

April 2025 FVEAA Newsletter

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

fveaa.org

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

FVEAA Monthly Meeting

When: Friday, April 18th, 2025 - Doors open at 6:45 pm

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

Note: April Meeting will be downstairs in the basement as there is a service scheduled for 7:30 upstairs.

Where: 102 S 2nd St, Geneva, IL 60134

Map: Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva

Virtual Meeting: **Zoom Meeting Link**

Dial-in for audio-only users: Call: 312-626-6799 Enter Meeting ID when prompted: 95901481473# Participant ID: (blank, just #) *6 mutes/unmutes

Meeting Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual meeting begins to test connections and chat
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:40 Tom Coleman on how to combat climate change
- 8:10 Break
- 8:15 Ted Liu on road tripping comparisons between an lonig 5 and Model 3
- 9:00 Close

President's Words Jeff Miller

March Meeting

Thanks to Rod Hoffman for his presentation on his Tesla Powerwall build.

Thanks to Ted Lowe for his presentation on buying a Bolt, and Ted Liu for sharing the data on charging efficiency on a Model 3.

April Meeting

Tom Coleman is presenting on going all electric. Tom is an excellent presenter, and I look forward to his detailed and well thought out presentations. I hope everyone gains additional knowledge on moving away from Natural Gas, and other fuel based services.

Ted Liu is presenting on his road trip experience comparing a Model 3 to an Ioniq 5. I hope to see comparisons on charging station ease of use, and how the car software handled navigating between stations. Ted Liu is an experienced EV road tripper, so I expect his comparisons to be very useful both for Tesla owners, and for those that aren't road trip experts yet.

Springtime plans

As I type this, I believe I have a buyer for my house, but I will write more about that in the future once it is farther along.

I don't currently have the necessary items to move out of the country, so what am I going to do? Buy someplace cheap! I am looking at houses downstate Illinois. I am looking for something cheap as I will likely own it for a long time, as my older son Scott may not be willing to go with us. This solves two issues, gives us a place to live in the meantime, and a place for Scott to live in the period while we are gone. If someday I move back, I will have someplace to live. If it's far enough South, I end up in Canada, and things get sorted out here, I might spend my winters there. There are possibilities, but having a cheap house limits my exposure to this country as much as I can for the time being. In other words, I can move my money offshore faster than myself.

As I look at houses downstate, this weekend, I have the question in my mind, what tools do I bring and use on the ones I am most interested in? I could do a blower door test pretty quickly, but the results are somewhat inconclusive without further investigation. I suppose the smart move is to narrow the list, and then come back for a more complete investigation. Do I even pay for a home inspector? If the house is "as-is" I think the question is generally no.

Vice President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Greetings EV Enthusiasts,

I am excited to hear my good friend (and FVEAA member) Tom Coleman speak on how we can make a difference in combating climate change at our meeting this Friday. For the last three years, Tom has led Climate Reality Chicago Metro as Chairperson. He also has been the leader of their Electric Vehicle Team, and he leads the Solar Energy Team. Tom will present the good news about what we can do to contain emissions at the state and personal level and what the costs and benefits are for containing emissions for families and for the planet.

I'm looking forward to our 50th anniversary outing at the Kane County Cougars Baseball Game on Thursday, May 29th. This will be a fun-filled and inexpensive event for all. I will distribute the tickets at the ballpark that day. There are still some seats left. For your \$22 you get a box seat, and a \$10 coupon good for refreshments. All hot dogs, soft drinks, and beer are just \$2 each. If you would like to attend, please see the instructions below in the "upcoming events section" of this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

Stay Charged!

Tracey

50th Anniversary History Highlight

Christopher Sharp

Founding Father of the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association - John Stockberger

The man who can be most easily described as the founder of the FVEAA is John Milton Stockberger of Batavia, Illinois. He was born on February 11, 1925. His wife, Martha Ann Stockberger was born on January 8,1927. John worked for A.T.&T in Chicago and was an engineer. Martha was a registered nurse, and they had no children. They lived at 2S.681 Nelson Lake Road, Batavia, IL. 60510 for a number of years in a house built in 1960. They were members of the United Methodist Church of Geneva and in the 1990's they were both volunteers in the organization, Habitat For Humanity.

John Stockberger was like all Americans affected by the energy crisis that was caused by the Arab Oil Embargo that lasted from October 1973 through March 1974. Gasoline shortages impacted him and he became inspired to do something about it by building an electric car. He was an electrical engineer and very knowledgeable on the topic of electric motors, controllers and batteries. With that knowledge he then converted a Ford Pinto from gas power to electric power in his own workshop located behind his house.

The Pinto was used in his commute to work, driving it 6 miles to the Metra train station in Geneva, Illinois, where he caught the commuter train into Chicago.

Likewise, his reverse commute back to his home required him to ride the Metra commuter train to Geneva and then drive his electric car home. The State of Illinois gave John a specialty license plate for his converted car, an electric vehicle license plate. It only had two numbers on it and was a different style than regular car license plates. People took notice of it while his car was parked in the parking lot of the Metra station.

People started to put notes under the windshield wiper blades of the car with comments and questions about it. Questions like, "Where can I buy a car like this?" or "Cool Car". John kept these notes and made a contact list from them.

John had a close friend from St. Charles, Illinois by the name of Kenneth Meyer (Ken) who was also an engineer and both were members of a local ham radio club. Ken converted a gas-powered West German Car, the NSU Prinz to electric power.

John and Ken in 1975 invited the people on their contact list to come to John's house to look at their cars and see how they did their conversions. This was the start of what we now know of as the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association. John with others from their new group had the organization incorporated as a not-for -profit organization in 1979 to help promote and educate the general public about electric vehicles.

John Stockberger was the club's first President and he was active in the F.V.E.A.A. until he and Martha moved to Crossville, TN in 1997. John died on April 25,2014 and was buried at the Los Angeles National Cemetery, Los Angeles, California. Martha died in 2024.

Story by Christopher K. Sharp (Newark, IL.) Sat. April 5,2025.

On Modernizing Our Logo

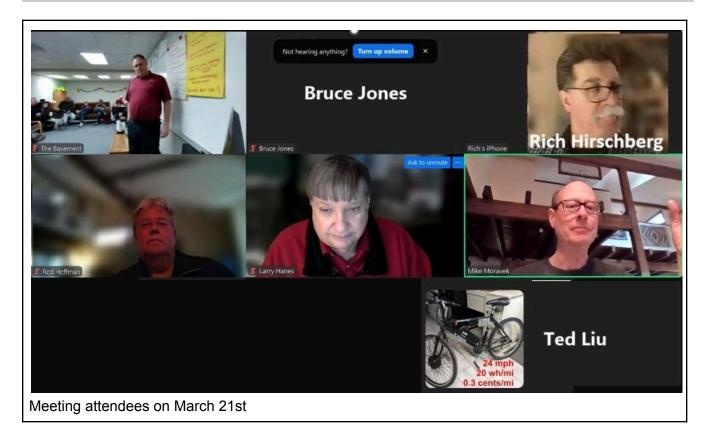
FVEAA BoD



We are updating our official FVEAA logo! The one above has served us well for about 20 years. The one below, that Bruce Jones has creatively assembled partly based on our parent organization the Electric Vehicle Association, is almost ready for release. As you can see, it also helps us celebrate our 50th year as an organization! What do you think? Please share your thoughts and ideas, thanks!



NOTE SEE 50TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING WORKSHEET AT END OF NEWSLETTER!





On site attendees



Rod Hoffman presents on his Tesla Powerwall3 and home solar system in Evergreen Colorado

System Components & Financials There are three basic system components. The cost Component Total Cost Net Cost included cash purchase, 7/13/2011: 30% Xcel installation, ground-mount for 20 Suntech STP 185-\$22, 395 \$11,144 30% Federal Tax panels and electrical panel 24/Adb+ black solar Credit upgrades from a typical 100A panels residential service. 2/7/2014: 10 Suntech STP 185-30% Federal Tax \$13.335 \$9.335 Now Xcel rebate is \$2,500 24/Adb+ black solar Credit per battery, 60% less than panels original offer 9 months ago. 9/15/25: 50% Xcel* One Tesla PowerWall3 \$15,500 \$3,200 30% Federal Tax An option to Tesla is Enphase, Battery Backup similar cost, not as robust Xcel \$50/month \$39,230 \$23,679 Total System production payment

Thanks Rod for the excellent information!



Electrical Subpanels with Battery Disconnect, Production and Net Meters

Tesla PowerWall 3



Ted Lowe's Chevy Car History before EVs.



First Chevy (Stock photos cars 1-3)







Ted Lowe's hat

His first EV - S10 truck =>

1992 S10 = Chevy #4

- My first EV and truck!
- Bought ready to drive from a guy in FL. Bill Shafer helped me buy it!
- You older folks prolly know it well
- I drove it 14 years before rust did it in (and Dakota "arrived")
- About 45k miles
- 3 packs for lead acid bats





Ted w **EV grin!** Loves his new (used) Chevy BOLT

2023 Bolt = Chevy #5!



- · Very clean, 31k miles
- Hertz Rental
- Qualifies for \$4k CEJA IL rebate
- 250+ mile range
- 2nd newest vehicle i ever bought
- Fun and pretty peppy
- My 3rd 4-wheel EV
- Many bells and whistles (compared to my previous 2 EV conversions)
- Very efficient (250 W Hr/Mi)



Upcoming EVents Rich Hirschberg

Earth Day at Peck Farm Park Sat April 19th - day after this meeting! 4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva, IL

Earth Day is our first main event of the year. We'll be promoting our 50th Anniversary, and there will be healthy living vendors, kid's crafts, electronic recycling, on-site paper shredding, food for sale etc. at the event.

10:00 a.m. FVEAA members arrive to set up then 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Earth Day!

Kane County Cougars Game May 29th FVEAA 50th Anniversary Family Event

As part of our 50th anniversary celebration, the FVEAA is organizing a special family day at the Kane County Cougars Game. The date of the event is **Thursday**, **May 29th at 6:30 p.m. BUT get there before 5:45 p.m. so you can see the FVEAA throw out the FIRST pitch at 6:00 p.m.**!

We have reserved box seats, and it is "Thirsty Thursday," at the ballpark. The discounted price for this event is \$22 per person for everyone attending (adults and children). The price includes a \$10 certificate to use at the concession stands where items like hot dogs, drinks etc. will have a discounted price of \$2 each.

5:45 p.m. ARRIVE

PARKING FEE

NOTE: We found out there is a vehicle parking fee.

If you *Prepay Parking by May 16 to Bruce, the fee is* \$6 for the farther lot, \$10 for the premium parking near the stadium.

OR on game day you'll pay \$12 for the farther lot, or \$20 premium parking near the stadium 5:30 p.m. Arrive

6 p.m. First Pitch, and announcements

Secretary Bruce Jones will throw out the ceremonial first pitch **at 6 p.m.** before the Kane County Cougar game begins. And during the game the announcer will speak a few words to promote the FVEAA and expound on our **FVEAA** *50th anniversary* to the crowd.

There will also be another Pitch!

MONEY: NEW INSTRUCTIONS. Tracey will be out of town, a few weeks before the game ... so Bruce Jones will back him up coordinating the ticket purchases. There are some seats left. If you would like to attend, get a check to Bruce **before May 9th**, for \$22 per person plus prepay parking \$6 or \$10, per car made out to Bruce Jones. OR

You can Zelle pay him using either his phone 630-864-9669 or email bione35@aim.com.

May 16 meeting

Bruce will distribute the prepaid tickets at the May 16th meeting or he can email them to you..

***If you know of upcoming car shows, cruise nights, parades, or get-togethers, please shoot me an email - GoAFVs@yahoo.com

Take care, Rich Hirschberg (c/t) 847.347.7171

Email: GoAFVs@yahoo.com

FVEAA business cards available!

Ted Lowe

See one of the officers to get some cards to hand out to people at various EVents and daily life to promote EVs and our organization!



Login to our FVEAA website for access to lots of member-only tools!

Ted Lowe

You can use the many membership-only tools on our website after you login! If you haven't logged in to our website already, please check your email for instructions and login to check it out! Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

FVEAA On Facebook - Join Us! Like Us!

Ted Lowe

The **FVEAA Facebook group** has 135 members as of 1/17/24! 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/

Here is the 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/@evsforever/videos

Membership Update

Ted Lowe

Keep an eye on the **active paid-up** members count! Many members have taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered on the website! **Please renew** & recruit new folks!!!



Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Family	5	5
Individual	59	59
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	66	66

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	100.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	370.6 days
% With Email	97.0%

Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

Ted Lowe

We are growing! 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!

Our membership count 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!!!**

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!

OPENING

- President Jeffrey Miller opened the meeting at 7:04 and held introductions for on-site and on-line attendees
- 50th Anniversary Chris Sharp and Bruce Jones gave an update on the FVEAA 50th anniversary events and it's looking great!

TESLA POWERWALL3

- Rod Hoffman presented on the Tesla Powerwall3 installed at his home in Evergreen, Colorado
- He described the Timing, Components and Financials of the Powerwall3
- Rod's system stores energy from 10 am to 2pm then releases it onto the grid at peak times and Xcel pays him for it
- At 10 p.m. the Powerwall3 provides electricity to run the house overnight.
- He has an agreement with Xcel as a 3rd party power producer whereby they pay him \$50/ mo and he has not had a power bill from Xcel Energy since the original 2011 solar installation.
- Thanks Rod! We appreciate your excellent presentation.
- Thanks also to Mike Moravek who recommended his friend and neighbor, Rod, present on the Powerwall3.
 - (Hey, hopefully I'll get a chance to visit Rod in June on my way through Colorado and check out his solar/ Powerwall3 battery setup - Bruce)

Ted Lowe - his First "Real EV." a 2023 Chevrolet Bolt

- Ted showed a personal history of purchasing 5 Chevrolet vehicles through his life (besides a converted Dodge Dakota pickup)
- He described the recent process he used to purchase a 2023 Chevy Bolt from Hertz
- Including the potential \$4k Illinois EPA rebate and statistics
- Ted still has that EV grin!

BREAK

Charging Efficiency: 120V vs 240V - Ted Liu and Jeff Miller

- Ted Liu and Jeff Miller presented the different aspects of 120 Volt versus 240 Volt charging and its efficiencies.
- Ted Liu explained the numbers through the use of multiple spreadsheets and calculations using the data he had collected.
- Thanks Ted and Jeff!

Adjourn

• The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Membership Form Ted Lowe

FVEAA Membership Application Form - Version 2023-12-04

Name:	
Address:	
City, State Zipcode:_	
Phone:	Phone Type: Home Work Cell
Email:	· — ,— ,— —
Please check one:	New Member Renewal
How did you hear ab	out the FVEAA ?

Membership Types and Annual Dues (please circle one):

Individual	\$20 (1 year), \$38 (2 years), \$56 (3 years
Business	\$100
Premier Business	\$250
Charter Business	\$500
Youth (21 or younger)	\$10

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 Charter Business Members

Illinois Alliance for Clean Transportation (IACT)

Samantha Bingham 2 N LaSalle St #950 Chicago, IL 60602

Email: info@il-act.org
Web:https://il-act.org



Illinois Alliance for Clean Transportation (IACT) (formerly known as Chicago Area Clean Cities) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit working to promote the use of clean fuels for clean air throughout Illinois. Our alliance includes people from private business, academia, government, scientific research and energy and environmental services. Our main goal is to help with the adoption of cleaner transportation options.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D3OfsK5ilypWnLOrQSLMZ0LndJxtMtTjKKkYerF9Lfw/edit?tab=t.0

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2025 FVE	AA SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY	EVent- CHA	IR and Committ	ee Sign Up	
MONTH	2025 FVEAA SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY	CHAIR	EMAIL	PHONE	NOTES
2025	MEETING / EVENT				
IANUARY	Planning and prep				
FEBRUARY					
MARCH	Forth Day Sat April 10th Book Form Bark	Druco Ionas	hiono2E@-:	620 964 0660	Promote the 50th anniversary at
APRIL	Earth Day, Sat. April 19th. Peck Farm Park 4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva, IL	bruce Jones	bjone35@aim.com	630-864-9669	Earth Day. Wear FVEAA shirt
	Setup 10:00 a.m. Event from 11am- 1 p.m.				Larai Day, Wear I VLAM SIIII
MAY	May 23rd board meeting - Jeff Birthday!				
	May 29 THURSDAY night, be there 5:45	Tracey	tracer500@gmail.co	630-697-5115	Fees NEW as of 4/15. Tracey will
	p.m. First pitch 6 pm. Game starts 6:30	, McFadden	<u>m</u>		be out a few weeks before the
	p.m Kane County Cougars Baseball				game so Bruce Jones will back
	Game Thirsty Thurs. At Northwestern				him up coordinating the ticket
	Medicine Field, 34W002 Cherry Lane				purchases. There are some seats
	Geneva, IL . \$22 box seat per person.				left. If you would like to attend, get
	Ticket price includes \$10 good toward \$2				a check to Bruce before May 9th,
	drinks, \$2 food etc. PLUS PARKING:				for \$22 per person plus prepay
	prepay per vehicle \$6 (remote lot) or \$10				parking \$6 or \$10 per car made
	(near stadium). Otherwise Parking is \$12 or \$20 on game day. Bruce throws				out to Bruce Jones. OR You can Zelle pay him using either
	ceremonial first pitch to promote 50th				his phone 630-864-9669 or email
	anniversary. And a second pitch				bjone35@aim.com.
JUNE	June 21 Sat. Car Show. Rain date Sat June	Rich H.	goafvs@yahoo.com	847-347-7171	Rich Hirschberg's excllent Home
	28. Promote FVEAA's 50th anniversary				Depot car show
	June 14 Sat Zion Nostalgia days car show	Rob Schwartz			Details to be announced
ULY	July 4th Friday -Wheaton Parade	Ted Lowe	ted.lowe@fveaa.org	630-260-0424	Drive your EV in this parade to
	LL 27 C 40 CO 2	Chata Cl		520 700 2274 // 1	promote FVEAA 50th anniversary
	July 27 Sun. 10:00 to 3 p.m. Summer Joint	Chris Sharp	greenenergytriad68	630-780-3271 (h)	BIG EVENT! Date booked by John
	50th Anniversary Event/ Pot luck Cookout w IL Solar Energy Assoc. (ISEA) Nicola		@gmail.com		Balk. Thanks! Chris Sharp to promote 50th anniversary with a
	Brown and Leslie McCain				speech and displays etc. Set up at
	https://www.illinoissolar.org/				10:00. noon we'll kick off w a few
	,, ,				speeches and lunch
		Wendy Vernon	wavernon@yahoo.com	630-761-9602	ISEA contact
NUGUST	Looking for appropriate car show or	Rob Schwartz	rschwartz350@sbcgl	847-833-7598	Aug 2 Union IL Electric Train
	event		obal.net		museum Vintage Transport
					Extravaganza- is only for Vintage
					Vehicles older than 2003
	Aug 23 East Troy Electric Train ride 10	Tracey & K	tracer500@gmail.co	630-697-5115	We'll travel by electric train to and
	a.m. to farmers market. Board train at	McFadden	<u>m</u>		from the Elegant Farmer (farmer's
	East Troy Depot: 2002 Church Street, East				market) 1545 Main St.,
	Troy, WI. See museum, w special tour of				Mukwonago, WI. THEN FVEAA
	train barns. Eat lunch (pay dutch) at a				Board Mtg for officers and board@
	nearby restaurant Event to be discussed	Marty Palovica	martin@totalsystemi	847-221-5724	McFaddens tbd
	Event to be discussed Event to be discussed	Ted Liu	tedliu@sector0.net	312-285-0845	tbd
EPTEMBER	September Library events	Chris Sharp	- Sunu @ Scottol O.Het	512 255 5545	No. or
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Sept 28 Sun. 1:30 p.m. (est) Sunday	tbd.			Possible participation in parade during the
	Grundy County Corn Festival Parade 909	Laura Baus	baushaus4@sbcglobal.net	224-279-5681	huge Corn Festival in Morris, IL.
	N. Liberty St. Morris, IL Morris, IL				prefer texts
National Dri	ve Electric Week, is now National Drive El	ectric Month fi	om Friday, Fri Sept.	12, to Sunday, Oct	. 12, 2025.
	9/13/2025 National Drive Electric Month -	Rich	goafvs@yahoo.com	847-347-7171	Possibly library location.
	North event. Backup rain date 9/20	Hirschberg			
OCTOBER	9/27/2025 National Drive Electric Month-	Marty		847-321-5734	Backup Rain date 10/4. Marty to
	South - Fox Valley Mall 50th car show	Belovicz	integration.com		check w Fox Valley Mall on
10) (FB	combination event.				coordinating w their 50th anniv.
NOVEMBER					
DECEMBER					
OTHER	50th Anniversary Literature - promotions,	Chris Sharp	greenenergytriad68	630-780-3271 (h)	
CITIER	Library Displays	Citio Stidip	@gmail.com	030-700-3271 (f1)	
	Banners	Bruce Jones	bjone35@aim.com	630-864-9669	
	50th Anniversary Logo, Artwork	Ted Lowe	ted.lowe@fveaa.org	630-260-0424	
	Radio public service ads	Sharon White	peezmom@gmail.com		Low key is the watchword for now.