Jan 2014

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45rpm Phono Gazette

Phono-Fanatics get together 2013





Nice display of colorful 7EY series

By Phil Vourtsis

Once a year between Christmas and New Years, a bunch of us phono fanatics get together for a day to swap stories about our latest finds and escapades. This year there were 7 of us visiting Bob Becker's place in Northern New Jersey. Bob has over two hundred 45 players and a huge record collection. He is always willing to sell some of his 45s at a reasonable price. In attendance were myself, Bob, Rick Winegarten, Ray Ayling, Tom Cawley, Chuck Round, Steve Caladra, and Dave Sica.



Your editor brought along a couple of very rare machines (Arvin stereo 45 player, custom suitcase with pair of 45J2 changers



As usual the group enjoyed trading stories, records, and players



Our stomachs were full after pizza



Bob's wife provided a scrumptious array of eats

There was talk of possibly getting together twice a year from now on. That would make the Summer the next possibility. Special thanks to Bob and his wife for putting up with us all day. They were very gracious hosts.

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Cost reductions/updates on early models



Model 45EY

By Phil Vourtsis

The bakelite model 9EY3 was available for 3 years (1949 through 1951). The model number was changed from 9ey3 to 45EY and 45EY1 in 1950. Several children's models were available in 1949, and another children's model was made available in 1951 (45EY15). The children's models were painted white and covered with colorful decals. Ironically only the children's models needed a warning label with regards to the lead paint used back then.

Cost Reductions

RCA engineers went the extra mile when originally designing the audio amplifier. Despite the fact that they were cramming the amplifier in a smallish bakelite case with 4 inch speaker, they included a network of components connected to a tapped volume control to achieve loudness compensation. Refer to "A" on 9EY3 schematic.This is where the frequency response is changed depending on the setting of the volume control to give a



9ey3 Schematic (Note: 50B5 and 50C5 are equivalent except for pinout)



45ey, 45EY1, 45EY15 Schematic

fuller sound at low volumes. They also included a cathode bias capacitor in the output stage for better tube conduction ("B" in schematic). These circuits were usually not included in low priced audio back then. By 1950 these circuits were removed as shown in the schematics above. Note C2 and R4 should also be in the circle for "A". Another cost reduction was achieved when the tonearm rest was removed from the bakelite case. Also changed was the piece that supports the back of the tonearm.

Updates

A couple of problems became evident pretty quickly once production started in 1949 with the rp168 record changer. One of the requirements of the new design was to reject and start playing the next record as fast as possible so classical music lovers would not have an annoying break in the music. To accomplish this the change cycle was designed to occur in one revolution of the turntable. It was fast alright. Perhaps a little too fast, as the tonearm would sometimes come down so quickly on the record that it would bounce back off the record and land again sometimes partially into the song. RCA started installing a piston so that the arm would come down to the record more slowly.

Another problem surfaced when some 45 rpm records did not conform to size specification. If the record was too thin or too thick at the inner hole, the mechanism in the spindle would jam into the poorly fitting record. Once this occurred it was difficult to remove the problem record from the spindle. If the consumer resorted to trying to force the record off the spindle it could break the record and/or the parts inside the spindle. The correct way to handle the problem required removing the bottom cover and gently twisting the star wheel back and forth to free the stuck record. RCA engineers quickly redesigned the record dropping mechanism so that if the records could not be separated the mechanism would yield to the obstruction and not jam.

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WANTED

Bob Becker (201.391.2971) 7 Woodland Road Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 rdbbecker@aol.com Beige knob for 8EY4FK Large tuning or vol knob for 9Y510 6JM25 Ding Dong Slideomatic 7HF45 Oak or Maple preferred 8EY4DJ gray plastic front

Decca blk/red portable 45 player Charles Cummins (817-732-4313)

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

David Cox (937)484-3241 1407 Knight Road Urbana, OH 43078 dcc49@yahoo.com 45 spindle for Admiral 5W12N 2-speed record

player Bakelite lid for Zenith twin 7 Outer concentric radio/phono knob for Emerson 635

Dennis D'Amico 11892 Pine Street Los Alamitos, CA 90720-4163 lionelguy@yahoo.com

Bill Gourd

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

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

Bob Green

(570-366-3949) 1711 Breezy Acres Rd Orwigsburg, PA 17961 For Sale- 15E Demonstrator rcgreen@schmobile.com

WANTED

Doug Houston (248-627-4141) 3441 South Hadley Ortonville, Michigan 48462 HoustonD@tacom.army.mil

Bob Kolba 480.203.2241 8676 East Woodley Way Scottsdale, AZ 85266 Rkolba0211@aol.com

John Lee 314 East 11th St. Upland, CA 91786 <u>Nipper45@verizon.net</u> Can scan other character model decals in exchange for Snow White

Paul Childress (804.271.7842) 6632 W. Denny Ct. Chesterfield, VA 23832 pchildress@prodigy.net

Bob Reck (410)647-1849484 Botteford Court, Severna Park, MD

Doug Robinson 2609S. 800E. Salt Lake, Utah 84106 Doug45rpm@hotmail.com

Dan Saporito (732.513.5698) 1225 NW 21st ST Apt. 302 Stuart, FL 34994

Ray Tyner (614-475-1697) 4709 Wendler Blvd Columbus Ohio 43230-1642 rcray45rpm@msn.com Birch 45 player, Steelman 45 player Willie Bosco 707.923.3897 1588 Miller Creek Rd. Garberville, CA 95542 williamjbosco@gmail.com Cam kits, and Lowrider cartridges available again!

SERVICES

Tom Paruta (716.264.4035) 127 Creekside Drive Amherst, NY 14228 <u>TomTMP58@aol.com</u> Looking for Zenith T545 Zenith Twin Seven 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

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. JUKEBOXJUNKIE@aol.com Webpage:

http://www.turntablefactory.com/romano.html

FOR SALE

15E Demonstrator Both turntables restored Amplifier rebuilt Tweeters added to speaker system 45 Changer has 'see through' spindle cap And metal spindle. Featured in Oct 2009 Phono Gazette \$1500 856-220-9588



SERVICES

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Vintage Electronics 9 Crane Park Hattiesburg, MS 39402 601.264.4755 phonoed@aol.com www.vintagelectronics.com Rebuilding Service - Idlers, cams, cartridges Flash-NOS Sonotone 1P carts for the better sounding 45 players

V-M Audio Enthusiasts

(248-478-0990) eves/wkends 37530 E. Meadowhill Northville, MI 48167 info@thevoiceofmusic.com

www.thevoiceofmusic.com Repair parts including both V-M and RCA 45 players.

Phil Vourtsis

(732-208-4284) 13 Cornell Place Manalapan, NJ 07726 philvourtsis@gmail.com Books signed by author The Fabulous Victrola '45', Schiffer Publishing LTD. \$25 plus \$4 shipping

West Tech Services

43734 Marietta Road Caldwell, Ohio 43724 TELE/FAX: 740-732-6056 westtechservices@yahoo.com Rebuilding Service Idlers, cams, cartridges