

# The 45rpm Phono Gazette

Flashback from Oct. 1996!



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

Well check me out. I have hair, dark brown hair. And no beard.

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 1955. 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 quite a collection. It was quite a chore deciding which models should be displayed!

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## 78 vs 45



By Jim Diamond

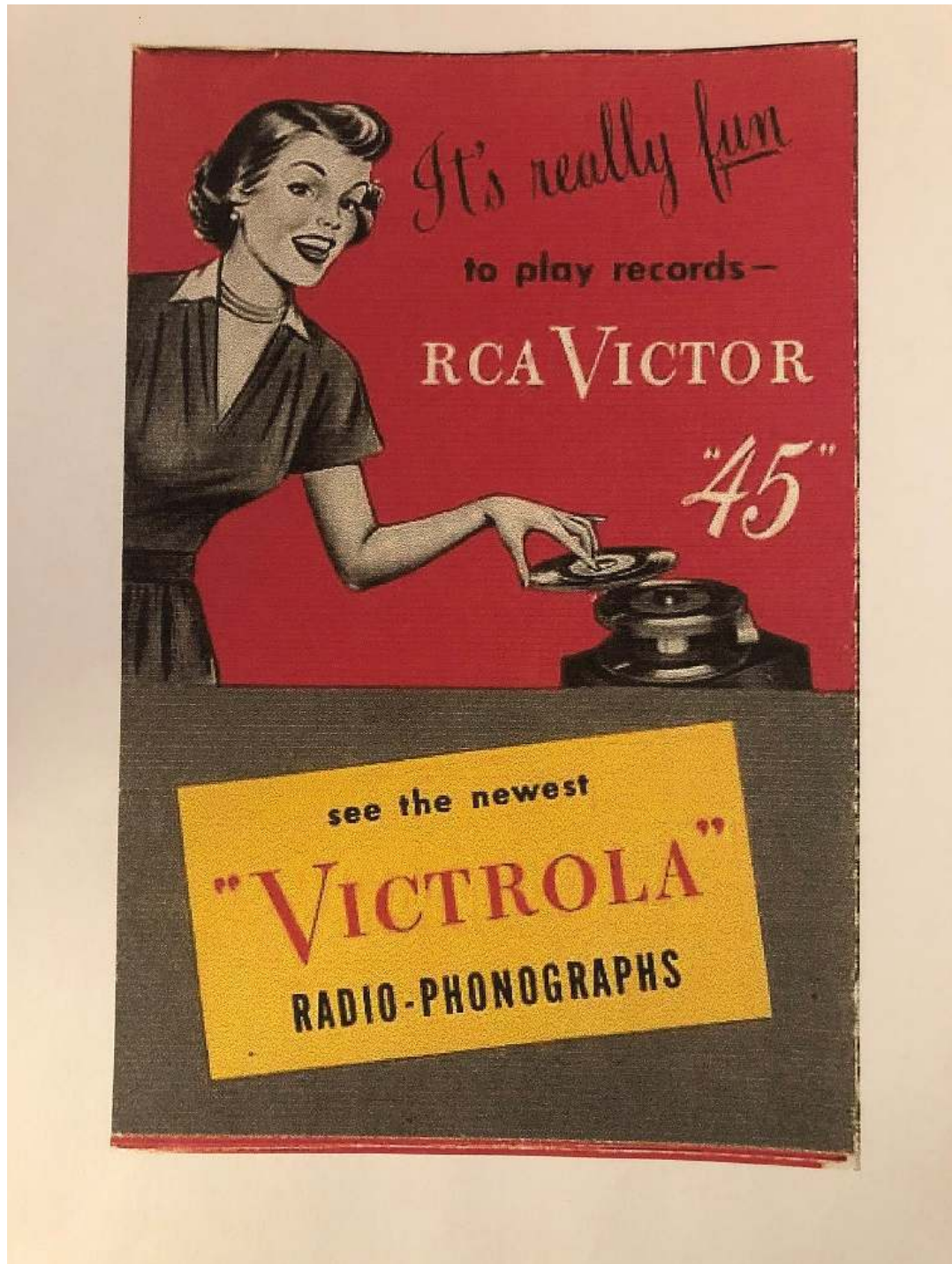
.Consider 78's vs.45 rpms in the early to mid 50's in the radio business. Interesting is the fact that some of the 78 rpm promo copies sent to radio stations during this period were pressed on vinyl. Not only were they more durable, and they sounded much better than the old shellac 78's.They were much quieter sounding and sonically they beat the new 45 rpms hands down! However,R.C.A.did such a good job of promoting the 45 rpms as the new and better speed for consumers, "they were smaller, easier to store, took up less space, etc.

By the mid-50's, the fate of 78s in America was sealed. By 1955,"Rock Around The Clock" was one of the last promo 78's made for radio in the U.S. by Decca Records. The last Elvis 78 in America pressed by R.C.A. was "One Night"/"I Got Stung" released in late 1958 for jukeboxes only. There were some hold-outs apparently. There's a film of a station in the mid-50's somewhere in the midwest, with the D.J. taking a 78, smashing it on the console



next to the turntable, who then looks at the camera, saying "Rock and Roll has GOT to GO!" The 45 by 1958, pretty much had taken over in the popular singles market. A few exceptions, Atlantic records continued to press 78 rpms as late as 1960. ABC-Paramount released "Where Were You On Our Wedding Day" in summer 1959 as their farewell 78 release. "Kansas City" by Wilbert Harrison on Fury Records was a spring 1959 release on 78. Perhaps the rarest of ALL American releases is "Money" by Barrett Strong on the tiny Anna label (a forerunner of Motown records).Today these 78's are super rare and expensive collector's items!! The 78 rpm had been the vehicle for single releases of new music for over half a century. But, times were changing. There was the "Battle of the Speeds between 33, 45 and 78 rpm. 33 was better for longer pieces of music. 45 became the newer way to listen to single releases. A famous D.J. in L.A. in the early to mid-50's, Dick ("Huggy Boy") Hugg, once said of 78s (You have to treat them like babies) Often new releases would arrive broken in several pieces! 78's bit the dust here in the U.S. by 1960. Amazingly they continued in foreign countries as late as 1968! The Beatles "Revolution/Hey Jude" was released in India on 78 on the Parlophone label. I don't ask what one costs in today's collector's market! Something to ponder over.

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RCA Victor ad from the early 1950s.

## WANT LIST

**Bob Becker**  
(201.391.2971)  
7 Woodland Road  
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677  
[rdbbecker@aol.com](mailto:rdbbecker@aol.com)  
Beige knob for 8EY4FK  
Large tuning or vol knob for  
9Y510,6JM25 Ding Dong  
Slideomatic  
7HF45 Oak or Maple  
8EY4DJ gray plastic front  
Decca blk/red portable 45  
player

**Joe Bentrovato**  
(973.361.7392)  
Need 45rpm adaptor  
(EPS3) for Delmonico  
model 1025 consolette  
stereo phono.  
Looking for optional power  
supply for 'skipper' model.

**Charles Cummins**  
(817-732-4313)  
3912 Calmont Ave  
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

**David Cox**  
(937)484-3241  
1407 Knight Road  
Urbana, OH 43078  
[dcc49@yahoo.com](mailto:dcc49@yahoo.com)  
45 spindle for Admiral  
5W12N 2-speed record  
player, bakelite lid for  
Zenith twin 7. Outer  
concentric r/p knob for  
Emerson 635

**Dennis D'Amico**  
11892 Pine Street  
Los Alamitos, CA  
90720-4163  
[lionelguy@yahoo.com](mailto:lionelguy@yahoo.com)

**Jim Diamond**  
(661-396-7867)  
[JimDiamond61@gmail.com](mailto:JimDiamond61@gmail.com)  
Want Nat King Cole "Too  
Young To Go Steady" on  
78rpm.

**Bill Gourd**  
(989-832-2934)  
1024 West Park Drive  
Midland, Michigan 48640  
In priority order:  
8EY4,7HF45  
(wood),8HF45P  
(portable),4Y511(radio  
phono).

## WANT LIST

**Hank Granse**  
(360-871-9014)  
6751 View Dr. SE  
Port Orchard, WA 98367  
[hgranse@wavecable.com](mailto:hgranse@wavecable.com)

**Bob Green**  
(570-366-3949)  
1711 Breezy Acres Rd  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961  
For Sale- 15E  
Demonstrator  
[rcgreen@schmobile.com](mailto:rcgreen@schmobile.com)

**Bob Kolba**  
(817-734-6906)  
41722 N La Cantera Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85086  
[Rkolba0211@aol.com](mailto:Rkolba0211@aol.com)

**Mike McKenna**  
6134 Early Autumn Drive  
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**John Lee**  
314 East 11<sup>th</sup> St.  
Upland, CA 91786  
[Nipper45@verizon.net](mailto:Nipper45@verizon.net)

**Paul Childress**  
(804.271.7842)  
6632 W. Denny Ct.  
Chesterfield, VA 23832  
[pchildress@prodigy.net](mailto:pchildress@prodigy.net)

**Doug Robinson**  
2609S. 800E.  
Salt Lake, Utah 84106  
[Doug45rpm@hotmail.com](mailto:Doug45rpm@hotmail.com)

**Martin Wolff**  
(402-687-2219)  
[wolfmoma@g.com](mailto:wolfmoma@g.com)  
Speaker, mounting bracket  
and output transformer for  
RCA Model 9EY31

## REPAIRS

**Tom Paruta**  
(716.264.4035)  
127 Creekside Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228  
[TomTMP58@aol.com](mailto:TomTMP58@aol.com)  
Admiral 45rpm adaptor part #  
G400B410 for Admiral R/P 5W12N  
I do 1940s thru 1960s phono  
restorations. Call for quotes.

**Retro-Tronics**  
Custom radio backs and phono  
bottoms for 45EY2, 7EY series  
[www.retro-tronics.com](http://www.retro-tronics.com)

**James Romano**  
Phono\_restoration\_company  
301 Haynes Run  
Medford, NJ 08055  
(856-220-9588)  
Restoration of RCA 45rpm phonos  
& knock off models. Repair on any  
changer or turntable.  
[JUKEBOXJUNKIE731@aol.com](mailto:JUKEBOXJUNKIE731@aol.com)  
Webpage:  
<http://www.turntablefactory.com/romano.html>

**Larry Yeagan**  
[sepulgafc@yahoo.com](mailto:sepulgafc@yahoo.com)

## REPAIRS

**Vintage Electronics**  
128 Buccaneer Drive  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
601.264.4755  
[phonoed@aol.com](mailto:phonoed@aol.com)  
[www.vintageelectronics.com](http://www.vintageelectronics.com)  
NOS cartridges & needles for  
almost every model and brand  
made.

**V-M Audio Enthusiasts**  
(248-478-0990) eves/wkends  
37530 E. Meadowhill  
Northville, MI 48167  
[info@thevoiceofmusic.com](mailto:info@thevoiceofmusic.com)  
[www.thevoiceofmusic.com](http://www.thevoiceofmusic.com)  
Rebuilding Service - Idlers, cams.  
Repair parts including both  
V-M and RCA 45 players.

**Phil Vourtsis**  
(732-208-4284)  
2514 Bear Stand Trail  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588  
[philvourtsis@gmail.com](mailto:philvourtsis@gmail.com)  
Books signed by author  
The Fabulous Victrola '45',  
Schiffer Publishing LTD.  
\$25 plus \$4 shipping



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[philvourtsis@gmail.com](mailto:philvourtsis@gmail.com)  
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