

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

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April 2010 FVEAA Newsletter

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

Next Meeting

**Friday, April 16th, 2010 - 7:00PM (doors open at 6:30PM) at
Packer Engineering, 1976 N Washington St, Naperville, IL 60563**

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.

Agenda

- **Call To Order**
- **Old Business**
- **Committee Reports**
- **New Business**
- **Intermission:** Refreshments, Networking and EV Viewing. Multiple electric vehicles will be present to show their approaches to coping with the winter weather.
- **Program:** We will host the NuSolar team from Northwestern University, who will bring their SC5, a solar powered car. They are entered into the American Solar Challenge 2010, a solar powered car race from Tulsa to Naperville in June. Come and see this exciting solar powered electric car.

Lots of interesting things are beginning to happen. Earth Day (and Arbor Day) has sparked many displays around the Chicago area. Unfortunately, the Chicago metropolitan area is spread enough that it is tough to attend all the events in an EV, but this is really a good thing. Each event will have a greater draw for local EV's, and thus, have a better starting point for a discussion. See Rich Hirshberg's article for a complete listing of Events, and plan to show up, with or without an EV. At most shows there are more than enough questions for one person to answer.

At the April meeting, we will have the Northwestern University entry into the American Solar Challenge 2010. This is a fifth generation solar power car, built at Northwestern. This particular vehicle was built about five years ago, but has again been updated for the 2010 event. The American Solar Challenge will run from Tulsa, OK to Naperville, IL during the last two weeks of June. The American Solar Challenge is a competition to design, build and drive solar powered cars in a cross country event. Scoring is based on construction and on time/distance. The American Solar Challenge event is described on their website: <http://americansolarchallenge.org/events/asc2010/>

After the March meeting, I feel I need to address difficulties I had at the meeting:

- Since I have announced that we would finish the meeting at 9:25 or 9:30 in to be out of the building before the alarm auto sets at 9:45, I thought that would be sufficient notice. At the last three meetings, since the change in the auto set time for the alarm, we have gotten out on time. Once was by less than a minute, and all three times were by less than three minutes. I don't see any other option to making sure everyone is out than finishing our meetings even earlier. Yes, we all got out on time, but making the deadline within a minute isn't comfortable. I'll move the meeting finish time to 9:15 or 9:20. The very last thing I want to do, is to trigger the alarm by someone leaving late, and forcing some Packer engineer and the Naperville Police to respond to a burglar alarm.
- During discussion of motions on the floor, please raise your hand to be recognized, and please do not interrupt when someone else is recognized. One person continually did that, and came very close to being excused from the meeting. I really do not want to do that, but I am charged with maintaining order to the meetings, and I will do that if I have to.
- It was pointed out that the president should not be in the position of moderating the discussion of the president's own motion. I apologize, and will make sure that doesn't happen again.
- Two people complained that they had missed the raffle, and that it had been very unfair to draw the winning tickets at the time we had announced. When we adjourn for a break, and announce a raffle at a specific time, I expect people who want to have a chance in the raffle to return. Throwing the losing tickets down, or telling me that the whole meeting "leaves a bad taste in the mouth" makes me wonder if we should even attempt a raffle. Yes, I think those two people did not handle the situation correctly, and obviously refused to take responsibility for their own actions, but this is supposed to be an informative and fun meeting. I think the correct way to handle this is to announce that people who cannot come back at the stated time should not purchase raffle tickets. It would be possible to move the raffle, but more difficult to sell tickets. The raffle is a way to raise money, and to ensure that people return in time for the presentation. The last option is to discontinue the raffle.

7:00 p.m. Rich Carroll opened the meeting with a pitch for visitors to sign up as members.

ISSUES

Be aware that electric motor controllers seem difficult to purchase lately. Some of the parts suppliers are not stocking like they used to and some parts have been on 21 week backorder for the last 3 months.

ELECTRIC

Rich Carroll mentioned that it looks like advanced legislation for electric cars will be introduced this year such as parking spaces for green cars and plug in vehicles starting late 2010 enforceable by 2011. These items are in draft mode now, with different rules being contemplated. If interested, or if you have questions on legislation, please talk to Rich directly.

Chicago Electric Vehicle Consortium (CEVC)

Rich also provided an update on the CEVC and its strategy to spend \$15.1 M to build out electric car charging stations in City of Chicago. Requests For Information (RFIs) are in process and Requests For Proposals (RFPs) coming. Com Ed needs some electric vehicles to plug in and test their charging stations. CEVC is looking to install 44 level 2 charging stations this year. Charge station manufacturers have been bogged down a bit however getting UL approval before they can install their units.

SNIFF FOR CASH?

Packer Engineering (where we meet) is testing laundry products and is recruiting people to sniff laundry after it has been washed. The pay is around 1 hour for \$50/hour, and sniff work is scheduled only during the week.

NEW BUSINESS

Rich then answered a myriad of questions from the audience including a) what the difference is between the CEVC and the Chicago Area Clean Cities coalition which is receiving a \$15M grant for alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure (they are two separate groups but there are some members on both teams. See <http://www.chicagocleancities.org/index.shtml> b) the estimated number of electric cars in the Chicago area (less than 150 ballpark), c) Commonwealth Edison may purchase 300 Nissan Leafs for fleet use by end of the year d) the City of Chicago building department is seriously looking at a fleet order of 30 electric vehicles e) the CEVC is promoting level 2, 30-40 amp 240 volt charging stations using a special smart outlet that checks grounding and polarity before allowing current to flow, f) Level 1 charging stations specifications are 120VAC, 12amps on a 15amp breaker, or 16amps on 20amp breaker g) the O'Hare parking garage is on the list for charging stations, h) the Illinois commerce commission made the law that prevents reselling of electricity in Illinois, i) the exact specifications for Level 3, 480/440VAC 3 phase, 70 amps is still being discussed by the Society of Automotive Engineers, j) An electric car-friendly highway is allegedly being created from San Diego to San Francisco.

SOLAR CAR PRESENTATION APRIL 16

Regarding a donation to the Northwestern University team bringing the solar racing car next meeting, a motion was approved by a margin of 17 to 3 to increase the honorarium from \$150 to \$200. The reason for the increase was due to a note received since last meeting indicating the Northwest University board set a donation policy for such presentations. To do: Bruce to determine to whom the honorarium check should be made out.

DONORS FORUM

George Vergara head of the Financial Assistance Committee, has been seeking ways to find grants to work on, for the group. A motion was not approved to spend \$200 to join the Donor's forum which is a site that helps groups find appropriate grants to bid upon

RAFFLE

The raffle collected \$88. Rafflemeister was Todd Dore, and the items included shirts, certificate for \$150 off on a warp 11 motor from NetGain, and rides on THREE Tesla sports cars from Tesla car enthusiasts Sam Carnavacciolo, Carl Walters and Steve Schnur Thanks guys for the rides! (And welcome to Steve, Sam and Carl who recently joined the FVEAA!)

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT - Rich Hirschberg

Rich reviewed the many outreach opportunities available for FVEAA members from now through September. There is a need for a canoe to auction at the Tyler creek watershed coalition, so if you know of one, talk to Rich. Rich will be glad to present the "Who killed the electric car" movie which is about 90 minutes long, for libraries, churches, civic organizations

NAPERVILLE SMART GRID PRESENTATION

Both the Director of Naperville's Pubic Utility Allan Poole, and his Assistant Mark Curran gave an outstanding presentation on the Naperville utility network and power infrastructure plus the recent Smart Grid initiative. This \$22M project, based in large part on a recent government grant, will begin in the next couple of months and take 3 years to install 57k smart meters in the city of Naperville. Mark will soon be taking over as Director, as Allan Poole is retiring at the end of April after 38 years with the City. But Allan will act as a project manager liaison between the City and the companies installing the grid over the next three years.

Rich closed the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Financial Assistance Committee Report

George Vergara

It looks like there will not be a meeting of the Financial Assistance Committee as planned but Bruce Jones and Myself attended Congresswoman Judy Biggert's Federal Grant and Contracting Supermarket. The event took place at Northern Illinois University's Naperville Campus. The event was well attended. Bruce attended the seminar Non-Profit Assistance-by Donors Forum and I attended a Seminar called Small Business Administration 101. We both attended a seminar on how to find and apply for federal grants. Later we also saw a presentation by the American Association of Grant Professionals. It was an enjoyable event.

EVs at Chicago Botanic aGarden

North Shore Auto Group of Highland Park has teamed up with The Solar Electric Vehicle Company (SEVC) of Northbrook to become the Midwest's largest provider of affordable no-gas, no-emissions, solar-charged vehicles. They delivered one of their shuttles to the Chicago Botanic Garden today for another season of no-gas, no-emissions, solar-charged public transportation.

SEVC's solar-electric vehicles travel up to 60 miles on a single charge using its innovative solar panel system that provides constant supplemental charging throughout the day. The vehicles plug into a standard 110 Volt outlet and can be fully charged overnight. The line-up

of vehicles includes 4 and 6 passenger NEVs and multi-passenger shuttles, security and utility NEVs. The company also has a line of solar-canopied golf carts that are available at North Shore. SEVC's solar electric vehicles are used by the U.S. Army and Navy and also on college campuses such as the University of Mississippi and Wake Forest. Most recently the San Francisco Zoo began using SEVC's solar electric shuttles.



Member EVs For Sale

2007 Myers Motors NMG
Needs new batteries. Asking \$7,500.
Contact Ben Schmid 219-924-7951 schmidb@sbcglobal.net

FVEAA Membership Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Please check one: New Member _____ Renewal _____

How did you hear about the FVEAA ? _____

Member Types and Annual Dues (Please circle one)		Newsletter Delivery Types (Please circle one)	
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Please make your check payable to "FVEAA" and postal mail it with this membership application form to:

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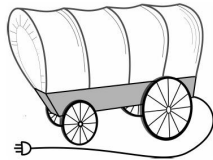
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