

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

PO Box 214

Wheaton, IL 60187-0214

Return Service Requested

DEC 2013 FVEAA Newsletter

The FVEAA is a Not-For-Profit Illinois Corporation and the Chicago Area Chapter of The Electric Auto Association

Next Meeting - HOLIDAY PARTY !!

December 13, 2013

Irish Times Pub - 8869 Burlington Ave., Brookfield, IL

In the Back Cottage Party Room

DOORS OPEN 7:25 p.m. DINNER STARTS 7:30 p.m. ENDS 10:15 p.m.

Agenda

- 7:25 Doors Open
- 7:30 Welcome, Announcements, Dinner, Drinks, Survey, Gifts, Fun
- 10:15 Close

FVEAA is now on Facebook thanks to member Grant Gerke. Check it out and **Like** us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/FoxValleyElectricAutoAssociation>

President's Words

Bruce Jones

Hi EVeryone

Last month we started off our meeting with a visitor from Germany, Helge Blatz a student who dropped in on his trip across the United States. He was in a program that allowed him to travel and collect information about EV's, charging

systems, air pollution and green energy. Helge gave us an update on electric vehicles in Germany and described his exploits up to that point, and would continue on to the Pittsburgh area then to New York. He can be contacted at HelgeBlatz@gmx.de

Tom Brunka was back and presented part 2 of his **BMS-LESS LITHIUM ION BATTERIES** presentation which was an excellent review of how a battery management system might not be required! Thanks Tom for trekking down from Milwaukee.

Kevin Stutenberg a Research Engineer in the Advanced Powertrain Research Facility at Argonne labs then presented **"TESTING AND ANALYSIS OF ELECTRIFIED VEHICLES at ARGONNE LABS"** an amazing detailed look at the results from their electric vehicle research. Amazing.

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY - Come!

Thanks to Todd Dore's efforts, here are the details for the upcoming 2013 FVEAA Holiday Party:

RSVP: We need at least 35 guests so email Todd Dore at electricblue0303@hotmail.com

Place: Irish Times - 8869 Burlington Ave., Brookfield, IL (In the Back Cottage Party Room)

Date: Friday, Dec. 13th (Note this is the 2nd Friday of December)

Time: 7:30pm-10:15pm.

Agenda: We'll eat, talk, make some announcements and then special gifts again from the Pres.

Menu: Buffet style - choose from 2 courses. Likely Irish Guinness Stew (w/Soda Bread) and Fish & Chips

Included: A soft drink or water or iced tea, as well as one alcoholic drink per person
(can be either beer, wine, or mixed drink).

Extra: For additional alcohol the room has its own cash bar with bartender.

Room: Very cozy place - fireplace and several large tables.

Cost: All-in price (including tax and tip) is \$20 per guest. We will collect that at the door

Commit: Todd put down a deposit of \$200 for the room so we're committed! Come!

Screen: They do have a large TV so we may hook up a laptop for a presentation

Newsletters & Dues: Remember, we're eliminating the mailing of hard copies of the newsletter starting in January 2014. And we're eliminating family memberships to simplify the membership process, and after 30+ years, increasing dues to \$20 per year. It's still the best deal in town and funding additional charging station efforts will be easier with this small increase.

CCC CHARGING STATION

We're making good progress on plans for installing an EVSE at Community Christian Church where we meet. The church has been generously providing the comfortable little theater room, overhead projection, and video/audio support for each meeting for almost 2 years (since February 2012) at no charge.

And thankfully, the State of Illinois has extended the deadline for charging station rebates until April 2014 which helps a lot as we iron out the details. The FVEAA board unanimously passed a motion for its part of funding a station, to be located in the new east side parking lot - which will also be visible to motorists driving on both Ogden Ave. and Rickert Drive. We'll keep you posted, as plans move forward.

Illinois Tax Rebate information http://www.ildceo.net/dceo/Bureaus/Energy_Recycling/ev.htm

Federal tax credits for charging stations don't apply, as neither the church nor FVEAA pay federal taxes

DON'T BE A GRINCH

Regarding the news about the man in Georgia who was arrested for plugging in his Leaf at an intermediate school. The man was from a different city, it wasn't his son's school, and he was taking tennis lessons on a court where he had been previously warned by the school officials that he did not have permission to play there. He was belligerent and argumentative with the officer, even accusing him of damaging his car, which was not true because the officer had the police car video tape showing the damage was already on the Leaf when he drove up. Moral of the story is let's just be good ambassadors for EVs, and don't believe everything the way the media spins it out. Thanks to Scott Fauque for digging up the truth /details which are posted in the Forums.

Here's hoping you have a happy, healthy holiday season and electrifying New Year!

Bruce

This Month's Presenters

Yearly review, survey and surprises!

Rich's Ramblin's

Rich Carroll

Once a battery manufacturer, always a ...???

Just when you start to believe that there is some stability in the manufacture of automotive traction batteries, it seems many suppliers have some significant problems, and are reported to be belly up. But that doesn't mean the end of production for that company.

Samsung was making lithium ion batteries, but seemed poised to go out of that part of the business to focus on more electronic intensive business. Now we hear that Samsung SDI is talking to Tesla (who currently uses Panasonic as a battery supplier.) Samsung wants to produce batteries for Tesla.

Another South Korean company, LG Chem is also bidding with Tesla, only a few months after also being reportedly at the end of lithium production. Perhaps these rumors were simply that, and perhaps even started by the manufacturer themselves to keep their current prospects and negotiations more secretive.

And we all heard of A123 Systems, who filed for bankruptcy in October 2012. A123 stopped production, and announced they could not pay their bills. (and couldn't repay their government loans) The Wanxiang Group purchased significant portions of the A123 assets (at least a significant portion of the non-military assets). (The military portions of the A123 assets were sold to Navitas.) Now, A123 Systems appears poised to make a comeback. The A123 company is managed tightly by Wanxiang America, whose headquarters is in Elgin, IL.

A123 Systems has pieces of the company in many US locations; their batteries are made in Romulus and Livonia, both suburbs of the now bankrupt city of Detroit. A123 grid systems are integrated and managed from Westborough, MA, and their R&D department is in the Boston area. A123 is working on their Nanophosphate EXT (EXtreme Temperature) batteries that can operate at extreme ranges of temperatures without a need for thermal management.

Other battery news is just as interesting:

Ford is building a new \$8 million research lab, in conjunction with the University of Michigan. (Remember U. of M, they are part of the new J-CESR battery research project at Argonne National Labs.)

Lawrence Berkeley National Labs have announced that they are working on a sulfur-graphene-oxide as a battery component. You will likely remember that they too, are part of J-CESR.

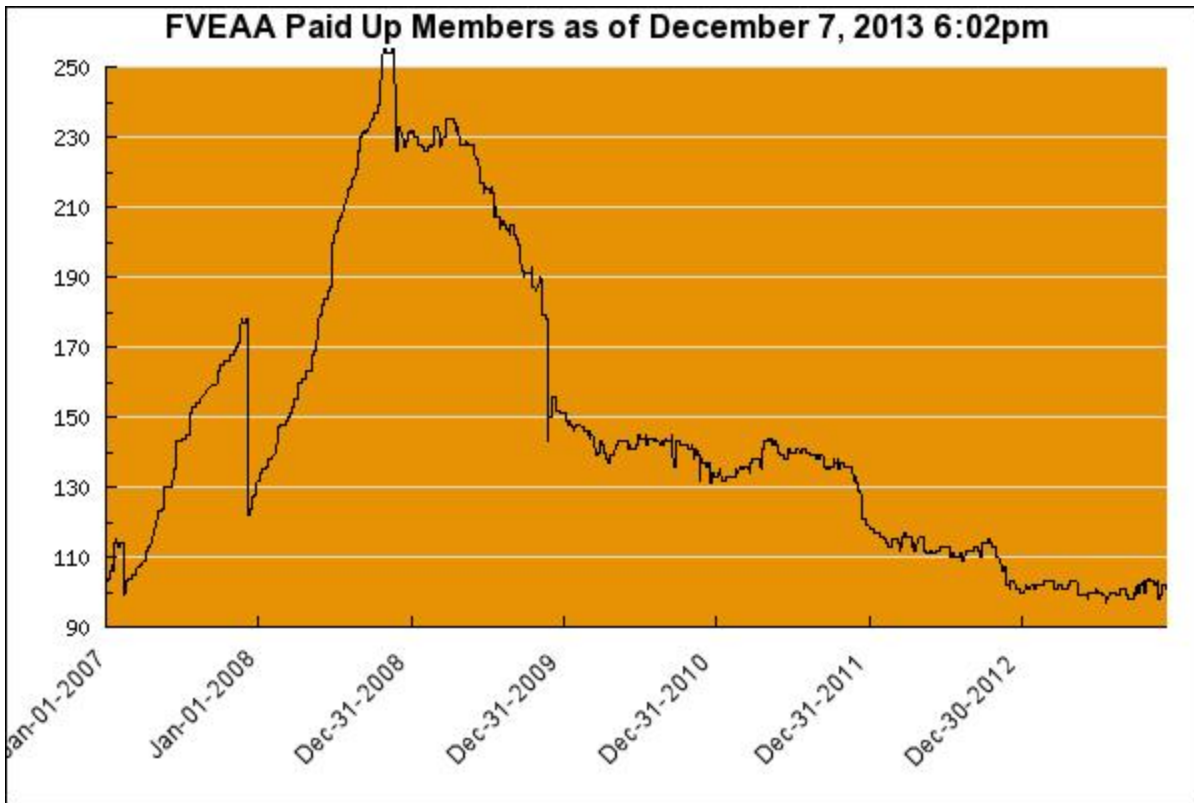
Volvo is fairly well along with a combination of multiple layers of carbon fibre, each layer insulated from the next by a thin fiberglass panel. The layers are polymer infused carbon fibre, which act as the anode and cathode in the system. Engineers from Volvo have replaced several steel body panels with this carbon fibre battery sandwich. Essentially the hood, trunk lid and doors are all batteries.

This keeps being very interesting, but soon you are going to need a scorecard to keep track of the players.

Membership Update

Ted Lowe

We have 101 active members! Here is a snapshot of our membership levels over the last 7 years (since i started logging data):



Let's GROW the FVEAA in 2014! Happy Holidays to All!

Pictures

Dio Vesselinov



Helge Blatz from Germany and Rich Herschberg



Helge presenting his odyssey across the U.S. in search of electric vehicle and renewable info



Miodrag and George



Tom Brunka delves into Lithium Batteries without battery management systems



Kevin Stutenberg from Argonne



Rich Carroll and Kevin Stutenberg discuss the fine points of Lithium battery and EV research

Meeting Minutes

Grant Gerke

President Bruce Jones opened the November meeting by checking in with the different committee heads and Ted Lowe reported 102 members in the fold. Rich Hirschberg, committee chair, that events have slowed but will keep the club in the loop on any holiday events or opportunities.

Todd Dore (get better) was out but we have plenty of money and our new Facebook page has 86 likes (not bad since we just started back in June).

Old Business/New Business:

Todd Martin provided an update on possible new locations for charging stations in the Kane County area: Fox Valley ice arena, Kane County baseball park and Creek Bend in St. Charles. They would be double unit and FVEAA's commitment would be \$1500 for six stations. The issue was tabled to be discussed among the committee members at a later time.

Rich Carroll has a new post about the JCESR research program via the FVEAA.org web site. Click here to read the post, <http://bit.ly/fveaa001>. As mentioned by Rich, George Crabtree, Dir. of the Joint Center for Energy Storage, provided an update of the JCESR program in early November and the presentation from Nov. 14 can be seen here, <http://bit.ly/jcesr2013>.

**Also, check out recent new blog posts from Rich Carroll, <http://bit.ly/rcarroll>
<http://bit.ly/rcarroll>

FVEAA holiday party is happening on Friday, Dec. 13, RSVP to Todd Dore at electricblue0303@hotmail.com

Newsletter print distribution is being dropped in 2014 and the new membership price is \$20, starting in January 2014.

Ideas are being forwarded for an update of FVEAA's new logo.

New Faces and miscellaneous

Helge Blatz, a student from Germany, attended the November meeting and provided a short overview of his trip so far. He attended a Electric Auto. Assn. meeting in Palo Alto, Calif, visited the Tesla factory and one of the members suggested Argonne while he was here. His email address is HelgeBlatz@gmx.de.

EVents:

Coverage of our National Plug-in Day in Naperville was found in the Chicago Tribune, visit <http://bit.ly/foxvalley001>

Resource:

Visit www.sierraclub.org/evguide for information on all things EV.

Presentations:

Tom Brunka came back to visit us and tell us more about his vision for a BMS free Li-Ion battery pack. He believes the BMS is a carry over from the Lead Acid EV days, described how a shunt regulator in a BMS could actually cause a fire, feels it could save some money and a voltage over range would be slight.

The second presenter was **Kevin Stutenberg**, Assoc. Vehicle Test Engineer, Argonne National Lab, and his presentation was titled, "Advanced Powertrain Research Facility (Argonne): Testing and Analysis of Electrified Vehicles." He presentation included an overview on vehicle instrumentation, electric improvements in powertrain efficiency, electric standards and results in recent testing. He's been with Argonne and testing advanced vehicles for the last 18 months, including natural gas, hybrids, diesel turbo charged cars, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and the X prize. He provided a wealth of details on specific EV testing and their process at Argonne.

FVEAA Membership Application Form - THROUGH DEC. 31, 2013 ONLY. RATES CHANGE 1/1/14 !!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zipcode: _____

Phone: _____ Phone Type: Home ___ Work ___ Cell ___

Email: _____

Please check one: New Member _____ Renewal _____

How did you hear about the FVEAA ? _____

Member Types and Annual Dues

(Please circle one)

Newsletter Delivery Types

(Please circle one)

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|------------------------------|------|
| Individual | \$15 | No Newsletter | \$0 |
| Family | \$20 | Electronic Only | \$0 |
| Business | \$100 | Postal Mailed | \$15 |
| Premier Business | \$250 | Postal Mailed and Electronic | \$15 |
| Charter Business | \$500 | | |

Total Due from Both Columns:

Please make checks payable to "FVEAA" and postal mail it with this membership application form to:

FVEAA

PO Box 214

Wheaton, IL 60187-0214

Attn: Membership

FVEAA Business Members



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