

On Sunday, September 17, 2017, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Dunwoody North Driving Club clubhouse. This meeting featured a system consisting of equipment from club members Barry Cox and Gary Young (it was called "The Barry and Gary Show"). There were over 30 members and guests present.

First up was the club president, John Morrison, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. The July summer party at Hickory House was a rousing success, but it did cost the treasury about \$850. We may hold a similar winter dinner in early January, but this one will have to be paid by attendees. The October meeting will feature an all vinyl listening session with equipment and high-quality recordings provided by Sam Papadas and Jason Agee. For November, the club is working on a "huge surprise" with one of our favorite speaker companies. John asked for a volunteer to serve as a backup to the Refreshment Director in case Dan cannot make a meeting. Dan would still obtain the goodies, but the backup would take them to the meeting. John also discussed the noise level (conversations especially) while music is being played and sometimes even during the presentations. We need to find a way to get folk's attention when the program starts or restarts after a break, and to quiet any conversations.

John then introduced our two presenters, both club members, Barry Cox and Gary Young. They had set up a system consisting of hand built tube line-stage preamp, tube phono stage, tube mono block amps, and Tekton speakers. Gary had built all the electronics himself, using designs and circuit boards from K&K Audio, and his own cabinetry and ingenuity. For example, the two mono block tube amps had transformer covers which Gary said were repurposed toilet paper covers! Gary estimated that he spent about \$1800 for the amps (parts only). The preamp would sell for about \$2800 assembled, or about \$1400 as a kit. The tube amps run class A with 45 to 50 watts each. Gary also brought his Clearaudio Performance turntable with Satisfy arm and an Otofon 2M Black cartridge to play records,

Barry had brought his Tekton "Double Impact" speakers that you can only get via mail order, and cost \$3000 a pair for these large (and heavy) floor standers. Barry had purchased an additional \$300 option that upgraded the wiring and parts inside the speakers. These speakers feature an unusual design and have been very favorably reviewed. We used Chuck's new Oppo 205 to listen to CD's and SACD's.

The first part of the music listening session consisted of a pre-determined playlist that Barry and Gary had organized to show off what the electronics and speakers could do. There was a variety of music on the recordings, and these were on both vinyl and silver disks. You will find a copy of that playlist where these minutes are located on our club website. A very nice selection indeed. After a break, members were invited to bring a record or CD and hear it played on this fabulous sounding system.

The club gives many thanks to Barry and Gary for doing all this work to enable us to listen to this great system, especially considering how big and heavy those speakers are! Thanks also to Chuck for bringing his new Oppo 205 Universal disk player, Sam for the club interconnects and speaker wire, and to Jim Petrone for helping set up. Thanks again also to Dan Wittmayer for the refreshments.

For the July meeting, the club held a Sunday dinner at the Hickory House Restaurant, with over 50 members and guests present. The August "meeting" were listening sessions hosted by several members in their homes.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta