May 20, 2015

Welcome to a brief and hopefully easily understood session on the operation of our FH sound distribution system. Today we are covering the system serving ballroom area.

The system’s origin is based on a promise to provide adequate sound for the clubhouse ballroom and lounge to be used by the association’s board of directors as well as committees, organizations and clubs. The Events Committee, NY Club, Women’s and Men’s Club, Haverim and FHU generously donated over $6,700 to the Association toward the design, purchase and installation of the recommended equipment and its associated expenses. FH Maintenance completed the entire installation in addition to recommendations including equipment models and power requirements. The completed system was given to the Association and became operational in early 2008. A prepared set of instructions published in electronic, text and now video format is now available for future users.

Let’s move over to the mobile cart that contains the case in which much of this system is housed. Other elements like the microphones, spare equipment and documentation are held in the base of the cart. Let’s start with the----

PRINCIPLE FEATURES OF THIS SYSTEM

1. Wireless hand held or mounted microphones enabling the user to project vocally or musically from a chosen position.
2. Eight ceiling mounted loudspeakers arranged for complete spatial sound reception in equally divided, separate and balanced channels.
3. Seven wireless receivers accommodating a choice of inputs from individuals, groups or instruments.
4. A mixer combining the input choices with a variety of effects and enhancements.
5. Sufficient amplification via a dual path to separate prewired loudspeaker networks.
6. A dedicated, properly fused power line.
7. A case and cart to house and transport the electronic elements of the system.

Like former telephone switchboards, connecting cords offer flexibility in choosing where the sound origin should end up providing the best sound result in a given venue.

 Experience has proven that leaving the cord paths connected removes the need to disassemble the connections after every session.

Electrical power switches to the system components are left in the ON position and only the Tripp-Lite panel power supply need be turned ON and OFF prior to and after each session. Volume controls on both A and B marked amplifier channels should remain as set.

The PV14 compact mixer permits volume and enhancement control on an individual microphone or instrument output as well as volume control affecting all outputs. Undesirable conditions on each input notify the user to adjust the volume when warning lights appear. The use of enhancements like reverberation should be left to those who have familiarized themselves with the text document covering the subject or who are experienced in mixer features.

The cables attaching the amplified sound to the loudspeaker network end in color banded(hot-red, ground-black) banana plugs and are inserted into the related channel receptacle adjacent to the dedicated 120V power supply receptacle on the north wall of the ballroom. These sound cables are to be unplugged only from the wall after each session and left with the case.

There should be a supply of AA batteries kept in the office to insure adequate microphone power made available prior to each session. It may be impractical to attempt measuring a microphone’s usage and therefore a set of new batteries should be installed by unscrewing the cover for each microphone prior to any session that contemplates use exceeding an hour. Microphones should be switched off on the instrument’s base after each session and stored carefully in the cart. Of benefit but not necessity is identifying by number each microphone with its corresponding receiver.

Instrument and clip-on microphones require a separate transmitter found in the cart. Musicians including vocalists are usually familiar with the required procedures however, incidental speakers may not be and should be shown how to attach the transmitter to their person prior to use.

The initial step in establishing a session where this sound system is to be included begins by contacting the office and securing access to the room containing the cart.

Always allow time to introduce the system to users by setting up the cart in the appointed location, by turning the amplifier’s power switch ON and conducting a brief test of the microphones and instruments to be used. When the session is completed please return the equipment in a safe and secure condition by turning off the amplifier’s power switch in addition to storing all the cables, microphones and other devices to their original places.

With minimal attention, this system will give us years of very good audio service and enhance our social and community experience.

Thank You