

**Fox Valley Electric Auto Association  
PO Box 214  
Wheaton, IL 60187-0214**

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## **December 2010 FVEAA Newsletter**

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

### **Next Meeting**

**Friday, December 17th, 2010 - 7:00PM (doors open at 6:30PM) at  
Packer Engineering, 1976 N Washington St, Naperville, IL 60563**

**Packer Engineering is the on East side of Washington St, just North of the I-88 Tollway (North of Diehl, South of Warrenville Rd). Turn off of Washington onto Bighorn at the Packer Engineering sign, then take the first right into Packer Engineering and then an immediate left. Park in the lot between the buildings. 1976 is the new building up the hill. Enter the building in the middle of the North side.**

### **Agenda**

- Call To Order
- Old Business
- Committee Reports
- New Business
- Intermission: Refreshments, Networking and EV Viewing.
- Program: Brian Levin, Carbon Day Automotive who will give us a perspective of the business of charging station installation.

### **President's Words**

*Rich Carroll*

### **Meeting Raffle - December**

*Rich Carroll*

Steve Grushas has donated another electric scooter:

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The raffle includes charger, original toolkit, paperwork. This will make a very nice holiday present. This runs nice, and could be used by adult, teen or preteen.

## **Meeting Minutes - November 2010**

*Bruce Jones*

FVEAA MEETING NOV 19, 2010 By Bruce Jones

President Rich Carroll opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and meeting attendees introduced themselves, describing their particular interest in electric cars. Note that many of the members mentioned that they are looking to build an electric powered vehicle of some sort (trikes, trucks and boats included!)

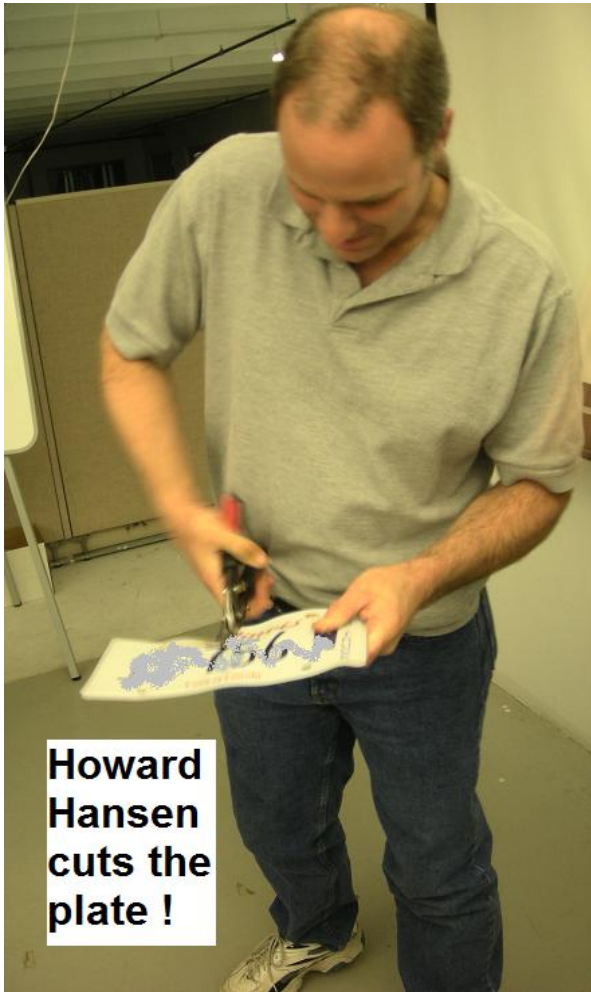
### **NEWS**

The Chicago Electric Vehicle Consortium (CEVC), according to Rich, has been holding meetings regarding the \$15M electric car charging station rollout but they have not yet chosen vendors. It seems that there was some leeway in the RFP which allowed variations in the vendor responses, which requires much more evaluation. The CEVC must spend the grant money by end of 2011.

### **ILLINOIS EV LICENSE PLATE VICTORY**

Due to an unusually prolonged and tortuous effort by Howard Hansen, (as described in FVEAA meeting notes and forums over the last year!) the State of Illinois now allows small pickup trucks to be considered the same as an electric vehicle in the division 1 light car category, which by law allows them to receive a license plate for a fee of only \$35 for 2 years, versus \$99. Ted Lowe commemorated the occasion with a speech (tongue firmly in cheek) and presented Howard a magnificent trophy (see photo) for his tireless (self

serving?) efforts. A plate was then sacrificed in honor of the occasion to the cheers of the audience.



**Howard Hansen cuts the plate !**



**Howard Hansen receives award from Ted Lowe for helping change Illinois EV license legislation**

### WHO HAS DRIVEN THE NEW EVs?

It seems that members of the FVEAA including Rich Carroll have had the privilege of driving some of the newest EVs including the Nissan LEAF, Chevy Volt and Imiev by Mitsubishi. Rich mentioned the new Ford Focus and Transit Connect utility vehicles are coming

### NEW J-1772 CONNECTOR

Charging stations are now starting to feature the new standardized J-1772 car charging connector which handles at least Level 1 charging 208 VAC - 240 VAC at 32 amps and higher up to Level 2 standards. One of the group's Tesla owners, Sam Carnavaciolo said some Tesla owners have had their own J-1772 converter connectors fabricated to connect the Tesla's proprietary connector with these new standard charging stations.

And Todd Dore's VW bug can now be charged at work using a new J-1772 plug. He says it works great, and he can see the map of charging stations on-line using the Coulomb network. See [www.mychargepoint.net](http://www.mychargepoint.net) for the map of Coulomb chargers.



Rich stated the J-1772 safely passes 32 amps at 240 volts provided you have the correct parts and connections. Right now, Coulomb chargers don't charge users by the kilowatt of electricity, because of the law that prevents the direct resale of electricity. But Coulomb will likely start charging a membership fee or connection fee of some kind in the future. There is no minimum charge time yet for Coulomb charging and their system will send text messages providing status of the charge, e.g. if it has been interrupted, or completed properly etc.

Communication protocols are very basic right now but new ones are coming.

The current J-1772 has 5 pins - including 2 for charging plus hot neutral and communications. The optional 5th proximity wire turns off the electricity if you forget to disconnect the plug and accidentally pull the car away while the cord is still attached.

Many more questions and answers were handled by Rich regarding the J-1772.

#### ELECTRIFYING BORTZ DREAM CAR

For many many years car collector Joe Bortz has been accumulating a unique assembly of one-of-a kind show cars and dream cars. He gathered the parts, rebuilt and refurbished the cars that were once car company "future" or concept cars which were cut up by the big car companies and sent to junk yards after they were finished with promotional efforts. It was an astronomical project. Joe now has 25 cars and has asked Rich Carroll of Pioneer Conversions to electrify a LaSalle II 1955 GM Motorama that lacks a working internal combustion engine, so it can be propelled onto a stage, or golf course, or wherever needed. The resulting vehicle will then be featured in many car magazines and publications. See the youtube video of our own John Jeide and Rich Carroll discussing the conversion with Joe Bortz at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnE0-ZVX4Ho>

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - George Vergara

George is trying to solidify plans to bring some money into the club, and so far has four ideas:

1. Compensation for members who exhibit cars
2. Pay for intellectual information provided by the club
3. Education or teaching seminars
4. Grants

##### CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE - Todd Martin

Todd discussed a member survey he will be creating regarding

1. General information on electric cars
2. Where help can be found on electric cars
3. Taking advantage of resources in the club - people and companies

Todd will organize and formalize this shortly to help members get the assistance they need. He also noted that since he signed up for the ComEd differential rate plan he saves from \$100 to \$80 / month. See [www.comed.com](http://www.comed.com) for the residential real time pricing plan. When he signed up a technician installed a device on his meter for an extra \$4/month and noted that for the 1<sup>st</sup> 300k people the fee is reduced.

##### TWO ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS FOR PACKER ENGINEERING

Rich Carroll talked to Dr. Ken Packer, president of Packer Engineering where we meet, and as a thank you from the FVEAA, offered 2 new charging stations. The FVEAA will donate the two units but installation will be paid for by Packer, or through other means (donations, grants, programs etc.) Keith Baubkus and Bruce Jones will work with Rich to see if they can coordinate the installations through their employers.

#### PROJECT COMMITTEE

Ken Simmermon stated the project committee has been a dormant one but now there is renewed interest in a club project and 4 people want to start working on an electric vehicle. Rich suggested they start by preparing a proposal with an idea, submit it to the FVEAA board and we'll consider the kind of support and resources it may require.

#### OLD business

Rich urged everyone who has not already taken them, to pick up two electrical equipment screwdrivers out of a large bag. (Hmm, just like Santa?)

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ted Lowe received an email from club member Eric who can't use the FVEAA built club Porsche car and he wants to sell it soon. It was a model 944, circa 1997 or 1998, and asking around \$12k.

#### Break 8:00 -8:30

Raffle earned \$67 and Deo was the raffle meister.

Cars shown at the break include Teslas from Sam Carnavacciolo and Steve Schnurr.



## PROGRESSIVE AUTOMOTIVE X-PRIZE PRESENTATION

Michael Duoba an advanced research engineer in power train technologies at Argonne National Laboratories gave an excellent talk on the automotive X Prize. The contest awarded a \$10M cash prize in September to the most efficient and worthy pre-production cars delivering over a 100 MPG equivalent and less than 200 g/m CO<sub>2</sub>. Mike designed the dynamometer validation testing as well as the other shakedown events for the competition held at the Michigan international speedway. See the great article in the July Popular Mechanics magazine!

## Michael Duoba presents Aug. 2010 automotive X-Prize work at Argonne Labs



Besides relating some behind the scenes stories, Mike noted that our familiar miles per gallon (MPG) rating is not something that is relevant for hybrids and electric vehicles. But by current statutory law the MPG rating is still required for all vehicles. (By the way, there are 33.7 kiloWatts per gallon of fuel). So the MPG rating system is being looked at carefully to come up with something more relevant to EVs.

The Edison 2 car was the winner of the event and since they had been part of a risk-minimizing consortium, the prize money was split between three teams out of 111 that started the competition. Li-ion was the winning battery technology, and there were variation like LiMnCoNiO<sub>2</sub> batteries that performed very well.

Mike covered many aspects of the race and provided a unique insight to the events including formulas, car construction, drag, and too many technical areas to count. We appreciate Mike providing a truly enlightening presentation. Nice job Mike!

Rich ended the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Sam Carnavaciolo's Tesla !



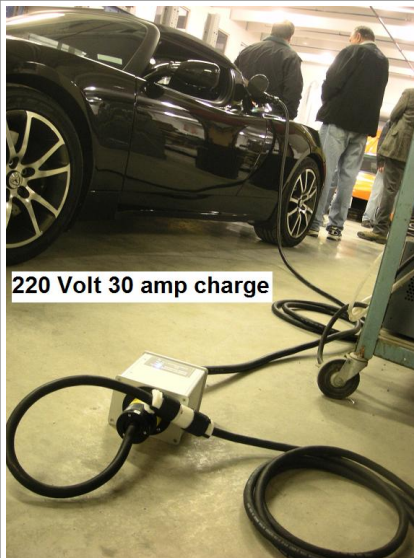
Maureen Stillman checking out Steve Schnur's Tesla



In the cockpit of a Tesla



Steven Schnur letting everyone check out his orange Tesla



220 Volt 30 amp charge



Sam Carnavaciolo's Tesla

**FVEAA Membership Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Type: Home \_\_\_ Work \_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_  
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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
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Business	\$100	Postal Mailed	\$15
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Please make your check payable to "FVEAA" and postal mail it with this membership application form to:

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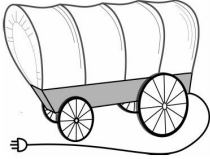
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