



## February 2021 FVEAA Newsletter

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

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

**This month's meeting is on Friday February 19, 2021 and will be VIRTUAL ONLY (NOT AT CCC) due to the Coronavirus outbreak for the purposes of "social distancing"**

We are using the Zoom video-conferencing platform to hold this ONLINE meeting. Zoom runs on all computers and phones. Some setup is required prior to your first use of Zoom on your device of choice. Connect to the meeting a bit early (6:45pm earliest) by using the link below to test your connection. Please call Ted Lowe (630-260-0424) if you want help getting Zoom installed on your device of choice. You can also dial-in on your telephone to have an audio-only connection (see phone number and meeting ID below). The audio on your device will be automatically muted upon entering the call to avoid disrupting the call.

Pre-meeting setup check starts at 6:45pm.

Meeting starts at 7pm and will run until 9pm.

Use this information to connect during these times:

Topic: FVEAA February 2020 Monthly Meeting (VIRTUAL ONLY)

Time: Fri February 19, 2021 6:45 PM CST (pre-meeting setup check), Meeting 7:00 PM

**Join Zoom Meeting (NOTE: Password has been added to link as of Nov 2020):**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95901481473?pwd=UnpJVUJOUmVPOFZqR013ZFpPbzM0UT09>

Dial-in for audio-only users: Call: 312-626-6799

Enter Meeting ID when prompted: 95901481473#

Participant ID: (blank, just #) \*6 mutes/unmutes your line, \*9 raises your virtual hand

### Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual Meeting Starts (to test connections)
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:45 Tracey McFadden, updates and answers on ICEJA
- 7:50 Curt Lusby Energy efficiency of various modes of transport and his book
- Break
- 8:00 Tom Coleman on EV emissions
- 9:00 Meeting Close

## January meeting

Thanks to Marty for the short update on his family member's new Tesla charging install. Bruce's update on his Naperville solar installation was excellent. He really gave us the details on what it cost and how long it took. On top of that he explained what he expects in credits from Naperville, Illinois and the Federal Government.

To summarize Bruce installed a 5.84KW AC / 7.04KW DC system on his house. The estimated annual production is 8,341kwh. The full cost to install, including the whole roof, was \$37,214 and if we assume a 20 year life then the system should produce 166,280kwh over its life. That implies 22 cents per kwh over 20 years, however this is before incentives. Bruce got three different incentives, the Federal tax rebate, the Illinois SREC sale, and a credit from Naperville. Bruce's rebates and credits will be worth around \$14,500 which brings the total cost down to \$23,000 and an implied cost per kwh of 13.8 cents per kwh. If we ignore the cost of the roof, then it looks much better as  $\$22,764 - \$14,500 = \$8,264$  divided by the 166,280kwh lifetime is about 5 cents per kwh. Since you don't pay delivery fees under net metering, that is the complete cost, and doesn't have a delivery fee tacked on. As Bruce discussed he absolutely needed a roof, and the work was more involved than a normal job due to various issues with the wood underneath, and the roof having two layers of shingles on it. Referring back to Marc Stettner's information Marc got noticeably more annual kwh per dollar invested, but Marc has a much newer house that didn't need invasive surgery on the roof. Bruce also had a larger main breaker panel installed included in the solar fee so accounting for that would reduce the cost to just under 5 cents per kWh.

## February meeting

The main attraction on Friday night is Tom Coleman who is leading the EV campaign at Climate Reality Chicago. He will be presenting his view of emissions, manufacturing impact comparisons, and general EV knowledge. I watched his earlier presentation and was impressed at the detailed emissions and manufacturing impact review he performs on ICE versus EV, and I expect him to give us some good data to help out when confronted by a carbon evangelist.

On top of that we have Tracey answering previously asked questions about the Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act. We also have Curt Lusby, a friend of mine for the last 20 or so years, talking about how efficient other modes of transport are when compared to driving an EV. He is also writing a book to introduce all the concepts and details to people who are just starting to get interested in saving the planet.

## Mustang Mach E and id4 thoughts

I test drove a Mustang Mach E and it was a fun drive with technology that was on par to my Tesla experience. Many of the functions in the touch screen were inspired by the same function screens in the Model S. The fader / balance screen was as obvious as it gets. The sales guy pointed out that screen, not yet knowing I have a history of owning Teslas, and I noted the obvious similarity. In general it was a fun drive, and I feel like it's a decent competitor to the model Y. The problem is it's priced even with the Y, and ignoring the tax credits, I feel you get more with the Y. I am hoping the used market on these is more friendly than the Tesla cars.

A note on buying the Mach E and the VW id4, there are no plans this year for dealers to stock these vehicles, so unlike the Chevy, I wouldn't expect to pay anything less than what the website says. In fact for the Mach E the dealer just referred me to the website. Just like Tesla, you can order it while you are here or when you get home, no discounts either way, and I understand that the id4 will be the same way. There

was an article discussing the margins VW is giving the dealers in Europe and its substantially lower than normal cars, and I expect the same is true here. The plus side for the dealer is they don't carry any inventory, and on a slow moving product that is a benefit. The Mach E I drove is owned by Ford and not the dealer, so they can't sell it.

### **Bolt EUV announced**

Chevy announced their Bolt EUV, and it is longer than the Bolt by 6 inches, and has an MSRP of \$43K. The standard base Bolt has had its MSRP slashed to \$32K! This isn't surprising as they were offering deep discounts last year to Costco members. I wonder what kind of deals can be had in about 7 months time?

### **Articles I found interesting:**

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/hawaii-finalizes-utility-regulation-considered-potential-template-for-us-po/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/02/chevrolet-gives-the-bolt-ev-a-facelift-a-stretch-and-a-price-cut/>

Looking forward to checking the EUV out. I like the look of the face lift too.

<https://earth.gizmodo.com/shell-says-it-has-reached-peak-oil-production-1846248229>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/02/whatever-happened-to-williams-f1s-flywheel-hybrid-idea/>

Flywheel based electricity storage systems aren't that practical for on road applications, but racing could have a fit.

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210211005805/en/Hyllion-Introduces-Next-Generation-Battery-Module-to-Improve-Performance-and-Efficiency>

Another day, another battery

<https://jalopnik.com/audi-s-e-tron-gt-is-a-slightly-cheaper-more-comfortabl-1846220567>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/02/ford-mustang-mach-e-review-the-peoples-pony-goes-electric/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/02/amazon-begins-delivering-packages-with-prototype-electric-trucks/>

As soon as I start seeing these in my neighborhood I will buy even more stuff from Amazon

<https://jalopnik.com/evs-are-gaining-steam-heres-what-will-happen-to-all-th-1846172272>

Recycling isn't that difficult, it just requires investment and independent companies aren't going to make that investment yet.

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/01/new-biden-executive-order-makes-science-evidence-central-to-policy/>

It's embarrassing that this was ever not the case

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2021/01/biden-vows-to-electrify-the-federal-governments-600000-vehicle-fleet/>

This is fantastic news.

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/01/remember-sonys-electric-car-from-ces-now-its-being-road-tested/>

<https://www.theverge.com/platform/amp/2021/1/20/22239135/mercedes-benz-eqa-electric-crossover-range-price-specs>

I do not directly hold any interest in any car manufacturer or any of their subsidiaries (if a company is part of an index fund then I might own the index fund)

**Upcoming Events** Rich Hirschberg

**BATAVIA GREEN NIGHT AT THE MOVIES**

Don't miss Batavia's virtual "Green Night out at the Movies," event, Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, featuring the film "Current Revolution ". **Tracey McFadden** will give a 10 minute talk describing our group and his enthusiasm for EV's, especially the iD4. Mike Willuweit, past president of the FVEAA will be on the panel discussion following the movie. This event will be on Facebook Live.

Here is the Facebook link: <https://fb.me/e/15k6VPwXS>

The film tackles the challenge of how the utility, auto, tech and defense industries can help modernize the aging power grid to make it more secure and responsive to the needs of its users, while enhancing environmental performance. With a focus on national security, economic prosperity, and environmental justice, the films and campaigns will show how the nation can embrace smart policies and investments that support grid modernization through distributed renewable energy generation and the development of an electric vehicle infrastructure.

After the film, there will be a community discussion featuring a panel of experts.

Panelists Include:

Gary Holm, Director of Public Works, City of Batavia

**Michael Willuweit**, Batavia Environmental Commission

Scott Allen, Citizens Utility Board

Jason LaFleur, GTI Energy

We will ask the question of how residents in Batavia and other cities in the Fox Valley can adapt and make the changes we need to make for a clean energy future.

This is a FREE community event. More information can be found at

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

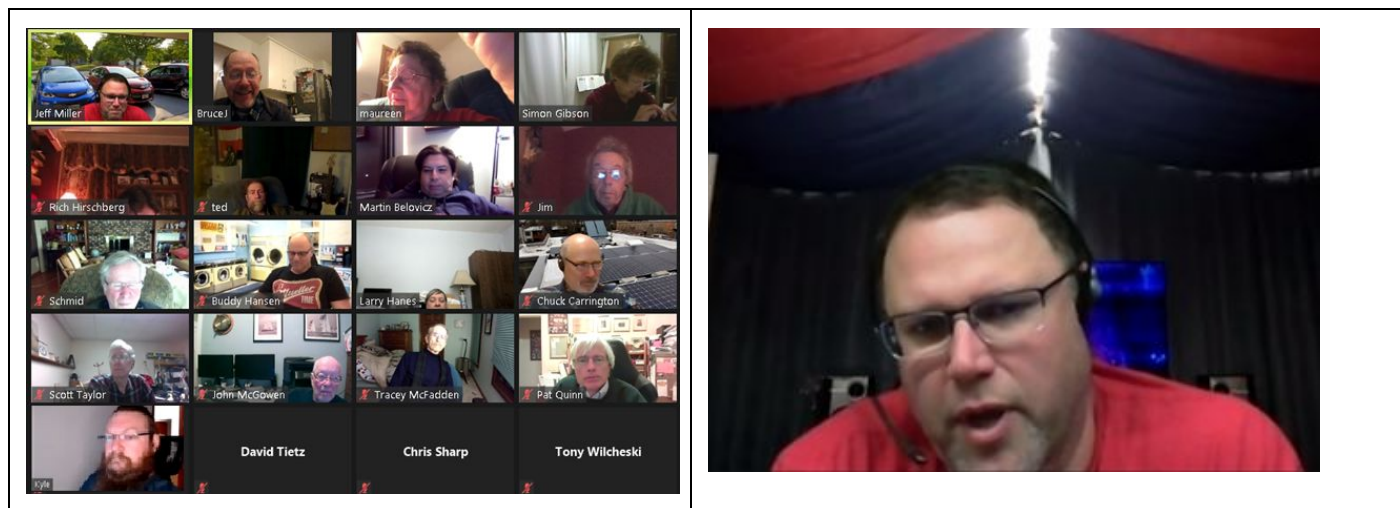
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Tracey McFadden

VP Fox Valley Electric Automobile Association

American Airlines Captain, Ret.

**Photos of our Meeting in January** Bruce Jones



<p><b>1/15/2021 21 Meeting Attendees</b></p>	<p><b>President Jeff presides!</b></p>
 <p><b>Presentation from Bruce. After new roofing, delays and paperwork, Bruce finally had a 7 kWDC solar array installed and running July 24th! yay</b></p>	 <p><b>Happy camper, Bruce now filling his 2011 Leaf BEV with sunshine after Jeff Miller helped design and install a Juicebox EVSE</b></p>

**TEEM - a group advancing racial equality, climate change goals in EV mobility** Bruce Jones

An active member of our NEST group in Naperville Greg Hubert shared with Tracey and me a flyer about an electrification collaboration / project named TEEM that Greg heard of at the Downstate Caucus meeting. Sounds like it may be at the ground floor stage in Illinois. (Downstate Caucus is one of the orgs involved the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition and Greg participates in their muni/coop efforts.)

Attached is a link to the flyer:  
<https://greenlining.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/TEEM-Flyer.pdf>

Purpose of the TEEM Community of Practice: establish a peer-to-peer community of advocates to share policy goals, learn together, build capacity, and in the process develop a sense of belonging and mutual commitment towards **advancing racial equity and climate change goals in electric mobility**. For the first annual cohort, we are working with organizations in FIVE states: California, Colorado, Illinois, North Carolina, and Virginia,

**New FVEAA Website Online! Login and check it out!** Ted Lowe

Hi Folks, If you haven't logged in to our new website already, please check your email for instructions and login as soon as you can! Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, ted



# FVEAA Web Report

as of 2021-02-16 04:58:15

## Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	70
Users Never Logged In	29
% Active Users	58.6%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	195.9 days

**FVEAA On Facebook - Join Us! Like Us!**

Ted Lowe

In October 2015, I created a **Facebook group for the FVEAA** and invited all the past and current FVEAA members I know that are on Facebook. There are 86 members as of 3/11/19. If you're on Facebook but not in the group, yet please join us! If you're not on Facebook yet, please consider joining so you can join our group there! This group supplements our forums because it is much easier to use, read, post pictures and videos and get notifications. Please let me know if you have any questions/comments/suggestions. Hope to see you there! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/889497691136309/>

Grant Gerke started **FVEAA's Facebook Page**. Like Us!

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

**FVEAA On YouTube - Check out our videos!**

Ted Lowe

The **Fox Valley Electric Auto Association** has a YouTube channel! Subscribe to us and check out our videos! We've had this channel for many years but we're going to start using it more to attract new members and promote EVs. Please let me know if you have some FVEAA-related videos to post.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg\\_Pgp6q-HEuMICWMO2akPw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg_Pgp6q-HEuMICWMO2akPw)

**Membership Update**

Ted Lowe

We currently have **57 active paid-up** members. Many members have taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered by the new website! **Please renew & recruit new folks!!!**



## FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2021-02-16 04:58:14

### Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	3	3
Individual	52	51
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	58	57

### Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	98.3%
Avg. Paid Up Days	378.6 days
% With Email	94.8%

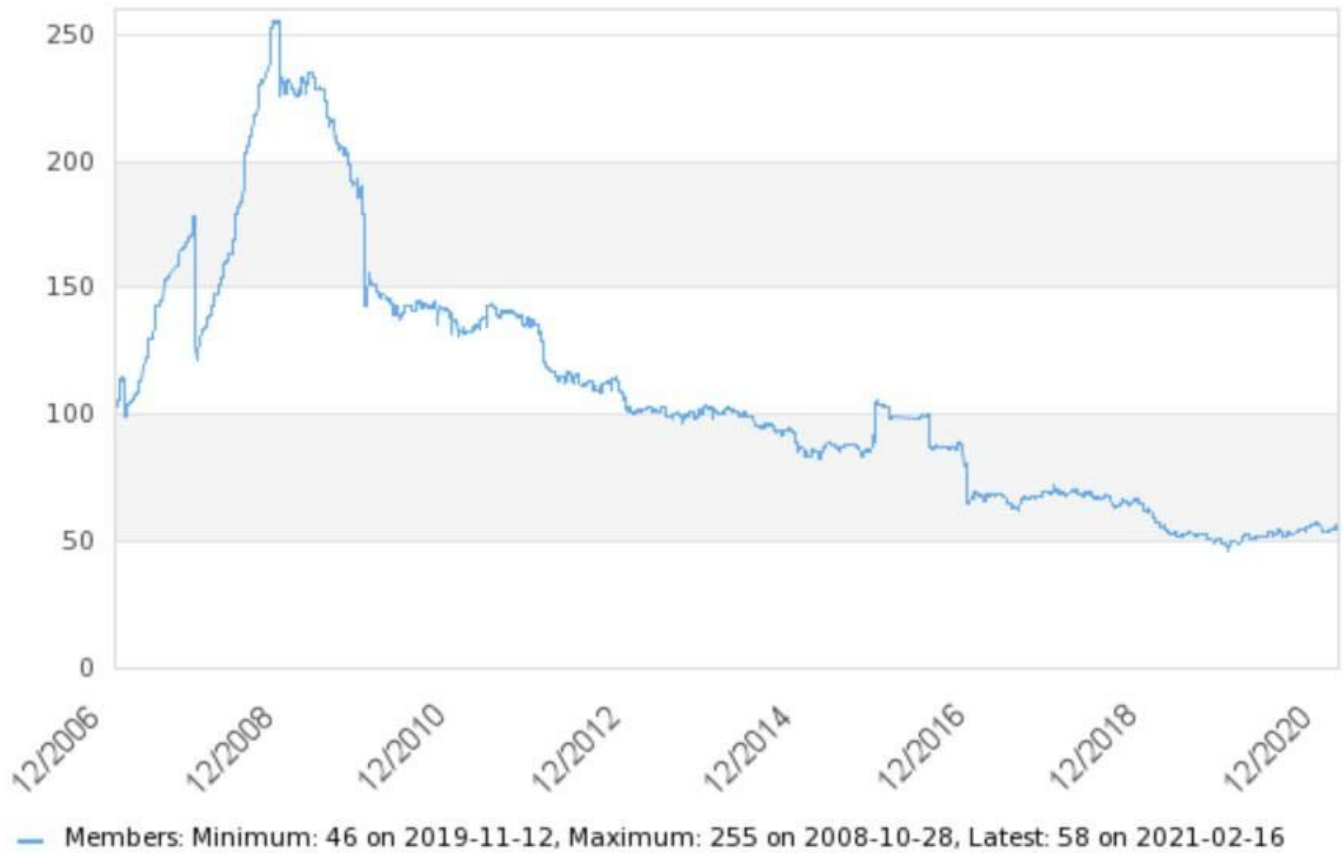
### Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

Ted Lowe

We live in a large metro area with 8 million people and EVs are the latest buzz so we should be able to grow the FVEAA! **Please invite your friends, neighbors, family, colleagues**, etc. to FVEAA meetings and EVents. Volunteer to attend EVents on behalf of the FVEAA (with or without an EV)! Your ideas on how to help grow the FVEAA are welcomed at any time, thanks! Howard Hansen had a **great idea...** giving an FVEAA membership as a gift!

Here is a time-varying graph of our membership size from 2007 to now. Note that we peaked at 255 members in October 2008 when gas was nearing \$5 per gallon. We were also attending lots more invitational EVents with our converted EVs. The first Tesla Roadster was just coming into being. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA!!!**

## FVEAA Paid Up Members as of February 16, 2021 10:08am



### Monthly Treasurer Reports

Ted Lowe

As Treasurer, I am publishing a brief Treasurer's Report to our forums around the time our monthly newsletter is published.

I am publishing our various cash balances (Money Market, Checking, PayPal) to this location:  
[FVEAA Committees](#) > [Finance](#) > [Treasurer Reports](#)

This area of the forums can only be seen by FVEAA members. As an IL Non-Profit corporation, we have no requirement to publish our assets or financial statements publicly.

Feel free to contact me if you have any FVEAA financial matters to discuss.

### Membership Renewals

Ted Lowe

Our membership system sends out "renewal reminder emails" before your membership is due. You will receive up to 3 before being marked "not renewed" (inactive). The sooner you renew, the fewer emails you will receive :) So please pay attention to your email from the FVEAA and renew online using this link (for the easiest approach for all of us):

<https://www.fveaa.org/renew>

**THANK YOU for your continued support of the FVEAA!**



Jeffrey Miller, President, called the virtual meeting to order 7:04 pm.

- Jeff held introductions and the attendees all introduced themselves, describing interest in EVs until 8 pm. Below are a few of the comments
- Tony Wilcheki noted he purchased a used 2017 Bolt at a good price
- Tracey McFadden has been very active representing the FVEAA in the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition, and will present on Thur 1/28 at the Elburn library
  - (THANKS TRACEY for all your efforts there!)
- Ted Lowe chatted: "I spent a bit of time today looking back at my activity level & "equivalent travel distances" during 2020. Here's the breakdown per activity:
  - 1648 miles driving in my electric truck (partially solar charged)
  - 648 miles playing pickleball (twice/week for 38 weeks)
  - 500 miles gardening (guesstimate)
  - 462 miles biking on my recumbent bicycle (see graph)
  - 288 miles driven in my Prius (hybrid gas/electric)
  - 100 miles misc. walking/hiking (guesstimate)
- From Kyle to Everyone: 08:56 PM on the subject of solar panel optimization
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maximum\\_power\\_point\\_tracking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maximum_power_point_tracking)
  - Also decouples for isolating for shading
- Short Break
- Bruce Jones, Secretary FVEAA presented on Implementing Home Solar Panels in Naperville including
  - Solar Plan, Analysis
  - Select Vendors
  - Paperwork
  - Roofing x2
  - Electrical Install,
  - Solar Install
  - Inspection, Final electrical install
  - Lessons learned
  - Reports, Credits, Performance
  - Results so far, Money Spent, Earned

The meeting ended at 9:29 pm

**FVEAA Membership Application Form - Version 2014-01-01**

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 ? \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Types and Annual Dues** (please circle one):

Individual	\$20
Business	\$100
Premier Business	\$250
Charter Business	\$500

**Newsletter Delivery Type** (please circle one): No Newsletter      Electronic

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

### **EV Converters LLC**

Rolly Waller  
1401 Burr Oak Rd, Unit 208 C  
Hinsdale, IL 60521  
Cell: 630-865-5744  
Email: [rollywaller@gmail.com](mailto:rollywaller@gmail.com)



EVC will become a Franchisor (when the US government approves the conversion rebate) to appoint Franchisees (eg, service stations, oil change shops, transmission shops, independent mechanics, etc.) to convert Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles to electric vehicles (EV).