

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

Welcome new members
Fred Powell, Bob Levinson, Randy Blake,
Rich Baltzer, Jim Koehler

Rochester AWA Meet 2002



Advertisement used on trains, buses, and trolleys back in 1949.



Other interesting items on display during our annual Rochester Visit.

The last week of August was time for another phono enthusiast 'get together' at the Rochester, NY Antique Wireless Association (AWA) Conference. "45" Gazette members Bob Havalack (NY), Ray Tyner (OH), Phil Vourtsis (NJ), Joe Centanni (NY), and Joe Bentrovato (NJ) got together on Thursday night. As usual there were interesting items on display. Pictured above is a large color ad that was displayed on public conveyances back in 1949. Classical red jewel toned records are playing on a model 9JY phono attachment (courtesy Ray Tyner). In the lower picture on the left we have a modified rp-190 changer that can play 18 records. This was accomplished by changing a spring, taking some of the plastic off of the tone arm, replacing the spindlecap with a cap from a removable spindle from a multispeed player, changer adjustments and using a "lowrider" cartridge. We played many stacks of 18 records that night (courtesy Phil Vourtsis). On the right side is a 2-speed player with RCA embossed carrying case and original box (courtesy Phil Vourtsis). On page two you can see a very unusual sight. An RCA rp-193 (Oak) changer installed in a Truetone phonograph. This is the first time we have ever seen this changer in anything but an attachment (courtesy Ray Tyner). Your editor also had pictures from the new book "The Fabulous Victrola "45"".

Now lets go back to Tuesday night when most of us arrived at the flea market. Usually we register for the conference and then say hello and make plans for the week. But this time there were vendors with their wares available for perusal and money was changing hands! We found one vendor with about ten 45 players available for sale. Ray and I took advantage of this situation. As done in previous years, Wednesday morning I arrived at the flea market at the crack of dawn and was amazed at the flurry of flashlights waving around everywhere. (continued on page 2)



"45" Phono Book Now Available!



If you grew up in the 1950s, you probably remember playing your favorite 45 rpm disc recordings on an automatic record player. It seemed as if everyone had one-- or wanted one! Now you can relive the history of those records with the big center hole and the fabulous machines that played them -- both highly prized by collectors today. Read about the trials and tribulations of the engineers and managers at RCA Victor Corporation, which nearly decided not to introduce the new players to the product line after all. Then enjoy hundreds of color photos showcasing "45" models produced by RCA and other licensed manufacturers. Captions provide descriptions, model numbers and names, original selling prices, and current values. There are also ads and dealer sheets, tips on dating models, RCA memorabilia, and more. And for those who are technically inclined, a final section provides repair and restoration tips. With some care, these fascinating machines will continue turning for another fifty years!

To order from publisher call 610-593-1777 or for a "signed copy" send \$29.95 + \$4.00 shipping to Phil Vourtsis 13 Cornell Place, Manalapan, NJ 07726.

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

Rochester 2002 continued



Here is an "oak" 45 changer in a Truetone radio/phonograph with oak wood cabinet (courtesy Ray Tyner). Up until now we have only seen this changer used as an attachment with the RCA Victor logo. Oak supplied these changers to RCA during the 1950 model year only.

There really wasn't anything 45 wise that was out of the ordinary. 6EY3 portables, attachments, and 45EY2's and 45EY3's were around. Prices seemed more reasonable than the last few years. Most of the players were in fair to poor condition. I landed up buying a few machines at \$10 a pop for parts. Also picked up a 45EY2 with soft carrying case for \$20.

One of the highlights of the conference were the scheduled talks. They were on many diverse topics because the conference theme was the 50th Anniversary of the AWA. I attended a talk on Zenith transistor radios, rejuvenating certain tubes from the 1920's, how to mold your own parts for impossible to replace parts, and the "Enigma" deciphering machine. This last talk was especially good with four actual "Enigma" machines on display that you could examine.

As always, the Rochester meet was a good time with good friends. See you next year!



Original Box from 7EY1 phonograph

Finding a 50 year old machine in its original box can be quite a treat, especially if the item stayed in the box unopened for all that time. Some collectors leave the box closed to preserve the "brand new" mystique or feel that the value remains higher with the box unopened. Then there are people like me. I want to see what is in there and enjoy the experience of opening it up. As long as you keep the unit in the box with the flaps closed but not sealed, and don't use the phonograph I would think the value would still remain quite high. I found a 9ED1 2-speed new in the box but the box had been opened at one point and part of the tonearm was subjected to the open air for an unknown number of years. Part of the tonearm was wrapped with cardboard so you could see the contrast between the two parts of the arm. Luckily I was able to bring back the original color and shine with some buffing and cleaning. Most of the time when the phonograph includes a box it is because the owner did not throw the box out and eventually placed the used phono in the box. Collecting the boxes can be a challenge because they take up a fair amount of room.

The 45-RPM Phono Gazette is a quarterly publication.

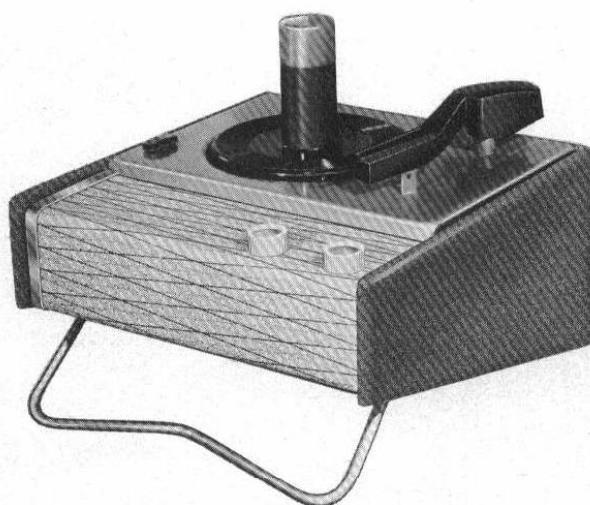
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