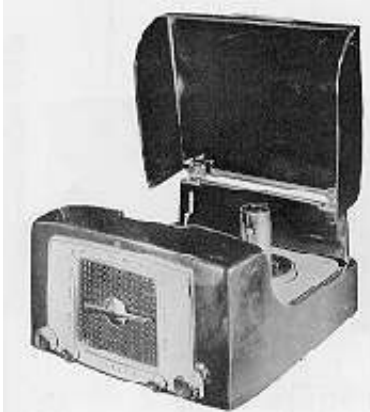


# The 45rpm Phono Gazette

All the news that fits, we print



## Zenith's Twin Seven Phonograph



**FIG.1 Zenith Twin Seven radio/phonograph model G660**

RCA Victor was not the only one to design a custom playing machine for the new 45 RPM records. "VM" (Voice of Music), Admiral, and Zenith had their own interesting designs. Today we will examine Zenith's design. Because Columbia had introduced a 7 inch record running at 33 RPM with the small hole around the time RCA introduced the "45", Zenith opted to design a set with two separate turntables. One turntable had the thin spindle for the 33RPM disc, and the other turntable had a thick spindle to accommodate the 45 RPM disc. One



**FIG.2 One tonearm uses either of two turntables**

small cobra style tonearm would then be used to play on either turntable. When playing a stack of

records, you can only use one of the turntables at a time even though they are both rotating! This is because the turntables are tied together with two idler wheels which are always engaged. Even the reject cycles are tied together, so if you put a stack of records on each turntable, the records would fall from each spindle at the same time. You determine which turntable to use by positioning the tonearm either in the position shown in Figure 2 or moving it between the two turntables. You will know when you are in the right position when it clicks into place. These units are pretty scarce now. Looking at this newsletter's readership, I know of only two people who own them. Neither are in working condition at this time. It sure is an odd yet interesting piece of engineering.

**45 RPM Phono Gazette is a non profit publication produced Four times a year.**

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**THE WORK BENCH**

*Replacing cartridges.*

One thing that you can count on is a dead crystal cartridge when you

first power up that 45 player. In my collection of over 100 players, I have only two crystal cartridges that have adequate volume. RCA also used ceramic cartridges on their more expensive models in the middle 50's. These units are usually still good when you find them. So when it comes to replacing a dead or weak crystal, I prefer to use the ceramic cartridge. Astatic 51-1 units may still be available from Victory Glass in Waukegan, IA. Their phone number is 515-987-5765.

Some collectors are using Sonotone cartridges which were used on Califone phonographs used in Public Schools throughout the country. The slide in replacements are still available from Pfansteil distributors. The problem is finding the body that holds the slide-in replacements. Many an old Califone has had its tonearm extricated for this reason.

Crystal cartridges can be rebuilt, but they don't always sound that good afterwards. I was impressed by the sound of one that was rebuilt by West Tech Services in Florida. I'm planning on having another one done to see if this was a fluke.

Another method I use for replacement is to acquire an old BSR changer from the millions of modular systems made in the '70s and '80s. These are usually dirt cheap at garage sales. I then remove the whole cartridge shell and hot glue it under the tonearm with a glue gun. Care must be taken to get a good angle so that the tonearm can handle a full stack of records when your done.

# The 45rpm Phono Gazette

A \$24.95 value for just \$5.00! 60 All-time hits from  
**GLENN MILLER Limited Edition No. 1**  
 when you buy one of these Fabulous 45 "Victrolas"!



Only the Fabulous "45" system offers so much—

- EASIEST TO PLAY
- MOST TROUBLE-FREE
- PLAYS ALMOST 2 HOURS OF MUSIC WITH ONE LOADING OF "45" EP RECORDS



Lowest priced *true* Hi-Fi! The *Mark VIII*. Multiple speakers. 3 popular wood finishes. (7HF45) \$79.95†



Automatic 45 "Victrola." 3 finishes. (7EY1), \$32.95. Extra power, larger speaker, 2 finishes. (7EY2) \$36.95



Automatic Portable "45" with tone control. Brown-and-tan or 2-tone green carrying case. (6EY3) \$42.95

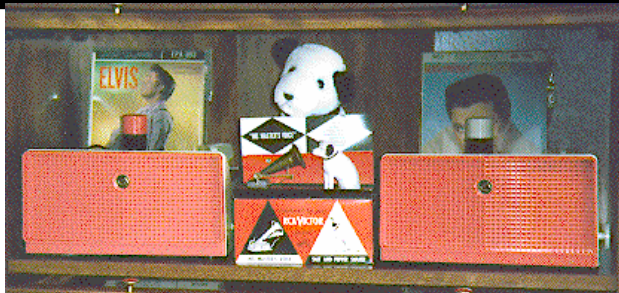
YOU'LL HEAR SONGS LIKE:

- "String of Pearls"
- "Moonlight Serenade"
- "Little Brown Jug"
- "Lamplighter's Serenade"

Typical advertisement circa 1956  
 Courtesy of Phil Vourtsis Collection

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Pair of 7EY1's. Note that the correct spindle color is white. Dan decided to customize the other one.



A pair of 2 speeds. The one on the left is a deluxe model with tone control, higher gain amp, and larger speaker.



Deluxe2 speed came with original box, booklet, and tags

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## PROFILE

### Dan Saporito from Forked River, New Jersey

At the tender age of five Dan used to visit his cousins about once a week. They had a pink and white plastic model 7ey1 which Dan loved to play. At home Dan could only play one record at a time on his phonograph, so putting a stack on his cousins player was a real treat. He remembers listening to songs like "Silhouettes", "There's a Moon Out Tonight", and "Hounddog".

When Dan was eleven, he picked up a green and white portable player (8EY31) at a local flea market for \$5. Through a friend of Dan's father, Dan was able to get boxes of current "45's" for free! The year was 1965, so 45's were getting louder with better fidelity. RCA's 45 players were noted for popping out of the record's grooves on many of the newer records. To combat this, Dan resisted the temptation of taping small change to the tonearm, and instead disconnected the counterbalance spring in the rear of the tonearm.

Dan soon grew tired of monophonic 45's. He wanted stereo LP's! So he bought a Magavox multispeed player and retired the 45 player to the closet. During a move in 1973 the 45 player was disposed of.

Fifteen years later in 1988, Dan spotted an antique dealer throwing out a 45J2 attachment. He grabbed it and decided to display it on a nice shelf. Five years later in 1993, I met Dan at an Antique Radio Swap Meet. I spotted him with a 45EY2 under his arm, so I introduced myself. At the time, this was the first person I ever met who was interested in 45 phonographs besides myself. We both felt that this meeting was the catalyst that started us seriously collecting these phonographs.

Dan's favorite machine, understandably is the pink and white 7EY1. He has three pristine examples of that model. Two of them are pictured here in a nicely set up wooden case.

He is also interested in RCA Victor's two-speed record changers. These changers will play a stack of 45's or one LP. They were manufactured in the late 50's. Pictured are two models, one with its original box. He was lucky enough to find a store demonstration model which has all the original tags and instruction book.

Dan does a great job of restoring the cabinets on his phonographs. When you are ready to give up on the removal of a scratch or stain, Dan keeps at it until the cabinet looks like new.

Happy Collecting!