## THERE ARE MORE SIGNS THAN "STOP" ON THE ROAD

And we were definitely treated to a vast array of signs of every dimension and color from a bygone era whether it was produced in porcelain, metal or even cardboard. Dennis and Judy Griffin have accumulated a phenomenal collection of street signs, window displays, and gasoline related items. What was once an auxiliary structure to house their classic cars has now been overtaken by these stunning pieces of "Art", most in original, unblemished condition.







**Brilliant Neon** 

Incredible Assortment

Kelley Springfield



## FISK "Time to Re-Tire" Sign

Potential customers seeing this sign at a service station would know that Fisk Tires were sold there. The Fisk Tire yawning boy with the catch phrase "Time to Re-Tire" debuted in 1914. A very slight artistic touch-up turned the yawning into a smiling boy in early 1929. Also, at that time his one-piece sleeper became a two-piece pajama and slippers were added. This sleepy boy could be viewed in the Saturday Evening Post as well as a series of paintings by Norman Rockwell





Where to look first?



Our delightful hosts: Judy along-side Cathy and Joel posing with Dennis. Everyone admired the prized succulents and other specimen plants that Dennis used to landscape the property.











one gallon pump

plenty of eye candy

gargoyle or pegasus

The gasoline pump has evolved over the years, beginning in 1885 with the first kerosene pump. The device was originally used to suck kerosene from barrels at general stores, delivering the fluid to a customer's portable metal can. Eventually a hose and nozzle were added. Clerks would count the number of cranks (pumps) they made with the handle to determine how many gallons had been delivered into a customer's tank – one crank would equal one gallon.





Admiring automated musical instruments among the signs while Dennis demostrated the disc music box







this restroom is definity clean



whole pack for 1 cent



The **Gilmore Oil Company** was an independent oil company in California which was founded by Arthur Fremont Gilmore after he struck oil on his dairy farm in the Fairfax district of Los Angeles around 1903. At its peak Gilmore operated over three thousand gas stations on the West Coast. REMEMBER SLOGANS like "Blu-Green Gas," "Roar with Gilmore, "Gilmore the Record Breaker?" Remember the "Gilmore Fun Circus" radio show and "That Funny Red Lion Gas Song?" In the 1920s and '30s these were the sounds of the Gilmore Oil Company of Los Angeles, California. Up and down the West Coast, almost every kid wanted his mom and dad to "fill-'er-up" at the cream and red service stations with the large impressive lion sign on top the building. The kids were in for a real treat, and as far as they were concerned, it was all free. Gilmore comic books, "Gilmore Cub" news-papers with interesting facts, last week's gas song winners, all the latest racing news, candy suckers in the shape of a lion and other promotional goodies always were available.



Thank you, Dennis and Judy, for a most delightful day. Everyone was intrigued with your awe-inspiring collection and your willingness to share your knowledge of these items. And as an additional treat, Dennis and Judy invited us to stay for lunch. This being in the midst of the California drenching, the clouds parted as we said our goodbyes.