

# ARIZONA Audio Video Club

April 2021

## Club Officers

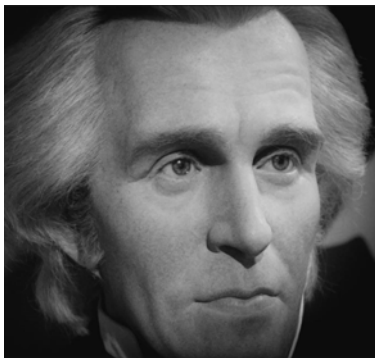
**President:** Paul Righello

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Joe Goswami

**Newsletter Editor:** Roy Cook

**SC Members:** Jeff Kalina, Bob Olivere, Ben Taylor, Darcy Righello, Tom Harvell, David Hjortland, Pete Eichen

**Photographer/Videographer:** Ben Taylor, Thomas Parker-Swenson



**President's Message**



**Last Month's Meeting**



**Member Articles**



**Sundry Stuff**



**Dealer Area**



**Humor**

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Email [Info@AZAVClub.org](mailto:Info@AZAVClub.org)

YouTube Channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DT\\_nKeWE0S4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DT_nKeWE0S4) (not quite loaded yet)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Paul Righello

Hi Folks,

Happy May! The club is chugging along now and I saw many of you at D'Agostino's factory last month. What a cool place to visit; Dan's amps are works of art. We also had a great call with Dr. C of Audeze last month who shared what makes their designs so unique. I know some of you also picked up a pair of their headphones as well; myself included. They sound fantastic.

~~This month, we have a call with Dr. C on the 12<sup>th</sup> about his other venture called Dragonfire Acoustics. Sorry, temporarily cancelled.~~

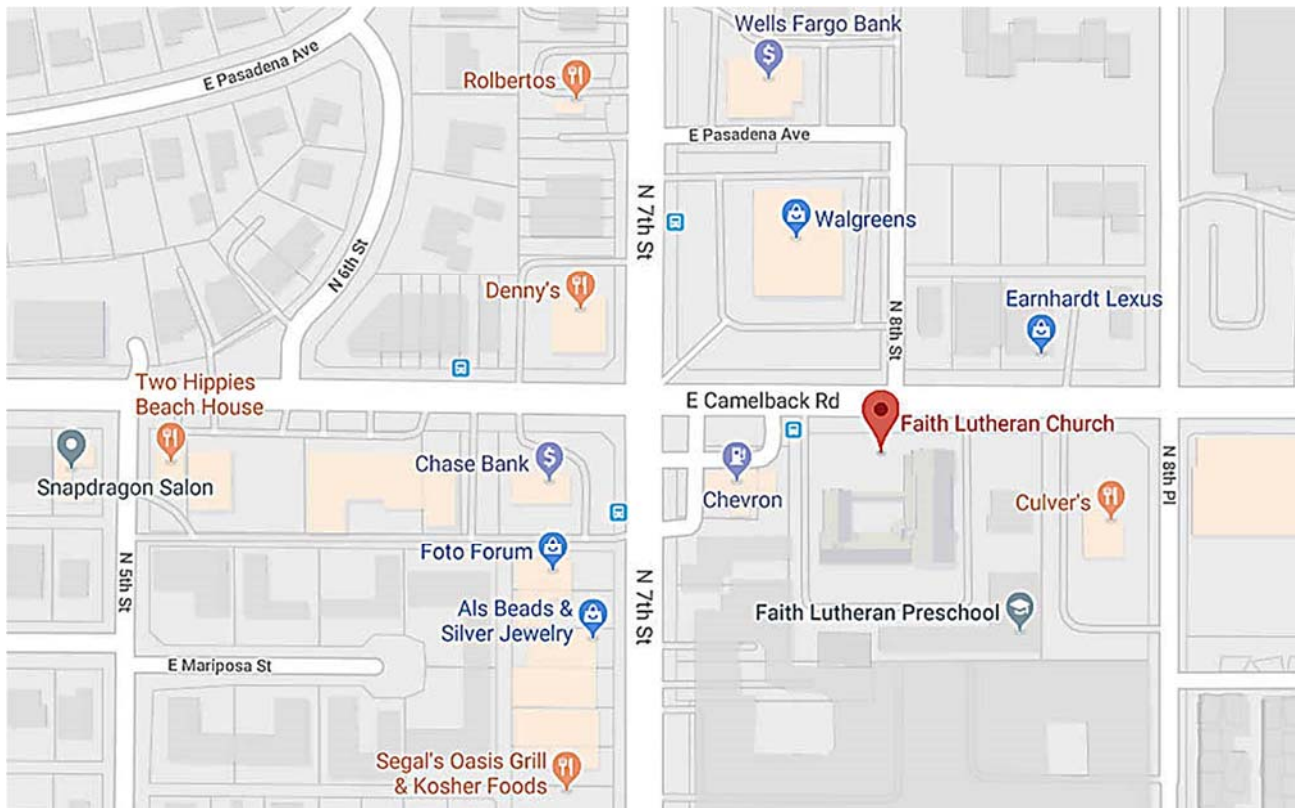
We also have a big DIY event Joe Goswami is putting together for us. Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7pm. The location is the Faith Lutheran Church, 801 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014. There are many participants bringing their own creations including a gentleman from Prescott! I happen to have heard one of his designs in the past and it was phenomenal. If you have anything you'd like to share, please email Joe at [rajugsw@gmail.com](mailto:rajugsw@gmail.com). Don't miss this event, it will be a lot of fun and you might be surprised at what one can build at home.

Also, an announcement...I would like to welcome Peter Eichen to the Steering Committee. Peter is a long-time member of the AZAV Club with many years of experience in club affairs. Peter even served a term as President of the club some years back. In addition to the joining the SC, Peter will also be our new Webmaster. Please join me in welcoming Peter to his new role and thanking him for his service.

We are continuing to plan out the remainder of this year and have landed upon some cool events in Q3 & Q4. Please keep an eye on your inbox and our webpage for more information as things develop. More to come. Take care and stay safe.

Best,

Paul Righello



# MEMBER ARTICLES

Roy Cook

## *Roy's Record Reviews*

Having had several discussions with club members regarding Classical music there seems to be one piece that is more of a AAVC favorite than any other. I am referring to the masterpiece that is Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony. Frankly, I couldn't agree more, it's a stunning piece of symphonic music. The piece has beauty, drama, a sense of history, and quite a bit of sadness and finally triumph.

Shostakovich (1906-1975) was highly revered in his time, but his life was anything but a smooth easy existence. Living under Stalin created perils for every Russian and Shostakovich was no exception. I placed some links for a further examination of the composer's life under the ultra-harsh rule of the Stalinist regime.

Morish Senegor – <https://www.morissenegor.com/musical-conversations/dmitri-shostakovich-symphony-no5/>

Wikipedia – [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony\\_No.\\_5\\_\(Shostakovich\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphony_No._5_(Shostakovich))

If you are looking at a Shostakovich No.5 to own, there are lots of recommendations online from reputable sources. Having listened to over a dozen different versions I consistently prefer Haitink, Concertgebouw on Decca and purchased this complete symphony cycle.



# LAST MONTH'S MEETING RECAP

## Dave Hjortland

The Club was pleased to be invited for a return visit to the factory of Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems, in Cave Creek. Some 27-ish club members showed up for the event. There was a snack bar providing a few munchies, as well as beer and wine. Dan's lovely wife Petra was doing a great job of greeting and making club members feel right at home. After a pleasant period of socializing, Bill McKiegan, President of the company, opened with a somewhat in-depth discourse about the company and Dan's history as one of the leading amplifier designers in the world.

Bill, then introduced the man himself, Dan D'Agostino. Dan shared some of his design philosophy followed by an overview of his products and specifics about a few of them. You could tell that Dan takes great pride regarding the company's policy of making his products perpetually upgradable to current specs, such that when new advancements that are incorporated into his models owners can send their pieces to his factory and have them fitted with the updates.

The facility had on hand a couple of the Relentless monoblock amps that were nearing completion, and he displayed and talked about them to the interested crowd. Coming in at just under 700 pounds and putting out a whopping 1500 WPC (at 8 ohms), it is not an amplifier for everyone, but it sure is impressive. Expect to pay around \$300K for these beasts.

A highlight of the presentation was the unveiling (literally – it had a covering over it) of the brand-new Relentless preamplifier. A three-box piece, it has not yet been released but should be soon. Like other D'Agostino gear, it will not come cheap. A headphone amp is in the works, but it is not finished and Dan is not sure when it will be ready for release.

Of some interest to many readers that could not attend, is that Dan uses DCS gear for digital input and almost exclusively Wilson Audio speakers for evaluation and listening tests. We heard a pair of Sasha DAWs being driven by an integrated out on the factory floor. There was no real sonic evaluation of D'Agostino gear by the club as the sound room on the north side of the facility is being reworked to add some new office space.



# DEALER'S AREA

## Dealers Corner

Jeff Kalina

As always we want to recognize and thank all the local retailers who support our club so graciously

### DEALERS:

Acoustic Designs Group -- <https://www.adgroupaz.com/>

Dedicated Audio -- <https://www.dedicatedaudio.com/>

USA Tube Audio -- <https://www.usatubeaudio.com/>

LMC Entertainment -- <https://www.lmche.com/>

Woolson Audio -- <https://www.woolsonaudio.com/>

Arizona HiFi -- <http://tubeaudio.com/>

Audio Video Excellence -- <https://www.audiovideoexcellence.com/index.html>

Big Ear Stereo -- <https://bigearstereo.com/>

### VINYL:

Record High in Phoenix -- <https://www.facebook.com/Record-High-in-Phoenix-225931417539924/>

In-Groove Records -- <https://www.theingroove.com/>

### REPAIR WORK:

James Koch

[james@highendrepair.com](mailto:james@highendrepair.com)

Audio Doctor

<http://www.audiodoctor.biz/>

Jeff's Professional Audio Repair

Also Car Stereo work

4221 North 19th Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85015

602-274-0794

[jparepair@yahoo.com](mailto:jparepair@yahoo.com)

M-F 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Refoaming Speaker Surround Service:

Michael Mitchell

480-749-7003

[mmiller43228@yahoo.com](mailto:mmiller43228@yahoo.com)

Turntable Set-up and record cleaning:

Richard Jensen

ANALOG resource

602 717 2399 | [worksbau@gmail.com](mailto:worksbau@gmail.com)

# SUNDRY STUFF

## [Resident Alien](#)

In case you have cable and missed it, there is a comical show on the SCI-FI Channel.

The show is called Resident Alien. I don't know when it's on; I ask my cable box for the latest episode (of which I believe there are 10) and my cable box brings it up. Sorry, don't know who's in it; you wouldn't recognize them anyway, there are no "Hollywood stars".

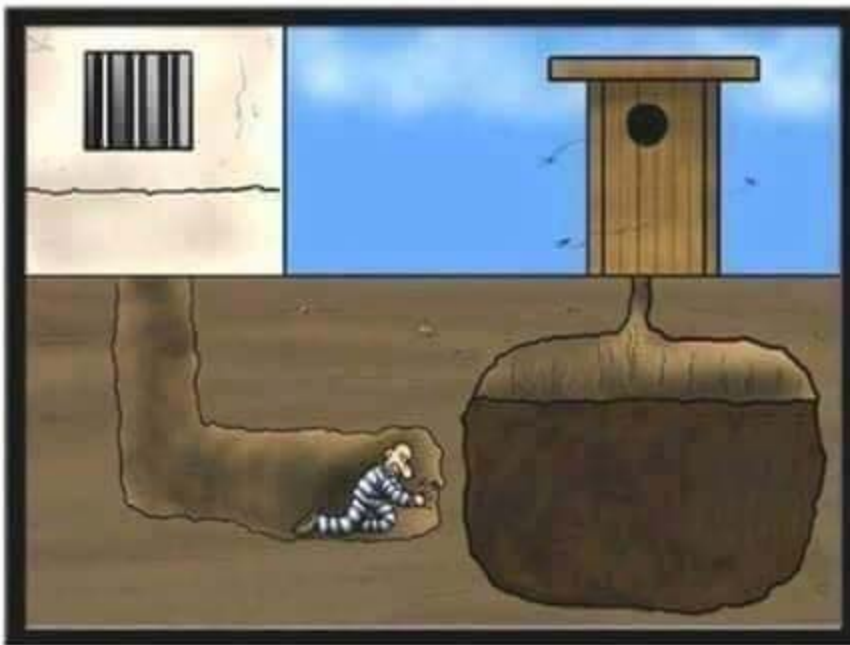
Know this, it's quite funny.

# HUMOR

More silly stuff and Deep Wisdom

My pastor friend put sanitary, hot air hand dryers in the rest rooms at his church and after two weeks, took them out. I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine, but when he went in there he saw a sign that read, "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button."

FOR ALL, WHO MAY BE HAVING  
A BAD DAY..



It Can Always Be Worse.

Zen Wisdom & Teachings

1. Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead.  
Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow.  
Do not walk beside me for the path is narrow.  
In fact, just bug off and leave me alone.
2. Sex is like air. It's not important unless you aren't getting any.
3. No one is listening until you Fart.

- 4. Always remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.**
- 5. Never test the depth of the water with both feet.**
- 6. If you think nobody cares whether you're alive or dead, try missing a couple of mortgage payments.**
- 7. Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.**
- 8. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.**
- 9. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.**
- 10. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably well worth it.**
- 11. If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.**
- 12. Some days you are the bug; some days you are the wind shield.**
- 13. Don't worry; it only seems kinky the first time.**
- 14. Good judgment comes from bad experience, and most of that comes from bad judgment.**
- 15. A closed mouth gathers no foot.**
- 16. There are two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.**
- 17. Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.**
- 18. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.**
- 19. We are born naked, wet and hungry, and get slapped on our butt...then things just get worse.**
- 20. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.**