

On Sunday, June 24, 2018, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Marriott Century Center Hotel in one of their meeting rooms. This meeting featured two new speakers from the Legacy Audio speaker line, the Valor (with the Wavelet), and the Calibre (and Calibre XD). Bill Dudleston, chief engineer of Legacy Audio, was our main presenter, with assistance from his associate Brice Auser. We had more than 45 members and guests present, including Nick Arroyo who is recovering well, and at least three folks attending their first AV Club meeting.

John Morrison, president of the club, made some brief announcements. He reminded us to watch the website and Facebook for announcements as we have lots of stuff happening. If you wish, get a Facebook ID and join the AAC Group! The annual Summer Party will be from 3 PM to 5 PM on Sunday, July 15 at the Old Hickory House Barbecue restaurant. August will be devoted to our annual Member Open Houses (listening sessions) on Saturdays and Sundays during the month, and sign-up information will be posted on our web site. September is the return of Schiit Audio to demonstrate their two-channel home stereo equipment.

John then introduced Bill. Bill gave us a presentation on how the Legacy Valor uses an outboard preamp and processor called the Wavelet to tackle the problems of room resonances, while technology called "Stereo Unfold" can reveal "hidden layers of information by unmasking important spatial and harmonic cues otherwise lost in playback". Bill showed us some detailed "before and after" signal graphs showing the results of this processing. The technology is based on how the sound arrives at your head (ears) and there has been much research at Legacy to design speakers that lets the music arrive properly. The Wavelet analyzes the room the speakers are in and corrects for room reflections, etc. It is also upgradeable for future changes.

The Valors are large 4-way tower speakers with built-in amplifiers for the subwoofers, bass, and mid-range drivers. An external amplifier is needed for the tweeters, a dual 4-inch AMT array. This way the audiophile can use their own amplifier for this important range of music. The smaller Calibre's are stand-mounted 3-way speakers that can either be passive (no amplifier) or the XD model with built-in amplifier for the woofers and mid-range. For their size, these speakers go quite low in frequency, and are very heavy at 50 pounds each. The Valors cost about \$85,000 a pair, but the smaller stand-mounted Calibre's cost either \$5500 (for the passive version), or the powered version at \$6500 per pair.

The bulk of the meeting was spent listening to music selections through both pairs of speakers, starting with the Calibres. Part of this session was listening to the Valors with and without the Wavelet's corrections. The Wavelet can be purchased separately for \$4950, and (while not done by Legacy) could improve the sound of other manufacture's speakers. Selections from Bill's music collection and those from the audience were played for all to enjoy.

The refreshments were supplied by Marriott, although we had a nice birthday cake for Chuck! Many thanks once again to Bill for his presentation and letting us hear these new speakers. Thanks also to Mark Chaffin for managing the event.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta

PostScript: The May meeting was the Spring Headphone meet on May 6, where manufacturers and enthusiasts showed off their headphone gear. This secretary was out of town that day, but it was a great show! Our thanks to Grover Neville (Schiit Audio), Evan Grimm (Audeze), Chuck, Purk, and to everyone else who brought equipment to share!