

# The 45rpm Phono Gazette

All the news that fits, we print



**45 RPM PHONOGRAPHS ON DISPLAY IN NEW JERSEY**

For the month of August 1996, three cases of antique RCA Victor radios and phonographs were displayed at the headquarters for the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan, New Jersey by Phil Vourtsis, a member of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club. Since Phil is an avid phonograph collector, one of the three cases was full of phonographs from the 1930's through the 1950's. Many of them were 45 RPM machines which are his favorite.



**Model 7EY1 Coral and Gray Plastic was featured in Antique Display**

Starting from the top left of the photo on page two, there are two 78 RPM machines, the first is an attachment from 1939 with a tonearm that is almost 2 inches wide at the cartridge end. In the center is a 6J type phonograph from 1946 which features rounded corners on the left side and a tonearm that recesses into the base when not in use. Both are made of dark brown bakelite. The top shelf right features the first 45 PRM phonograph that RCA offered in 1949. Also shown is an introductory record album featuring various RCA artists. The center shelf features an RCA attachment which was manufactured by "Oak". This model was only available for one year and featured meshing gears for a smooth reject cycle. The center machine is one of the many popular cartoon players which RCA made during the early 50's. This one features Alice in Wonderland and a bright red turntable and tonearm.

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**RCA PROMOTIONAL FILM NOW AVAILABLE!**

Fellow enthusiast Dan Saporito has managed to acquire (at substantial cost) an RCA Victor Promotional film that was developed to instruct Dealers on how to "Sell" the "New 45 RPM Record and Player System." The film is from 1949 and runs for approximately 20 minutes. It describes in detail the new 45 rpm record and then the record player, discussing the engineering work that went into the design and all the benefits of the new system. All of the new models for 1949 are introduced. The last part of the film introduces the new colored 45 records and how it will make it easier to categorize your inventory.

We are offering video copies of this film for \$20 (includes shipping). The proceeds from this will be used to take care of the costs of this newsletter for a while.

**Notice:** The following info is surely invalid because of its age

- Charles Cummins (817-732-4313)**  
7EY1 or 2 series plastics
- Bob Green (717-366-3949)**  
Record Demonstrator  
RCA Children's records
- Bob Havalack (716-458-0801)**  
Will repair/rebuild players
- Doug Houston (810-627-4141)**
- John Ortale (203-754-8346)**  
Early Disney models  
Radio/Phono with round dial
- Dan Saporito (609-693-3139)**  
Disney  
Roy Rodgers  
Ding Dong School
- Ray Tyner (614-475-1697)**  
Record Demonstrator  
Roy Rodgers  
45EY4 lid
- Phil Vourtsis (908-446-2427)**  
Roy Rodgers, Early Disney  
Ding Dong School  
7HF45 Wooden Case in Oak (blonde)
- Chamber William (817-446-0346)**  
Starting collection and would like to buy a 45ey2. *Can someone help?*



**THE WORK BENCH**

One of the improvements made to the RP-168 record changer was the addition of a piston to control the descent of the tonearm to the record. Early rp-168's really slammed down and even bounced as it entered the first few grooves. When you refurbish one of these, it's not unusual to find that the tonearm will stay in the air and you have to push it down to meet the record. Obviously the piston is the culprit here but many times after you take apart and clean the piston you'll find that the tonearm still doesn't descend properly. Lubricating the piston aggravates the condition because it is an air piston and the lub will prevent the air from getting by the sides of the piston.

Here is the solution I came up with. I drill a small hole in the bottom of the piston. If the tonearm falls too quickly, I partially cover the hole with masking tape. By trial and error, you will find the right amount of hole opening to leave open to get the desired results.

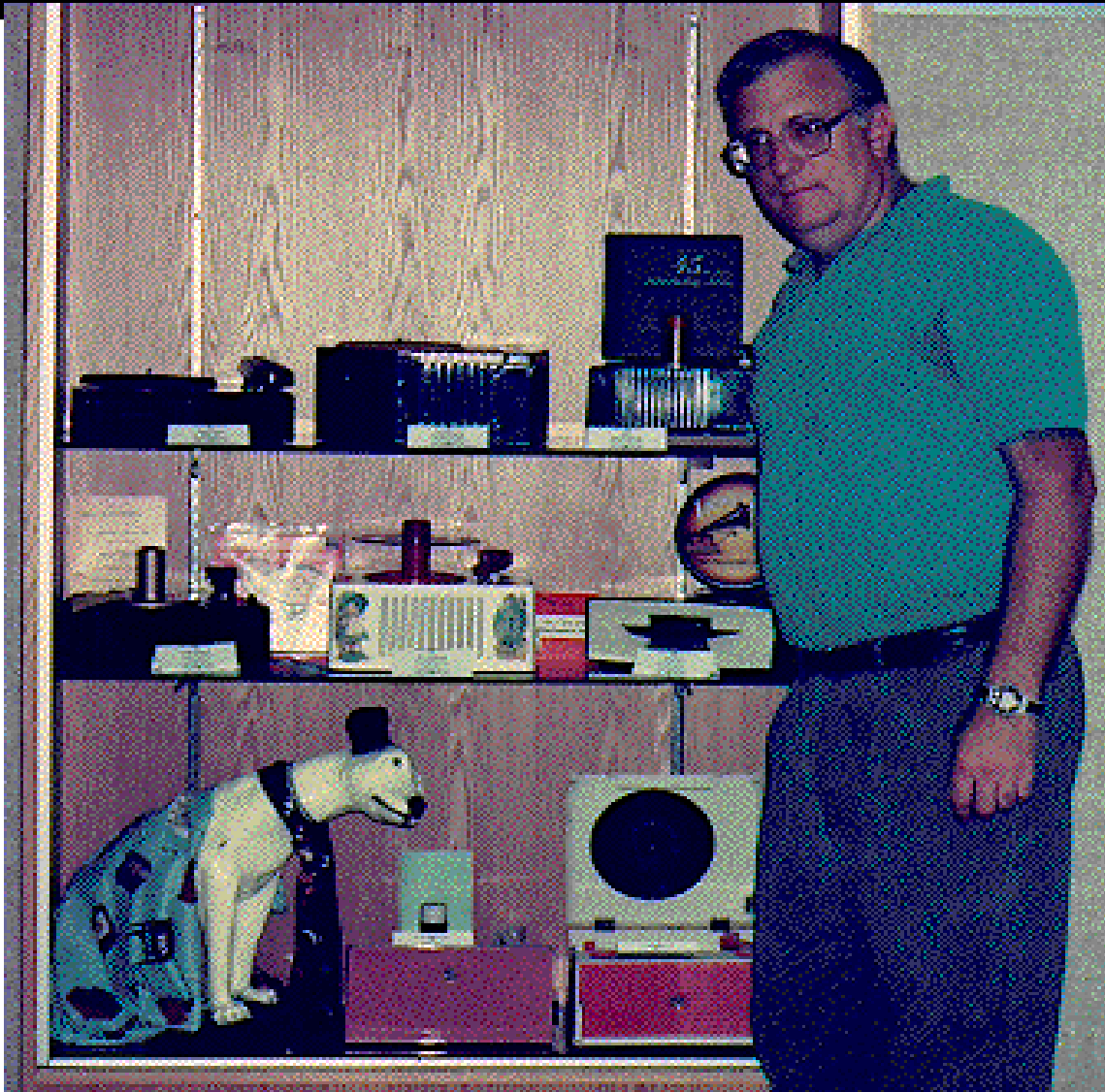
Only drill the hole if the tonearm is descending too slowly after the piston cleanup.

**Elvis 45 Player spotted in Texas**

Phono enthusiast Charles Cummins spotted an "Elvis" 45 Player in rough condition at a flea market in Texas last week and asked the owner how much he wanted for it. The owner said, "I'll have to get \$450 for it". Charles said, "I'll just keep on walkin then." Charles had just picked up a 9Y511 radio/phono for 10 bucks!

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Phil Vourtsis by his RCA Victor Phonograph Display at Monmouth County Library Headquarters in N.J.

On the right is the infamous "slide O matic" which accepted one record at a time through a slot in the front. On the bottom shelf we have "Nipper" dressed up in RCA Victor motif shorts and tie! In the center one of the late model plastics in coral and gray is featured from 1957. And on the bottom right we have a pink and white "skipper". This was a single play portable radio and phono combination that was sold in 1955.

The display was very well received and you could hear over and over again people saying, "Hey, I had one of those when I was a kid". Or "Boy does this bring back memories". The Library expressed interest in having another display in the coming year.

Phil Vourtsis has been collecting 45 players since the early '70's and has well over one hundred in his collection.

It was quite a chore deciding which models should be displayed!

45 RPM Phono Gazette is a non profit publication produced 4 times a year. Please send comments or suggestions to

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