

When on Dec 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor started WW2, I feared being drafted and went to work at North American Aviation in Inglewood. A year later I changed to working at Connors, Joyce Co. in Hollywood, doing parts catalogs for Lockheed. I was products manager/artist until VJ Day, then I was ready to free-lance again and had rented a one-room studio in the Oviatt Bldg. on Olive St in downtown Los Angeles. Soon other artists came to join me - Ren Wicks, Jim Wood, Joe Henninger, Ted Wright, Jake Lee, all rented rooms in a row - that's when I really learned how to work. There was so much work after WW2. We always worked into the night, sometimes beyond midnight, and we all had the radio show "The Shadow" blaring so all could hear.

When WW2 ended, artists were able to charge \$10 per hour instead of the \$1.50 of war-time. We soon paid off the mortgage on our first home that we had built for \$4,500. We sold that home at 1728 West 105th Street and moved to 1000 Balboa Drive in Arcadia. We paid \$15,000 cash for it.

I was associated with the Webster Agency and one day Jim Hastings, Webster's art director, announced that he was moving to Detroit to be Creative Director at Campbell-Ewald. I had stayed in his home in Arcadia once and greatly admired it. When Jim said he was leaving, I asked "Does that mean you'll be selling your home?" He said yes and I said "Then don't put it on the market, I just bought it". That was how we got our all-time favorite house. We agreed on \$17,000 and we again paid cash. It was an authentic Cape Cod antique gem, a cottage with 2 bedrooms and bath upstairs, 1 bedroom, den, kitchen, dining room, bath on the main level. Our whole family loved it and we stayed there for 12 years.



*Our Arcadia Home*