

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

Meeting: Friday, April 18th

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.

April 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

- Online Store - Get your orders in EVeryone!!!
- Update on Ed Meyer's Vanguard EV Auction (see article)
- Committee Announcements and Updates
 - Outreach - Rich Hirschberg
 - Charging Infrastructure - Todd Martin
 - IT - Ted Lowe
 - Reminder: Forums now open to public (read only)
 - Yahoo email address bouncing issue seems resolved, yes ?
 - Technical Projects - Ken Simmermon
 - Legislative Affairs - Todd Dore

New Business

- First recipient of the Plugged-In Award - Craig Dusing
- Anyone have anything ?

Intermission - Ordering Member Badges, FVEAA Shirts and Business Cards. PHEV and EV Viewing, Networking, Refreshments, Raffle Tickets!

Raffle Winners

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

Program

Burt Dickman - Recent EV Initiation

Burt is traveling from near Fort Wayne IN to visit John Emde with an EV in tow, and while he's in the area, he will speak about his recent EV experiences buying an OEM Ford Ranger EV and his involvement with an EV museum near his home town.

George Gladic - PHEV Completed

George will talk about his PHEV project that he just completed, including the main components and the process he followed to convert his Prius to a PHEV! George will have his PHEV at the meeting to show during the Intermission.

Ted Lowe - Adding a Tachometer to an EV

As part of the continuing series *Information is Power*, Ted will discuss the issues of adding a tachometer to an EV via a Hall Effect sensor. He will demonstrate a circuit showing how the Hall Effect sensor is used and a circuit that generates a reference waveform for testing an existing tachometer.

President's Words - Happy Earth Day EVeryone!

Ted Lowe



This year it seems like Spring has taken a while to get started! The nicer weather always gives me a boost of energy to do "Spring Cleaning" and various GTD (Getting Things Done) projects. Perhaps i'm not much different than animals and plants that "rest" during the winter months and then use their stored up energy to live their lives.

We have a lot of EVents coming up this Spring which are great opportunities for EV Outreach, learning and networking. i hope you all will attend many of these EVents and help out where FVEAAers need you. We don't plan to have a "club car" project this year, but i think we should have something that can help FVEAAers learn about EV conversion and ownership. i'd like to hear from you about how we offer this learning

experiences to FVEAAers. Some suggestions offered so far include putting on an EV Conversion workshop and rotating work sessions at member's places to help them get started or finish their conversions. Once we have a good set of suggestions, we'll decide as a group and get started! **Happy Earth Day everyone!**

Minutes from March 21, 2008 FVEAA Meeting

Rich Carroll

The March Meeting of the FVEAA was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Ted Lowe. New visitors were welcomed, given newsletters and brochures from last year. The sign in sheet was passed around to record attendance. The evening's raffle prize was an issue of Solar Power magazine. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the prior meeting. Passed. The Treasurer's Report was postponed due the the absence of the Treasurer. Ted discussed the auction for the May Meeting of the Vanguard EV of Ed Meyer. Minimum bid would be \$1250, primarily due to the new controller in the vehicle. Ted noted that the forums are now not open to the public to post, but some forums are available for the public to read. Dale Corel and John Emde have worked to get the past 25 years of newsletters onto the website. Ted asked the new people present to introduce themselves. **Old Business:** 1) Charging Infrastructure – Todd Martin. Todd was not present but Ted Lowe covered for him, describing the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Beverly Unitarian Church for their new Avcon charging station. This ceremony occurred on February tenth and was attended by Lt. Governor Pat Quinn. This is the first rapid charging station in Chicago. 2) Extended Range EV's: Terry Kane presented a short discussion of what this group is about. The thought is that a 15 to 25 KW generator will realistically extend the range of an EV. The group plans to address the interconnect between the two systems, the safety of the system and the ability to carry a generator, or tow it behind an EV. 3) Forums. Ted Lowe discussed communicating on special areas of the forums. 4)

Technical projects: Ken Simmermon discussed his adapter for Avcon interface boxes, which allow the use of a 50 amp range plug, or a 20 or 30 amp twist lock connector. The Avcon is an all weather, safety oriented interface for EV charging. Avcon inlets are about \$109, the Box about \$25, and the plugs about \$10 -15 each. The interface is \$186. All that is needed at this time is a signal diode and resistor. EAA builds similar boxes for about \$250. The Avcon is a conductive interface, the only standard supported in the country. This system has been used on Honda EV Plus and Ford Ranger EV vehicles. All other systems used a non-conductive system. Ken also has 220V and 110V loaner meters for anyone wishing to check their charging power usage. Ted Lowe announced the raffle would be a free raffle and tickets would be passed out gratis. **Intermission:** At 7:40 a break was announced. **Programs:** After the break, we reconvened for two sessions. The first was an interesting program by Todd Dore who recently had travelled to the Philippines. He discussed the use of EV's in the Philippines, focusing primarily on some of the public transportation use by small jeep type buses. Ted Lowe gave a short presentation on "Information is Power." We adjourned at 9:54 P.M.

First Plugged-In Award goes to Craig Dusing!

Ted Lowe

Craig is the first recipient of the FVEAA Plugged-In Award have just taken his maiden voyage in his 1992 S-10 Conversion! Here's what he had to say about the drive:

"April 12th, 2008 is a date I'll never forget. I took my S-10 conversion on it's maiden voyage today! Too many thoughts to express them all. Happy, tired, excited, proud, curious, you name it, I'm there. Ironically, my shop is located behind a Casey's General Store (convenience store/gas station) and the 1st 100 yards of my trucks new life was spent driving past a gas station. And, I'm going to drive past it again and again every single day I go to work. See ya boys! :-)

I've been so excited to finish the conversion the last month that I abandoned all of the photo documentation and website updates. I'll try to catch up over the next week or so and get some more pics. I probably just learned one of the basic rules of conversions that everyone else knew, but I had to learn. I thought the engine removal, cutting, welding, motor fit-up, etc. was the hard work. What I learned was, that was child's play compared to wiring. Battery wiring, control wiring, vacuum pump wiring, gauge wiring, wiring, wiring, wiring..... And, it requires concentration. Employees ask a business question, stop wiring. Wife wants to go to dinner, stop wiring. Customer on the phone, stop wiring. Grandkids come to look, stop wiring. My wiring diagram looks like some antiquity dug up in a pyramid. But I won. I didn't let the smoke out!

Anyway, I went about five miles on this first run. Clutchless direct drive motor/trans adapter works great. I can upshift and downshift the 5 speed manual easily. I had actually been shifting clutchless for months prior to the conversion. (13 speed semi truck exp.) My home is about 1-1/2 miles from the shop, so I gave it a 35mph test on the way home. Picked up my wife and headed out to a nearby country road. Ran it up to 60 mph with no problems and decided to bring it home and put it the garage. I was afraid I'd lose control and rack up 20 miles before I knew it. And I'm going to have a long, sit down, man to man talk with my throttle foot. Once we're all on the same page I'll start breaking in and training the battery pack tomorrow.

Man, that was fun! Grin"

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 Open To Order FVEAA Shirts and Business Cards

Ted Lowe

Only one person has shopped at the FVEAA's new Online Store since it's introduction last month! 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 to gain access to the FVEAA Online Store (see top left of home page).
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 Members Get Badges

Ted Lowe

Many thanks to Terry Kane and his company Global Material Technologies, Inc. in Chicago for generously producing badges for 21 FVEAAers!

FVEAA's Charter Business Member

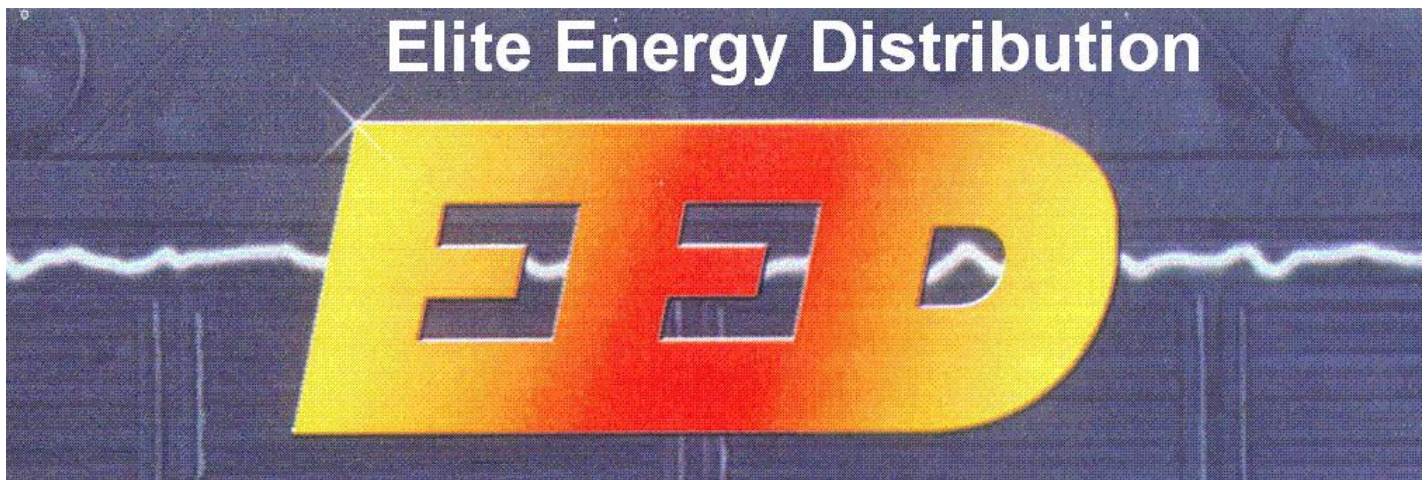
Ted Lowe

Elite Energy Distribution

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We can take for recycling any and all rechargeable batteries (NiCd, NiMH, and LION). During a time when metal prices are sky-rocketing, our prices stay competitive with extended warranties.



The Movie That Keeps On Giving and Giving

Larry Brady

On April 6th I attended a local showing of Who Killed The Electric Car in Galesburg,IL. About 25 people were in attendance, the majority where students from Knox College. After the movie I was able to distribute some copies of the FVEAA's home web page. I also brought my converted bike for people to see and interest was shown for both the bike and the FVEAA. They are having a follow-up discussion about the movie this Sunday April 13th. Great outreach opportunity!

FVEAAer Greeting From Across The Pond

Ted Lowe

FVEAAer Bruce Lancerotti sent this picture from Paris! Can anyone translate the French on the sign? i enjoy that EVEN on vacation, FVEAAers are always looking for EV parking :-)



FVEAA's Premier Business Member

Ted Lowe



Eco-conversions

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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

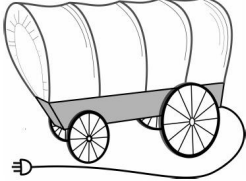
The other day Ed Meyer called me with bad news! Some local punks flipped his Vanguard over on it's side and caused some damage to it. Ed said there was no structural damage, but the passenger side mirror was broken off and a panel on the passenger side was cracked. He said he didn't feel right selling the EV now for the full price, since it isn't in pristine condition anymore. So the minimum bid will be lowered to \$750 and the buyer will be responsible for repairing the damage (if interested). 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. 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! **THANKS** Ed!



FVEAA's Business Members

Ted Lowe

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www.fveaa.org/join

Welcome New FVEAAers

Ted Lowe

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

Ed Stronsick from Brunswick, OH
Cesar Verde from Woodridge, IL
Ray Johnson from Villa Park, IL

Steve Ross from Steger, IL
Tony Quinones from Gary, IN
Norman Pounder from Milford, IL

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: 8!

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 2008-04-14 08:11:47

Count of Members by Type

| Membership Type | Count | Paid Up |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| BusinessCharter | 1 | 1 |
| BusinessPremier | 1 | 1 |
| BusinessStd | 3 | 3 |
| Family | 19 | 19 |
| Individual | 134 | 134 |
| LifetimeInd | 3 | 3 |
| Totals | 161 | 161 |

Other Statistics

| Statistic | Value |
|-------------------|------------|
| % Paid Up | 100.0% |
| Avg. Paid Up Days | 234.7 days |
| % With Email | 91.9% |

Coming Attractions for May Meeting *Ted Lowe*

Tentatively scheduled to speak at the May meeting are: 1) Miodrag Zubic on Controller Design and 2) Jim Dawson on AC Systems. Come one, come all!