

OLLI @ GMU
AV Support Committee

December, 2010

The Holiday Party audio set-up was challenging, and yielded a number of 'lessons learned' - among other things, we need to produce a 'setup and operation' checklist, to smooth the road to success. We also need to increase the wireless mics' audio output levels to the mixer, to improve the levels for the powered speakers and recorder.

We used the TASCAM DR100 digital audio recorder for the first time, and clearly need to spend more time with the manual to understand its operation. I used the open source Audacity digital audio editor program to improve the audio files we recorded of the Recorder Consort, OLLI thespians, and "Singing for Fun" group. (<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/>)

Many thanks to Ernestine Meyer and Mel Goldfarb for their outstanding help with the Holiday Party effort.

The link below is a conceptual diagram for setting up the Road Show gear for a Consort performance.

<http://www.olligmu.org/~finforum/private/olliaiv/Consort%20audio.pdf>

Here's a snap of gear involved, pre-party, on the steps of the International Country Club - the checklist ran to 18 items that needed transport.



Equipment Update:

The new Hitachi SP-SX635 high resolution projector was installed in TA1 on December 11th. This unit has native resolution of 1400 X 1050, vs. 1024 X 768 for our current projectors. The move of the existing TA1 projector to TA2 was accomplished the same evening.

Cottage - projector, screen, and speaker installations are underway. Here are some cellphone camera snaps Kelly Keys took of the work in progress there.



PA speaker detritus

Attic View - not Swiftie Territory !





TA2 Projector Relocated to Cottage Rm 101



Classroom View



Up and Running !



Prep for the speaker wiring

Miscellaneous Cottage Work:

On Sunday, Dec 26th, Mel Goldfarb and I worked on a couple of cottage projects. We mounted the bulletin board in Rm 105 (Staff workroom and storage). We added two security pins to each of three of the rear windows, to enhance their security.

After acquiring more pins, the rest of the windows will need to be similarly secured - a good project for quick work sessions after Investment Forum meetings - it takes about ten minutes per pin to install.

Before Mel arrived, I took the back off the kitchen stove, to address a concern from Debby Halvorsen that the oven was reaching temperatures 50 degrees hotter than the dial was set for. After consulting three appliance repair books, and the internet, I was searching for a thermostat adjustment. No such luck - our stove apparently predated, or was not manufactured with, a calibration adjustment.

Paul Howard
Chair - AV Support Committee
12/28/10