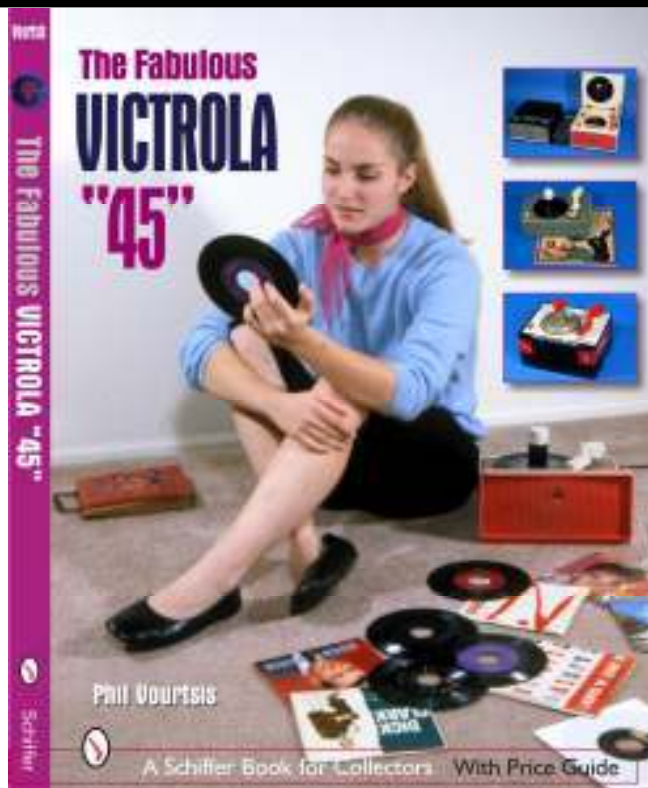


The 45rpm Phono Gazette



Happy New Year!

Available in 3 to 6 months



Cover of new book *The Fabulous Victrola '45'* about to be published by Schiffer Ltd.
Over 400 pictures, many in color, repair and restoration included.

On December 3, 2001, your editor delivered an important package to Schiffer Publishing in Atglen, PA. I was asked to give a 3-hour presentation on the package and they were happy with what they saw and heard. The facility was impressive with a huge warehouse for all Schiffer books sold in North America. There is one other warehouse for overseas sales. A book blurb will be in the next Schiffer catalog along with the cover picture. The blurb reads; *If you grew up during the 1950s, you can probably fondly remember many times when you enjoyed listening to your favorite 45s on that little automatic record player. It seemed as if everybody had one. In this comprehensive and colorful book with price guide, Phil Vourtsis traces the history of the records with the big center hole, and the machines that played them. We are shown the trials and tribulations undergone by the engineers and managers of the RCA Victor Corporation, when it seemed that after all of the hard work was complete, they nearly decided not to introduce the new players to*

the product line after all. The reader can then enjoy all the models that are shown here in color—both RCA Victor's own models and those produced by other licensed manufacturers. You will be amazed at how many variations there were from which the music-loving consumer could choose. And if you are technically inclined, learn how these machines work, and how they can be repaired and restored by following step-by-step procedures with diagrams. Yes—with some help, these fascinating little machines will be around for another fifty years!

The Workbench

Now you can rebuild your own cycling cam



Willie Bosco has the perfect solution for rebuilding that old cycling cam. He will send you the exact correct fit rubber replacement for (2) cycling cams for \$8 plus instructions on how to correctly install them. If done carefully, the results are like having a new cam! Here is a quick summary of the procedure. First you must remove the old rubber from the cam and clean the metal surfaces. Poke out the old rubber from the strategically placed holes that go around near the outer edge. Glue the rubber onto the metal frame and cut out the notch in the new rubber.

For information, email Willie at williambosco@msn.com or write to him at 1588 Miller Creek Rd. Garberville, CA 95542

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Photos in new book are top notch thanks to Bruce Willence



Bruce Willence posing with model 9W51. Notice the lack of shoes. This was to avoid damaging the background paper.

Bruce, a software developer by profession, has been an avid amateur photographer since age 11, when he was given an old camera by his father. Over the years he has won prizes in several photo contests. He attended a Nikon School of Photography seminar and is currently enrolled in the New York Institute of Photography's Complete Course in Professional Photography, from which he learned the techniques used for the photos in this book.

The editor's family room was turned into a photo studio for the 12+ photo sessions that were required. Over 400 photos were taken and most are included in the book. Two different colored backgrounds were used (white and

blue) to accentuate the colors of the phonographs. Seven Hundred and Fifty watts of light were provided and slide film was exclusively used. As Bruce was taking the slide pictures, the editor was taking digital shots. The pictures you see in the newsletter are obviously the digital pictures. The slide pictures, which will appear in the book are much sharper.

Cover pictures were taken at Bruce's house utilizing the living room as a studio. 36 shots were taken with the teenager (Suzanne) in different poses sitting and laying down listening to records. These were submitted to the publisher and they immediately liked the cover idea.

One of the unexpected advantages to these sessions was the physical workout the editor received by carrying hundreds of phonographs in and out of the pictures. Many of the phonographs that were not yet refurbished were given a clean and shine treatment before the picture was taken also.

Bruce used Nikon cameras, models F100 and N90s with all the necessary lenses and filters for the photo shoots.

The 45-RPM Phono Gazette is a quarterly publication.

For subscription information call Phil Vourtsis at 732.446.2427

In Memoriam, Francis Horwich



Francis Horwich, 93, educator and kindly bell-ringing host of the 1950s children's show *Ding Dong School* in Chicago died last Summer. Winner of a Peabody Award in 1953, "Miss Francis" taught arts and crafts, told stories, and offered simple lessons. This program paved the way for shows like *Sesame Street* and *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*. RCA Victor created two phonograph models featuring a facial shot of "Miss Francis" and the *ding dong* school bell in 1955. The models are 6EY15 and 6JM25.



Ding Dong School models decked out with colorful decals.