



December 2019 FVEAA Newsletter

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

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

Next Meeting December 13th, 2019 * One Week Earlier Than Usual *****

Next regular meeting is Friday December 13th at 7:00 p.m. Ends 9:00 p.m.

Current Automotive

1551 W Jefferson Ave
Naperville, IL 60540

[Google Map](#)

Agenda

- 6:30 Doors Open
- 7:00 Current Automotive staff will give an update on their business
- 7:15 Pizza
- 7:30 Test Drives
- 9:00 Clean up

President's Words

Jeff Miller

November meeting election results

Tracey was elected as a new board member, and thank you to all the other board members for signing up for another year.

November meeting review

Tracey provided an excellent update on the various legislative affairs, see the meeting notes below for more details. I spoke about the \$10,000 limit on the trade in sales tax exemption. This affects the high end vehicles, like the used Tesla's that I have been driving lately. It encourages us to sell private party or own our cars much longer until they are worth close to \$10,000. I see this as an anti-growth policy as dealerships will make less money each year as the reality of this new policy sets in across the state.

December meeting

We are happy to report that Current Automotive has been kind enough to host us again on December 13th at their facility in Naperville. The club is buying pizza and Current Automotive is providing snacks and drinks. They are also letting us drive their wide variety of cars again so review the inventory to see what you want to drive. Any vehicles pending sale will not be able to be driven, and usually the Tesla Roadsters are off limits as they are mileage sensitive. Last time I checked they had plenty of other options to take out. One of the vehicles that caught my eye was the Hyundai Kona EV. The Kona is a long range car that isn't being sold new here, however I am very curious how it matches up to the Bolt. I might take a Tesla Model 3 Performance version for a trip around the track. There is a small chance I might want one in the future, and it would be good

to know what that experience is like versus the S I drive now. They also have the Jaguar I-Pace, which I got to drive last year. Not long ago they had an Audi E-Tron, but it is gone now.

I always look forward to our events where we can test drive many different vehicles. There is nothing like trying out all of the different electric vehicles that are out there. Current Automotive is good for this as they frequently have more variety than anyone else in our area, including cars that aren't normally sold here.

Gas Taxes

One of the things that indirectly affects us EV drivers is that the gas tax went up in Illinois on July First 2019 (I didn't notice). This raises the cost of staying with oil and helps bring fuel cars closer to being in line with the \$100 we are being charged for our EV plates. It isn't a mystery that higher gas prices drive buyers to look at EV's.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/rev/research/taxrates/Pages/motorfuel.aspx>

On top of the road tax we had the motor fuel use tax go up about \$0.20 on July 1st 2019. I will offer it has been nice not caring about those increases in cost. I can't say I enjoy the state hitting us for increased plate costs, but that is to be expected when car dealers and oil lobbyists team up to make it harder for EV adoption. On the plus side, higher fuel costs drive people to get EV's. This article Tracey sent me highlights some of the high level lobbying going on in our country.

<https://www.politico.com/story/2019/09/16/oil-industry-electric-car-1729429>

Many of us have gotten the sticker for a free month on our EV plates with a renewal then happening in January. Nice of them to give us a free month, and one of the more unusual things that I have seen Illinois do.

Mustang Mach E and Tesla CyberTruck

Most of you don't live under a rock so you have heard about the Tesla CyberTruck. The range per dollar and hauling capacity creates a compelling case for a vehicle to buy. Just compare its price and range to the Model Y to see what I mean. To make it more interesting the CyberTruck likely is running Model S and X drive trains, batteries and technology package. In those ways you are getting a Model S or X for the price of a Model Y. The question you might be asking yourself "Did Jeff put down \$100 to reserve one?" and the answer is no. I would prefer to buy used and the biggest reason I would put a deposit down is if there wasn't enough volume to make a reasonable used market. Thus far they have at least 250K preorders, so I feel like that is enough volume to create a reasonable used market. The second reason that I have considered is that the deposit locks the price in that you will get to buy that vehicle for, and if I thought that Tesla was going to drastically increase the price in the future then I would be incentivized to put my \$100 down. I am not set on owning a Tesla CyberTruck, even though I hope a Stainless Steel truck would stand up to salt water corrosion better than an Aluminium Model S. My theory on that is that it might not in a practical sense due to fasteners that aren't painted at all in this vehicle but would normally be painted as part of the process.

I haven't preordered a Mach E either but the news is that they are getting quite a bit of interest. I feel like there is a good case for buying a Mach E in the first year or so. The \$7500 tax credit. Ford hasn't sold very many EV's yet but if they sell at the rate they expect they will exhaust the remaining number quickly. This vehicle offers substantial range and if the marketing is to be believed should be a decent EV for most needs. As such, there is a good case for buying one and selling it a year later for your cost minus the tax credit.

As you might recall I don't care about styling, but other friends and family members have reported that the Mach E is UGLY! Realizing that those same friends and family are often either encouraging me to plunk down my deposit for a CyberTruck or have already done so themselves, it is fairly shocking. Who would have thought that the CyberTruck would win a looks competition. I do think the flat hood and windshield looks good.

The future

Rich H is working on setting up a large event for next spring, so let's give him a hand if we can.

Articles I found interesting

<https://pluginamerica.org/tell-congress-extend-the-federal-ev-tax-credit>

If you haven't already contacted your various elected officials, please do.

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2019/12/jaguar-increases-i-pace-range-with-update-after-one-make-race-series/>

<https://www.thedrive.com/new-cars/26119/2019-nissan-leaf-review-electric-car-rookie-attempts-to-daily-drive-e-iphany-ensues>

<https://www.thedrive.com/new-cars/28003/2020-mercedes-benz-eqc-400-4matic-review-the-first-luxury-electric-car>

<https://www.thedrive.com/new-cars/28841/we-regen-braked-down-pikes-peak-in-a-2019-nissan-leaf-sl-plus-to-see-what-happens>

<https://www.thedrive.com/tech/30431/electric-v-8-crate-motor-from-electric-gt-is-sema-swap-ready>

<https://www.thedrive.com/news/29886/a-tesla-swapped-e30-bmw-means-youll-never-miss-a-yellow-light-again>

<https://www.thedrive.com/tech/31150/fbi-claims-us-automakers-were-leading-targets-for-malicious-hackers-in-2018-report>

<https://www.engadget.com/amp/2019/12/07/tesla-starts-charging-for-premium-connectivity/>

If you bought a Tesla in the last 18 months check on your data to see if you need to start paying \$10 a month.

<https://electrek.co/2019/12/06/tesla-cybertruck-production-timeline-update-orders/>

<https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2019/12/05/gm-lg-to-form-2point3-billion-joint-venture-for-battery-cell-production.html>

<https://www.politico.com/story/2019/09/16/oil-industry-electric-car-1729429>

Thanks Tracey for these two articles

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2019/11/this-electric-volkswagen-station-wagon-will-go-on-sale-in-2022/>

<https://qz.com/1737145/the-economics-of-driving-seven-teslas-for-2-5-million-miles/>

Thanks George for the link

I do not hold any interest in any car manufacturer or any of their subsidiaries

FVEAA Website Development Update

Ted Lowe

I've started the final stages of migrating us to the latest version of Joomla! CMS! It WILL HAPPEN THIS WINTER!

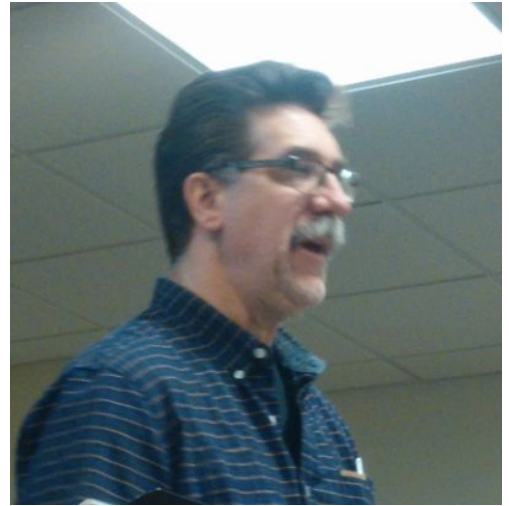
In the meantime, i've spent many hours the last 2 days handling an outage of our current (OLD) website caused by some new software hour hosting company installed. Geez :-o

I will send an email message to [members] when the website is back up.

Photos of our Meeting in October



Fred's Electric Smart fortwo getting a charge!



Rich Hirschberg describes upcoming EV events... and is very excited about Earth Day events next year

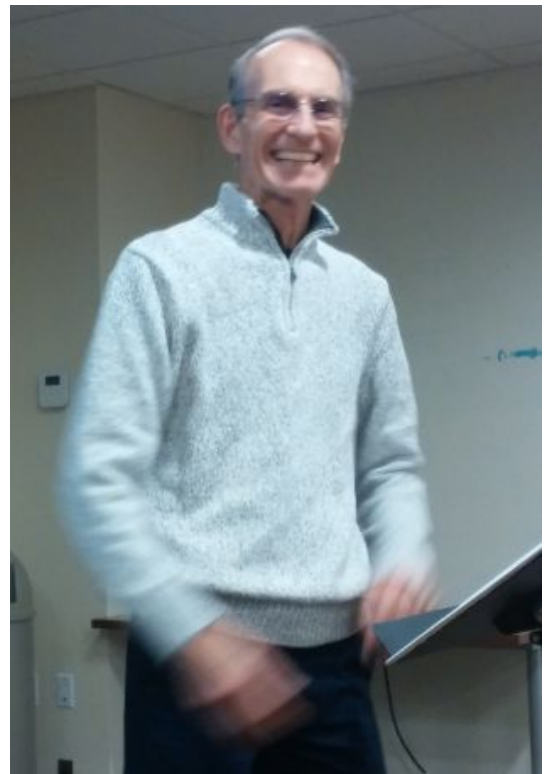


Bruce's 2011 Nissan Leaf is still kicking. Even after a frigid October and cold November

(Photo at Right)

Always enthusiastic Tracey McFadden addresses the state of EV legislation and the efforts he has been involved in to promote EVs.

And congratulations to Tracey on being elected to the FVEAA Board of Directors!



FVEAA On Facebook - Join Us! Like Us!

Ted Lowe

In October 2015, I created a **Facebook group for the FVEAA** and invited all the past and current FVEAA members I know that are on Facebook. There are 86 members as of 3/11/19. If you're on Facebook but not in the group, yet please join us! If you're not on Facebook yet, please consider joining so you can join our group there! This group supplements our forums because it is much easier to use, read, post pictures and videos

and get notifications. Please let me know if you have any questions/comments/suggestions. Hope to see you there! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/889497691136309/>

Grant Gerke started **FVEAA's Facebook Page**. Like Us!

<https://www.facebook.com/FoxValleyElectricAutoAssociation>

Membership Update

Ted Lowe

NO UPDATE THIS MONTH DUE TO WEBSITE OUTAGE!

We currently have **46 active paid-up** members, up 2 from last month!
Please renew & recruit new folks in 2019!!!



FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2019-11-12 04:58:07

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
BusinessStd	1	1
Family	5	5
Individual	38	37
LifetimeInd	2	2
Totals	46	45

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	97.8%
Avg. Paid Up Days	180.2 days
% With Email	93.5%

Encouraging Our Membership To Grow in 2019 and Some History

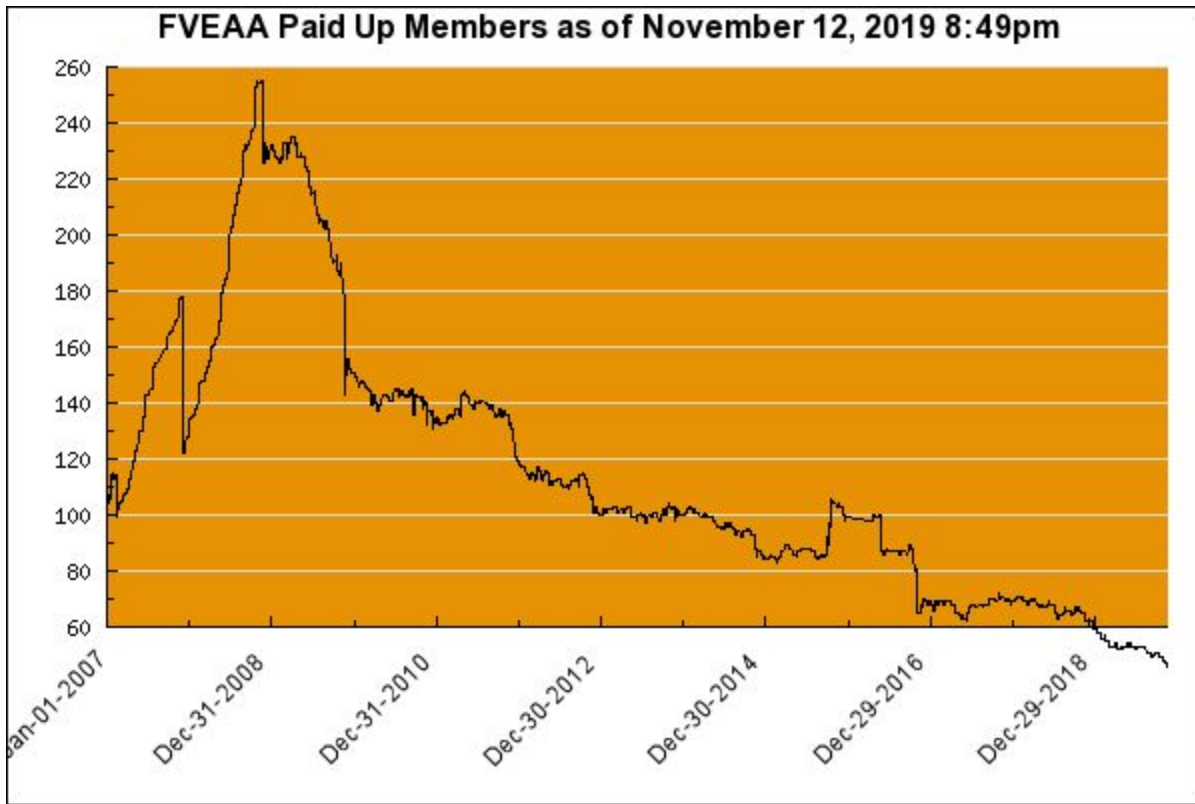
Ted Lowe

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Happy 2019 EVeryone! We live in a large metro area with 8 million people and EVs are the latest buzz so we should be able to grow the FVEAA! **Please invite your friends, neighbors, family, colleagues**, etc. to FVEAA meetings and EEvents. Volunteer to attend EEvents on behalf of the FVEAA (with or without an EV)! Your ideas on how to help grow the FVEAA are welcomed at anytime, thanks! Howard Hansen had a **great idea**... giving an FVEAA membership as a gift!

Here is a time-varying graph of our membership size from 2007 to now. Note that we peaked at about 255 members in the Summer of 2008 when gas was nearing \$5 per gallon. We were also attending lots more invitational EEvents with our EVs. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA in 2019!!!**

NOTE: This graph will be repaired on our new website soon!



Monthly Treasurer Reports Ted Lowe

As Treasurer, I am publishing a brief Treasurer's Report to our forums around the time our monthly newsletter is published.

i am publishing our various cash balances (Money Market, Checking, PayPal) to this location:
[FVEAA Committees](#) > [Finance](#) > [Treasurer Reports](#)

This area of the forums can only be seen by FVEAA members. As an IL Non-Profit corporation, we have no requirement to publish our assets or financial statements publicly.

Feel free to contact me if you have any FVEAA financial matters to discuss.

Membership Renewals Ted Lowe

Our membership system sends out "renewal reminder emails" before your membership is due. You will receive up to 3 before being marked "not renewed" (inactive). The sooner you renew, the fewer emails you will receive :)

So please pay attention to your email from the FVEAA and renew online using this link (for the easiest approach for all of us):

<http://www.fveaa.org/renew>

THANK YOU for your continued support of the FVEAA!

Upcoming EEvents Rich Hirschberg

- Stay tuned for details on our annual Holiday Gathering

- **President Jeff Miller opened the meeting at 7:07**
- **Next Meeting**
 - The attendees voted and prefer the next meeting be held on Dec.13th
 - but the 20th can be a backup date
 - This is all pending conversations Jeff will have with Current Automotive
 - A motion was made and accepted for up to \$200 to be spent on the Dec. meeting by the FVEAA if Current Automotive does not provide food.
- Jeff described upcoming electric vehicles including
 - Chevy bolt SUV crossover
 - Mustang Mach-E that Ford to reveal on Sunday 11/17. And pricing is projected to be from \$43,895 for the Select model to the top GT model at \$60,500.
- **Current Automotive** has expressed interest in becoming a business supporter/subscriber - per Jeff - as we have sent quite a lot of business their way
- **McHenry County Green Fest** was attended by Jeff Miller, Simon Gibson, Bob Koppach, Cynthia Connor who helped run the show
- **ILLINOIS IMPOSING CAR TRADE-IN TAX ON JAN. 1.**
 - Note due to the recent Illinois legislation and tax laws, at the Dealer, state sales tax based on cars being traded in will be much higher
 - **so starting next year it will be better for your wallet to sell your car privately first and not trade it in at the dealer.**
 - <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/illinois-imposing-car-trade-in-tax-on-jan-1-dealers-call-it-double-taxation/>
 - The state currently collects no sales tax on a car's trade-in value, which acts as credit toward a new vehicle purchase. By law, sales tax only applies to the difference between trade-in value and the new vehicle's purchase price.
 - That changes Jan. 1. 2020 Under Senate Bill 690, signed June 28 by Gov. J.B. Pritzker
 - State and local sales tax will be applied to the trade-in value above \$10,000.
 - The new tax is expected to cost Illinoisans \$60 million a year – which was earmarked not for roads, but for new state buildings and renovations.
- **Rich Hirschberg Reviewed upcoming events**
 - Elgin sustainability and 50th anniversary of Earth Day and Midwest green expo
 - (Please refer to Upcoming Events section in Newsletter above)
- **Tracey McFadden - Legislation on EVs**
 - Tracey has been active in promoting Electric Vehicles and clean energy this year. He gave us a presentation on **the state of EV legislation** including the following highlights:
 - Schumer Plan
 - California Tailpipe Initiative
 - 100% Clean Economy Act
 - They sent a loud message from house of Representatives, but unlikely to pass based on those in government today
 - Drive America Forward Act.
 - Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act
 - 500 Sierra club members and others
 - Met State Senator Oberweiss
 - Illinois Transportation Infrastructure Bill
 - Now \$148 for regular car licenses but **\$248 for EVs!**
 - New Chicago ordinance
 - Charging stations for EVs are required
 - Neda Deylmi Chicago for EVs
 - Sierra Club Rev Up Campaign

- U.S. survey on selling electric vehicle
- **Things we can do**
 - **Keep informed, support legislators, and join sierraclub.org**
- **ELECTIONS for OFFICERS and DIRECTORS**
 - Elections were held, delayed from September.
 - Congratulations to the following newly elected officers and directors for 2019-2020
 - Note that each of the following members accepted their nominations prior to voting.

 - **President:**
 - Jeff Miller
 - **Vice president:**
 - Rich Hirschberg
 - **Secretary:**
 - Bruce Jones
 - **Treasurer:**
 - Ted Lowe
 - **Directors**
 - Marty Belowicz
 - Mike Padberg
 - Tracey McFadden

Meeting adjourned.at 9:10

FVEAA Membership Application Form - Version 2014-01-01

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zipcode: _____

Phone: _____ Phone Type: Home ___ Work ___ Cell ___

Email: _____

Please check one: New Member _____ Renewal _____

How did you hear about the FVEAA ? _____

Membership Types and Annual Dues (please circle one):

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

Newsletter Delivery Type (please circle one): No Newsletter Electronic

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

FVEAA**PO Box 214****Wheaton, IL 60187-0214**

Attn: Membership



Best Hybrid Batteries

Only The Best

Michael Bradley

18600 IL-59

Shorewood, IL 60404

Phone: 708-669-9402

Email: besthybridbatteries@gmail.com

Web: www.besthybridbatteries.com