

On Sunday, January 21, 2018, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Dunwoody North Driving Club clubhouse. This meeting featured a system that was all Bryston, including most of the electronics, speakers, and crossovers. Our main presenter was Gary Dayton with Bryston along with Mike Burns of Wolfson Audio (the local Bryston dealer in Dawsonville). Also present was David Laikind of C&E Marketing, the Atlanta representative for Bryston. We had a great crowd of about 40 members and guests present, including at least three new members.

John, our club president, announced that meetings are already scheduled through May. He requested that someone volunteer to be the backup to the Refreshment Director in case Dan is not available. He announced the "Tape Day" (reel-to-reel tape) on Sunday, January 29 at The Audio Company location in Marietta which will demonstrate the latest in very high-quality tape reproduction. John then introduced the presenter, Gary.

Except for the CD player (an older Proceed CD transport), all the equipment was Bryston (even the turntable!). Gary explained that we were going to listen to the top-of-the-line Model T Signature "Active" speakers. These speakers do not have built-in amplification, but they also do not have a built-in crossover. So, "active" in this sense means an external crossover, hooked to three channels of amplification per speaker, for three frequency ranges. Gary explained that from the preamp you send the line-level signal to the crossover, and from there three line-level outputs per channel to a three-channel amplifier with three outputs that drive the three speaker inputs (woofer, mid-range, and tweeter arrays). You end up with six channels of amplification driving the two speakers.

The Bryston equipment included:

21B Cubed Power Amplifiers (three channel model: 600 watts plus two times 300 watts).
17B Cubed Preamplifier, BDA-3 DAC, BLP-1 Turntable, BPP-3 Digital Player.
BAX-1 DSP-based Speaker Crossover (external) with 10 channel parametric equalizer.
Model T Signature Active Speakers.

The Cube series of amplifiers feature VERY low harmonic distortion. They utilize a unique input circuit that was suggested by an engineer at a trade show to Bryston about ten years ago. That circuit is used, and it leads to the very low distortion.

Gary gave us a quick history of why Bryston went into the speaker business. The VP of Bryston wanted to use great dynamic speakers to show off their electronics. He found them at Axiom Speaker in northern Ontario, Canada. He then decided to build their own speakers using the Axiom's, and the Model-T speaker line was born. There are currently two speaker lines at Bryston, the Model-T and the less expensive line, the Model-A, which are "passive" (they have built-in crossovers like most speakers).

Mike's shop in Dawsonville (near the outlet mall off Route 400) features Bryston and other new audio products, and used equipment, along with turntable setup and other services. His website is <http://www.wolfsonaudio.com>.

We then listened to a lot of music using the Bryston setup, from both CD's and vinyl. Dynamic range and power were incredible! This took the bulk of the meeting, as music listening started around 2:45 pm, with about a 15-minute break for the raffle. In the raffle we gave away CD's, an LH Labs watch John had received from the Geek Pulse sales, and other items. Everyone left with a prize.

The club gives many thanks to everyone who brought refreshments (Dan!), and especially to Mike, Gary, and David for letting us see and hear some great equipment. Also, thanks to all those who helped set up.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta