



## February 2020 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 February 21, 2020**

**Next regular meeting is Friday Feb. 21st at 7:00 p.m. Ends 9:00 p.m.**

**Community Christian Church**

1635 Emerson Lane

Naperville, IL 60540

[Google Map](#)

### Agenda

- 6:30 Doors Open
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:15 Howard's tale of his recent adventure
- 8:00 break
- 8:15 Simon G on controlling the Tesla high power wall connector
- 9:00 Close up

### President's Words

Jeff Miller

#### January meeting

Thanks to Elmhurst Toyota for hosting us in a snow storm. The snow also kept the plug in hybrid BMWs from coming out to play. Thanks again to George for organizing the meeting for us!

#### February meeting

Simon is going to give us an update on his work with the Tesla wall connector and controlling it externally along with other stations.

Howard was recently at the EVTU Tech show and will fill us in on the cool stuff he saw.

#### My projects

I finished my large UPS battery backup system for my server rack which has 12kwh of sealed lead acid batteries powering it when the lights go out. It is a 120 volt, 100 ah battery pack. Because it all weighs about 1000 pounds I built a cart to hold it all. If things go really well I will show some pictures at the meeting.

## **I miev!**

I am now the proud owner of a third EV. I bought a 2012 mitsubishi I miev for \$2900. It is destined to be the car my kids learn to drive on. I have been looking for a 3k or less ev for quite a while in preparation for my son to turn 15 and that moment arrived in January when I spotted an imiev in Ransom Illinois. I checked the imiev forums for how to check battery capacity and there is a free Android app that will query the bms and report back information. It is called cani0n150 and required one of a few odb2 dongles. I bought a supported one for 50 and drove to Ransom with Kyle. The problem was that the imiev has somewhat limited range and the dealer is 48 miles from the nearest charging stations in my direction. It was forecasted to be 36 degrees that day but little to no precipitation. My thinking was the car had to have at least 12 kwh of capacity to make it, so checking the capacity was important not just because having a good battery is good, but because I couldn't get home if it didn't. The bms reported 12.5kwh. After a short test drive and exchanging money for the car we set off for the Roundhouse in Aurora. I had to average 4 miles per kwh in 36 degree weather with a crosswind for the first half so I told Kyle to drive 40. I made sure the heat was off and put on my dust mask to capture most of the moisture from my breath, along with the usual cold weather gear. We did make it to the Roundhouse showing 3 miles of range but the imiev wouldn't charge using the Tesla tap off of the Tesla station at the Roundhouse. This was annoying but I picked this area as there are many stations in the area. So we drove up to the Aurora community center and plugged it in there without issue. It sat there and charged for about 5 hours before we could continue our trip. The Tesla charged much faster, so we wandered around with it until the imiev was done. The second leg home was only 36 miles, so I got to have heat!

If you are running without the heat on in the winter, put on some form of moisture collection system on your mouth and nose. It kept me from fogging the windows for over an hour of driving with no circulation or defrost. It wasn't even sunny so I didn't have much solar heat gain to help out.

## **The future**

We are working on sorting out locations for NDEW Naperville area, if anyone has any ideas, feel free to let us know.

## **Articles I found interesting**

<https://jalopnik.com/electric-cars-are-better-for-the-environment-than-a-50-1841648384>

Contributed by Kyle

<https://blog.ucsusa.org/dave-reichmuth/are-electric-vehicles-really-better-for-the-climate-yes-heres-why>

I am really happy that someone finally did a nice write up on this topic. We all understood this but it is nice to have some actual numbers to reference on well to wheel numbers.

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/02/welcome-to-the-era-of-supercharged-lithium-ion-batteries/>

<https://electrek.co/2020/02/14/ev-group-says-zoning-law-not-building-code-is-best-for-ev-infrastructure/>

This is a really good idea and something I hope we start to do here sooner rather than later. In summary, charging stations could be more of a zoning question than a building code question.

<https://jalopnik.com/volkswagen-is-just-getting-started-with-the-id-r-and-el-1841408003>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/02/check-out-the-first-ever-electric-car-designed-by-porsche-the-1898-p1/>

<https://teslamotorsclub.com/tmc/threads/disable-traction-control-and-all-nannies-with-dyno-mode.183608/>

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/01/us-government-sees-renewables-passing-natural-gas-in-20-years/>

<https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2020/01/30/gm-resurrecting-hummer-as-an-all-electric-super-truck-with-1000-h>

[p.html](#)

<https://jalopnik.com/a-huge-ford-rivian-collaboration-is-going-to-create-an-1841328541>

<https://jalopnik.com/the-tesla-model-y-will-ship-way-sooner-than-expected-1841336388>

<https://jalopnik.com/the-electric-2020-mini-se-is-fun-and-a-little-half-asse-1841306783>

<https://jalopnik.com/maserati-begins-testing-of-all-electric-powertrain-for-1841219097>

<https://jalopnik.com/detroit-hamtramck-is-officially-gms-first-dedicated-ev-1841262628>

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/01/making-fuel-molecules-in-yeast-much-harder-than-you-d-imagine/>

<https://jalopnik.com/daimler-announces-production-electric-garbage-truck-1841068525>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/01/a-100-million-investment-pulls-and-ev-startup-out-of-stealth-mode/>

<https://jalopnik.com/in-real-world-testing-these-electric-cars-dont-get-as-m-1841028089>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/01/the-2020-toyota-prius-prime-plug-in-proves-competent-and-calming/>

<https://gizmodo.com/ibm-research-created-a-new-battery-that-outperforms-lit-1840535845/amp>

Think I missed this one previously

<https://electrek.co/2019/12/12/tesla-cybertruck-coolest-mods-attachments/amp/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH7V2tU3iFc>

Contributed by William M

<https://jalopnik.com/an-audi-e-tron-towed-a-gm-ev1-from-tulsa-to-austin-ran-1841707034>

<https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2020/02/14/delta-air-lines-ceo-carrier-will-go-fully-carbon-neutral-next-month.html>

<https://jalopnik.com/this-hyundai-concept-could-be-the-sporty-ev-prophecy-fo-1841678813>

<https://jalopnik.com/electric-flat-track-motorcycle-racing-proves-the-future-1841677091>

<https://jalopnik.com/jaguar-hits-pause-on-i-pace-production-with-battery-sho-1841646448>

The next two were also contributed by Kyle

<https://electrek.co/2020/02/06/behind-the-scenes-look-at-ewan-mcgregors-9000-mile-livewire-electric-motorcycle-ride/>

[https://www.greencarreports.com/news/1127031\\_why-gm-has-put-hybrids-and-the-chevy-volt-in-its-past](https://www.greencarreports.com/news/1127031_why-gm-has-put-hybrids-and-the-chevy-volt-in-its-past)

<https://www.teslarati.com/tesla-hardware-3-frightens-toyota-vw-model-3-teardown/amp/>

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

Hey Club Members, we have a couple of events coming up in April.

### The 2020 Midwest Green Car Expo

For the Chicago, Illinois Metro area – USA.

Please save the date for the 2020 Midwest Green Car Expo (MGCX).

The Fox Valley Electric Automobile Association is hosting a huge Alt-Fuel Vehicle expo coming up this April 4th to celebrate Elgin Earth Month, the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, and “Drive Electric Earth Day”.

Hoping to make this the largest gathering of EVs, Hybrids, and AFVs in the Midwest.

Web site: <https://the2020MidwestGreenCarExpo.weebly.com/>

Date: Apr 04, 2020 --- 04.04.2020.

Location: 240 N. Grove Ave. (old library lot), Elgin, IL 60120.

Times: 10 am to 4 pm.

Don't forget to check out <https://DriveElectricEarthDay.org/index.php>

We are partnering with the Elgin Earth Month Green Expo right next door as well as events at the Elgin Public Library across the street. A couple thousand people are expected to attend this huge event combination.

At the MGCX, make sure to vote for your EAGL Awards recipients. And check out the Ride-n-Drives of 'Drive Electric Earth Day', and the many businesses, clubs, and organizations that support AFVs.

Contact Rich Hirschberg, [MGCX@yahoo.com](mailto:MGCX@yahoo.com), Car Expo Chairman about booths, registrations, and sponsorships via email.

Would love to see you there

### The Naperville 2020 Earth Day Fair.

Date: Sunday, April 19th

Times: 1 to 4 pm

Location: Fort Hill Activity Center, 20 Fort Hill Dr., Naperville, IL.

They have a ton of free family-friendly events scheduled.

And they're expecting 600-800 visitors.

Let me know at [GoAFVs@yahoo.com](mailto:GoAFVs@yahoo.com) if you are going so I can let the organizations know how many people from our club are coming.

**New FVEAA Website Online! Login and check it out!**

Ted Lowe

Hi Folks, If you haven't logged in to our new website already, please check your email for instructions and login as soon as you can! Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, ted



### Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	50
Users Never Logged In	27
% Active Users	46.0%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	34.7 days

### Photos of our Meeting in December



January 17, 2020 at Elmhurst Toyota



Tracey McFadden speaking about EVs to the League of Women Voters



## Illinois License plates - Rich Carroll

Recently you have likely seen some new Illinois license plates. Some are purely revenue producing, some are for other, but more hidden reasons. Most of these plates have prefixes or suffixes. Let's see if we can codify this mess. For some pictures of sample plates, see: [https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license\\_plate\\_guide/licenseplates.html](https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license_plate_guide/licenseplates.html) Clicking through will give requirements and costs for each type.

### Prefixes

FP plates have appeared recently, but these are not the first car plates to appear in Illinois with a prefix. The FP plates are for Fleet Plates (registered in bulk, allowed by multiple states) These are multiyear registrations. They are issued without expiration dates (!) and the vehicle owner is responsible for continuing the registration (forever) or returning the plates, or certifying they were stolen/destroyed. FP plates get some sort of a discount, as they are paid for, issued, and billed completely electronically, with no paperwork for the Illinois Secretary of State to process at renewal time. A computer file for re-registration along with instructions to debit the financial institution involved are all that is needed. Note FP plates are now issued to several classes of vehicles, automotive, B-Truck, etc.

H prefixed plates have all been recalled and replaced with the Suffix plate of HI. These designate to any law enforcement officer that the driver is registered as hearing impaired.

0 the zero was a prefix designated for taxicab use, and this started in 1941. This has been replaced by the TX suffix (and others TX, LY, FH) Later the Zero prefixed plates included some commercial vehicles.

♿ Indicates a permanent handicap, and allows the vehicle access to handicapped parking.

E indicates support for Environmental Causes. This has been phased out, now they use an EN suffix

FV is a Municipal Fire Vehicle

FD is reserved for the Fire Chief

DF Duty Death Firefighter

DP Duty Death Police Officer

MP is Municipal Police Vehicle

HAM RADIO is a prefix, followed by the license of the amateur radio operator

### Suffixes designed for alerting police to special situations

EL indicates completely electric power, with special crash procedures.

HI is a suffix for a driver who is hearing impaired

WT is a suffix showing a documented need for highly tinted windows

CB is a suffix only able to be obtained by a Village Mayor or President (may access areas beyond police lines)

CV is a vehicle owned by a Charitable Organization

TX is a Taxicab

SB is a school bus

DE is for a vehicle licensed for (and only for) Driver's Education.

LY is a vehicle for Livery use

**FH is licensed as a vehicle owned by a Funeral Home for recovery or funeral processions/corteges**

**IT In Interstate Transit**

**M is a locally government owned vehicle (may access areas beyond police lines)**

**PT is a commuter vehicle, with special restrictions**

**TW is designated for tow trucks, but has apparently also been used for vehicles designed specifically for towing vehicles (like a large SUV equipped only for towing)**

**MC is a medical carrier, designed to move patients to/from medical centers and hospitals**

**LSV designates a special Low Speed Vehicle (Public Act . . . . . 96-0653)**

**Plates sold to show sympathy for police/first responder causes**

**FF celebrates the Firefighters Memorial**

**CP celebrates the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation**

**PO celebrates the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police**

**IP celebrates the Illinois Police Association**

**PL celebrates the Illinois Retired Law Enforcement**

**HF celebrates the Illinois State Police Memorial Park**

**SO Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics**

**Antique Vehicles**

**AV is for Antique Vehicles, and is a restricted use plate**

**EA is an expanded use Antique Vehicle plate, restricted during the winter months only**

**General Interest**

**AR celebrates America Remembers (the day of 9/11/2001)**

**DA shows support for Alzheimer Awareness**

**FA shows support for Autism Awareness**

**EG is reserved for Eagle Scouts**

**ED shows sympathy for Educational Causes**

**HS shows support for Hospice Care**

**NF shows support for Illinois Nurses**

**TM Brotherhood of Teamsters**

**CD Mammograms**

**MM MasterMasons**

**DN Organ Donor**

**OC Ovarian Cancer Awareness**

**YP Park District Youth**

**PF Pet Friendly**

**GL Prince Hall Freemasonry**

**PV Prevent Violence**

**RI Rotary International**

**AG Saluting Agriculture**

**BK Share the Road (with Bikes)**

**SM Sheet Metal Workers International Assoc.**

**TS Support Our Troops**

**YG Support Youth Golf**

**Pan Hellenic (Greek letter social organizations)**

**AK Alpha Kappa Kappa**

**PA Alpha Phi Omega**

**DS Delta Sigma Theta**

**KA Kappa Alpha Psi**

**QU Omega Psi Phi**

**PB Phi Beta Sigma**

**SR Sigma Gamma Rho**

**ZP Zeta Phi Beta**

**Special Places**

**CA Illinois and Michigan Canal**

**SS Route 66**

**WP Wildlife Prairie Park**

## Sports Teams

BD support for Chicago Bears  
BH support for Chicago Blackhawks  
BU support for Chicago Bulls  
CC support for Chicago Cubs  
WS support for Chicago White Sox  
STL supports the St. Louis Cardinals  
Support for Colleges and College teams  
AA UIUC  
AC Augustana College  
AB Bradley University  
CU Concordia University  
AD DePaul University  
EC Elmhurst College  
AE EIU  
AI ISU  
AL Loyola University  
AX Malcolm X University  
BB Milikin University  
AH NIU  
AN Northwestern  
AZ SIU (Carbondale)  
AS SIU (Edwardsville)  
UC University of Chicago  
AC UIC  
AP Univ. of Ill (Springfield)

ND Notre Dame

AW WIU

## Sporting Series

DU Ducks Unlimited  
SD Ducks Hunting  
SW Deer Hunting

SG Goose Hunting  
SP Pheasant Hunting  
SY Turkey Hunting  
SF Fishing  
Military Plates  
GH Afghanistan  
AF Air Force Service Cross  
RF Armed Forces Reserve  
BZ Bronze Star  
CMH Congressional Medal of Honor  
DV Disabled Veteran  
DC Distinguished Service Cross  
XP Ex Prisoner of War  
GS Gold Star  
NG Na  
IQ Iraq  
KD Korean Service  
KW Korean War Veteran  
NC Navy Service Cross  
PC Paratrooper  
PH Pearl Harbor  
PW POW/MIA  
PR Purple Heart  
RM Retired Armed Forces  
SV Silver Star  
GI Army Veteran  
DD Marine Corps  
NV Navy Veteran  
US Universal Veteran  
VN Viet Nam Veteran  
CK West Point Bicentennial  
WW World War II Veteran

There are a few plates that do not use abbreviations, but spell out the need. "Senate" "Ambulance" "U.S. House" "U.S. Senate" "Ceremonial" "Repossessor" etc.

So, if you represent an organization, how can you get a set of plates for your group? The speciality plates are created when a member of the General Assembly sponsors one and it passes both houses and is signed by the governor. There needs to be a commitment from the sponsoring organization that 2,000 Illinois drivers will get that specialty plate. Fees and graphic charges vary, and sometimes expiration dates, and are best found on [https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license\\_plate\\_guide/licenseplates.html](https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license_plate_guide/licenseplates.html)

In a list of this size, I'll bet I missed a few. Anyone care to add?

**Hey how about EV for Electric Vehicle!**

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

We currently have **49 active paid-up** members. Two members have already taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered by the new website! **Please renew & recruit new folks in 2020!!!**



**FVEAA Membership Report**  
as of 2020-02-18 04:58:12

**Count of Members by Type**

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	5	5
Individual	43	41
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	51	49

**Other Statistics**

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	96.1%
Avg. Paid Up Days	224.0 days
% With Email	94.1%

**Encouraging Our Membership To Grow in 2020 and Some History**

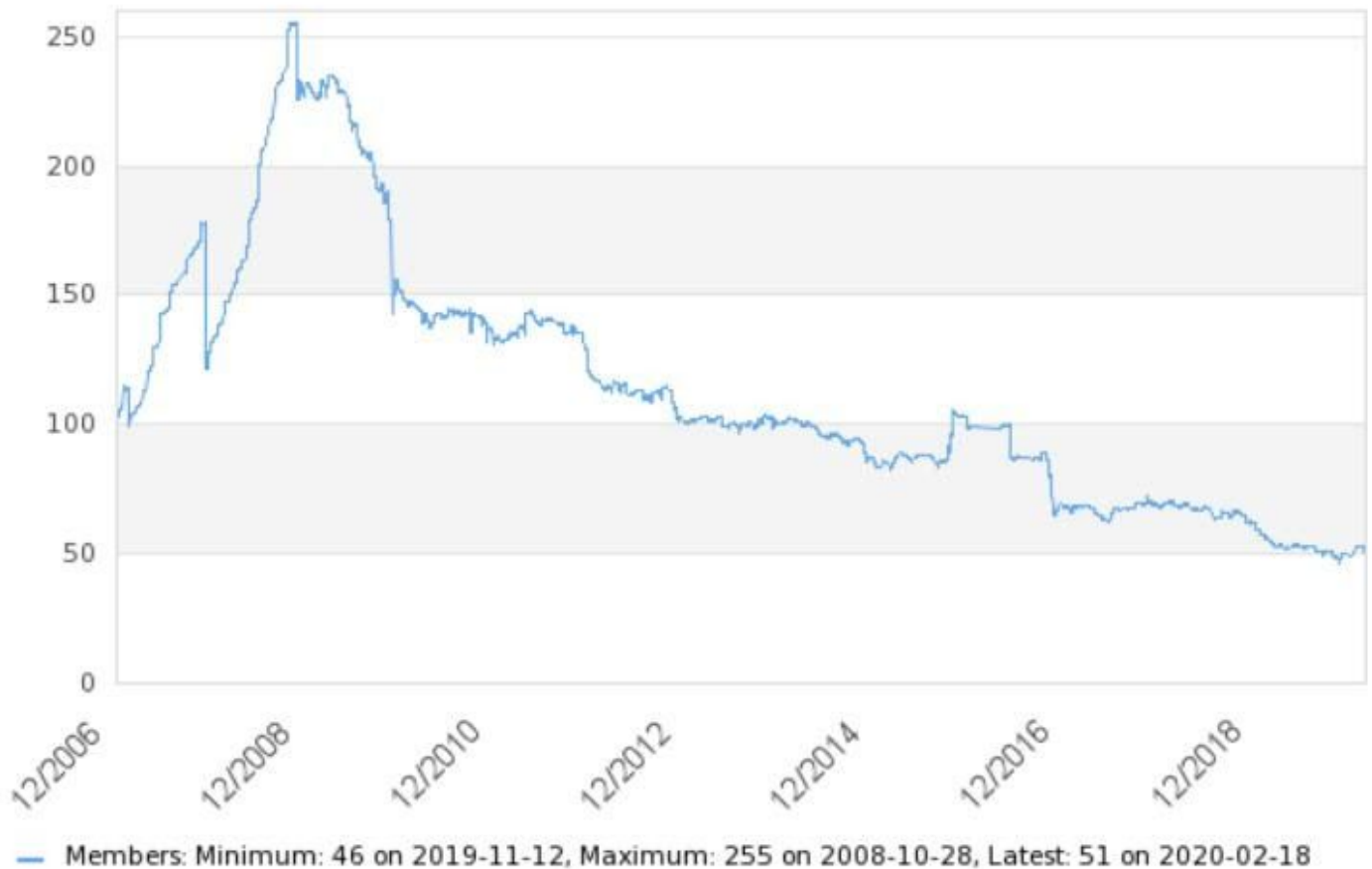
Ted Lowe

**Happy 2020 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 255 members in October 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 2020!!!**

**NOTE:** This graph has been improved ESPECIALLY for Bruce Jones! Long inside joke :) Thanks Bruce!  
<Thanks Ted!! - Bruce :) > **You're welcome Bruce! FINALLY :)**

## FVEAA Paid Up Members as of February 18, 2020 8:58pm



### 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):

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

**THANK YOU** for your continued support of the FVEAA!

### Upcoming EVents

Rich Hirschberg

- **Sun March 8th "Going Green Matters" in Wilmette. Contact Tracey McFadden who is looking for more EV's to display. <https://www.goinggreenmatters.org/>**
- **12 to 4 pm Michigan Shores Club 911 Michigan Ave Wilmette, IL 60091**
- **Please Email Jay Futterman at [jayfutterman@yahoo.com](mailto:jayfutterman@yahoo.com) if you can add your car.**
  
- **Elgin DEED (Drive Electric Earth Day) event [Elgin DEED](#)**
- **Sat., April 4, 10 am to 4 pm**
- **It is a part of the Midwest Green Car Expo**
- **ADDRESS: Old Library Parking Lot 240 N Grove Ave Elgin, IL 60120**

**Meeting Minutes - December 13, 2019**

*Bruce Jones*

We all trickled in due to the bad weather and were a bit sad that the plug in hybrids couldn't come out to play. Jeff Miller asked the group if they would allow their power company some control of their home Evse in exchange for a \$500 credit and potentially a reduced utility rate. The members present all thought that sounded reasonable with one person expressing concern around privacy. Naperville is working on implementing something like this.

**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](mailto:besthybridbatteries@gmail.com)

Web: [www.besthybridbatteries.com](http://www.besthybridbatteries.com)