinity environments in the

world — perhaps influenced by eddies spinning south off the Gulf Stream. Then there are hurricanes, nor'easters, sand blasting, tidal influences. So why do we do it? The beauty of the sea and the dunes, sunrises and sunsets, the stars, the moon and the breeze — we as humans are born to create and are attracted to things of natural wonder and beauty.

What are each of your favorite elements about this beachfront beauty in New Smyrna Beach? The collaboration with owners Ken and Cheryle Martin. We've grown to love them as people who care about their family, country, community

and friends. In the beginning of this project, Cheryle pointed to a copper-relief piece of art on her wall and asked me to design her house like that piece of art. The copper patina colors, coastal motions and copper materials pop up throughout the design, which has a unique water feature that covers a large portion of the roof and skylights through which you can watch the water fall from one level to the next. The land has only 50 feet of width but more than 500 feet of depth to the ocean, which lends itself to the dunes. The home steps down as the dunes fall off toward the beach, and you never lose that big vista of the horizon.



ALFRESCO HIDEAWAY: Schweizer and Smith transformed this former fish camp into a sleek space on the Indian River, complete with a fire pit and outdoor kitchen and bar. Come dusk each evening from the comfort of her lanai, owner JoAnn Dana enjoys the best sunset views on the island.

Don, tell us about the other home in New Smyrna Beach that you and Kevin recently did together on Indian River.

It looked a lot different before; that's for sure. It was an old fish camp with concrete floors and a flat roof. We kept the original footprint of the home, which has amazing views at sunset, and we repurposed some of the old beautiful redwood to use on the façade of the fireplace. The standout is definitely the lanai, which is perfect for outdoor Florida living. It's a very modern, sleek, livable space, and since it's solar-powered, the owner's electric bill is only \$9 a month!

Kevin, you like to say your homes 'fit where they're planted.' Why is it important that your designs are a seamless extension of their surroundings? How a home reacts to the sun, the views, the wind, the noise — these are all essential things to consider when you're building a space to enhance someone's quality of life. It's interesting to think about what will become of all the homes I've designed along the coast and will continue to design. They'll all be ruins someday, so I can only hope that they've inspired and served their owners beyond their expectations. ●

