

On Sunday, March 20, 2016, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Virtual Properties Realty offices in Duluth. This meeting was about "building" a system from equipment brought in by members that they wanted to share with the membership. There were over 25 folks present. This secretary was not present due to other commitments, so these minutes are based on notes taken by Richard Monastesse (and also from John Morrison). I and the club thank Richard for volunteering to take notes!

Up first was John, president, who welcomed and thanked all the members for coming to the meeting. He announced that next month's meeting will be at the Dunwoody North Driving Club clubhouse, and will feature individuals who build their own components. He encouraged all do it yourselves who build speakers, cables, amps, or other components to come out and show off their wares. **Note:** the location of the April meeting was changed after this March 20 meeting, so see the web site for the latest information! John then announced the 2016 election results. John Morrison was re-elected president, Chuck Bruce as VP of Industry Relations, and Tom Horner as Secretary.

We then had a discussion about the Canlanta 2016 "show" 2016 on May 21, a large endeavor by our club. John asked all members who have contacts with people in the industry to give that contact information to him so he can send them the invitation email. He will ask those people to participate and help generate interest in this upcoming show. He also encouraged members to help get the word out to younger people (college and high school students) by distributing flyers at local schools or by other means. Paul Tarver suggested that we try to locate members with knowledge of social media to encourage them to help get the word out to these younger people. He suggested possibly doing a short video based on Wayne's World from the Saturday Night Live show. The short video could be recorded and uploaded to Instagram, YouTube, and/or other sites. Anybody interested in appearing in this or participating on the technical side is encouraged to contact Paul or John. Paul is going to take the lead on this effort, and Lee Tingler volunteered to help.

The meeting then showcased some components brought in by club members. Some of the components featured included (in sequence):

- Speakers by XTZ a Swedish company. The model was the 99.36 FLR MK II floor standing speakers in piano black. These were brought in by Gary Young. Most everybody was very impressed with these great sounding, very moderately priced speakers (1600 Euros per pair).
- The first amp was a Jinvina J300B + 805-II, a 60 watt per channel tube integrated amplifier brought in by Wing Wong. This beautiful well-built amplifier is being offered to club members for only \$1600 (US).
- Most of the music was played on an Oppo 105D supplied by Chuck Bruce.
- Chuck played some selections of DSD files off his laptop using a Grace Design m920 professional DAC/Headphone amp.
- Amongst the changes we made was replacing a high quality AC power strip with a test setup brought in by Dennis Juranek, using a Furutech GTX DR NCF duplex receptacle. The benefits of this were heard by all and we continued to use it the rest of the day.
- Horton McCurdy's Hegel H160 solid state integrated amplifier was swapped for the tube amp. This amp also proved very impressive for most in attendance.
- There were many changes of various cables. Unfortunately the note takers were unable to keep up with which cables were used for which songs.
- The Oppo HA-1 DAC/Headphone Amp was brought in by Shiv Sharma. Several selections from his laptop were listened to and the sound was generally the best we had heard so far.
- Finally, we went back to using Chuck's Oppo 105 for a few final CDs and by that time, everyone was really amazed at the sound we had finally gotten from a put-together system. By that time we really had the system dialed in and sounding wonderful!

It appears that everyone had a great time, with some good sounds and great food.

The music played included:  
Blood Sweat and Tears

Cat Stevens – Wild World  
Nielson Symphony 1  
Roy Orbison – Blue Angel & Running Scared  
Holst – Fantasia on the Dargason  
Hazmat Modine  
The Highway Men – Last Cowboy Song  
Carmina Burana

At the end, Chuck auditioned a pair of headphones (Audeze LCD-2, Planar-Magnetics) he had purchased from Joe Saxon. He brought them with him from the Atlanta Record Show where he was demoing them for attendees and advertising the Canlanta 2016 show. A few of the attendees at the meeting sampled these excellent headphones.

Again, my thanks to Richard and to John for supplying me their notes. Happy listening all, and see you next month!

Thomas Horner  
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta