



photos by Joe Pittman

## April 12th Meeting Recap by Darin Forckenbrock

**K**ara Chaffee, owner of deHavilland Hifi loaded up her station wagon at her Vancouver, WA home on a sunny Thursday afternoon and headed toward Seattle, for the April meeting of the Pacific Northwest Audio Society.

The evening featured Kara's mono

block power amplifiers. The design was taken from a 1960's Fisher amplifier, which Kara had taken in from a friend for an extended period to perform some repairs. As she put it about the Fisher design, "they didn't do anything the easy way with this amplifier". This model uses triode-wired KT88 power tubes (she installed special NOS tubes from Tungsol for the meeting) and can

produce about 45 watts, which is quite high for this type of amp in triode mode. Technically it isn't class A, she referred to it as Class A2. Also in the system was Kara's Ultraverve tube pre-amp, using a 6SN7 driver and her 222 tape preamplifier. Not in attendance, but currently under design is Kara's new 845 SET, which she says has slightly reduced force at both ends of

*(Continued from page 1)*

the frequency spectrum, but will no doubt up the intimacy factor even further. All enclosures are all machined by Kara, with her small C&C machine, which she keeps in her garage. These amps wouldn't be your first choice for rock or a grand symphony, but when you're going after that midrange presence of a triode tube that kind of makes you melt into the listening chair, you would do well to start here.

At home Kara's reference speakers include a Harbeth driver (about 8"), a smaller midrange driver and a specialized, Scandinavian-made tweeter which favors body over extension, plus a 4ft cabinet that doesn't belong to any of them. They're a Frankenstein creation, but the synergy is quite good and they don't trigger the repetitive resonant modes in her room that she's experienced with many other speakers.

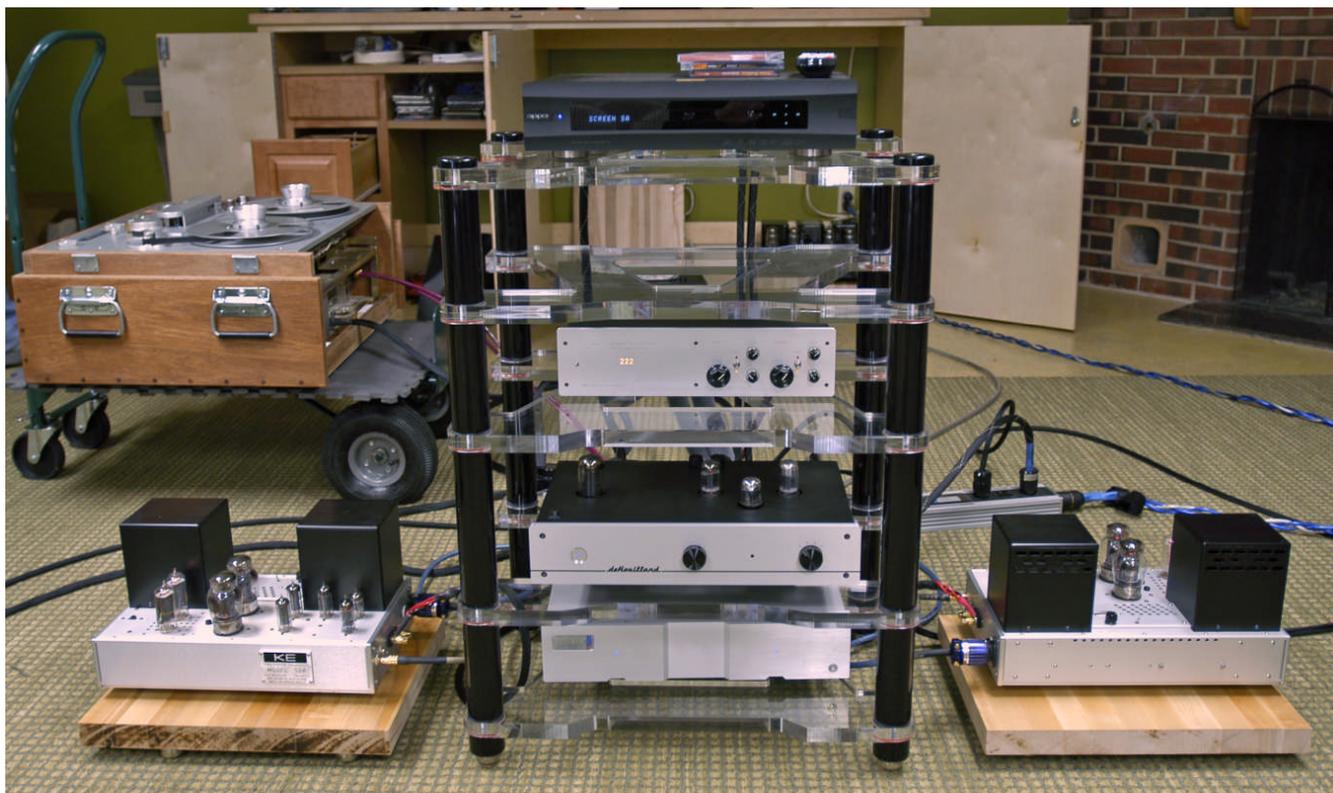
Bruce Brown and Andrew Kosobutsky brought in Bruce's "portable" Studer tape player. No word on whether the duo lugged the 210 lb behemoth up

from Bruce's basement studio by crane or old-fashioned back and muscle power, but we couldn't thank both of those guys enough for their effort. The sound of the tape took the meeting to a whole other level.

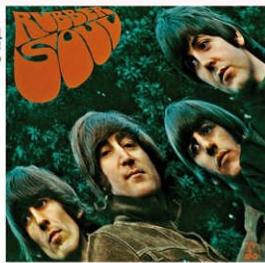
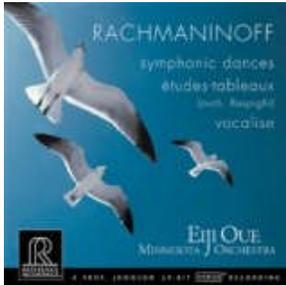
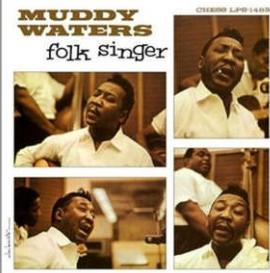
Kara had wondered before the meeting whether the 45 watt mono blocks would be sufficient to power the club's Genesis G7.2f speakers; we were definitely riding the low end of the power requirement, but the pair actually worked together just fine and judging from the reaction of those in attendance, they didn't have any trouble being carried away in the music. That pretty much sums up the sound for the evening. A far cry from the forceful and dynamic sound we had in March with the new 1,400 watt Genesis mono blocks and a nice contrast. On this night we were treated to more of a smaller affair, close-up, quiet and intimate view of the music, aided tremendously by the unparalleled quality of the Puget Sound Studios tapes. Special thanks to Kara for making the trip to visit us. Hope-

fully she will come back one day.

Be sure to check out her website. <http://www.dehavillandhifi.com/>



# April 12th Meeting—Playlist

	<p><b>Norwegian Wood</b> by The Beatles from Rubber Soul</p>		<p><b>Symphonic Dances</b> by Rachmaninoff</p>
	<p><b>Little School Girl</b> by Muddy Waters from Folk Singer</p>		<p><b>Old Man</b> by Neil Young from Harvest</p>
	<p><b>Never Going Back Again</b> by Fleetwood Mac from Rumours</p>		<p><b>When I Fall In Love</b> by Nat King Cole from Love Is the Thing</p>
	<p><b>One For My Baby</b> by Ella Fitzgerald from Let No Man Write My Epitaph</p>		



# Genesis G1 Dragon Party

by Gary Koh



photos by Joe Pittman

The large Genesis line source loudspeakers are always burned in with music for at least a week before shipping. This lets us catch any anomalies in the system that instruments are unable to detect. Hence, we always assemble a high resolution system and play every genre of music and listen for a week.

As you can imagine, this is quite a source of enjoyment for us in the factory. Every once in a while, we have the pleasure to share this with fellow music lovers in the PNWAS.

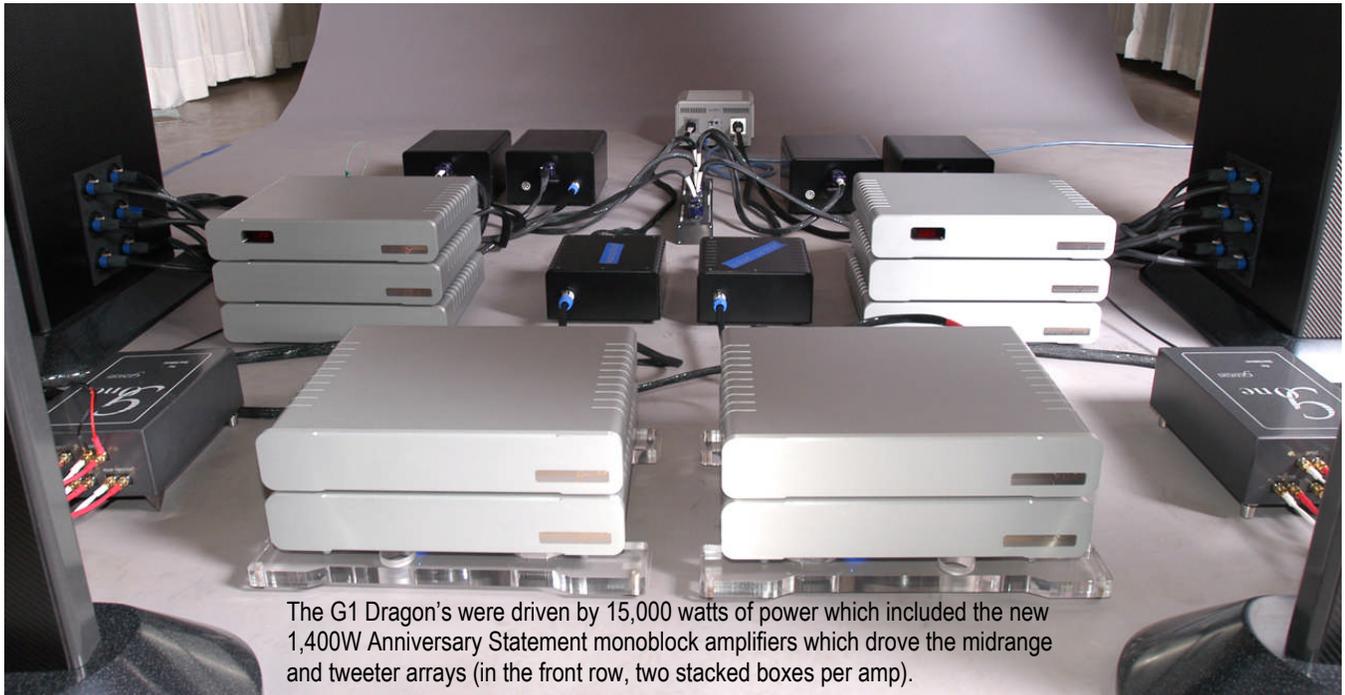
This one is a very special occasion because it is the first of the Genesis Dragons - a

special carbon fiber, upgraded version of the Genesis 1.2 that we will be doing to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Genesis. It has 24 twelve-inch woofers, 56 tweeters, 150 inches of midrange and a total of 15,000 watts. Weight is a mere 2,000 lbs.

There was a party Friday, May 4th to listen to the loudspeakers and we played CDs, LPs, USB sticks, SD cards, even 1/4" master tapes.



Tape Meister Ki Choi provided his Studer A810 1/4" tape machine and stunning master tapes. Gary spun vinyl on his modified Roksan Xerxes turntable with Magic Magic Diamond cartridge. Everything running through Gary's preamp with built-in phono stage.



The G1 Dragon's were driven by 15,000 watts of power which included the new 1,400W Anniversary Statement monoblock amplifiers which drove the midrange and tweeter arrays (in the front row, two stacked boxes per amp).

## May 10th Meeting Announcement DSD Demystified!

by Bruce Brown

DSD Demystified! What is this "DSD" creature? Much talk has been generated lately about DSD open-source coding and more labels offering DSD downloads. Most of you know the DSD format from SACD's. Unlike CD's, there wasn't much you could do with

the data. This meeting will answer all your questions. Hopefully by the end of the meeting, everyone will be able to download DSD files, set up the computer and enjoy the magic of music in the Megahertz!

## June 14th Meeting Announcement M•A Recordings

by Gary Koh



The June meeting features Mr Todd Garfinkle, Owner and Chief Recording Engineer of MA Recordings. The MA label issues provocatively creative music the vast majority of which are produced with only two (often handmade and customized) microphones fed through handmade and customized recording equipment. All MA Recordings are produced in strictly acoustic settings, often large, acoustically significant environments such as churches,

classical concert halls, and galleries. Mr Garfinkle will share some of his stories and techniques and introduce our members to his recordings - in high resolution formats.

In addition, we will record a musician live in the church Sanctuary (upstairs) then play back the recording through the club's system (downstairs).

Don't miss this Live-versus-recorded experience!

## Coming Attractions

**May 10 PNWAS Meeting**  
DSD Demystified! by Bruce Brown

**June 14 PNWAS Meeting**  
Mr Todd Garfinkle, Owner and Chief Recording Engineer of MA Recordings will talk about his recordings and make a live recording in the church. We will then listen to the recording on the clubs system!

**July 12 PNWAS Meeting**  
Summer Social (tentative)

**August 9 PNWAS Meeting**  
After several years of development, club members Gary Gesellchen and Rick Kernen are unveiling their Vanatoo powered loudspeaker. It's a giant killer.

**September 9 PNWAS Meeting**  
Zu Audio will demonstrate their high efficiency loudspeakers and other products (tentative).

**September 8 or 15 (TBD)  
The Puget Sound**  
Our world famous semiannual (every 2 years) DIY speaker building contest.

**October 11 PNWAS Meeting**  
The winners, and other contestants from The Puget Sound DIY speaker contest will demonstrate (show off) their speakers.



**October 12-14 RMAF**  
Annual Rocky Mountain Audio Fest. Hi-ho hi-ho, it's off to Denver we go.

**November 8 PNWAS Meeting**  
Andreas Koch will talk about DSD through USB and all things DSD (tentative).

**December 13 PNWAS Meeting**  
Annual Christmas party and Best and Funniest Holiday music competition. We may also have a Home Theater demo (tentative).

## Notice of June Meeting Expense Approval Vote

by Jerry Pomeroy

The executive committee moved to authorize up to \$500 from the club treasury to be used to cover the June 14th meeting expenses for Todd Garfinkle's air fair, hotel and the additional cost of renting the church Sanctuary upstairs for the live recording.

## Classified Ads

Olive O4HD music server in like new condition with manual, remote and original packaging. Unit has the 500GB hard drive. New retail is \$2500 for 2TB unit. Unit has the black finish. Selling for \$1000 (no WSST). Contact Joe Pittman phone: 206-878-3833 or email: joe@kosmic.us



*Disclaimer: The Pacific Northwest Audio Society does not endorse nor is liable for any advertisement in any way. Everyone is cautioned to proceed at their own risk.*

### Visitors Welcome!

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at 4545 Island Crest Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

### PNWAS Mission Statement

- ◆ To bring people with a common interest in music reproduced at its best, for their mutual edification and pleasure.
- ◆ To facilitate the exchange and dissemination of accurate data concerning audio equipment and musical recordings.
- ◆ To promote, sponsor, and cultivate the highest quality reproduction of music in the home.
- ◆ To encourage maintenance of high standards in the performance, recording and transmission of music.

### PNWAS Objectives

1. Provide a forum for meeting other audio-philes and exchanging information on musical recordings and audio equipment.
2. Demonstrate and compare equipment and recordings.
3. Give members opportunities to become familiar with the techniques of audio manufacturing, testing, repair, recording, broadcasting, etc.
4. Explore related avenues as the member-

ship deems appropriate.

### Club Website

[www.audiosociety.org](http://www.audiosociety.org)

### E-mail

[info@audiosociety.org](mailto:info@audiosociety.org)

### US Mail

Pacific Northwest Audio Society, PO Box 435, Mercer Island, WA 98040

### Annual Dues

\$60 due each January. New members pay a prorated \$5 per month for remainder of year.

### Elected Officers

President: John Stone

[John.W.Stone4@boeing.com](mailto:John.W.Stone4@boeing.com)

Vice-President: Darin Forkenbrock

[forkenbrock@gmail.com](mailto:forkenbrock@gmail.com)

Secretary/Treasurer: Bruce Brown

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

### Committee Chairs

Editor: Joe Pittman

[joe@kosmic.us](mailto:joe@kosmic.us)

Equipment: Jerry Pomeroy

[enhancedsystems@earthlink.net](mailto:enhancedsystems@earthlink.net)

Music: Vacant– Volunteers?

Refreshment: Vacant– Volunteers?

### Editorial

Editorial submissions are welcome.

Content must be audio-related or of general interest to the club in plain text or Word document format without automation (macros and scripts). We reserve the right to edit for style, content, and length.

Editorial Deadline: two weeks before meeting date.

Publishing any editorial material is contingent upon the approval of the Executive Committee.

### Disclaimer

Opinions in this Audioletter are those of their authors; the Pacific Northwest Audio Society itself does not endorse or criticize products. Copyright 2011 by the Pacific Northwest Audio Society except as noted; all rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without the written permission of the

**Pacific Northwest  
Audio Society**

Bringing Audio Enthusiasts Together Since 1978

PO Box 435, Mercer Island, WA 98040