

THE GSPS RECORD

*Being the Monthly Newsletter of the Golden State Phonograph Society,
the California Chapter of the Michigan Antique Phonograph Society Inc.*

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• Special points of interest:

- *President's Message*
- *GSPS Shopper*
- *Calendar of Events*



During one of my recent visits to the gracious home of Dick Carty, one of the country's leading authorities on Billy Murray (he'll deny that, I know, but it's true), he showed me an Edison two-minute cylinder box that was autographed by Murray and dedicated to a 'Rev. Kishpaugh' (see page 3). Kishpaugh was a record collector who networked with many other collectors in the 1950s, and who participated actively in an annual series of a record collector's meetings. Sort of strange to imagine people collecting cylinders only 20 years after their demise, and while Clarence Ferguson, 'the Last Edison Dealer', could still supply new old stock! Here is a notice in Jim Walsh's column from HOBBIES magazine, August 1955: "The Rev. H. B. Kishpaugh of Olive Heights, N.Y., asks me to publish the following announcement: "RECORD COLLECTORS TO MEET IN UNIQUE SESSION—Burley [it is actually Hurley—I left it as the magazine printed it—Ed.], N.Y., will be the scene of the third annual gathering of record collectors from New York and other

Rev. H.B. Kishpaugh and Billy Murray's "Last Deed"

- By John Robles—photos and letters courtesy of Dick Carty



States, on Saturday, August 20, which will be known as "The Day of the Discophile." Several very unusual features are planned, including an actual old-time recording session. Edison cylinders will be made by prominent artists of those days, including Edith Helena, Will Oakland and Carson Robison. It is expected that a number of other 'greats' will be in attendance. Informality and sociability will be the order of the day. Unusual records and record-playing machines, including a Hexaphone, will be brought. Further particulars may be obtained by writing to Jack Whistance, Hurley, N.Y. "The Eagle's Nest, on the mountain side half-a-mile from the village of Hurley, will be the scene of this gath-

ering. An informal record auction is also part of the plan for the day. "The Day of the Discophile" is being planned and arranged by Jack Whistance, Ketih Marvin and H. B. Kishpaugh." Another letter directed to Jim Walsh came from a correspondent whose name I cannot make out, but I am sure Dick Carty can supply that information just as he has supplied me with other endless pieces of fascinating lore! This interesting letter came to Walsh after the death of Rev. Kishpaugh. I reproduce here the portion regarding Kishpaugh, and we learn a bit about his importance to collecting: "I am sure that we all miss Harlan Kishpaugh. He was such a vitally vigorous man, so interested in records, and so hearty. I expect that you did meet him at some time. He, as you know, carried out a sort of "Bieling Day" [refers to John Bieling, former Edison employee, who held what came to be known as "John Bieling Day" every year, a gathering of old phonograph talent and fans of that talent.—Ed] idea in these latter years. Unfortu-

(Continued on page 3)



President's Message—by Nestor Guzman

Hi Gang.

It is a fact that meetings are getting better and better; this past one was no exception. John Robles and Jerry Gray planned every last detail. First there was a plentiful table, cold cuts, macaroni and potato salad, chips, breads and many more dishes, too many to mention. After a very relaxed and delicious luncheon, we had a very short business meeting. The attendance was unprecedented, Ron Dethelson, Scott And Denise, Don Henry and Kelly Peters, Mark Capralis, Steve Lavoie, Mike Sorter, Mike

Kanchalian, Dick Carty, Gary Dial, Elaine Pease. Mike Sherman, Al Levy, Dan Waingrow, and yours truly (apologies if I missed anyone)

After all that, Dick Carty spoke about Billy Murray, all the handouts were very informative and lots of fun. Then we moved to the next presentation, Ron Dethelson with newly discovered pictures and writings from the Edison archives and the Ford museum. Ron's knowledge of anything related to Edison is absolutely amazing.

At this point we had a cake-

eating break, we used that as an excuse to discuss the last presentations and prepare for the next one coming. Mike Sherman announced the upcoming release of his new book on Victor and the dating technique for 78 RPM records, from the looks of it, it will be a fantastic must-have book for all of us collectors of the old Victrolas, Victor and Bluebird records.

Our next meeting takes us to the beautiful city of Bakersfield & the home of Ron Dethelson, hope to see you there. Till we meet again—Nestor Guzman

...Mike Sherman announced the upcoming release of his new book on Victor and the dating technique for 78rpm records...



Thomas Edison Says: Pay your Overdue Dues or I'll Come Back and Repossess Your Phonographs!! Contact Mike Sorter or Connie Aldredge Now! WoooOOOOoooooo!

GSPS IS NOW ON THE WEB! VISIT US AT www.gspsl.org

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The GSPS Shopper

Submit a free ad by email or by phone! See contact information at lower left. Sell it now!

APPROX. 20 PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE—Most have rebuilt reproducers and have been greased. Lots of 78rpm disc records available priced at \$1 each. **Jim Constantian—(626) 359-3994**

WANTED: Columbia BG Cylinder Phonograph. **Ron Gaukel, 760-687-5749 or email xanaway@yahoo.com.**

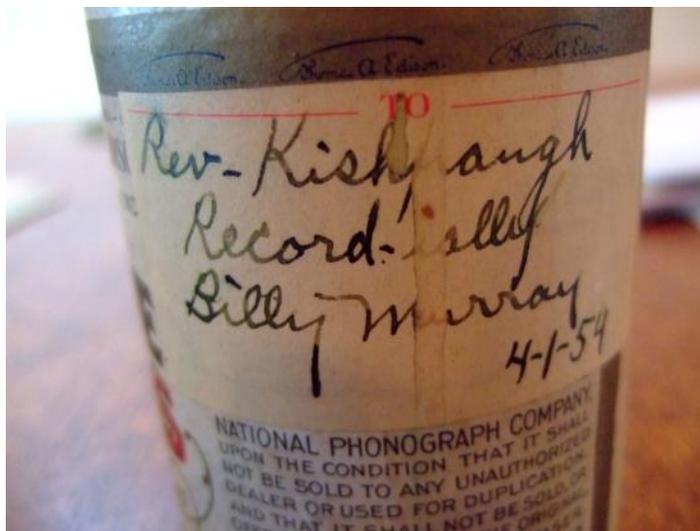
FOR SALE: Brunswick Cortez, Victrola 8-35, Victrola RE-75, Victrola 405 (1923) console, art model in three shades of walnut. **WANTED:** Edison Schubert or Beethoven models. Also could use the number of a furniture restorer who can match woodwork on Schubert legs. **Marc Capralis—951-302-0750**

WANTED: Spanish or Mexican cylinders. **Nestor Guzman—909-627-0481**

EDISON, LAMBERT CONCERT RECORDS & Columbia Grand Records and Related Phonographs is now available. This 154 page book covers production techniques, record lists, phonographs, dating guides and catalogs for these large records and instruments. \$54.95, postpaid in the US. Please send your check or money order to: **Ron Dethelson 3605 Christmas Tree Ln, Bakersfield, CA 93306**

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nately, his widow knew virtually nothing about the records, and so his collection was quickly scattered to the winds. Actually, I have reversed my former opinion that collections should go intact to a museum or other such institution. I believe that in many cases, these institutions are not equipped to properly care for the records, and that it would be better for active collectors to be able to bolster up their needs when a fellow collector dies, rather than to bulk the choice stuff, as happened in Harlan's case, and sell it for peanuts to some institute (the New York Public Library paid only \$500. for practically everything worth having), and the residue went to Coppernoll for resale. Coppernoll found that what he got was largely the



leavings with scarcely one above average selection” So we see that Kishpaugh was a mover and shaker in the collecting world of the 50s. The box signed by Billy Murray must have been a treasure to him as it is to us today. I conclude with a few segments of a letter written by Billy Murray's widow, Madeline, to Jim Walsh less than a month after Billy Murray's death:

“Dear Jim,
Sorry I did not get around to answering your letter before this, but I have been so crushed with the shock of losing my Billy. He was so good and God was so good to let me have him so long. It was God's Wish.”
“I thank you for your beautiful letter in my hour of bereavement. Oh how I miss his pitter patter on the stairs at night. I did everything

possible for him. His friend Carl Mathieu of the “Eight Victor Artists” sang the requiem mass for Billy.”
“Had a letter from the N.Y. Public Library wanting to know if I would contribute Billy's Library of Records to their Theatre Collection. When I get my bearings will give it consideration.” [*Did she do it, Dick?Ed.*]
“His last deed was to autograph a couple of old cylinder records for the Rev. Fishpaugh [sic] in N. Y. State. I think you two boys write to one another. He stopped by last May to see Billy but could not see him.”
And so here I end the story of a great Billy Murray relic, and the account of a dedicated collector, H. B. Kishpaugh, an early record collector to whom we owe thanks for preserving the past for future generations.

GOLDEN STATE PHONOGRAPH SOCIETY
Saturday, April 17th, 2009 at 1:00 P.M.
Home of Ron and Barbara Dethlefsen
3605 Christmas Tree Lane
Bakersfield, CA

Don't Forget To RSVP To Ron and Barbara at 661-872-1530!
They are supplying lunch and need to know how many to plan for.

Directions:

Take I-5 N. From the 5, take CA-99 north towards BAKERSFIELD/FRESNO.
Merge onto CA-99 N.
Take the CA-58 E exit towards TEHACHAPI/MOJAVE. Keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp.
Merge onto BAKERSFIELD TEHACHAPI HWY.
Take the OSWELL ST exit. Turn LEFT onto S OSWELL ST.
RIGHT onto COLUMBUS ST. Turn LEFT onto CHRISTMAS TREE LN.

BEING THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
 GOLDEN STATE PHONOGRAPH SOCIETY,
 THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE MICHIGAN
 ANTIQUE PHONOGRAPH SOCIETY, INC.



GOLDEN STATE
 PHONOGRAPH SOCIETY
 290 Frances Street
 Ventura, CA 93003

2010 GSPS Schedule of Events
 April—Ron Dethlefson, Bakersfield
 May—Mike Khanchalian, Glendora
 June—Mike Sorter, Riverside
 July—Marc Capralis, Temecula
 August—Jim Constantian, Monrovia
 September - Alex Theater—Glendale
 October -Don Henry—Los Angeles
 November -Nestor Guzman—Chino
 December—Corbett’s—Ontario

Monthly Mirth

All the Humor that's Barely Fit to Print



Walter's lemonade stand failed with the 1905 cholera scare. Sadly, his "Learn to Two-Step" stand did not fare any better.

2010 OFFICERS

					
	NESTOR GUZMAN—PRESIDENT				
	DON HENRY—VICE PRESIDENT				
	MIKE SORTER—TREASURER				
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