

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

Return Service Requested

Monthly Meeting: **Friday, January 15th, 2010 - 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.



## January 2010 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 - Updates and Excitements
  - New Business
- **Intermission -** Refreshments, EV viewing and networking
- **Intermission Program: Tom Kohlert** will display his **ultimate Winter EV** capable of plowing many driveways and walkways of snow.
- **End of Intermission: Raffle for Electric Scooter**
- **Program: Bruce Jones** has offered to discuss the varying programs for providing **charging stations** locally. The stations from **Plug-In Vehicle Solutions, Carbon Day,** and **AeroVironment** will be compared with the **AVCON** charging stations.

What a great evening at the December meeting. While the turnout was down somewhat, likely due to both the holiday season and the weather, several parts of the meeting were worthy of the effort to get there. The kid's scooter was auctioned first, and bidding went as high as \$40, with the winning bidder being Todd Martin who would later present the evening's talk on battery types. Todd plans to present the scooter to his eight year old, and this is an excellent opportunity to start a youngster down the "electric powered" pathway. Todd will add batteries and a charger before his son gets the scooter.

After the first scooter sold, we auctioned the pair of adult scooters. One was missing a few parts, both were in need of batteries and a charger. After an extended bidding session the scooters netted a winning bid of \$115. Thanks to the donation of Mike Mastrangelo, the club treasury is \$155 wealthier, and there is still one adult scooter to auction.

Todd Martin gave an excellent presentation on battery types. The Gel batteries in Todd's Solectria have been failing from age, and he spent quite a bit of time before he decided which battery type to replace the batteries with. He took his research, which was well organized already, and turned it into:

- A good meeting presentation
- The basis for another Jeopardy game.

We recruited three new contestants for this month's Jeopardy game. Ken Simmermon did not return as "reining champion" but Steve Clark, Howard Hansen, and Bob Baker stepped up for the fun. WarP-Wear and a WarP soft attache case as prizes caused considerable interest and competition. In the end, Howard won, but the real winners were the audience. The program was both educational and very entertaining. In the corner of the room near the computer, several audience members were actively cheering on contestants as they struggled to find the right answers in their memory.

**Scooter Auction***Rich Carroll*

Once more we have an auction for an electric scooter, model XYDH-070. This yellow scooter is the most complete of the ones we received as a donation, and you will get one copy of the owner's manual, and, if you wish a digital copy we scanned. The scooter has dead batteries but it does have the original charger. This scooter was rated for a 21 mile (34 km) range and speeds up to 12.5 mph (20 kph) and a load capacity of 200 lbs (90 Kg). The motor is 500W, and also uses 24 V, but was originally equipped with 2 batteries of 12 volts 12AH each. A simple internet search shows many batteries when searching for (12V 12AH battery), and almost all are in the \$25-\$30 range. We asked Battery Service in Bensenville, and they have them in stock for about \$33 each.



### **Auction Rules**

We'll start bidding at some modest amount and solicit bids from any person present. If you win the bid, and are not a member, you will have to become one for us to accept your auction winning. If you are already a FVEAA member, this is one of your membership benefits. The scooters can be folded for travel, and we'll help you with this if that's convenient. The scooters may be picked up at the January meeting at the auction, or at Pioneer Conversions during the next week. We did not plan to offer a delivery service since they can be folded to put into your vehicle. Like the online auctions say, "Don't bid unless you plan to pay." We reserve the right to make up rules on the spur of the moment to make sure some realistic person takes these scooters away, and the club treasury becomes a little better. Online bidding, proxy bidding, and other forms of substitute bidding is discouraged.

Again, thanks to Mike Mastrangelo. These were a primary business interest of Mike and Susie in the past, until the Zero Motorcycles came along. Their business is now shifted to this exciting electric motorcycle, and you should certainly look at <http://zeromotorcyclesmidwest.com/>

**Controller Comparison** (again)

*Rich Carroll*

When I did the controller comparison for the November meeting, I had intended to make a chart that was useful to enthusiasts who were making choices in the design and building of

their EV. There was not a good single source to compare the various options, so I tried to put one together. Since then I have added the MaxForcer XL from Miodrag Zubic to the chart, and this month the Belktronix unit (which is much more than a controller, in that it combines the controller with a battery monitoring system, a DC/DC converter, and a battery charger.) I have also made some minor revisions in the chart to reflect new data, or corrected data that has become available.

As such, my one time chart has become much more of a work-in-progress. As new controllers, and new features become available, I'll add to the comparison chart. I would like the chart to be a real useful way to choose between the DC controllers that are commonly used in electric vehicle construction. It will continue to be updated, and I likely won't make announcements of each minor change. However if a new controller comes to the market, we will:

- tell you about it
- try to describe it's features
- compare it to the others on the market.

We have some advance knowledge that one of those controllers will add a battery charging function to be an integral part of their charger, but the specific information has not been released. If you become aware of any updates that are not on the chart, please let me know.

That chart is at:

[http://www.fveaa.org/index.php?option=com\\_fb&Itemid=44&action=download&actid=247&actitem=ControllerComparison.pdf](http://www.fveaa.org/index.php?option=com_fb&Itemid=44&action=download&actid=247&actitem=ControllerComparison.pdf)

## **Meeting Minutes**

*Bruce Jones*

Friday December 18, 2009 - doors opened at 6:30 pm and Rich Carroll opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - George Vergara**

We have a Dun's number but the additional registration process beyond that has not occurred due to complexity.

#### **PRESIDENT - Rich Carroll**

Rich Carroll provided an update on the Chicago consortium for electric car infrastructure of which he, Ted Lowe and David Habiger (the chairman) are members along with a variety of representatives from car companies, utilities and other businesses associated with electric cars.

Ted, who on the location committee discussed several aspects of electric car charging stations including types, vendors, and suggested locations within the City limits of Chicago.

Rich led an open discussion on the kinds of incentives that could be used to promote electric cars in the city. Responses including rapid registration, waiving or lowering fees for stickers, special parking spots and a suggestion to use IPASS. He noted that the city of London is

planning to install 25k electric charging stations with 22k of them to be installed by employers

### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - Todd Dore**

Todd brought up several issues on a) licensing of EVs, including EV plates being dropped by the Secretary of State, but b) allowing two-year re-registration of EVs in December 2009 and c) the ongoing illogical definition of Electric Vehicles which excludes pickup trucks. Major point is that we want low cost registration fees for EVs.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **DONATION**

Todd Martin made a motion for the FVEAA to donate money towards the Hybrid Electric Step Van being donated by NetGain Technologies, LLC to New Community Counseling and Ministries food bank. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the members present. The money is going towards start-up costs to upgrade the van to transport perishable fruit and vegetables to needy families in the Naperville, Bolingbrook and Joliet areas, benefitting families, disabled veterans, and those without an income.

Bruce thanked the FVEAA on behalf of NCCM which is very grateful for the donation and ongoing support commitments received from FVEAA and individual members.

The food bank is open to contributions from interested groups or individuals. Please make checks to "New Community Counseling and Ministries," 2208 Mecan Dr., Naperville, IL 60564.

#### **NAPERVILLE SMART GRID**

It was suggested that the FVEAA have a speaker at an upcoming meeting talk about the Naperville Smart Grid. Bruce will work on securing a future speaker.

#### **TRAINING**

It was also suggested that the FVEAA provide brand new members with introductory training and information on the use of FVEAA forums and navigating the web site, as many club meetings include content that is well beyond the novice. FVEAA officers to consider and come up with a plan.

#### **SCOOTER AUCTION:**

For \$40 Todd Martin won the first auction for a kid's scooter generously provided by Mike Mastrangelo of Zero Motorcycles

Howard Hansen won the second auction for a package of two scooters / parts for \$115

#### **BATTERY PRESENTATION**

Todd Martin provided an excellent presentation on various types of electric car batteries that he has been researching. Thanks Todd!

#### **BATTERY JEOPARDY**

After the presentation, Hannah Hamstra assisted in keeping track of a rousing game of Jeopardy played by Bob Baker, Steve Clark and Howard Hansen who was the winner.

Rich closed the meeting at 9:15.

Happy New Year to all!

**FVEAA Membership Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Type: Home \_\_\_ Work \_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_  
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Please check one: New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
How did you hear about the FVEAA ? \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Types and Annual Dues**

The FVEAA offers these types of memberships (please circle your choice):

Individual	\$ 15
Family	\$ 20
Business	\$ 100
Premier Business	\$ 250
Charter Business	\$ 500

**Newsletter Delivery Types (please circle your choice):**

No Newsletter	\$0
Electronic Only	\$0
Postal Mailed Only	\$15
Postal Mailed and Electronic	\$15

**TOTAL DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to "FVEAA" and postal mail it with this membership application form to:

**FVEAA**  
**PO Box 214**  
**Wheaton, IL 60187-0214**  
Attn: Membership

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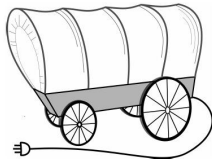
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