

On Sunday, March 13th, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Virtual Properties Realty Training Room in Duluth, Georgia. There were about 30 members and guests in attendance to hear the club's recently completed reference bookshelf loudspeakers, which were designed and built by club members.

First up were some announcements from John Morrison, president, He offered a very special thanks to Dennis Juranek, Sam Papadas, Ed Stiles, and Paul Tarver for first building the speakers and second for pulling together today's program. John also made some AXPONA Show related announcements. This show sponsored by Stereophile and Home Theater Magazine is being held in Atlanta this year in mid-April. The organizers are supporting our club by offering new and existing A-VCOA members a special discounted rate of just \$7.50 at the door. John has been soliciting volunteers from the club to assist in the logistics of the four day show. We have 23 volunteers so far but still can use more. Volunteers will get free entry and many other "perks". Also, one vendor is offering \$200 for 3-4 hours of setup help on Wednesday and 4-5 hours of pack-up help on Sunday. No regular meeting will be held next month due to this show.

Next up was the speakers. Dennis started the program by briefly explaining some of the design criteria for the speakers which cost only about \$500 in parts. The exact parts list was handed out to the audience to see what drivers were used, etc. One surprising design feature is that there is very little filling in the box, since that would affect box volume calculations. Dennis then played eleven 2-3 minute sample tracks from a DVD-Audio disc which included various types of music. Dennis and Sam concluded the demonstration by playing the last two sample tracks again on another pair of loudspeakers, designed by a student of the late Dr. Marshall Leach, which served as the inspiration for this project.

Sam continued the program with a detailed explanation of driver selection and rather complex calculations used to arrive at the final dimensions for the loudspeaker cabinets and ports as well as component selection for the crossover networks. Dennis followed Sam's presentation with a slideshow illustrating the construction of the enclosures and explained material selection and construction techniques, for example, using "pocket hole" wood working methodology. Their presentation PowerPoint's (or .pdf files) will be placed on the A-VCOA web site.

There was extensive listening done with the speakers using the equipment supplied by several members including Chuck, Ed, Sam, Dennis, John, and Randy Miller. The amplifiers used were 27 watt tube mono-block amplifiers and the Marantz Reference Series PM-15S2 integrated amplifier. The digital equipment included the Cambridge Audio DacMagic, Oppo BDP-93 universal disk player, and the Logitech Squeezebox Touch.

The club extends our thanks once again for the use of the training room, and most especially to those members who built these wonderful speakers, and gave excellent presentations.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta