

On Sunday, September 22, 2019, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Evolution Home Theater showroom in Buckhead. Our host was the owner, Scott Carpenter. The meeting was to give Scott a chance to demonstrate and discuss the systems he features on the showroom floor, including multiple 2-channel audio systems and two home theater rooms. There were about 40 members and guests present.

At 2 pm, John Morrison, president of the club, made some announcements. On Sunday, October 27 we will meet at the Dunwoody North Driving Club clubhouse, but meeting details are not set yet. The Sunday, November 24 meeting will also be at the Driving Club, and will feature Exogal Digital gear. There will be no meeting in December, and the annual winter party will be held January 5, 2020 at a restaurant to be announced. He then thanked our host Scott for having us. Also, Chuck Bruce for picking up some chairs, and members Tom Horner, Paul Tarver, Dennis Juranek, Gary Young, Lee Scoggins, Barry Cox, and Steve Gooding for early setup and for "hosting" various rooms. Also, as always, Refreshment Director, Dan Wittmayer with help from Tom Allen and Jennifer for the excellent refreshments! John introduced our host Scott who first gave us a brief history of Evolution. They have been in business since 1959 and have been at their current location for the past 15 years. They represent many brands including B&W, Sonus faber, Dynaudio, McIntosh, Marantz, Sony (projectors), Gryphon, and Gold Note. His business is growing, mainly due to 2-channel (not home theater) sales. By August 2019 they had surpassed their total 2018 sales. His best seller are the Sonus faber Amati Tradition speakers that retail for \$30K a pair.

Scott then demonstrated three of the audio systems in the main (very large) showroom. All featured Sonus faber speakers, ranging from \$6500 a pair to \$70K a pair. The electronics were McIntosh. The system with the \$70K speakers had another \$70K in electronics, source components, and cables. Scott says that Sonus faber speakers have a massive soundstage, great focus, deep bass, clear highs, and sound very natural. The bass was very evident in these demonstrations! Also in this room was the new Hisense Laser short-throw 4K HDR Laser TV (yes, uses a laser as a light source!) which includes a screen, retailing for \$10K (100 inch version).

After this, the attendees were invited to visit the other rooms and systems throughout the store. There were multiple 2-channel systems (too many to count!), some hosted by one of the members above. Each room had a list of the equipment being shown with retail pricing. The two home theaters were demonstrated by Paul Tarver and Tom Horner. Paul had the "high end" theater with Barco projector, while Tom had the "value" theater with a 4K Sony projector and Marantz receiver. The speakers in this theater were B&W in-wall (behind the screen) and ceiling speakers (for surround), with a JL Audio subwoofer.

The meeting wrapped up around 5 pm, and all enjoyed listening (and watching) the many variety of systems available for demonstration.

The club again heartily thanks Scott for hosting us, and to all the members who hosted the various rooms and brought the refreshments, all of which made this a very successful meeting!

The July meeting was the Summer club luncheon, and the August meeting were the listening sessions held at members' homes.

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta