

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

Return Service Requested

Monthly Meeting: **Friday, February 20th, 2009 - 7:00PM** (doors open at 6:30PM)

Meeting Location: **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.



February 2009 FVEAA Newsletter

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

Meeting Agenda

Business:

Call to Order and Introductions
Old Business
 Committee Reports
 Status of EV-XPrize Contest
New Business
 Presentation of Service Gift to Todd Martin
 Any other new business anyone?

Intermission:

EV Viewing, Networking & Raffle Tickets

Programs:

PowerCheq Installation Demo - Todd Martin

Todd will demonstrate the installation of PowerCheq battery balancing modules in his Solectria Force.

Measuring Voltage and Current = Power - Ted Lowe

Ted will continue his "Knowledge is Power" series. Read more about this 1.1 talk inside.



Recently i was organizing my backyard shed and discovered some old newspapers. i used to save the Chicago Tribune business section for the stock trading data (obviously pre-Internet :-). Some of these news stories from the mid-1980's caught my attention: "**Consumers consider supermarkets, banks managed best**", "**Dow's surge cracks 1900 barrier**", and 6 days later, "**Dow dives a record 61.87**".

What does this trip down memory lane have to do with electric vehicles you ask ? It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day ups and downs of life, but FVEAAers have always forged forwards with their eyes, ears, hearts and minds on the road ahead! Practicing this persistent steadfast attitude has never been more important than now in co-creating 'Good New Days'! Keep 'on driving electric!

FVEAA Meeting Minutes for 1/16/09

Todd Dore

President Ted Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. There were introductions from new attendees and guests. Club officers were introduced, as was our guest speaker, Dan Gabel, from ComEd.

Ted Lowe passed around extra copies of the prior months' newsletter for prospective members and guests.

Old Business: 1) Committee reports: Legislative Affairs - Todd Dore - Noted that there has not been any committee progress from the IL state senate about the NEV law. There were no other committee reports.
2) Ted Lowe put forth a motion to give 3 PowerCharge battery modules to Todd Martin (these are part of a BMS). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

New Business: No new business.

Intermission: from 7:24pm to 8:20 pm. Bob Baker did the raffle. \$56 was raised for the club.

Programs: 1) Dan Gabel from ComEd spoke about EV Charge coupling technology and recent developments with EPRI and other utilities.
2) Ted Lowe described a procedure for accurately measuring power usage of your EV - Watt-hours per mile (Wh/Mi).
The meeting adjourned at 9:40 and we were out of the building at 9:50PM!

Kevin Zak looking for Carpool Ride to Chicago Auto Show

Please give Kevin a call at 630-838-6329 if you can swing by Lockport or Pioneer Conversions' shop in Lemont on your way to see the auto show!

EAA National Conference Call - Sat. Feb 21st - Noon-2 PM CST

This is an important and valuable annual Event! Attend by phone by calling toll-free 1-866-409-2889, access code 4084470607# Dial *6 to mute your home sounds during the

call! Hear you then!

Membership Update

James Zukowski

We're **227 members strong**, 2 new since last month! **BIG WELCOME** to:

Jonathan Netzky from Evanston, IL

Daniel Sartain from Bay City, MI

Support Our Sponsors That Support Us!

Visit our Sponsors page to view their details: www.fveaa.org/sponsors

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

Dan Rubino's Maiden Voyage!

Dan Rubino

The first test of my VW Bug conversion was a complete success this afternoon (Saturday 2/14/09)! Since the batteries are new, I kept it in 1st gear to keep the current draw low and managed 27 mph over a 5 mile test run. Thank you for all the questions answered and suggestions from association members. The enthusiasm generated at the monthly meetings helped keep the motivation pumping to finish the project. The project timeline is at <http://www.gbnphysics.com/EV>

Dan Rubino

<http://www.evalbum.com/2399>



Congrats Dan!!! May you have many EV Grins now and forEver!

Knowledge is Power - Part 1.1

Ted Lowe

You can read part 1.0 that i gave at last month's meeting here:

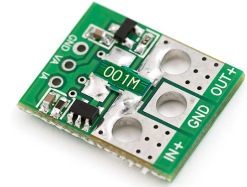
http://www.fveaa.org/fb/Knowledge_is_Power_Part_1_0_233.pdf

Refresh yourself especially with Ohm's and Joule's Laws on page 9 :-)

In part 1.1, i will demonstrate an **inexpensive off-the-shelf product** that makes I/V (aka Power) measurements a no brainer! Study this product ahead of time here:

AttoPilot Voltage and Current Sense Breakout

http://www.sparkfun.com/commerce/product_info.php?products_id=9028



Finally, i will hook these tiny little parts, surface mount devices (SMD) resistors, across my 120 volt battery pack during intermission!

2001 Chevy S10 Truck EV For Sale Locally

Tom Kohlert

- This truck was converted to electric in June of 2008 so everything is new
- General Electric 11" DC motor
- Automatic transmission
- Programmable shift control computer
- Power steering, power brakes
- Heater
- 20 sealed Exide Ortibal batteries - pack voltage is 120 volts
- Two on board battery chargers
- Too much more to list
- Call Tom Kohlert for more info at 630-327-0391
- Accepting offers



This Newsletter Is For You FVEAAers!

James Zukowski, *Editor*

We could fill this newsletter with copies of articles plucked from various news organizations, but instead prefer getting articles from you FVEAAers. Please send your conversion status reports, pictures, editorials, technical insights, opinions about the EV world, etc. to us at editor@fveaa.org anytime! Thanks!

Clean Car Wars

How Honda and Toyota are Winning the Battle of the Eco-Friendly Cars *James Zukowski*
by Yozo Hasegawa, translated by Tony Kimm

It's no secret that the Detroit Three auto makers haven't done too well in the eco-friendly arena (though they *have* started to pick things up a little bit recently). This book traces the history of more than the recent activities of the major car companies of Japan, the U.S.A. and Europe. It also follows the Japanese trail all the way back to the 1800's and the Toyoda and Honda family histories. The development of Ford and the conglomeration of General Motors, along with the European manufacturers are also examined. The various laws that have been enacted over the years are reviewed, with the auto makers' responses. Many complained and said things couldn't work. Then Honda developed the Civic in the 1970's and beat everyone to the punch by meeting the legal requirements of the Clean Air Act. What is happening today is an outgrowth of all of the developments of these pioneers, and they are continuing their developments in many areas, including diesel, hydrogen, flex-fuels, and yes, even hybrids and electrics. The book explores not just the achievements, but also the downfalls, troubles, and stumbling blocks the companies have encountered through the years, along with the means used to overcome them. As a history of primarily the Japanese car manufacturers, it provides a deep understanding of how the industry has evolved over the years, and the path it is building for the future.

If you have read a book that has some relation to EVs, hybrids, or other alternative energy sources, write a review for the rest of us. We'll include it in a future issue. Send your reviews to: editor@fveaa.org

Excellent Smart Charging Technology Coming

Ted Lowe

Following up his excellent talk on smart charging at the January meeting, Dan Gabel from ComEd sent out this information about promising smart charging technology. Thanks Dan for keeping us in the loop!

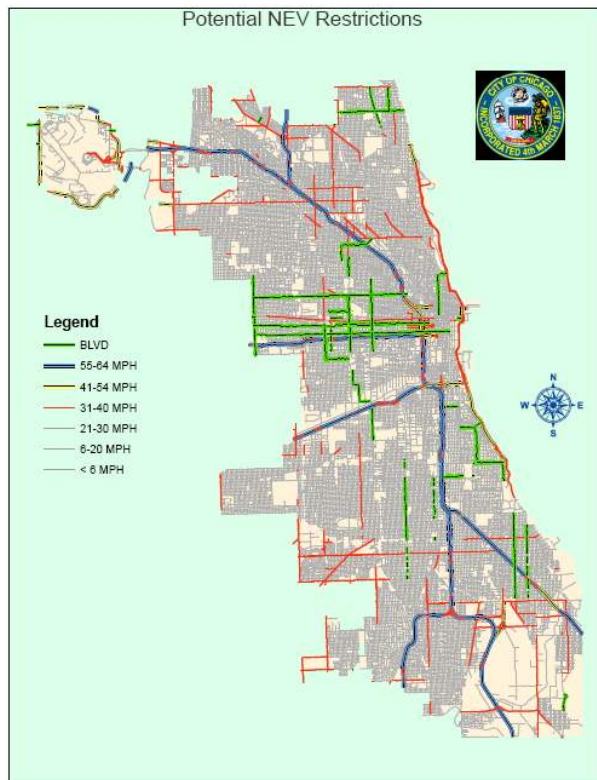
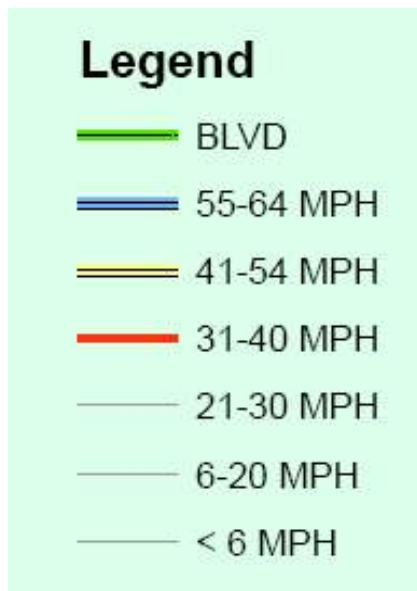
I've been having recent conversations with Coulomb Technologies, a company who makes intelligent charging stations, about potential demonstrations in the Chicago area. They currently have a 120v version and are developing a 240v model that will use the SAE J1772 plug that I presented at the January FVEAA meeting. Each station requires user authentication (using an RFID card), and has a locking mechanism to prevent theft and/or inadvertent energizing of the plug. Their web-based software currently has separate portals for vehicle user, charging station host (owner), and electric grid operator. Coulomb recently announced a partnership with GridPoint, a company who is very active today in distributed generation and remote load management. ComEd is currently using GridPoint's system to manage the charging on our plug-in Prius hybrids (I showed the software to a few FVEAA members at the last meeting). The new Coulomb software will be Smart Grid compatible, and enable much more remote control & diagnostics capability.

I think they have a great product and they are very interested in getting a footprint in Chicagoland. I told them about FVEAA and it's interests in getting more public charging facilities in place, and they'd like to have a discussion. You can check out their product at their website: www.coulombtechnologies.com. Let me know if your interested in meeting with Coulomb and I can help set it up. Their stations might be a good alternative to the Avcon, since they'll be using the new SAE J1772 standard that all manufacturers of vehicles and charging equipment will soon be following. Cost per charging station is around \$4k

Regards.

Dan

Our friend Matt Stewart with the City of Chicago and Clean Cities Coalition helped get the Chicago NEV ordinance passed. THANKS MATT!
Since the ordinance stipulates a maximum NEV speed of 30mph, i was curious how much of the City would be reachable by NEV. Matt said the speed of backstreets is 30mph unless otherwise posted. And NEVs are allowed to cross faster roads at a stoplight or an all-ways stop sign. Matt sent the map below that details speed limits and potential NEV restricted routes. See the larger original map here: http://www.fveaa.org/fb/Chicago-NEV-Map-Final_234.pdf





The future empowers us.

We live on earth together, sharing its resources.

From educating and encouraging our customers to conserve, to using cleaner electric vehicle technology in our own operations, ComEd is meeting the environmental needs of our communities, today and tomorrow.

ComEd is proud to sponsor FVEAA.

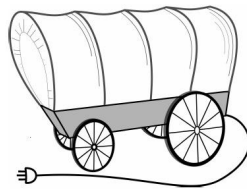


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