
Subject: Great Plains Audio Club February 2005 Meeting - Photos

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 06 Feb 2005 01:42:20 GMT

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The Great Plains Audio Club meeting was held by Bill Wassilak and his charming wife. They provided drinks and munchies and good hospitality. Everyone had a great time, thanks Bill! In attendance was Bill Wassilak and his wife, Trent Fowler, Mark Margiotta, Akhilesh Bajaj, Phil Wilson and me. Trent Fowler, Bill Wassilak, Mark Margiotta, Akhilesh Bajaj and Mrs. Wassilak Bill Wassilak has been working on his array speakers for quite some time, and we've all been waiting to hear the fruits of his efforts. He based them on the array whitepaper from Dr. Jim Griffin, a regular participant on the Array forum and well-known contributor to the DIY audio community. Bill's speakers use 20 midwoofers and 24 tweeters per side, and power is tapered at the ends. The crossover point is 4kHz. Bill Wassilak with his line arrays, based on the work of Jim Griffin Probably the most amazing thing about these is that the parts are unusually cheap. The midwoofers are 50¢ each, and the tweeters are a quarter. The sound is very good, and when you consider the cost of each driver, the sound is amazing. I can see why hobbyists enjoy building arrays like these. We listened to them both with high power solid state amps and low power SET. They seemed equally well voiced with either. Bill uses high power Crown amps, and his array speakers sound very clear and powerful. Then we switched to Akhilesh's Zen SET amp, and voices took on a slightly different character, particularly female voices. As you might expect, the mids were just a little bit warmer sounding with the Zen. Very pleasant, actually. Trent Fowler, Bill Wassilak, Wayne Parham and Akhilesh Bajaj Mark Margiotta recently purchased a nice tube tester, which he brought to the meeting. Mark E-Mailed each of us to invite us to bring our tubes, in order to measure them. The tube tester is in excellent shape, Mark got a good deal on that unit. Mark Margiotta's Hickock 600 tube tester One of the best things about the old Hickock testers is there is so much data available for them. You don't get a four or eight page chart of tubes, but instead a whole booklet with thousands of them. So the tester quality and capability is good, but the data that is provided with them is even better. Akhilesh Bajaj, Bill Wassilak, Mark Margiotta and Phil Wilson We sure had a nice time. Good food, fun and companionship. Thanks Bill!

Subject: Thanks Bill

Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Sun, 06 Feb 2005 12:52:49 GMT

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Great speakers (really nice frequency balance) and great setup! Thanks for your hospitality too!-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Great Plains Audio Club February 2005 Meeting - Photos

Posted by [Mark Margiotta](#) on Mon, 07 Feb 2005 16:03:26 GMT

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Bill, I really enjoyed listening to the arrays. Nice job!! Thanks to you and your wife for the hospitality. Mark

Subject: Re: Great Plains Audio Club February 2005 Meeting - Photos
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 19:20:08 GMT
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Nice photo's. What are some of the musical strengths of the Arrays? What musical passages would you say bring out the best in them? Driving them with the Crown amps, are they smooth and do they resolve well; and with the Zen amps are they detailed and sweet? Driving them at low volume do they still have body and presence or would you say they really need power to come alive? Do piano tones sound three dimensional and have a nice resonance? Just some of the questions brought to mind by the photo's. Do they need fussy placement or can they be arranged in many positions without audible sacrifice. Do they transition well throughout the frequency spectrum? On Jazz music are they balanced; ie. do they represent horns with equal depth as say guitar. In other words do they tend to favor certain instruments? Voices are not emphasized in the mix? Little food for contemplation and prospective builders.

Subject: Re: Great Plains Audio Club February 2005 Meeting - Photos
Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Mon, 14 Feb 2005 19:58:51 GMT
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Hi John, I thought the arrays were great for any kind of music. The zens diffused the sound a bit, making the female vocalists and small arrangements sound a little "warmer". The crowns were superb. Overall the speakers were very very good. I was very impressed. The tonal balance seemed good, Bill had to EQ them quite a bit, but once EQ'd, their strength, which is "presence" shone through. -akhilesh
