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Subject: Re: LSAF 2013

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 08 May 2013 02:46:49 GMT

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My room is definitely commercial, but it grew out of a hobby and is decidedly slanted towards DIY. In fact, for the first couple years my Pi Speakers forum was online, I didn't sell anything, just like you guys. I just provided plans for my speakers, and let the builders gather their own parts from their favorite vendor.

Later, I realized there were enough builders that I could get distributor wholesale pricing and exploit an economy of scale to sell kits at or below the cost most people would see buying their parts in single-unit quantities. Seemed like a win-win deal, because I could get a better price for the buiders, and make cheeseburger money out of the deal too. Since then, I've sold several thousand kits.

About LSAF 2013, I was kinda bummed that I missed the dinner Friday night. I had visitors in my room until late, well after dinner. The show had unusually high traffic on Friday, and I just let the time get away from me.

Most years, Friday is kind of slow with just a few guests. It sort of made it possible for exhibitors to visit with one another. Lots of gear swapping and dialing in happens on Friday. Sort of like when a NASCAR guy blows an engine so another team loans them their spare. Then Saturday is always slammed. Sunday was always load-out day, with a few guests returning to close the deal on purchases, have a second look, and various other "last day" activities.

I hope next year to make dinner with everyone. That is always one of my favorite things to do. Now that Rudy's has come up from Austin to Dallas, my vote is we all go there. I love that place!

I think another thing we'll probably do next year is to have seminars. Most years, I've done my "Crossover Electronics 101" seminar. We study various crossover circuits schematics along with their transfer functions. Then we play music through a circuit of each configuration shown. Then we change damping and listen again. This illustrates things like the way quarter-wave modes in a horn will manifest in the response curve. We show (and listen to) a second-order filter with and without a Zobel. The peaks that are shown in the transfer functon become audible, so this makes these kinds of effects become "real" for the beginner in this hobby.

Other seminars have included tube amp design (from various experts), acoustic measurements (from Keith Larson) and woodworking seminars (from Bill Epstein). They're usually very informative and enjoyable.

Can't wait to do it again!