

On Sunday, January 17, 2016, 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 digital reproduction with emphasis on several Geek Pulse models (from LH Labs) including the top-of-the-line Infinity model. We also auditioned several different power supplies used by the Geeks including the standard wall-wart, a custom made supply by Sam Papadas, and the LH Labs LPS 4 supply. There were over 30 folks present, and 4 new faces.

Up first was John, president, at 2 pm. He thanked the folks who brought their equipment for us to use and also all of the equipment managers. He announced new titles of "Club Director of Operations" have been given to Jim Petrone, and "Director of Technical Resources" to Sam Papadas. He also gave us an update on the February meeting at the "Audio Company" store which will feature a talk by the head designer of VAC equipment, and the May "headphone" meeting. He reminded us that there is to be an election in March for President, VP of Industry Relations, and Secretary.

The playback system consisted of John's laptop as source using "Foobar", AudioQuest USB cable, club speaker wires, club two-way speakers on Von Schweikert Audio stands (brought by Chuck), and a tube power amp brought by Steve Holtz. It was designed by Sam Papadas and built by Ed Stiles. Sam had recently made improvements to the club two-way stand mount speakers (better drivers and internal parts) and their performance is progressing nicely. They had excellent lower bass response especially in this large meeting room with somewhat challenging acoustics. We may not need the club's subwoofers anymore.

Then the listening began. We used different variations of equipment in this sequence:

1. Geek Pulse standard model with standard wall-wart power supply.
2. Geek Pulse standard model with Sam's linear power supply.
3. Geek Pulse 'fi' model with Sam's linear power supply.
4. Geek Pulse "infinity" model with standard wall-wart power supply.
5. Geek Pulse "infinity" model with Sam's linear power supply.
6. Geek Pulse "infinity" model with LH Labs LPS 4 power supply.
7. Geek Pulse "infinity" model with Sam's linear power supply (repeated).
8. Geek Pulse "infinity" model with LH Labs LPS 4 power supply (repeated).

As we went from number 1 to number 6, the sound got better each time except it was VERY close for versions 5 and 6. Members commented on the ability to differentiate between the demos based on the quick change-overs from one setup to the next. Numerous comments were also made concerning the differences that could be heard between various rips made between FLAC "versus" Wave files and even internal and external CD drives. Not everyone heard these differences but many did.

After listening to these variations, we also listened to the Grace Design M920 preamp/headphone amp/DAC (\$2000 retail) with precision volume control that Chuck just received for his review. It sounded really good! It has all the features of the Geeks plus a full featured preamp.

After all this listening, a raffle was held for CD's donated by Phil Muse.

The club gives many, many thanks to everyone who brought the refreshments, the club's equipment, Lee Scoggins for his Geek Infinity, to Steve Holtz for the power amp, to Chuck for the stands and Grace, and to Phil for the raffle CD's.

The December meeting was the club's annual Christmas party held this year in the home of Lee Tingler.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta