

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

The New 'Man Cave' in Myrtle Beach, SC

Well we've had the house in Myrtle Beach for over three years and it's time to show you my plans for displaying my collection. There are strict rules on what antique electronic equipment can reside in the house. I have a high shelf in the living room where I can display large table radios. In the dining room is a nice Westinghouse grandfather clock radio. One of the guest rooms has a restored Philco Stereo phonograph which take up end table duty on each side of the bed, chrome legs and all. Oh, and the kitchen sports a small Philco model 89 small art deco wooden radio.

Now here is where it gets interesting. I have my own oversized 3 car garage 40' by 30' equipped with bathroom, heating and air conditioning. While a car or two may eventually inhabit part of this space, most of the building will be to display and repair radios and phonographs. My wife helped my cause by locating prime shelving from an outlet store that was going out of business. Of the 10 shelving units we bought, most of them are 4 feet wide, 8 feet high, and 2 feet deep. The shelving was used in a store that sold china and silverware, so the shelving is very well made and strong. Just as an aside, it took my wife and I seven hours to move the shelving to our house using a rented truck. Even with the shelves removed the frames were so heavy, we had to slide them on blankets because we could not lift them. I now have the 10 shelves installed and I have run electric power to some of them. I intend to run many of the phonographs from where they are displayed. Having such deep shelves allows me to display all the Bakelite RCA Victor phonos like the 45EY4, 45HY4, and 8EY4. It also fits the New Orthophonic High Fidelity models 7HF45 and 8HF45. Check out the pictures (Yes I should have moved the bikes out of the way first). My new workbench is shown at the bottom. The door to the right of the workbench is to my private bathroom so I don't have to waste time going back into the house. I should put a fridge and a bed out here and I would never have to go back into the house!



New Workbench

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

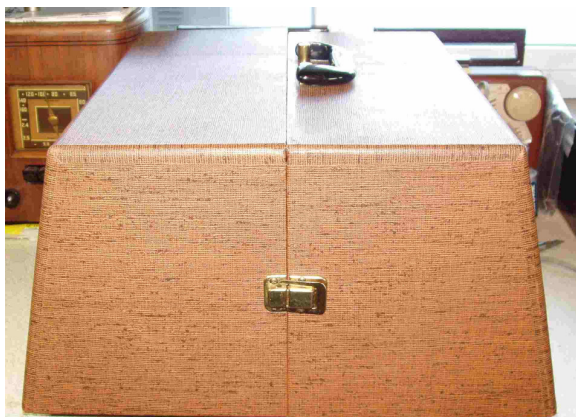
Arvin Stereo 45/16 RPM portable Record Player

Here is one of the rarest 45 players you'll ever see. It is made by Arvin and it uses a Voice of Music (VM) 45 changer. And yes, it is a true Stereophonic record player. While RCA Victor strived to make the most economical 45 changer, VM did the opposite. Since 16 rpm records were starting to be sold in the late 50s and they were the same physical size as the 45, VM added the 16 rpm speed to this changer. These records were mostly audio books because the fidelity was not that good. They did not sell well and were taken off the market pretty quickly. While the RCA Victor changer keeps playing the last record over and over, the VM changer shuts off after the last record is played. Each time the VM changer rejects the tonearm travels over to see if there are any more records on the top of the spindle. If there are none, the tonearm goes over to the arm rest and the motor and amplifier shut off. I've had this unit for over 10 years and actually featured it in one of the early Gazettes along with another Stereo 45 changer. It

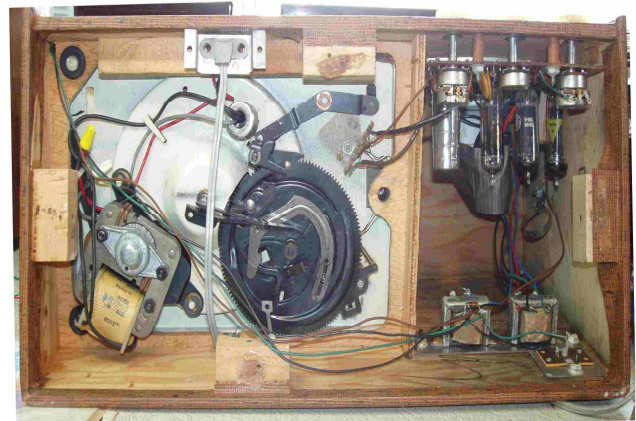
was working fine when I put it away back then but now there are some problems. The stereo cartridge was only playing through one channel and the sound was weak and slightly distorted. The cartridge was a Webster Electric SC2. I was lucky enough to find an Electro Voice 26 which fit in the same mounting. The other problem was the motor running very slow at startup. I took it apart, cleaned and polished the armature shafts and lubed it with turbine oil. Putting it back together did require the occasional tapping of the bearings to get the alignment correct. The motor comes right up to speed now, but the speed is 44rpm, not 45. This is close enough for me but I find many of these old motors don't quite make it to 45 rpm anymore. Any suggestions that could remedy this are welcome. The stereo amp consists of a 4-tube complement featuring a 35W4 rectifier, 12AX7 audio preamp, and a pair of 35C5 output tubes, one for each channel. It's not going to shake the floor or break the windows but it is Stereo!



Arvin Stereo phonograph with VM Changer



Arvin phono closed and ready for travel



Arvin underneath, changer on left and stereo amp on right

Complete Phonograph With New RCA Victor System Plays Low-Cost, Distortion-Free Records



The new RCA Victor system of recorded music sets new standards of record enjoyment, advantages and value. No other way offers *so much* enjoyment, *so many* advantages, *such great* savings. Model 9-EY-3 inexpensively gives you the benefits of this new system. This complete phonograph plays records like the distortion-free RCA Victor seven-inch, 45 rpm record. Just seven inches, these records can play as long as ordinary twelve-inch records and cost much less. Model 9-EY-3 has the surest operating changer ever invented . . . the world's fastest! Place up to 10 records on the large spindle . . . touch a button and hear more than fifty minutes of just the music you want. Records drop swiftly, silently. You are hardly aware of any interruption. Record storage is no problem. Eighteen albums—more than 150 singles—fit in one foot of bookshelf. Model 9-EY-3's deep maroon cabinet complements any color plan. It is difficult to believe that so compact a phonograph could have such volume, could play so wonderfully, could cost so little.



RCA Victor Dealer Sheets, courtesy of Phil Vourtsis Collection

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