



## September 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

**This month's meeting is on Friday Sept. 18, 2020  
and will be VIRTUAL ONLY (NOT AT CCC)  
due to the Coronavirus outbreak for the purposes of "social distancing"**

We are using the Zoom video-conferencing platform to hold this ONLINE meeting. Zoom runs on all computers and phones. Some setup is required prior to your first use of Zoom on your device of choice. Connect to the meeting a bit early (6:45pm earliest) by using the link below to test your connection. Please call Ted Lowe (630-260-0424) if you want help getting Zoom installed on your device of choice. You can also dial-in on your telephone to have an audio-only connection (see phone number and meeting ID below). The audio on your device will be automatically muted upon entering the call to avoid disrupting the call.

Pre-meeting setup check starts at 6:45pm.

Meeting starts at 7pm and will run until 9pm.

Use this information to connect during these times:

Topic: FVEAA September 2020 Monthly Meeting (VIRTUAL ONLY)

Time: Fri September 18, 2020 6:45 PM CST (pre-meeting setup check), Meeting 7:00 PM

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95901481473>

Dial-in for audio-only users: Call: 312-626-6799

Enter Meeting ID when prompted: 95901481473#

Participant ID: (blank, just #) \*6 mutes/unmutes your line, \*9 raises your virtual hand

### Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual Meeting Starts (to test connections)
- 7:00 Introductions and "What do you want to learn about?"
- 7:50 Tracey M: Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act update
- 8:00 Break
- 8:10 Leadership nominations and election
- 8:30 Tracey M: Overview of all the electric Pickup's (if time allows)
- 9:00 Close Out

### **August meeting**

I reviewed the various EV SUV's hitting the market in the next 12 months. The VW ID4, Ford Mustang Mach E, Nissan Ariya, and the Chevy Bolt EUV should all be starting under \$50K. All but the Chevy have the full \$7500 tax credit available to them. Upon further review I am liking the looks of the Nissan, but I am a price conscious shopper. I also have a correction, I mentioned that the ID4 would be starting at \$35K, however that number was AFTER incentives, the base price will likely be \$44K or so. (I am very sad about this, I was drooling over the opportunity to buy another long range EV brand new for \$27,500, yes, I bought a Bolt for less, see below)

I also spoke about roof top solar in combination with Comed RRTP. In summary if your solar array covers the vast majority of your consumption and you pay less than \$200 a year you should be using Comed Fixed rate pricing. The reason being that you will cover the fixed costs faster selling energy at 12 cents/kwh instead of 3 cents/kwh. If you are paying less each year than the fixed costs of electrical service then you should on their fixed price plan to cover those fixed costs with the least amount of kwh possible.

If you only cover a small portion of your consumption, say my house with only a 5KW array, then it makes sense to stay on RRTP. In this case you are reaping the advantage of having Solar to reduce your peak costs, while enjoying the low cost of RRTP overnight electricity pricing from the grid.

### **September meeting**

It's election time, so come to the meeting to make sure you don't get elected the President! (just kidding) Seriously though, please take part in the process of nominating and electing leaders.

We are trying out a new format this month with a focus on supporting the group members. We want to help support each other and part of that is getting more support to the members (not just the new ones) who have questions about EV topics. Charging, buying, driving, fixing, whatever your question is, we will try to get it answered. To that end we will assign people (including me) to help answer questions people have outside of the meeting. We can't possibly cover some of the more detailed questions in a meeting format, most people don't want to learn about the intricacies of someone else's home electrical system. If someone raises a topic that has general support then we would cover it in a meeting too!

So please, bring your questions, you could save yourself thousands of dollars or gain detailed knowledge of electric cars and charging systems. Work sessions aren't out of the question either. Obviously precautions need to be taken for in person meetings, and we will work to address that as we set these up.

### **My month has been spent selling my cars**

The White Model S is gone. I listed it for sale on a Monday morning, and by Thursday evening I had an agreement with the buyer. We finished the transaction the following week and he is the proud owner of a Model S P85+. It was purchased by a gentleman who lives in the city and now needs a car to support his new family.

The Red Chevy Bolt is leaving, as soon as the bank and the USPS get the title to me. The Bolt went to a family that had their older Ford Taurus wagon die on them. They don't need a car every day as they commute on bicycle everywhere they go daily, but they like to have one for other tasks.

Why did I suddenly sell two of my three cars? The used car market in August turned incredibly hot enabling me to easily sell my cars for fair prices. Dealers can't get enough used cars to fill their demand,

but they still have some new cars for sale with good model year end discounts so I replaced the Bolt with a brand new Blue Bolt. After some haggling I got the new Bolt LT for \$27549 after all taxes and fees were applied. This did include a couple of options, the "Driver Confidence II" and "Winter floor liners", so you could probably get a more stripped one for even less money, but this one was blue and that is what the wife wanted.

Here is the Costco coupon for \$3000 off. Note! You are required to have been a Costco member since BEFORE August 30th, so you can't join Costco now, and get \$3000 off a Bolt.

[https://www.costcoauto.com/save/model.aspx?makeid=7&model=bolt&gotourl=/special\\_offers/default.aspx](https://www.costcoauto.com/save/model.aspx?makeid=7&model=bolt&gotourl=/special_offers/default.aspx)

Chevy is offering \$8500 off on these cars, when combined with the \$3000 is \$11500 in discounts before you start asking the dealer to reduce their margin. The dealer I went to was willing to reduce their price by more than \$4000 on top of those discounts allowing me to buy a new Bolt without breaking the bank. Having sold my Red Bolt outright I didn't get any break on the sales tax, however with the new for 2020 sales tax law limiting the sales tax exemption on the trade to only the first \$10K on the trade it doesn't make as much sense to trade a car in at all. The family buying the Red Bolt will no doubt enjoy the much lower sales tax they get to pay by buying private party though!

### Articles I found interesting

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/08/teslas-model-3-beats-competitors-in-70mph-range-test/>

Always interesting to see head to head range competitions.

<https://teslamotorsclub.com/tmc/threads/how-i-recovered-half-of-my-batterys-lost-capacity.204712>

Method for correcting the range displayed by a modern Tesla car

<https://teslamotorsclub.com/tmc/threads/terafactory-austin-texas-preliminary-build-schedule-substantial-completion.206068>

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2020/09/climate-change-may-wreck-economy-unless-we-act-soon-federal-report-warns/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/09/general-motors-will-engineer-and-build-nikolas-hydrogen-pickup/>

<https://electrek.co/2020/09/07/vw-id4-towing-capacity-utility-performance-video/amp/>

I was amazed that they are configuring the ID4 to tow 4200 pounds!

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/09/could-disordered-rock-salts-bring-order-to-next-gen-lithium-batteries/>

<https://jalopnik.com/yeah-you-can-still-shred-tires-in-an-electric-ford-fie-1844948463>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/09/hurricane-evacuations-and-electric-cars-heres-what-we-know/>

<https://jalopnik.com/lordstown-motors-wont-be-the-savior-of-the-rust-belt-1844831227>

<https://jalopnik.com/tesla-is-still-trying-to-make-an-affordable-car-1844859857>

<https://jalopnik.com/porsche-isnt-letting-the-pandemic-stop-it-from-taking-o-1844865580>

<https://jalopnik.com/bollingers-slick-new-electric-van-has-a-massive-greenho-1844869796>

<https://morningconsult.com/2019/08/13/report-2-2-billion-needed-to-meet-u-s-electric-car-charging-demand>

[-through-2025/](#)

Old article but not that much has changed

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

## Upcoming Events

*Rich Hirschberg*

**DOES NOT LOOK GOOD FOR THIS EVENT. No insurance rider from EAA yet.  
We will decide this week about canceling or not. Watch the NDEW website for more.**

### **The 2020 Midwest Green Car Expo (MGCX)**

For the Chicago, Illinois Metro area – USA.

The Fox Valley Electric Automobile Association is hosting a huge Alt-Fuel Vehicle expo planned for later this year when it is safe to gather in large groups. We are hoping to make this the largest gathering of EVs, Hybrids, and AFVs in the Midwest.

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

Date: TBD 2020. (it was Sept. 26th)

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>

At the MGCX, make sure to vote for your EAGL Awards recipients. Also check out the Ride-n-Drives 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.

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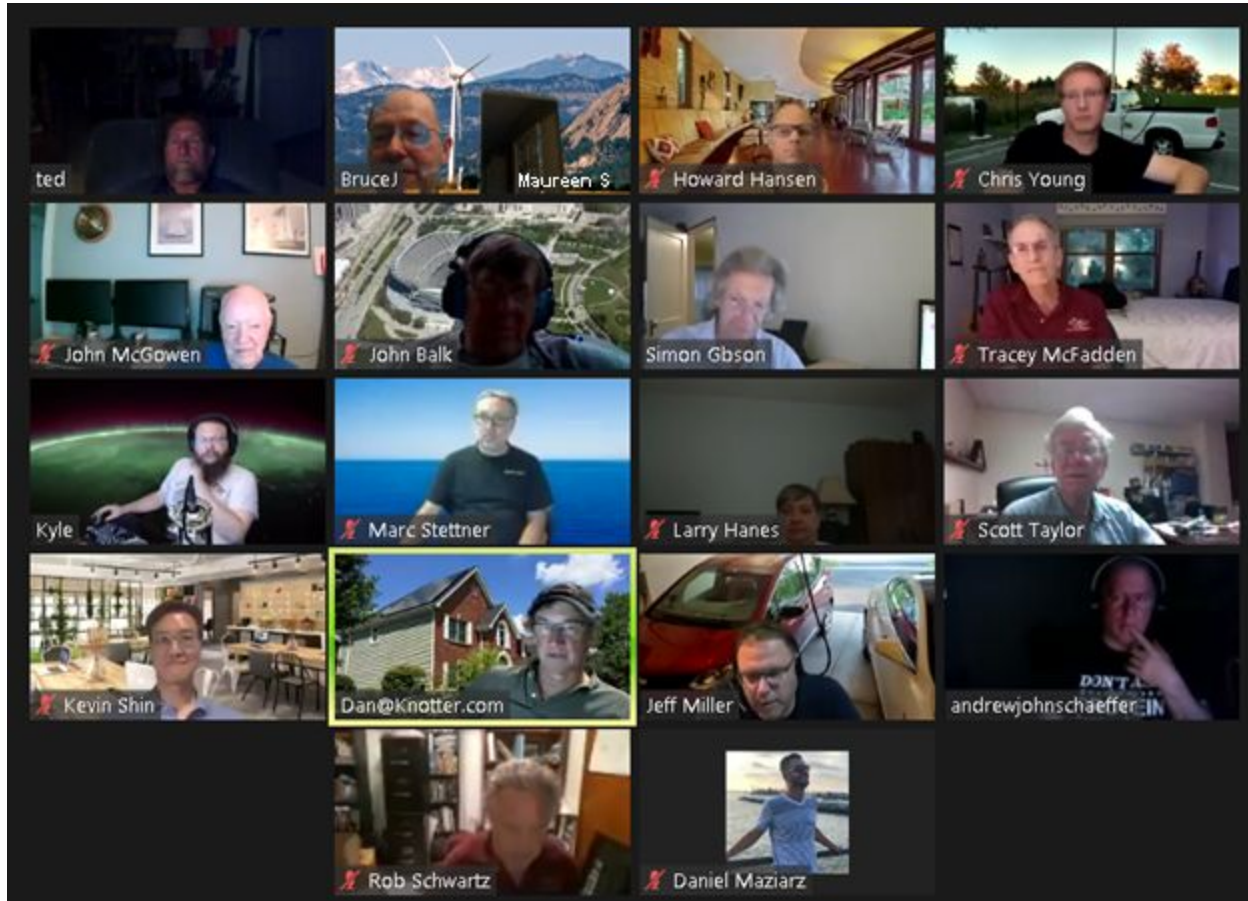
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD - in lieu of a second NDEW Event, I am trying to organize a parade/EV cruise for anyone interested.**

Most likely from the Yellow Box Church in Naperville (where we used to meet) because many people know where that is. Heading to somewhere east. Stopping point to be determined - maybe Villa Park or Addison.

To include EVs, Hybrids, Plug-in, etc - cars, trucks, and motorcycles and of course, Home-builts.

## Photos of our Virtual Meeting in August

Bruce Jones



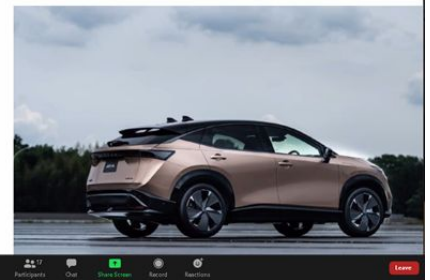
18 Attendees at the sixth virtual FVEAA Meeting



Jeff gives a stellar presentation on Electric SUVs hitting the Market (at least some time in the future)

## Nissan Ariya

- When: Mid 2021
- AWD: optional
- 63kwh - ?
- 87kwh – 300 miles
- Price: 40k-45k est
- \$7500: Yes
- ? - 389hp



## Volvo XC40 recharge



- When: Late this year -preorder
- AWD: yes
- Range: 200+
- Price:55k
- \$7500: yes
- 402hp
- 78kwh



## Data and Math

- Math is boring
- If you are way undersized, do RRTP
- If you sell more than you buy, do fixed rate as the fees will get covered by the credits faster

**And Jeff gave a second presentation regarding Residential Real Time Pricing and what plan to choose if you have solar**

**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



**FVEAA Web Report**  
as of 2020-09-15 04:58:10

## Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	62
Users Never Logged In	26
% Active Users	58.1%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	148.5 days

**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 **53 active paid-up** members. Seven members have already taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered by the new website! **Please renew & recruit new folks!!!**



## FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2020-09-15 04:58:10

### Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	48	46
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	55	53

### Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	96.4%
Avg. Paid Up Days	268.8 days
% With Email	94.5%

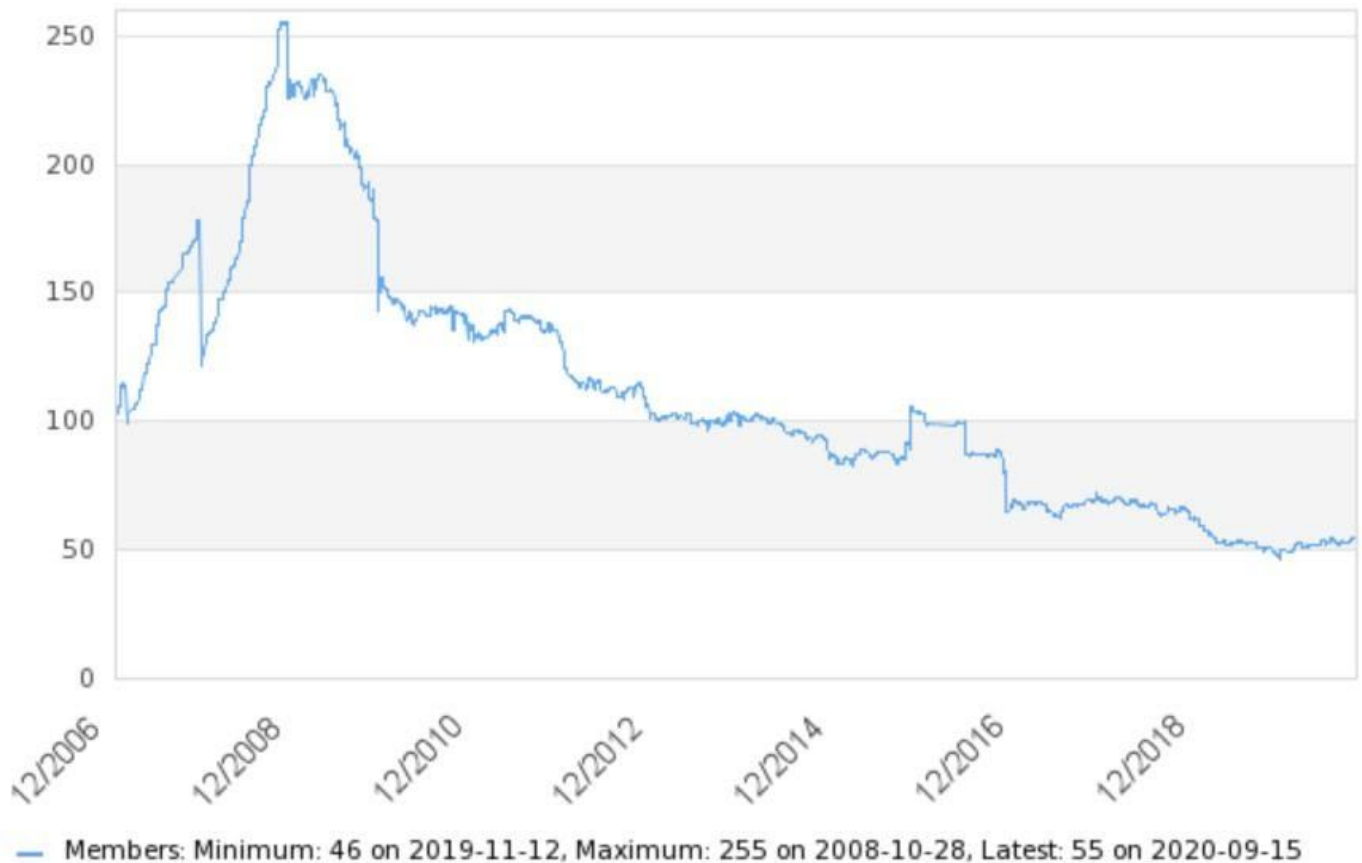
## Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

Ted Lowe

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 EVents. Volunteer to attend EVents on behalf of the FVEAA (with or without an EV)! Your ideas on how to help grow the FVEAA are welcomed at any time, 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 EVents with our converted EVs. The first Tesla Roadster was just coming into being. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA!!!**

## FVEAA Paid Up Members as of September 15, 2020 3:15pm



### 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!



## Opening and Introductions

- Jeffrey Miller, President opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.
  - Everyone introduced themselves and brought up topics on their mind, ending around 8 p.m.
- CHATS and Discussions during the call
  - EV and EVSE Incentive Recommendations for Naperville
    - Dan Knotter, head of the Naperville Public Utility Advisory Board, is looking for input on EVSE and EV incentives for Naperville – as future looking as possible.
    - We discussed Gen3 charging stations for destination charger supplied by Tesla and the fact that Open Charge Point protocol is not supported by Tesla. So it is better to not require that protocol for the Naperville EVSE incentive program.
    - Jeff recommended keeping the requirements as open as possible
    - Dan would like to know what we recommend for Naperville to better support EVSEs and EVs. Send your INCENTIVE suggestions to him at
    - Dan@knotter.com
  - Places on-line to buy EV batteries or partial packs
    - [batteryhookup.com](http://batteryhookup.com)
    - [bigbattery.com](http://bigbattery.com)
    - [Car-part.com](http://Car-part.com) for packs
  - Rob Schwartz's YouTube Channel - The Electralander Project
    - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2Jr2aqYMJkqm8Jpo5UR79g>
  - FB Group about EVs and towing - Electric cars that tow trailers (electric motorcycles too!)
    - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/180703822546772>
- Presentation:
  - Jeff provided an informative presentation Overview of All the Electric SUVs hitting the market and coming down the pike (get it?) including
  - Volvo XC40 and Nissan Ariya and many others. Thanks Jeff!!
- BREAK - 15 min
- Presentation:
  - Jeff presented a Summary on information learned about rooftop solar and RRTP (Residential Real Time Pricing from ComEd) and concluded:
  - If your Solar Panel array is way undersized, do RRTP
  - IF you sell more than you buy, do Fixed Rates as the fees will get covered by the credits faster.
- Nominations for Officers – in preparation for Elections in September
  - The following FVEAA members were nominated for the FVEAA leadership positions shown, and they accepted the nomination. We hold our annual election of 4 officers and 3 directors in September.
    - Jeff Miller – President
    - Ted Lowe - Treasurer
    - Bruce Jones – Secretary
    - Tracey McFadden - Director
- Daniel Maziarz, a newcomer to the group, expressed interest in the elections as well.
- He later described his unique home project, (or really his temporary home away from home project) conversion of a stainless steel greyhound bus including 15kW of Tesla batteries and flexible solar panels.

- **INVERTER** - Daniel is looking for expertise selecting an appropriate inverter for off-grid solar panels.
- He's been looking at grants, sought design information, done a lot of research even checking in with EV pioneer Jack Rickard (from EVTV, who unfortunately is seriously ill with cancer from what Daniel shared).
- Either reach Daniel at the following email address [Daniel.maziarz@gmail.com](mailto:Daniel.maziarz@gmail.com) Or better yet Daniel, start a conversation on the Forums under Member EV Projects: <https://www.fveaa.org/forums/>
- **IDEAS for Upcoming Meeting Presentations**
  - Everyone be on the lookout and start thinking of future presentations that the group would enjoy
  - Simon Gibson is thinking about providing
    - EV 101 training and/or
    - Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) centralized charging management
  - John Balk has some experience with EV charging station permits in Geneva
- **Elections are coming in September!**
- **Meeting adjourned around 9:20 p.m.**

**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

**FVEAA Business Members**

**Best Hybrid Batteries**

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)



Best Hybrid Batteries is a technology company dedicated to providing a flexible, lower-cost approach to defective or worn out hybrid car batteries. Founded by an engineer, a professor, and a long-time hybrid enthusiast, we are committed to using the latest technology to bring costs down and get you safely back on the road. Our solutions were developed through years of testing, and our employees undergo extensive safety training. We fully back all of our work with one of the strongest warranties in our industry

**EV Converters LLC**

Rolly Waller  
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Email: [rollywaller@gmail.com](mailto:rollywaller@gmail.com)



EVC will become a Franchisor (when the US government approves the conversion rebate) to appoint Franchisees (eg, service stations, oil change shops, transmission shops, independent mechanics, etc.) to convert Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles to electric vehicles (EV).