
FVEAA NEWSLETTER

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

An Independent Not-For-Profit Corporation associated with the National Electric Auto Association



November 2004

Meeting Location: Triton College, River Grove, Illinois
Industrial Careers Building, (East Campus) Room 108

Next Meeting: Friday, November 19, 2004
8:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

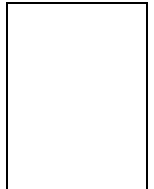
Any person interested in electric cars and alternative energy systems is welcome to join the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association. The cost for a full year's dues is \$20.00 which entitles members to receive our monthly Newsletter that contains useful information about electric car conversions, construction, news, policies and events. These member dues are prorated on a monthly basis for NEW members joining after the beginning of the club's fiscal year.

Membership is not required to attend our monthly meetings.

Annual Member Dues of \$20.00 for 2005 are due and payable in November 2004.

\$5.00 discount if Newsletter is sent in electronic format only.

FVEAA Newsletter Publishing Office
12305 S. New Avenue
Suite N
Lemont, Illinois 60439



Mail To:

As many of the FVEAA members are aware, Bill Shafer has stepped down as club president and editor in chief of our club newsletter for health reasons. His leadership and publishing achievements over the past years will be a tough act to follow, but with the aid of the many contributing members, I am sure we will continue to have a club and newsletter worthy of Bill.

You will note there is a major format change to the Newsletter. A couple of reasons, first of which being my own unique – and evolving – writing style. The second is to simplify mailing the newsletter to those members who wish to receive a hard copy in the mail.

As membership dues are payable in November, we need ALL members to update their contact information, including: address, phone and email. I will also need to know your preference of either electronic or hard copy versions of this Newsletter.

This newsletter will be available in electronic format as a Microsoft Word document. It will be electronically forwarded to each member who requests an electronic copy and will be forwarded to our web master, Doug Mather, so that he may continue to post the newsletters on the club's web site.

Bear with me as this newsletter evolves. I'm sure there will be changes to the basic format and content as I mature in the role of editor. I welcome suggestions on how to improve the Newsletter and know that I can continue to count on the input from club members.

Members who wish to contribute are invited to submit any articles and points of view for inclusion in future Newsletters. Please forward any contributions via email to: kevezulu@aol.com

PREZ-SEZ

by: Steve Grushas

I met Bill Shafer in 2001 when the Triton Ranger Project was just starting. I was on vacation riding my motorcycle and was a couple of weeks behind reading the Transportation section in the Chicago Tribune. Catching up on my reading, here was an article about the Triton Project. Triton gave me Bill's phone number and he invited me to be a guest and come down to see what was going on. I have always been interested in electric vehicles and when I met Bill and saw what the members were doing, I was hooked.

Bill was very kind and explained everything that was going on. If that wasn't enough, Bill then asked me if I knew how to drive a manual transmission car. I told him yes and the next thing I know I'm driving his Mazda around the parking lot. Now I'm really HOOKED. Bill was very helpful, answering all my questions and giving me the extra encouragement I needed to buy my yellow escort.

Bill appreciated my enthusiasm for EV's and the FVEAA, and asked me to be the club's Vice President. I accepted with the condition that I would LEARN FROM THE BEST. Now that Bill has stepped down as President, I have to take over and try to make Bill proud. Bill Shafer is a very smart and kind person and I have some big shoes to fill!!!

Bill is an innovator in electric vehicles having built two of them and using them daily to go to work, and in retirement to go shopping and drag race down NORTH AVENUE just to show the young kids a thing or two. (That's why Bill put 8 volt batteries in his Mazda) Bill did a lot of things for the FVEAA and it's members. Like I said I have some BIG shoes to FILL--With the member's help, I think I can do it.

The meeting was called to order by Kevin Zak with 22 people in attendance. A motion was made by Steve Horvath to approve the minutes. Discussion was opened to the floor about the SNAP ON battery tester we had just witnessed in operation in the garage. Several members gave their opinion, but basically the decision came down to the fact that we need more research on deep cycle batteries and that the SNAP ON tester provided only minimal information on our batteries. Even so Tim Moore was very grateful that SNAP ON brought the tester and found a bad add on Sam's Club battery that was hurting the performance of the other batteries. George Hamstra mentioned that there is another battery tester he saw on the Internet and would research it and bring information back to the group.

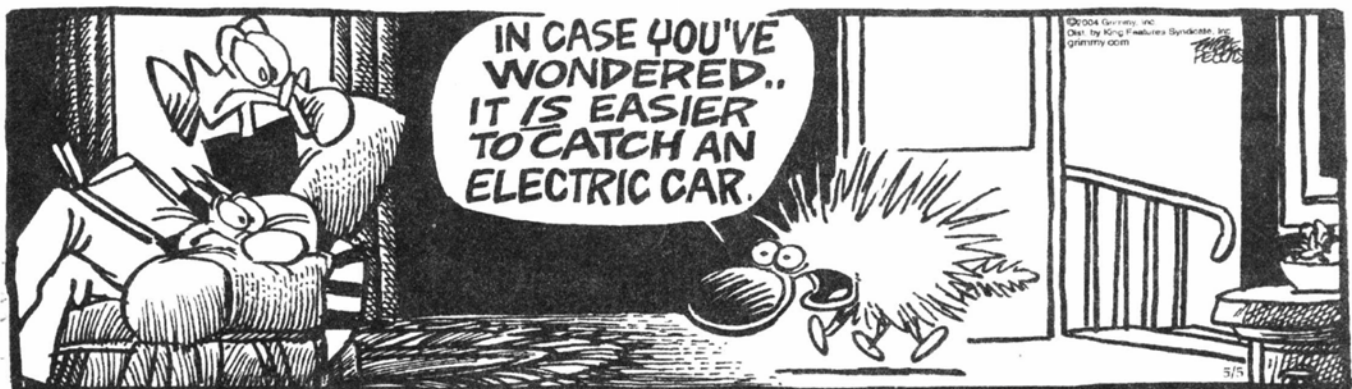
George also brought his electric go-kart to the meeting and spoke on his testing of lithium ion batteries in his new go-cart. The batteries at 360 amp tests had little or no battery sag, 15 year life, quick recharge ability, 3.2 volts per cell 7.5 amp hours with a dimension ¼ inch thick and 5 inches in diameter. Kevin updated us on the status of the alternative energy event, stating that Joliet Race Track is very interested, as well as The Museum of Science and Industry, and Motor Sports Unlimited cable show is willing to devote the entire one hour show to the event.

There were two guests in attendance Andy Schaeffer from Warrenville, and Bob Rice all the way from Connecticut. Bob Rice stole the show with his video of George Hamstra's zavcon controller in operation on his prototype go-cart, which held the 280lb Bob Rice going up a steep hill. The video also showed John Emde's shop with the dragster with and without the covered body. Bob Rice talked about how he drives all day long from his 20 mile commute in his 120v Rabbit, to his 150 mph high voltage AC locomotive train.

Ted Lowe was next to speak on the wind farm in Mendota. Ted mentioned that wind power is the fastest growing alternative energy source with 20% increase every year. Wind energy is now equal in cost to other sources of energy and with our class 4 winds in Illinois many areas of the state are ideal for wind energy usage including residential. Ted suggested "Home Power" magazine to learn more about solar and wind energy, he also remind everyone of the Oct 2 National Solar Tour with more information at IllinoisSolar.org. The meeting adjourned to garage after Steve Horvath motioned to close the meeting.

Note from Tim to Bill: Bill again you were right. The add-on battery with a different style was a bad idea. I should and usually always follow your advice, you have saved me a lot of money. I also wanted to tell you that my student EE club is going to try to make an electric go-kart.

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



The meeting was called to order by Steve Grushas with 24 people in attendance. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Dale Corel reported that savings were \$2,768.10 and checking was \$2,253.01, the treasurer's report was approved. No old business was found to recap. Ted Lowe was asked to update the list server as this has become a vital means of communications for upcoming events in the club. Steve Grushas gave a passionate speech to keep the club going with activities and with communication, as well as projects. Steve clarified that Bill Shafer has to step down due to health reason from a stroke. Ted Lowe suggested having an appreciation party for Bill Shafer. Paul Harris suggested contacting Bill's wife. Ken Simmermon suggested a video of our meeting to show us all saying hello and THANK YOU to Bill. Peter Hartell agreed to bring a video camera for filming our next meeting. Dale Corel suggested we also make a plaque for Bill Shafer.

After discussions on our bylaws, nominations were opened for officers. Tim Moore nominated Kevin Zak for president, but he respectfully declined. John Emde nominated Steve Grushas and Steve accepted the nomination. Tim Moore nominated Ted Lowe for vice president, and John Emde nominated Kevin Zak. Kevin Zak accepted the nomination, and Ted Lowe declined. Dale Corel and Tim Moore accepted the renewal of treasure and secretary positions, respectively. Kevin Zak and John Emde agreed to take on the newsletter editor with Rob Glowacki as the publisher. After further discussion on board structure and a request for publishing of the bylaws for a future meeting the nominations were closed. Dale Corel was asked to read Bill Shafer's letter. "Due to my medical condition following a stroke, I will be unable to continue my duties as the president of the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association. I therefor resign that position as well as Editor of the Newsletter. I also am giving up my Mazda RX7 electric car to the organization. Please pick up the car, title, and documents belonging to the organization. It has been a good ride. William H. Shafer"

Steve Grushas clarified that Bill Shafer wanted to make sure the newsletter editor had an electric car and wanted the car to go to him. Kevin Zak and John Emde graciously donated the car back to the club to auction it off for members to buy and possibly use as a club project if the purchaser wishes. Membership dues will be very important this year as only members will be able to bid on Bill Shafer's car in the next two months.

Membership dues are needed no later than January 2005.

Editors Note: Tim Moore had to leave the meeting early. The concluding meeting minutes were contributed by Rob Glowacki.

Kevin talked about the race event: Ken Kohrs at the track was extremely helpful. The track will cover insurance, etc. We will get the use of the track for nothing. That means they eat \$40 - 45 Thousand to let us do it. We will have students from the local high school help out with the event. A Saturday in September 05 we will have alternative energy vehicles showed. We could pay people \$.10 per mile to get them out here. The track will not charge at the door.

Ted made a motion to approve the event, Todd Dore seconded. Discussion: We will need 4-5 people to do behind the scenes work in preparation of the event. We will be looking for corporate sponsors. We need to determine the required funds from the sponsor(s). The motion was unanimously approved after the discussion by the members in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 PM.

November is election time for FVEAA officers for next year.

The nominating committee, represented by the FVEAA members in attendance at the October 15, 2004 FVEAA meeting, recommends the following persons for the offices listed:

President -- Steve Grushas

Treasurer -- Dale Corel

Vice President -- Kevin Zak

Directors -- John Emde,

Secretary -- Tim Moore

Rob Glowacki

Peter Hartel

In addition to the above listed names:

Kevin Zak has reconsidered his nomination for President by Tim Moore. With member approval, Kevin will run for FVEAA club President.

Ted Lowe is reconsidering his nomination for Vice President by Tim Moore. Ted will make a final determination and announcement at the November meeting.

Elections will be held at the next FVEAA meeting on November 19, 2004. All FVEAA members in good standing present shall be allowed to vote for each office. A simple majority of the members in attendance is required to ratify the elections.

On the following two pages are the official FVEAA By-Laws. Members should review the By-Laws prior to the next meeting so they have a better understanding of the offices and officers they will be electing.

REMEMBER: This is Chicagoland.

Vote Early and Vote Often.

ARTICLE I: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. OFFICERS. There shall be five officers of the Corporation; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Property Custodian. Their duties shall be those normally performed by those officers and outlined in these By-Laws.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The five officers of the corporation and one additional elected Director shall comprise the Board of Directors. The President of the Corporation shall also be the chairman of the Board. The Board of Directors shall meet as necessary to transact any and all business that comes before it as set forth by these By-Laws and amendments thereto.

C. ELECTION PROCESS. The four officers and additional board member shall be duly elected by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting and shall serve a term of one year from the date of election or until their successors are elected.

D. VACANCIES. Vacancies in elective offices shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors for the interim between the time the action is taken and the next annual meeting, at which time the offices shall be filled as specified in Paragraph C, above.

E. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE. A proposal for removal from office of any officer of the Corporation shall be discussed at the meeting such proposal is made, but action can not take place until the next regular meeting. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership present shall be required to remove an officer from office.

ARTICLE II: COMMITTEES

A. STANDING COMMITTEES This organization shall have the following standing committees:

1. LIBRARY COMMITTEE This committee shall be composed of three appointed members, one of whom shall be appointed by the chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to keep a file of all articles and literature relative to electric vehicle construction and maintain an index of material available to the membership.

2. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE This committee shall be composed of the Secretary and two appointed members. The Secretary shall serve as chairman. The committee shall publicize the meetings, programs, public exhibits and other work of the Corporation to help keep the members and the public aware of Corporation activities. One appointed member of this committee shall serve as Association Historian.

B. SPECIAL COMMITTEES The President shall appoint special committees and their chairmen as needs arise.

C. COMMITTEE VACANCIES Vacancies on committees (except for the Chairman of the Public relations Committee) shall be filled immediately by presidential appointment.

ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

A. ANNUAL MEETINGS The annual meeting shall be held on the third Friday of September.

B. REGULAR MEETINGS Regular meetings shall be held on the third Friday of each month unless changed by the Board of Directors.

C. SPECIAL MEETINGS Special meetings may be called by the Board of Directors as necessary. In addition, any five members may request a special meeting which the President shall call as soon thereafter as possible.

D. NOTIFICATION All current members shall be notified by mail of each Annual, Regular and Special Meeting by the Secretary at least one week prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE IV: MEETING PROCEDURE AND QUORUM

A. PROCEDURE Standard parliamentary procedure shall be the normal authority for action by the Association except in those cases covered specifically by these By-Laws.

B. QUORUM

1. ANNUAL MEETING AND REGULAR MEETINGS All matters shall be decided by a majority of those members present and voting except for any matter for which a different requirement is specifically set forth in these articles.

2. SPECIAL MEETING A quorum for a special meeting shall be fifty percent of the full membership of the Corporation.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

- A. **DUES** Dues shall be \$15.00 per year payable at the regular November meeting. New members joining after November shall pay \$1.25 for each month remaining before the following November.
- B. **MEMBERSHIP-IN-GOOD-STANDING** A member shall be in good standing if his dues have been paid for the current year. Members in good standing shall have voting rights at the annual meeting and at all other meetings.
- C. **FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP** A member may be dropped from membership if:
1. A written resignation is submitted.
 2. He fails to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws (including amendments thereto) or the policies of the Corporation. Such a case is to be judged by the Board of directors and is subject to a majority vote of the membership at the next regular meeting if the member in question so requests.
 3. Annual dues are not current. The Board of Directors may defer dropping a member for non-payment of dues if it so elects.

ARTICLES VI: CORPORATION PROPERTY AND FUNDS

- A. **OFFICIAL BOOKS** The official books of the Corporation, including the official copy of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws as amended, minutes and other similar records, shall be maintained by the Secretary.
- B. **FUNDS** All funds in excess of \$50.00 shall be kept by the Treasurer in a bank account. Signatures authorizing the withdrawal of funds shall be those of the President or Vice President and the treasurer.
- C. **OTHER PROPERTY** All other property shall be under the control and responsibility of the Property Custodian. The Property Custodian shall keep control and cost data on all Corporation owned equipment in a permanently bound book provided by the Corporation for that purpose. Such equipment shall be loaned to and used by Corporation members only, and only for stated periods of time. A member borrowing equipment shall sign for it in the record book. Members shall be required to return equipment to the Property Custodian at the time specified, and shall not lend it to other members for non-members. It shall be the responsibility of the Property Custodian to keep the equipment in good working condition, requisition any assistance needed from Corporation members. Where amounts greater than \$10.00 are required to repair equipment, authorization must be secured from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed and discussed at any regular meeting. Proposed amendments may not be voted upon until the next regular meeting. Prior to the next regular meeting, the Secretary shall notify the entire membership of the proposed amendment along with the notification of that meeting.

An adoption of an amendment shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire membership. Members may vote on an amendment to the By-laws by proxy.

ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Corporation, all donated property and funds shall be returned to the donators. All assets shall be sold and the resulting funds along with any other funds the Corporation has shall be used to pay any liabilities the Corporation may have accrued. Any residue shall be divided among the members-n-good-standing.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

No formal Amendments to the FVEAA By-Laws have been registered.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED BY THE FVEAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT: The FVEAA become an independent, affiliated Chapter of the EAA. We agree that five FVEAA members will individually become EAA members; two of those will be members of the FVEAA Board, and that we will observe the other requirements of affiliation, except that we will retain our use of the FVEAA Logo. *Adopted January 17, 2003*

As many members are aware, I have been talking about putting together an event at the local race track in Joliet – hosting an invitational race that will showcase all types of alternative fuel vehicles, including solar, fuel cell, hybrid, electric, and others. Having been given unanimous approval to pursue this Event by the FVEAA membership, I had a second meeting with the track manager, Ken Kohrs at Route 66 Raceway on October 27, 2004.

Ken had a discussion with Paula Waxweiler, his contact at the **Joliet Township High Schools**. There are two schools, "**Central**" and "**West**". Ken also prepared a written proposal for her review, so she could better discuss the Event with her superiors. That proposal is copied on the following page.

The schools are interested in exploring this as a program for the students. Ken and I will need to present a formal proposal to the school board in the next month or so, once we get on the School Board's schedule.

Route 66 Raceway is very interested in putting this Event together with us - but **ONLY** if the schools are involved. If the schools are not involved, then the track would charge us for their participation, approximately \$40,000. Obviously, it is in our best interest to involve the schools - from many perspectives.

The schools have voiced only one reservation at this time - that being the timing. It is very difficult for student involvement if we hold an Event at the end of summer or in early fall. The students are just returning to school and the new year is starting. Students who may have worked on the Event during the spring session may have graduated and moved on to college. There were other schedule conflicts as well.

The schools would prefer an Event in late May or Early June - after graduation - when the students could actively benefit from their involvement. Doing anything that soon would be **VERY** difficult for us.

Ken Kohrs and I decided that our best option would be June 2006 - one year later. So June 2006 will be when we host this Event. Final date will be determined in the fall of 2005 – depending on the annual race schedule at Route 66 Raceway.

This gives us extra time to put things together, work with the students and raise funding. Even if funding is easy to get, advance notice may be required to allow the funding to be written into a company's budget. This extra time will make it easier for many companies to budget.

The following is the unedited proposal Ken Kohrs wrote for the Joliet Township High Schools. Note that this has not been formally presented and is open to change and modification by FVEAA. This proposal captures the spirit and most of the details of what Steve Grushas, Ted Lowe and I described to Ken at our first meeting.

For additional information on Route 66 Raceway, check out their web site at:

<http://www.chicagolandsspeedway.com/>

For additional information on Drag Racing, check out the National Hot Rod Association's web site at:

<http://www.nhra.com/>

Summary: Route 66 Raceway is proposing to involve Joliet Township High School students in an alternative energy automotive event. The event would feature displays and seminars as well as performance trials by vehicles powered by a wide variety of energy sources including solar, electric, hydrogen, compressed natural gas and others. A primary goal of the event is to involve a broad spectrum of the school's students, faculty and curriculum in the planning, production and execution of the event.

Background: Route 66 Raceway has been approached by an organization proposing to produce an event featuring vehicles powered by alternative energy. The group consists of representatives from the Illinois Solar Energy Association and the National Electric Drag Racing Association. The Museum of Science and Industry has indicated a willingness to participate in the event. It is also anticipated that manufacturers of hybrid vehicles now being introduced to the American public will be active participants.

Benefits to Students: Developing an event of this nature involves a significant planning and execution effort. Route 66 Raceway is proposing to "partner" with students interested in assisting with those efforts. By doing so, students will participate "hands-on" in the process of developing an event from beginning to end. It will also be an opportunity for them to gain insight and practical experience into the outdoor entertainment industry. The areas for which student's assistance would be beneficial include:

- * Marketing and Promotions. Partnering opportunities include development of event name and brand, creation of graphic designs for event poster and event merchandise, coordination of promotions, securing sponsorships and sponsorship fulfillment.

- * Public Relations. Partnering opportunities include development of press releases, creation of printed materials for the event and media management during the event.

- * Operations. Partnering opportunities include planning and staffing in the areas of timing and scoring, announcing, track preparation, assisting with vehicle inspections, etc.

- * Hospitality. Partnering opportunities include development of hospitality menus (VIP suites) and assisting with host/hostess functions during the event.

- * Facilities. Partnering opportunities include planning for event set-up, clean-up and standby facility services.

- * Public Safety. Partnering opportunities include planning for traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) flow, directional signs, security and parking, first aid and contingency arrangements for emergencies.

Benefits to Joliet Township High Schools: In consideration of the school and student involvement, Route 66 Raceway is proposing to entitle Joliet Township High Schools as the presenting sponsor e.g.

"The Midwest Alternative Energy Performance Trials (exact name to be determined) presented by Joliet Township High Schools." Accordingly, Joliet Township High Schools' involvement in the program will be reflected in all promotional materials. It is also anticipated that significant local and regional media will be attracted to the event. It is hoped that the prominent incorporation of the school name in the title of the event will cause the public to view the schools as progressive and innovative. Given the current commitment from automobile manufacturers to develop hybrid vehicles, there is potential for their delivery of informational and instructional programs to the schools. Scholarship programs are not outside the realm of possibility.

Finally, Route 66 Raceway has an extensive internship program and relies extensively on seasonal help. Students who enjoy the partner experience may be considered in assisting the company with other events throughout the following season, or perhaps as a career.

FVEAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

November 2004 thru October 2005

Any person interested in electric cars and alternative energy systems is welcome to join the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association. The cost for a full year's dues is \$20.00 which entitles members to receive our monthly Newsletter that contains useful information about electric car conversions, construction, news, policies and events. These member dues are prorated on a monthly basis for NEW members joining after the beginning of the club's fiscal year.

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Please Print Clearly

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
City: _____ Fax: _____
State, Zip: _____ Email: _____

Newsletter Option (Check One)

_____ Send the newsletter by mail _____ Send the newsletter by e-mail

Prorated Membership Dues

FVEAA annual membership is \$ 20.00. The fiscal year begins November 1st. Dues for new members joining after that date is adjusted accordingly to the following schedule:

Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
\$ 20.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 2.00

Make your check payable to the FVEAA and mail to:

Dale Corel, FVEAA Treasurer
595 Gateshead North
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-3433

Please List Any Comments, Questions, Suggestions or Discussion Topics Below
