

**Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, December, 2005**  
**Meeting Notice - Sunday, December 11th, 2005 2:00PM-5:00PM**

Arlington Heights Historical  
Society, Arlington Room, 110 W. Fremont  
Arlington Heights, IL

For directions go to:

<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

At the recent Rocky Mountain Audio Fest I was approached by Song Kim from Song Audio ( [www.songaudio.com](http://www.songaudio.com) ) to do a meeting for our group as soon as possible. The earliest time available was our December meeting and Song agreed to brave the snow and cold and drive in from the Toronto area, so the least we can all do is return the favor and drive in to Arlington Heights this Sunday!

He will be accompanied by his wife Clara, and assisted by Joe Jurzec from Jam'n Audio--- <http://www.responseaudio.com/jamnaudio.htm> .

Mr. Kim will be bringing and demonstrating the following equipment:

Product Description:	No. of Pieces:
Song Audio SA-1 Preamp	1 set (Power supply & Pre-amp)
Song Audio SA-300MB Power amp	1 pair of Mono Block
Song Audio SA-34SB Cecilia	1 piece Tube Integrated Amp
Vasant_K Integrated amp	1 piece Solid State Integrated
Loth-X Polaris Speaker	1 pair
Song Audio DM Type II Speakers	1 pair
Audio Analogue Paganini CD Player	1 piece

In addition, Joe Jurzec will be bringing the Daedalus DA-2 loudspeakers and a Stello transport and DAC.

The Song Audio electronics were used at the Zu Cable suite, the Daedalus-Teres suite, in addition to Song Audio's own suite and were very well received. We will be combining this with our usual Holiday meeting where members are encouraged to bring in holiday music of various genres and any extra goodies to be consumed if so inclined :>) We will have extra refreshments on hand as usual. Look forward to seeing all of you there.

### **NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP**

Jon Verhalen from Lowther America ( <http://www.lowther-america.com/> ) demonstrated the new Basszilla and Alerion speakers with it's matching subwoofer. The following equipment will be on hand:

Source: Sony ES9000 with Level 4 Vacuum State Modifications

Pre-Amp: Pass Labs X1

Amp: First Watt (Nelson Pass) Aleph J

Wires: Jena Labs

Speakers:

Alerion and matching subwoofer

BassZilla Platinum edition

Lowther has a long history and a strong cult following among certain audiophiles and Jon showed what it was all about. The Basszilla shown is a recently built ( by Jon) prototype design of Dick Olsher that uses a 15" Eminence driver for the bottom octaves and an Aurum Cantus ribbon tweeter for the top octave. An open baffle is used for the Lowther and the ribbon. Freeing up the Lowther driver from the frequency extremes allowed for a very dynamic speaker that filled our large room. The Alerion speaker is a more traditional Lowther full-range design. We switched from the Pass Aleph J amp to the Pass First Watt amp for this speaker. This speaker was also very well received as the amp warmed up nicely in just 20-30 minutes. Jon Verhalen is the U.S. distributor for Lowther right here in the Chicago area. Our thanks to Jon for a very enjoyable meeting.

### **IN MEMORIAM**

Bob Crump of TG Audio and CTC Builders passed away last week. Bob grew up in Evanston and attended university in Oklahoma majoring in psychology, later to move to Houston, Texas. Prior to doing audio full time, he enjoyed a successful career in the commercial insurance business. CAS members will remember him visiting in March 1999 to demonstrate the new (at the time) CTC Blowtorch preamplifier at the Dance Building in Des Plaines. He also attended the June 2003 meeting where Sound Lab, Joule Electra, Great Northern Sound, Creative Cable Concepts, and Joe Lavrencik put on quite a show. Some of us had dinner with Bob and the other attendees after that meeting. His humor and enthusiasm will be missed. Bob is survived by his brother Norm who resides in Washington state. Their mother passed away last year. Bob had hoped to move to Eugene, Oregon but due to a stroke he suffered last year put plans on hold. Bob lived by himself and was 57.

### **OMISSION/CORRECTION**

In last month's OCTOBER MEETING RECAP: Atma-sphere Electronics ( [www.atma-sphere.com](http://www.atma-sphere.com) ) were used with the Zu Cable loudspeakers at Zu's request. Last minute arrangements to accommodate their request were made by Brian Walsh of Essential Audio ( [www.essentialaudio.com](http://www.essentialaudio.com) ) . Brian also brought the Harmonix Reimyo CDP-777 CD ( [www.combak.net](http://www.combak.net) ) player for our listening pleasure. Our thanks to Brian for helping to make this meeting a big success.

### **OPEN HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT**

On Saturday, December 10th from 1 to 5pm Essential Audio in Barrington ( [www.essentialaudio.com](http://www.essentialaudio.com) ) will hold an open house. Bill Eisen of Creative Cable Concepts will be present to answer questions, and light refreshments will be served.

New products including the Reimyo CDP-777 CD player and Thorp Audio Group equipment platforms will be demonstrated. RSVP to Brian Walsh and for directions: (847) 382-8433

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Friday, December 30th Kevin Novak will have an audio after-Christmas get-together at his home. The get-together will meet beginning between 9AM-10AM Friday morning. The system consists of the following:

Conrad Johnson DR-1 CD transport

Conrad Johnson Premier 9 DAC

Conrad Johnson Premier 10 preamp

Conrad Johnson Premier 11-A amp'

Speakers are Altec Valencias (Voice of the Theater) circa 1975 with updated tweaks. Cabling is Kimber KCAG Silver Kable. And as Kevin says-room tuning done by Spouse, Inc!

Please contact:

Kevin Novak

455 Harvest Lane

Roselle, IL

(630)529-4043

drklnovak@hotmail.com

**LATER THE SAME DAY** - Frank Putnam is planning an open house beginning late afternoon and going into the evening. Many of you were at Frank and Jackie Putnam's for last summer's great meeting. Frank will be demonstrating tube direct-drive Acoustat 2+2's with Copland hybrid preamp, Oracle turntable, and a modified MSB/Aiwa digital front end. Frank also plans to have music concerts playing on his downstairs Kloss Novabeam home theater setup. Please contact:

Frank Putnam

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## FUTURE MEETINGS

**January** - Larry Musial and his redesigned 30Hz Klipsch La Scalas, along with Tube Audio Design electronics (and maybe a new speaker), Also-members will finally present to the group about the Rocky Mountain Audio Fest!

**February** -Bill O'Connell of Eastern Electric will demonstrate analog and digital electronics with Tannoy Churchills and a Well-Tempered turntable.

**March** - TBA

**April** - Sound Lab

**May** - Herron Audio