

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

Return Service Requested

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

Meeting Location: **Packer Engineering, 1976 N Washington St, Naperville, IL 60563**

Directions: Packer Engineering is on the 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 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
New Business
 Any other new business anyone?

Intermission:

EV Viewing, Networking & Raffle Tickets

Program:

EV Conversion Project & More *Craig Dusing*

Craig will present an overview of his recent EV conversion and share some information about the EV conversion kit he is creating.

President's Words - The World IS Electrifying

Ted Lowe

It seems that we can't go a day without hearing something about electric and alternative vehicles nowadays. This is very gratifying to the EVers like the FVEAAers since we have been promoting this movement for so long! Go Electric!

FVEAA Meeting Minutes for 2/20/09

Todd Dore

President Ted Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. There were introductions from new attendees and guests. Anyone currently driving an EV or those who would like to introduced themselves and spoke about their vehicles. There seems to be a record number of driving EVs or those in conversion process!

Old Business: 1) Ted Lowe led a brief discussion on the amount of energy in a gallon of gasoline. 2) Ted also gave a brief invitation to the national EAA membership and monthly newsletter that comes with it. He also reminded us of the upcoming EAA national call on Saturday, 2/28/09. All are invited to call in.

Committee reports: Legislative Affairs - Howard Hansen gave an update on his efforts to get IL EV plates for his factory OEM Ford Ranger EV pickup. Todd Dore noted that the NEV law had changed in the city of Chicago to allow NEVs on certain roads. A legislative victory for EVs!

There were no other committee reports.

New Business: No new business.

Intermission: from 7:40pm to 8:30 pm. Larry Brady did the raffle. \$60 was raised for the club. The winners were Mike Bockus with the Industrial size 12V battery charger, and Rich Renzy for the History of British cars book. Congratulations to all winners!

Programs: 1) Todd Dore gave a brief overview of his upcoming meeting with Chicago State University to install an AVCON charging station at the campus. He also spoke briefly about the concept of the smart grid, and ComEd's efforts (along with Coulomb Technologies) for charging stations.

2) Ted Lowe discussed EV Power usage (a continuation of a prior lecture) using micro chips that are off the shelf. These can be coded to measure EV current and voltage instantly. They can also be used for data logging.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 and we were out of the building at 10:00PM.

Stimulus Package - How to Retrofit Your Home and Receive Big Tax Credits

from Organic Consumers Association

President Obama's new stimulus package is now signed into law. Here's how it affects the green-minded home owner:

1) New incentives and tax credits are now available for households for energy conservation and alternative energy. Homeowners investing in energy-saving insulation, replacement windows, duct seals, or high-efficiency heating and cooling systems can now receive a tax credit worth 30 percent of the upgrade cost (maximum credit value: \$1,500). The previous

tax credit was 10 percent of an upgrade cost, up to a maximum of \$500.

2) If you have been thinking about switching to sustainable energy, now is the time. Solar panels, geothermal heat pumps, and windmills also qualify for a 30 percent tax credit. For example, a \$24,000 investment to make a home solar-powered would generate a federal tax credit worth \$7,200. Previously, the cap was \$2,000 for geothermal and solar; \$4,000 for wind. Add state and utility credits to this and consumers will see significant discounts in these purchases.

3) New hybrid cars now qualify for tax credits worth anywhere from \$2,500 to \$7,500, while plug-in conversion kits for old hybrids, now generate tax credits worth 10 percent of the kit's cost (maximum credit value: \$4,000).

For questions about home energy conservation and renewable energy options, you can contact a contractor trained by the federal [Home Performance with Energy Star program](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_hpwes) at http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_hpwes
For more info about OCA: <http://www.organicconsumers.org/>

Membership Update

Ted Lowe

We're **230 members strong**, 6 new since last month! **BIG WELCOME** to:

Scott Izzo -

Skip Montanaro -

Michael Parham -

Brent Kaser -

John Myers - Kirkland, IL

Mark Reynolds -

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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!

Telsa Opening Midwest Regional Office in Chicago



This is the before picture of Tesla's new Chicago location at 1053 W. Grand Ave. in the River West neighborhood:

Read more [here](#) about their opening this Spring!

North Coast Electric Drags - NEDRA Event

Darin Gilbert

I just wanted to let the Fox Valley are know that the North Coast NEDRA Race will be coming to Salem Ohio on June 27th. This is closer than the other NEDRA events. While I came to the High Voltage Nationals, sadly we were not able to race. Time to get all those

east of the Mississippi together in one place! See NEDRA.com for more details.

Ford Is Coming To Visit

Ted Lowe

A number of FVEAAers were recently contacted by a 'special projects' group from Ford Motor Company about participating in a research survey on BEV, HEV and PHEV's. Most of us contacted filled out electronic surveys and were selected to host 2 hour interviews at our homes this coming weekend. The Ford team will likely come to this month's meeting too, but will be low key in order not to influence their 'research subjects' :-). Congratulations to Ford for going out in the world to gather **real experiential** information about EVs from EVerS!

Environmental Hall of Fame Ceremony - Chicago, Sun. March 22

The National Environmental Hall of Fame has opened its National Green Museum right here in Chicago! Please read the following note for information on how to get free tickets to the induction of Ed Begley, Jr. on Sunday, March 22, 2009.

The National Green Museum and National Environmental Hall of Fame will induct Ed Begley, Jr into the Environmental Hall of Fame. Ed Begley, Jr is the star of hit environmental TV Series, "Living with Ed." The event will be on Sunday, March 22 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM. Ed is being honored as the actor who has been most dedicated to the helping the environment for over 30 years.

The event will occur at The National Green Museum and National Environmental Hall of Fame, 1640 N Wells, just two blocks from the Sedgwick elevated, in Old Town (across the street from Treasure Island and 1/2 Block north of Piper's Alley and Second City. Parking is available in the area or for \$4.99 at the Americana Towers Condo (one door south).

Please RSVP to EnvironmentalFame@lisco.com to receive a free ticket. Please indicate if you would like to receive recognition as a sponsor for this event.

Ed is willing to meet briefly past honorees; individuals interested in becoming Co-coordinators for their neighborhood, city or school; Founding Members of the National Green Museum; or individuals who wish to help with the event (bring your cameras).

For more information, please go to www.EnvironmentalFame.com and click on National Green Team (right hand column). Please click on the right hand column of "National Green Team" for information about becoming a Co-Coordinator or Founding Member.

Pierce Brosnan, Mayor Daley, American Solar Energy Society (ASES) and American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) were among 36 National, Illinois and Chicago environmentalists inducted into the Environmental Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony held on November 20-22, 2008 at Hotel Allegro, ranked Chicago's greenest hotel.

The Chicago Cubs, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Park District and Lt. Governor's Office inaugurated Green Teams for Chicago Public Schools and were also inducted into the Environmental Hall of Fame.

Additional Information regarding the Environmental Hall of Fame:

Environmental Hall of Fame: <http://www.pr.com/press-release/125190>

Pierce Brosnan: <http://www.ecorazzi.com/2008/10/30/pierce-brosnan-to-be-inducted-into-environmental-hall-of-fame/>

ASES: <http://www.solartoday-digital.org/solartoday/20090102/?pg=50>
AWEA: http://www.awea.org/newsroom/pdf/AWEA_Honored_at_Environmental_Hall_of_Fame_21Nov08.pdf

FVEAA.ORG Upgrade Soon

Ted Lowe

Just a quick heads up to y'all that i will be doing a major upgrade to the fveaa.org website soon. It needs to be upgraded to add new (excellent) capabilities which i'll describe in detail soon. i'll post a message to [members] prior to the upgrade and assuming things go well, the site will be down only 4 hours or so.

Telsa To Unveil Their Model S Sedan Prototype



Tesla will unveil its Model S prototype sedan March 26 at the Tesla design studio inside the SpaceX rocket factory, in Hawthorne, Calif. This is going to be a historic event for car enthusiasts; the Model S will likely be the world's first mass-produced, highway-capable EV when it rolls off the assembly line in late 2011.

The Model S will have an anticipated base price of \$57,400. After a federal tax credit of \$7,500, the effective price will be \$49,900. Because of tax incentives and relatively inexpensive maintenance and refueling, the lifetime

ownership cost will be closer to cars with far lower sticker prices. Tesla executives will provide a lot more product details at the launch party in Southern California, home to Tesla's design studio and the world's largest new-car market. The Model S will become the car of choice for environmentally conscious and discriminating drivers throughout North America and Europe. Tesla expects to roughly split initial sales between the two continents, later expanding to Asia.

Knowledge is Power - Part 1.2 Coming Soon

Ted Lowe

i will demonstrate a prototype of the power measuring device i've been working on at the April meeting. Besides logging the detailed power data (voltage and current) on-board, it also has the option to transmit summarized information over a wireless link to the owner. There are so many features that can be implemented with relatively simple software and hardware changes once the framework is in place.

i recently discovered this excellent product which blew me away and is almost EXACTLY the vision i have for 'Knowledge is Power'! Even though it isn't capable of handling EV-sized power, it's abilities are amazing!



FVEAAer John Jeide bought Tom's S10 and will have it at Friday's meeting. Tom will be around to answer questions about his conversion during the intermission.

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!

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*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.

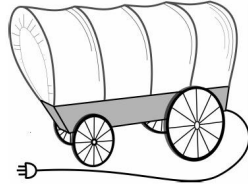
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