

On Sunday, January 15, 2017, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Dunwoody North Driving Club clubhouse, in the Dunwoody North subdivision. This meeting featured equipment by Margules electronics, and our presenter was Carlos Smith (based in Columbus, Georgia) who sells and distributes this equipment. There were more than 30 members and guests present, including a new member Allen Miller.

Here is the equipment list of what we listened to:

1. Margules U280 Black Edition Tube Amplifier, \$6000 retail.
2. Margules SF220 Black Edition Tube Preamplifier, \$4000 retail.
3. Margules Magenta TT-10 Turntable, \$3000 retail.
4. Soundsmith Sapphire Mark 3 moving iron cartridge, \$1200 retail.
5. Margules FZ47 Solid-State Phono Pre-Amp
6. Margules BTV4 wireless receiver, a prototype which uses Bluetooth.
7. Audio club designed and built two-way speakers, a Furutech e\_TP80, and an Oppo 105D.
8. Interconnects were by Analysis Plus and Atlas.

John, our club president, made a couple of announcements and thanked our presenter Carlos for coming to see us today to show off the Margules equipment. The annual Christmas Party, which then became a Winter Party in early January was cancelled since interest was low. We will rethink what to do next winter. John then introduced Carlos.

Carlos first gave us a brief history of Margules. They have been in business for over 30 years, and started out by making radio broadcasting equipment. All work (engineering and building) is done in Mexico where they are headquartered. There are technical service groups in California and Georgia. They sell mainly by word of mouth but are in the process of setting up five dealers in California.

Carlos spoke a bit more on the details on the power amp. It can be set to ultra-linear mode for 85 watts per channel, or triad mode for 45 watts per channel (which is what we listened to). The tubes run cooler than other tube amps because of the sliding bias current they use in the amp.

Then, it was on to some music. Among the music cuts we listened to was the classic "Town Without Pity" by Gene Pitney, several classic 45's from Scott Foust ("Uncle Albert" by the Beatles sounded especially nice), a 45 RPM album cut by Muddy Waters, a Living Stereo album cut from "Witches Brew", and cuts from Lynn Stanley, Natali Cole, and a test pressing of "The Look of Love".

During the break, we had a surprise 90 year (!) birthday celebration for Bill McCulloch, a longtime member. A raffle of CD's (thanks Phil Muse!) and other items including Soundstream interconnects that were donated by past member Joe Nardone was held, and everyone came away with something!

After these festivities, we swapped out the club speakers for a pair of the well-reviewed KEF LS-50 bookshelf speakers brought over by Bob Drake. They had great imaging for such a large room, and sounded excellent! We then listened to more music until it was time to wrap up.

The club gives many thanks to everyone who brought refreshments, and especially to Carlos for coming to see us today and letting us see and hear his equipment. Also, thanks to Sam and Jim and the rest of those who helped set this up. Additional thanks to Bob Drake for bringing in the LS-50's.

Thomas Horner  
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta