

On Sunday, March 25, 2012, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the offices and showroom of MPower AV in Alpharetta. This meeting featured demonstrations of several complete audio and video systems highlighting the products sold by MPower AV. There were over 30 members and guests present at the meeting, including two new members.

Our president, John Morrison was first up with some announcements, and to conduct the business side of the meeting. Three officers had to be voted on, and John asked all members present to vote on the positions of President, Vice President of Industry Relations, and Secretary. There were no nominees from the February meeting except for the current holders of those offices (John Morrison, Chuck Bruce, and Tom Horner respectively). There were no additional nominations from the floor, so all three nominees were approved by acclamation. There were no objections. John then briefly spoke about upcoming meetings and the August picnic.

John then introduced the two representatives from MPower AV, Joe Saxon (General Manager) and Dave Striplin (President). Joe explained that MPower AV primarily does custom A/V installations, but they also sell two channel systems, specializing in good value components. Some of the manufacturers they represent include Chord cables, NAD electronics, Dali (Danish Audiophile Loudspeaker Industries) speakers, Definitive Technology speakers, and Rega, who not only makes turntables that are well known, but also electronics and speakers. As an aside, the name Rega comes from the first two letters of each founder's name.

Several different systems were then showcased by Joe and Dave. The first system used high resolution downloads to feed a NAD integrated amplifier (using its built-in DAC) which drove Dali Zensor 1 bookshelf speakers, which retail for \$500 per pair. This system also had a Definitive Technology subwoofer which was used off and on so we could hear what the Dali's could do on their own. For their cost, these speakers sounded wonderful according to most in the room.

The second system featured a NAD amplifier and CD player (\$680 for both) driving Dali Ikon 1 Mk 2 speakers that have a ribbon tweeter, midrange dome, and woofer. In this system we also heard the Dali Mentor (Menuet model) speakers. The third system highlighted Rega equipment including Rega RS-5 speakers, Rega Ellicit integrated amplifier, Rega Apollo CD player, and a Rega P3-24 turntable with TTPSU power supply. We listened to vinyl using this system. The final system was a home theater system with Definitive Technology speakers for all channels, a NAD T575 AV receiver, and a 55 inch Samsung video monitor. For this demonstration, Blu-Ray concert disks were spun.

There was an exciting raffle at this meeting, with the first item to be won a NAD DAC-1 wireless analog and digital streaming DAC donated by MPower AV. Other prizes were a variety of CD's and DVD's donated by club members.

The club thanks our presenters for a great afternoon of learning and listening, introducing us to both new brands and reintroducing us to more well-known brands, and for opening up their showroom for us to see and hear some great equipment.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta