



## January 2017 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

### Next Meeting

**January 20, 2017 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

#### Community Christian Church

1635 Emerson Lane  
Naperville, IL 60540

[Google Map](#)

### Agenda

- 6:30 Doors open -> Sign-in Sheet, Tags
- 7:00 Call To Order, Welcome Introduction
- 7:15 William McDaniel presenting on BMW conversion with Tesla cells
- Break
- 8:15 Club news and business.
- 8:30 Jeff Miller presenting plans to offer multiple EV home charging
- 9:15 Close

#### CLUB PROJECT - LEAF

- WHAT: Bob Baker hosting a Club project to analyze Bruce Jones' 2011 Nissan Leaf and batteries
- WHEN: Tomorrow Saturday 1/21/2017 at 1:00 p.m. at Bob's Hillview auto in Barrington
- WHERE: 4 Hillview Dr. Lake Barrington, IL 60010 [Bobs Hillview Auto - Directions](#)

### President's Words

*Michael Willuweit*

When 2016 began I never imagined by the year's end I would find myself at the helm of the FVEAA. Here I am twelve months later thinking a lot about the club and anticipating a great year of Events and meetings. We closed out the year in style with a gathering in Arlington Heights at the clubhouse in Marty's apartment building. Hopefully we can do it again to close out 2017.

This month's meeting will be another smorgasbord of exciting information in the world of electric vehicles. First, William McDaniel will present on his conversion of a 1992 BMW 325i. What's exceptional about the project is his choice to use salvaged Tesla cells. Like at our November meeting William will have some of the cells on hand for viewing and inspection. You can follow his progress at his blog <http://evbimmer325i.blogspot.com/> which also has been added to our homepage.

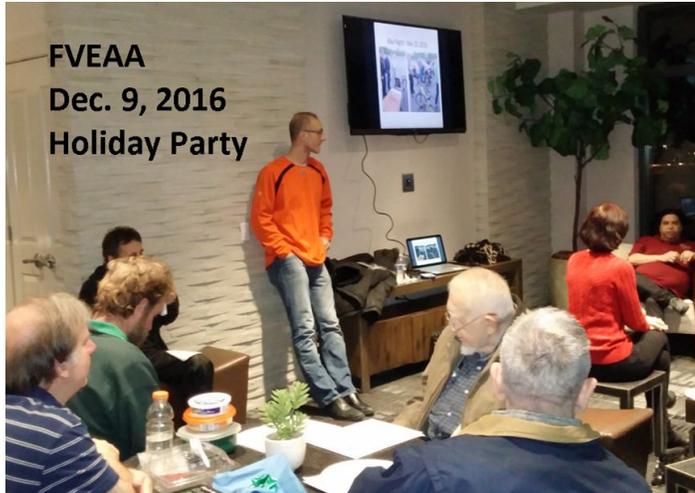
After the break Jeff Miller will present about planning a garage that can charge multiple EVs. This project/presentation really has my piqued attention as I find it difficult to manage charging between my car and my wife's, and I think the difficulties will only get worse as I eye future EVs.

Hope to see you this Friday and Happy New Year!

Michael Willuweit

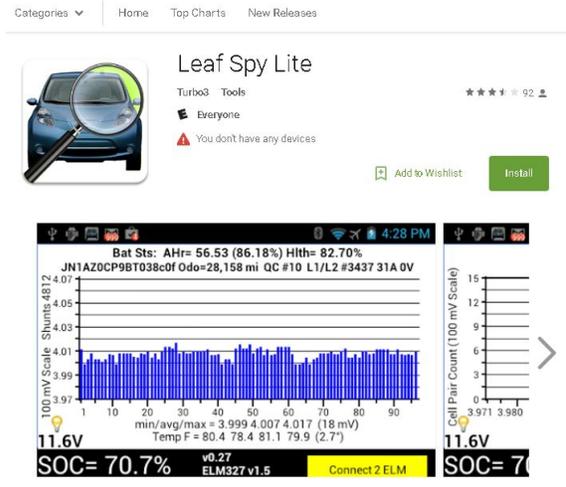
Photos of Last Meeting December 9th 2016

Bruce Jones



FVEAA  
Dec. 9, 2016  
Holiday Party

Mike welcomes everyone to the 2016 Holiday party, with Pizza, slide show, surveys and Nissan Leaf battery discussion



FVEAA Facebook Page - Like Us!

Grant Gerke

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

FVEAA Facebook Group - Join 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 47 members so far. 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 will help to replace 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/>

## Rich's Ramblings

Rich Carroll

A new EV startup has suddenly made a significant splash in the news for Illinois. Rivian Automotive (which most recently was called Avera Motors of Rockledge) (which prior to that was called Mainstream Motors) has agreed to purchase the former Mitsubishi Factory in Normal, Illinois for two million dollars. (Bonus points for knowing how the city came to be named Normal, and for knowing the derivation of Rivian Motors) For those who are interested, Mitsubishi stopped production in Normal in 2015. Mitsubishi has sold vehicles and drivetrains to and with Chrysler for years, but remains technically independent. Chrysler has merged with Fiat, creating Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) and owning Alfa Romeo, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Maserati, Jeep and Ram brands.

Hopefully this did not make your head swim, but the next part is scary. Rivian (who has never produced a car, not even a prototype) has agreed to purchase the factory and 500 acres of land for \$2,000,000. The plant is reasonably new, opening in 1988, after Mitsu and Chrysler received \$249,000,000 in state and local subsidies. Let's follow that math again. Mitsubishi received two million dollars to sell a plant that cost Illinois taxpayers 249 million dollars. Maybe, just maybe, that \$249 million was not well spent.

Rivian has apparently not done public financing. They have a one million dollar grant from local governments, and a five year tax abatement, assuming they hire a thousand people in the next 8 years, and invest \$175 million in the venture.

Rivian is quite secretive, with no information about any specific vehicles. Their website is nicely built, but with little meat, and a company profile intended to offend no one. They have not made any revolutionary statements, nor shown any technological advances. Illinois is a difficult environment for good manufacturing jobs, and I suspect the civic leaders in the Bloomington-Normal area to know that this isn't really a sound option, but it shows their constituents that they are still working on the problem and haven't forgotten about it. If they think that this is a real viable solution and have stopped listening to other proposals, I feel sorry for them.

## Membership Update

Ted Lowe

We currently have **64 active paid-up** members, down 4 from last month! Please renew folks!



## FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2017-01-16 04:58:04

### Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
BusinessStd	2	2
Family	7	6
Individual	54	53
LifetimeInd	3	3
Totals	66	64

### Other Statistics

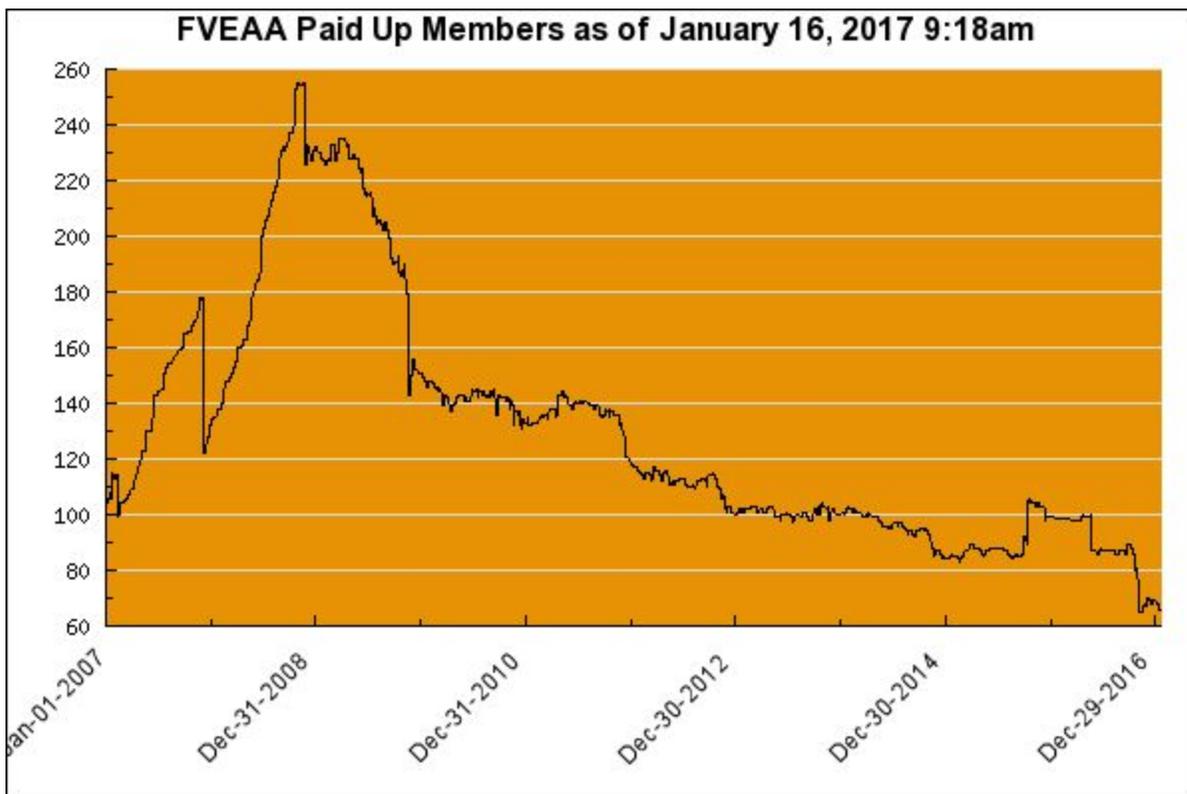
Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	97.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	210.7 days
% With Email	93.9%

## Encouraging Our Membership To Grow in 2017 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 anytime, 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 about 255 members in the Summer of 2008 when gas was nearing \$5 per gallon. We were also attending lots more invitational EVents with our EVs. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA in 2017!!!**



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):

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

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

Here are the minutes from our December Holiday Party meeting

5:30 Doors open

6:15 Welcome Introductions from Mike Willuweit

Thanks to Marty Belovitz who coordinated our party at “One Arlington” luxury apartments (Old Arlington Park Hilton) 3400 W. Stonegate Blvd in Arlington Heights.

Pizza and optional salad at \$5 a person tasted great!

Slide show of the 2016 year events assembled by Bruce and looped on the screen

Discussion lead to the 2011 Nissan Leaf he just purchased and the group rallied with ways to check the battery using Leaf spy, and other tools. Showed videos of how to repair and replace bad cells in a Leaf battery

[2007 Nissan Leaf battery replacement](#)

[Replace damaged cells in a Leaf battery Pack](#)

[Leaf Spy](#)

Video of Robo Plow that Tom and John Kohlert originally showed at the Jan 15, 2010 FVEAA meeting

[Robo Plow](#)

And an oldie but goodie -

[What if everything ran on gas](#)

The year end survey was also distributed for members to fill out and provide input on what activities they liked in 2016, and what they want to do next year.

Lots of good conversation on electric vehicles ensued and a good time was had by all. Here here!

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.**

**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



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## CHARGE YOUR VEHICLE FOR LESS WITH HOURLY ELECTRICITY PRICING

It is great having near zero, or sometimes even negative, rates to fill up my car for nearly free or even better!

—Daniel H., Hourly Pricing participant since 2015

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