

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

Meeting: Friday, March 21st

Doors open at 6:30PM, **Meeting starts at 7:00PM**

Packer Engineering

1976 N Washington St, Naperville, IL 60563

Directions: 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.

March 2008 Newsletter



Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

A Not-For-Profit Illinois corporation and the Chicago area chapter of the Electric Auto Association

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order and Introductions

Approval of Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

- Update on Ed Meyer's Vanguard EV Donation and Auction (see article)
- Reminder: Forums now open to public (read only)
- No way yet to not receive two-times daily Forums Summary on [members]
- Newsletters page updated with > 20 years of newsletters!
- Committee Announcements and Updates

New Business

- Anyone have anything ?

Intermission - Member Badges, FVEAA Shirt Orders, EV Viewing, Networking, Refreshments, Raffle Tickets!

Raffle Winners

Show/Tell/Ask - Anyone can show/tell/ask something EV-related for 2 minutes.

Program

Todd Dore - EVs in the Philippines

Todd will show pictures from his recent trip and share his observations about EV use in the Philippines.

Ted Lowe - Information is Power - Part 1

Ted will introduce his wild ideas to produce an affordable and expandable data acquisition and control system for EVs. Informationaholics and Control Freaks should especially attend. :-)

President's Words - \$110+/barrel oil...\$3.39 gasoline... gold @ \$1000/oz!

Ted Lowe



Last month's title was **Only \$88/barrel...** well... urr.. what a difference a month makes! Last night i road by a local gas station that typically is at the low end of prices in DuPage County and the lowest grade was \$3.39/gal. Geeshh... i'm glad i'm not buying that "Texas Tea" or "Black Gold"! A fellow FVEAAer called me the other night to report that he was paying over \$4/gal for diesel and would spend upwards of \$80+ to fill up (ouch). Ok, we're getting close to my "\$4/gal by early Spring" prediction (but that was for gasoline not diesel). My prediction has until about mid-April to be considered early-Spring :-). Even though i don't buy diesel directly, it's really high price impacts me when i buy food, clothing (yeah right) and other items. i wish i was a Saudi Arabian prince (just kidding)... they must be planning where to build their next dozen castles. Does a request from President Bush to increase OPEC output carry any weight? Would

you sell more of your commodity for less money per unit? Not me!

Ok, enough bragging, complaining, etc. What can we do about this situation? Drive Electric! Let me and your fellow FVEAA'ers know what we can do to best help you to become an EV driver! i'm thinking that this year instead of having a single "Club Car Project", we could have rotating work sessions at various member's homes to help them in their EV pursuits. i'm interested to hear what you think of this idea, thanks!

FVEAA Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2008

John Jeide

THANKS go out to John Jeide who filled in as the recorder in Rich Carroll's absence! The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. even by Ted Lowe. In view of the large size of the attendance, and the slightly limited time, he asked for introductions for those whose first names began with J or first time attendees. Dale Corel was not present yet, so no Treasurer's report was given. **Old Business:** 1) Ted mentioned a previous discussion about someday opening our forums to the public (except those for FVEAA members only). A vote was taken and passed to open up our forums for "reading only" for the benefit of web visitors (non-members). Only members may post to the forums. 2) John Emde asked if there is anyway to not get the two times daily Forums Summary email going to the [members] listserve. Ted will look into it. 3) Ted mentioned the challenges he and Rich are having at getting the monthly newsletter out on our Bylaws stipulated schedule (1 week before meeting). A poll of members was taken about when they would like to receive their newsletter. The general consensus was as early as possible, like the Friday before the meeting when possible. After much discussion on possible solutions (like changing the Bylaws to avoid "guilt" from violations), it was decided to just try to get the newsletter out on schedule as best as possible and not worry too much about missing the schedule by a couple of days. 4) Someone mentioned that the newsletter showing system wasn't working correctly (ie, showing all newsletters to logged in members and all but the last one to guests). Ted will look into it. 5) John Emde will be making electronic copies of past newsletters and will send them to Ted for posting. 6) Ted did not have time this month to get more information about the Ed Meyer's Vanguard donation. He will be before the March meeting. **Committee Reports:** Charging Infrastructure Committee Chair Todd Martin talked about the very successful dedication of the Illinois' first Avcon rapid charging station at the Beverly Unitarian. The press conference went well with a number of TV stations and newspapers there. Lt. Gov. Quinn gave an eloquent speech about our right and duty to have a clean environment and how EVs are an important part of that picture. Todd is sending out another round of charging station invitations (following up his first round of 50 from 1 year ago). Let Todd know if you have any suggestions of locations that are possible. Outreach Committee Chair Rich Hirschberg circulated at signup sheet for the May 3 Highland Park Event. The busy spring months have many such Events that are requesting FVEAA to have EV showings. Rich mentioned the upcoming Schaumburg library showing of WKtEC (in late April). Technical Projects

Committee Chair Ken Simmermon discussed two projects he just completed: 1) a portable Avcon to 220V adapter that would allow a member to use an Avcon charging station without having an Avcon inlet in their EV, and 2) a portable 220V power meter that allows a member to measure the amount of power that their charging consumes. Ted will bring these devices for show next month. **New Business:** Ted mentioned that tomorrow (Feb 16) is the EAA annual meeting and gave the conference call in information. He suggests people call in to learn much about EAA and the EV movement. Some asked whether there would be a podcast available afterwards for those that couldn't attend live. Ted will check and report back. Terry Kane described the Extended Range EV (EREV) project that a group of FVEAAers has started up. The EREV project goal is to design and implement an affordable EREV (like the coming Chevy Volt) using market available parts (such as a small bio-diesel engine turning a larger alternator to charge the battery pack while driving). Contact Terry if you wish to participate. Legislative Affairs Committee member Howard Hansen mentioned that his deadline to get EV plates for his Ranger truck passed and he had to get conventional plates for a year. He has sent a request for help to his IL State Representative. Steve Clark mentioned that motorcycles can get EV plates too. Ted will follow with Steve for more info. Ted requested any members that have EVs that aren't listed on our website to send him pictures and a description for posting. **Intermission:** No raffle but we all TOASTED JOE DOWNING for completing his EV! **Programs:** Ted gave the 2nd part of the Porsche 944 project status report (from motor in to on the road). We ran out of time so Todd Dore's talk will take place next month. Sorry Todd! Adjourned about 9:50p.

Support Our Sponsors That Support Us!

Ted Lowe

Visit our Sponsors page to view their information: <http://www.fveaa.org/sponsors>

Pay their support forward by visiting their websites and seeing what services and products they offer!

Everyone please ramp up your recruiting efforts for new business memberships and if your business would like to support FVEAA's mission, we'd gratefully appreciate your support!! See more information at: <http://www.fveaa.org/join>

FVEAA Online Store Launched To Order FVEAA Shirts and Business Cards

Ted Lowe

After numerous requests (**SORRY** George) we now have an online store on our website! You can shop in our store to order FVEAA Shirts and Business Cards. Once enough orders have been placed, I will order the items and bring them to the next FVEAA meeting for distribution. To keep things simple for now, this is how it works:

1. Login to [fveaa.org](http://www.fveaa.org) to gain access to the FVEAA Online Store (see top left).
2. Click on 'List All Products' to see all items available.
3. Visit each product's details and decide what to order.
4. Order items by adding them to your cart.
5. When finished shopping, Show your Cart and click on Checkout
6. The first time you Checkout, you will be prompted for your Name, Address, etc.
7. Double check your order on the final Checkout page and Confirm your Order.
8. You will get an email confirmation of your order as well being able to check your order history online.
9. **All orders must be ordered online and paid for and picked up at subsequent FVEAA meetings!**

If all things go well, we can add expand this program to include more items, online payments, drop shipping (in some cases) and possibly maintaining some inventory to expedite deliveries. Check it out at: <http://www.fveaa.org/store> ! Please let me know if you have questions/suggestions/comments.

FVEAA Member Badges At March Meeting

Ted Lowe

Terry Kane and his company Global Material Technologies, Inc. in Chicago have generously offered to produce our member badges at the March meeting! Terry will be bringing a laminating machine, a printer and all the materials to make clip-on badges. **THANKS** Terry and GMT!

Many Past Newsletters Added To Website

Ted Lowe

THANKS to the efforts of John Emde and Dale Corel, we now have access to FVEAA Newsletters back to 1984! Besides the hoot of looking at the history of the FVEAA and EVs, they contain a lot of useful information. Check them out at: <http://www.fveaa.org/newsletters>

FVEAA's Charter Business Member

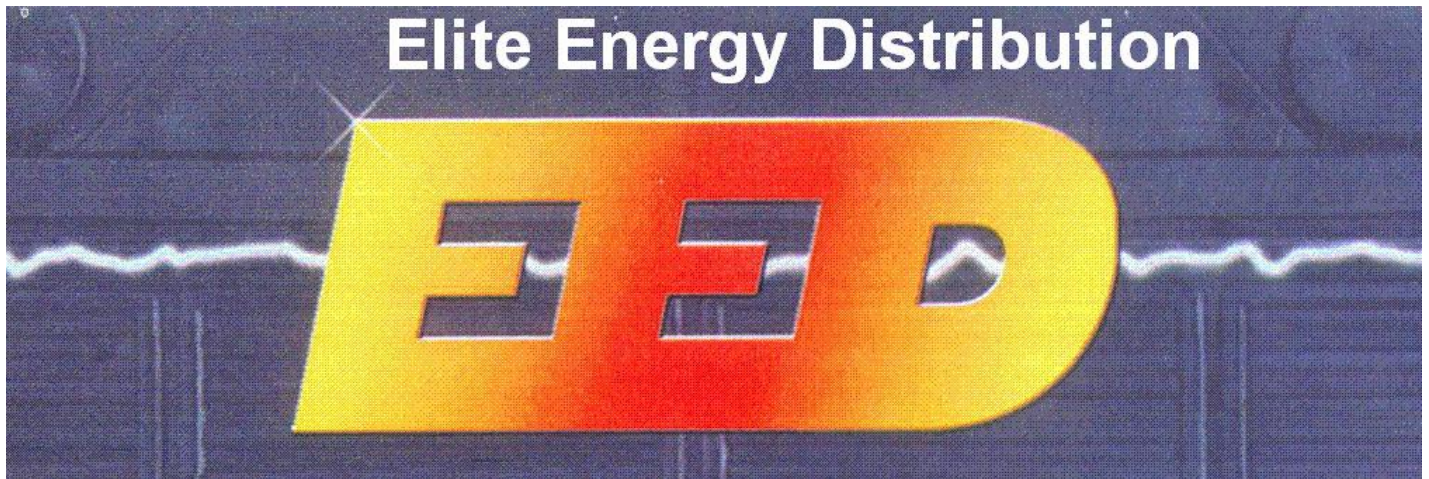
Ted Lowe

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First Avcon Rapid Charge Station Dedication Gets Lots of PR

Ted Lowe

Again, let's give a **BIG HAND** to Todd Martin for all the great work he's doing on the Charging Infrastructure project! The dedication was covered in the Beverly Review, Southtown Star, Time Out Chicago Magazine and had short TV coverage on CLTV and Fox. Look for a front page article on our website with links and YouTube videos soon! **THANKS** Todd!

And if that wasn't enough, Todd has recently gotten agreement from Elgin and St. Charles to install Avcon stations! Go Todd go!

Extended Range EV SIG Update

Terry Kane

The Extended Range EV Special Interest Group (EREV SIG) has continued work over the last month. Our last meeting was February 26 and we had six members present. We have 13 total members who have expressed interest in participating so we expect even greater attendance as the weather improves and our efforts gain traction. At the last meeting, we focused on refining our goals and defining the project in terms of phases and subject units.

Phase I is planning and learning, with the goal of building an "alpha" unit that can be attached to a subject BEV. Among the many unknowns we are exploring are: ideal generator type (AC/DC), means of

connection to the BEV, required size (HP/KW/V), safety & control systems, etc. The alpha unit is to be constructed from the Honda genset auctioned at the December FVEAA meeting and purchased by SIG member Matt Kenigson. It will feature manual controls with inherent safeties and pull-start.

Phase II will be designing and building a brand-new, from-scratch genset (beta). It will be sized to produce, roughly, 15-25 kW, depending on our research findings and practical experience. The beta unit should feature enhanced control logic including full automatic operation, safeties, and remote/electric starting.

Phase III will be refinement & improvement of the beta design. This phase will include modifications to the ICE to incorporate as many efficiency and emissions improvements as possible. Additionally, work is planned to better integrate the unit into a vehicle, whether it's under a hood on a new conversion, in a truck bed, or on a trailer. Lastly, control logic/systems will be improved to make the unit "smart" in terms of battery management, run-time optimization (minimum ICE usage) and seamless integration into the "EREV driving experience". Much discussion, to-date, has been dedicated to this phase, though we have agreed to focus more on Phase I going forward.

Matt's company, Lextech, has graciously donated free access to its proprietary software package, an on-line project management tool. Team members each have remote access to the project and all documentation is kept on a central server. It was also agreed among SIG participants that the project will be run "open source", with all output becoming public knowledge. Participation in the EREV SIG is open to any FVEAA member.

More information is available on the forums [FVEAA Forums > The FVEAA's Projects > Extended Range Evs] or contact members Terry Kane or Matt.

We have started a separate listserve to discuss this project. FVEAA members may subscribe by going to: http://fveaa.org/mailman/listinfo/erev_fveaa.org

Jim Dawson Featured in Excellent YouTube Interview

Ted Lowe

Check out Jim at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPYhsfshciw> ! The video is up to 23k hits and rising. Let's help it go viral! Nice work Jim!!!

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From Volume 43
Electric Saturn

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FVEAA's Premier Business Member

Ted Lowe



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eco-conversions

Eco-conversions specializes in converting oil dependent vehicles to electric. Focusing specifically on luxury vehicles, our goal is to shatter the image of the traditional electric car.

Even though all high-end, luxury and luxury sports car conversions are acceptable, our benchmark vehicle is the BMW 8-Series. It is the perfect marriage of style, luxury and performance. At eco-conversions we work hard to show that it is possible to create another choice for the environmentally conscience consumer. By using environmentally friendly nickel-zinc batteries, we provide enough power to maintain both the feel and performance of a luxury sports car. Each charge provides 100+ miles of drive time. No gas required. Zero emissions. The end result is a luxury vehicle that you can feel good about driving.

Eco-conversions has partnered with eVionyx, an American company that has developed nickel-zinc rechargeable batteries which can handle over 2000 cycles at 90% DoD. The eVionyx nickel-zinc battery has superior performance as compared to other battery technologies available today. The nickel-zinc cells are superior to lead acid in total power and energy, specific power and energy, and recharge time. It is less expensive and also performs better than NiMH cells. NiZn batteries are particularly suited to high-power applications, such as use in electric vehicles and light transportation.

Ed Meyer's Sebring-Vanguard EV Auction @ May Meeting

Ted Lowe

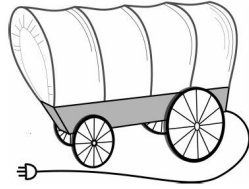
We will be auctioning Ed's Sebring-Vanguard EV at our May meeting! We plan to have the EV at Packer Engineering for the auction so interested parties may inspect it. Ed plans to attend to answer any questions that you may have. The minimum bid for this EV in excellent condition will be \$1250. Disclaimer: *The EV will be sold as-is without any warranty express or implied.* BUT the beauty of being an FVEAAer is that the lucky buyer will have all of us to offer owning and operating advice and help! Many more details about the EV will be in the April newsletter. **THANKS Ed!**



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Ted Lowe

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Trouble with Email Delivery from fveaa.org to yahoo.com

Ted Lowe

Please beware that if you have a yahoo.com address, you may be missing some FVEAA emails recently. I'm working the issue and will let you know when it's resolved. In the meantime, if things seem too quiet, check the forums and listserv archives.

Welcome New FVEAAers

Ted Lowe

Let's give a big FVEAA welcome to the following new members:

William Cupples from Macomb
George Vergara from Oak Park
David Wokosin from Skokie
Tom Kohlert from St Charles
Mark Rider from Wauwatosa

Matthew Welk from Chicago
Larry Balocca from Downers Grove
Jim Mulvihill from Westchester
Howard Garoon from Glencoe
Mitch Wywiorski from Winnetka

Welcome aboard Folks! Let us know what we can do to help you in your EV pursuits!

FVEAA Membership Report

Ted Lowe

New members since last month: 10!

Recruiting goal for 2008: Let's have 200 FVEAA members by the end of the year, 20 of which are business members!



FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2008-03-14 16:33:42

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
BusinessCharter	1	1
BusinessPremier	1	1
BusinessStd	3	3
Family	18	18
Individual	125	125
LifetimeInd	3	3
Totals	151	151

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	100.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	256.1 days
% With Email	91.4%

