



August 2021 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 August 20, 2021
and will be both IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL**

Community Christian Church

1635 Emerson Lane
Naperville, IL 60540

[Google Map](#)

Please bring a mask in case it rains and we need to go indoors!

We are using the Zoom video-conferencing platform to hold this HYBRID 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 if you want to join remotely:

Topic: FVEAA July 2021 Monthly Meeting

Time: Fri July 16, 2021 6:45 PM CST (pre-meeting setup check), Meeting 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95901481473?pwd=U
npJVUJOUmVPOFZqR013ZFpPbzM0UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95901481473?pwd=U
npJVUJOUmVPOFZqR013ZFpPbzM0UT09)

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

Contact us if you need the password for audio only calls.

Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual Meeting Starts (to test connections)
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:30 Joe Franz on the VW ID.4
- 8:15 Break
- 8:30 Joe's video and QA about the Chicago auto show
- 9:00 Meeting Close

President's Words

Jeff Miller

First thing, add events to your calendar or diary!

I am excited to talk to people about EV's again. If you are too, then add the events below to your calendar so you don't forget.

PACE is buying EV Buses!

We did it!

“
Our efforts were successful. At the July 21, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting, Chairman Richard Kwasneski announced that Pace would not purchase any new diesel buses in 2021 or 2022. He said the Agency will onboard two electric paratransit vehicles this year, and they are exploring statewide partnerships to purchase additional electric paratransit vehicles and electric buses. Chairman Kwasneski announced that Pace would hire a Chief Mechanical Officer in the 2022 operating budget who will be responsible for planning fleet electrification and that the FY2022 capital budget will include robust spending on electrification. This is wonderful news for this Agency, which services more than 3,500 sq. miles and 250 communities in Northeastern Illinois.
“

Quoting an email from Peter Chung of the Sierra Club

July Meeting

Thanks to everyone who joined us in July and got to check out Marty's simple mod to his Bolt, and hopefully I didn't bore you with the tales of my trip home from California. I was really shocked about the low price of Tesla fast charging in Utah, Idaho, and Nevada. It was roughly the same price as charging at home here, which is rather exciting, and cheap compared to Electrify America.

August Meeting

August will be another hybrid meeting; however we might have to go inside if it rains. **Please bring a mask in case** we need to go indoors.

If you were at the last meeting and spoke to Joe Franz, then you have gotten a preview of this coming meeting as he is going to be formally presenting to our club both on his id.4 and a video recap of his time at the Chicago auto show recently. Bring your questions about long distance road trips in an id.4 because he has done it.

To improve the outdoor experience Tracey has arranged for a screen and projector so we will have a good

sized screen to watch the presentations and videos on this month. Thanks Tracey!

Recent Events

Thanks to Rich for running the event in Schaumburg, and Bob Baker for running the event in Cary. I had a good time at both of them and managed to avoid getting a sun burn in the sunny weather.

I am shopping for Solar

The lack of SRECs hasn't scared me off yet, but I have only just begun. I plan to do it this year but if that turns out to be impractical next year is good too. I am also likely to do some efficiency improvements along the way. By meeting time I will likely have several quotes.

I plan to do the AC side of the electrical myself, hopefully saving some money in the process. I might also run the DC side conduit from the basement to the attic so it can be inside the house instead of exposed on the surface making future siding changes a pain. This assumes I don't just get annoyed at the prices and decide to do it myself. If I do it myself I probably won't get SRECs from Illinois but I might be able to sell them in Pennsylvania on a year to year basis. If you are a solar installer and are interested in working with me, come to the meeting!

Articles I found interesting:

<https://electrek.co/2021/08/16/exclusive-gm-to-replace-all-battery-modules-in-some-bolts-to-avoid-chevy-bolt-fires/>

From the article "It's clear that the bulk of fires are in 2019 model year Bolts produced during October and November of 2018"

Well worth a read

<https://teslamotorsclub.com/tmc/threads/creaking-sound-from-left-front-suspension.222762/>

Researching suspension noise on the 3

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/08/the-porsche-taycan-4s-better-than-a-911-believe-it/>

<https://www.theverge.com/2021/7/26/22594235/toyota-lobbying-dc-ev-congress-biden-donation>

<https://jalopnik.com/mercedes-egxx-looks-like-the-engineering-exercise-to-pu-1847352765>

600 miles non stop, sounds awesome but expensive!

<https://jalopnik.com/testing-the-real-world-range-of-electric-cars-1847488396>

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/articles/cold-climate-air-source-heat-pumps-innovative-technology-stay-warm-winter>

I am looking to make my hvac system more efficient.

<https://chargedevs.com/newswire/kansas-city-pilot-project-installs-streetlight-mounted-chargers/>

*I do not directly hold any interest in any car manufacturer or any of their subsidiaries
(if a company is part of an index fund then I might own the index fund)*

Upcoming Events

Rich Hirschberg

Hello FVEAA Members and Friends,

We have many great opportunities to showcase our club, member-built vehicles, and member's OEM EVs.

Multiple Event in the Rockford area:

The Rockford Regional Planning Commission (RPC) is hosting 4 different NDEW-related events. They are wondering if anyone from our club can attend any or all of these events.

In-person events will feature electric vehicle test drives, charging station demos, local stakeholders discussing their role in electric vehicle adoption (related technology, equity and access), and a RMTD hybrid bus tour. Additionally, free ice cream will be available (while supplies last) amongst other food trucks, a bounce house, a craft table and live music.

RPC staff will be on site to engage with the community, showing an electric charging demo, vehicle tour and explaining upcoming Drive Electric Week events.

For more info, contact: Kara Harmet - Environmental Planner
127 N Wyman St., First Floor, Rockford, Illinois 61101
815-310-0115 --- kharmet@r1planning.org

1. Friday, Sept. 3rd

Downtown Rockford Event - City Market
330 to 830 pm

2. Saturday, Sept. 4th

Machesney Park Event - Machesney Crossing Shopping Center
1001 West Lane Rd., Machesney Park, IL 61115
10 am to 2 pm

3. Saturday, Sept. 11th

Rockford Event - Rockford Public Library (east Branch)
6685 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61108
10AM - 2PM

4. Sunday, Sept. 12th

Downtown Belvidere Event - Boone Cty Museum of History parking lot
314 S. State St., Belvidere, IL 61008
3 pm to 7 pm

Event 1

The Midwest Green Car Expo
(the FVEAA Northern National Drive Electric Week Event - NDEW)

Saturday, Sept. 25th, 10 am to 4 pm
240 N Grove Ave. (Old Library parking lot), Elgin, IL 60120

We are planning for the largest gathering of AFVs, EVs, and Hybrids in the Midwest. The expo will showcase all kinds of vehicles (2 wheels, 4 wheels and 6 wheels) powered by batteries, natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol, fuel cells, and human beings. We are inviting businesses, organizations, clubs, and individuals that support these various types of vehicles and infrastructures.

We have lots of cool things planned – "**National Drive Electric Week**" ride-n-drives, the **EAGL Awards**, educational talks, and incredible displays & vehicles. And we are partnering with the Chicago Area Clean

Cities Coalition (CACC) and the Elgin Area Convention & Visitors Bureau (EACVB) to increase our reach from Northern Illinois to Southern Wisconsin and Northwest Indiana.

For more info about the show, sponsorships, booth costs, and registrations, contact Expo Chairman Rich Hirschberg at MGCX@yahoo.com - web site: <https://TheMidwestGreenCarExpo.weebly.com>

For more info on National Drive Electric Week - <https://driveelectricweek.org/event.php?eventid=2647>

Event 2

The FVEAA Southern National Drive Electric Week Event

Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 10:30 am to 3 pm

The Fox Valley Mall

Near the Sears entrance

195 Fox Valley Center, Aurora, IL 60504

Featuring Ride-n-Drives, many different types of EVs, expert information, 'EV grins' and stories about "Life with an EV".

Check out <https://driveelectricweek.org>

For more info or questions, contact Chairmen Marty Belovicz or Bruce Jones

Photos of our Events in July

Bruce Jones



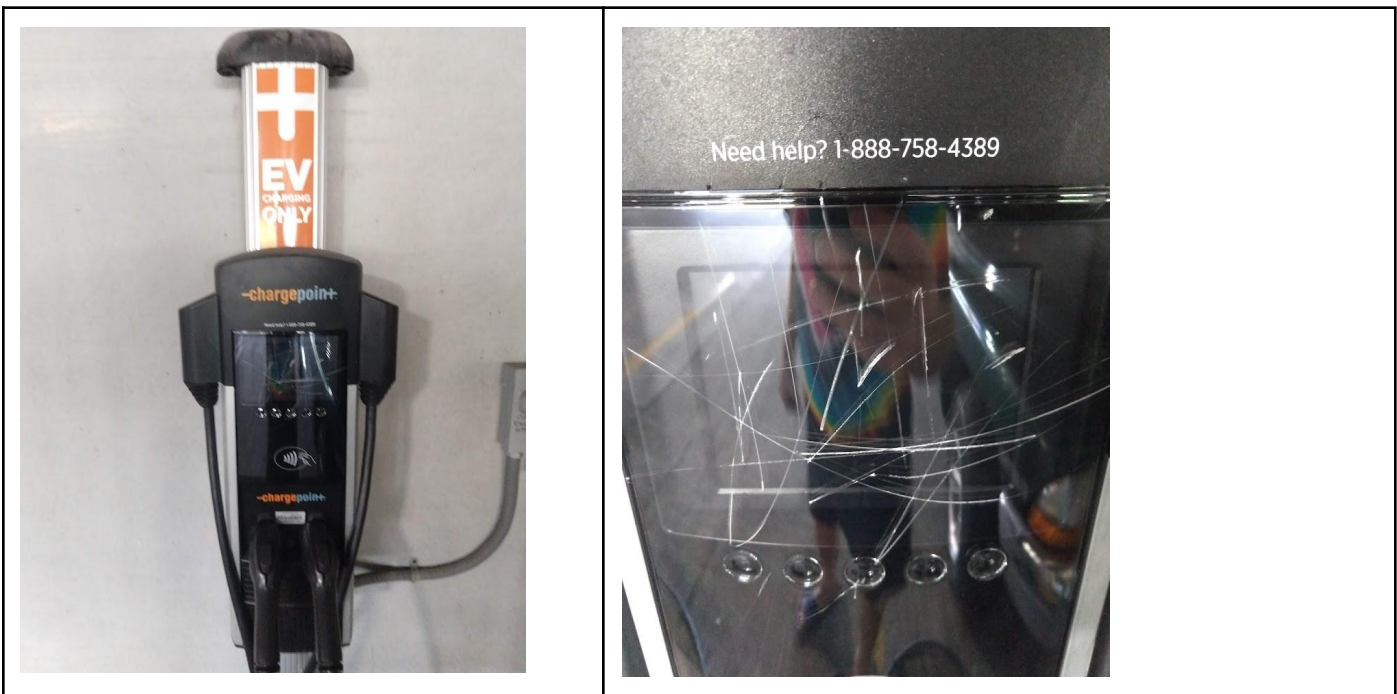


On Sunday July 18th, i drove my Lowe-range Dakota 15 miles from Wheaton to St Charles with my bike onboard. My plan was to charge in the St Charles downtown parking garage which has 2 free level-2 Chargepoint chargers. i was going to ride my bike along the beautiful Fox River trail down to Batavia to visit a friend while i was charging.

i did some previous research about the location and availability of the charging locations and felt confident in my plan. When i arrived, i couldn't find the chargers. Eventually i found them with the help of a local guy smoking a cigarette in the garage. He told me they were "on the 3rd or 4th floor of the garage, somewhere to the right". They were on the 4th floor to the left/middle :)



i discovered they were offline (no lights). They had been vandalized, not sure if that was recent or older. i tried to activate them anyway but got no familiar happy "click" sound.

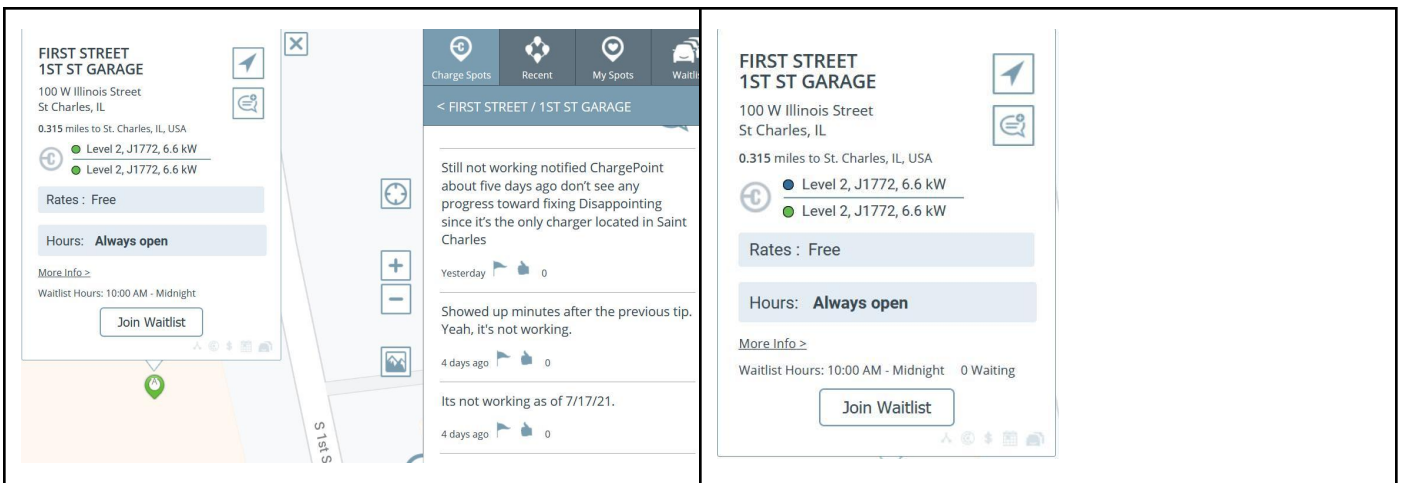


My phone was getting very poor cellular data in or near the garage, so using the various apps (Chargepoint and Plugshare) didn't work. i couldn't find real-time status or read recent comments. Murphy's Law felt palpable.

So i changed my plans and drove towards Batavia to use the Fox Valley Ice Arena chargers (that the FVEAA helped fund many Moons ago). i got a free full recharge while riding my bike with my friend and returned home fine later that day.



To follow up (the following Thurs am) i called Chargepoint "Driver Support" to check on the charger because some recent comments said the charger was still offline even after reporting the error to Chargepoint. Coincidentally, while i was on the phone, i saw the status of one of the two chargers as "in use", so being used by one person.



This is the most important part of this story and the workaround:

i learned from the Chargepoint agent that there are "multiple chargers across the country that show online status but are not usable by drivers". So there is a failure mode in the equipment where it thinks it's online but the User Interface (UI) doesn't work. In that case, a driver can call the support line (888-758-4389) and they can (possibly) activate the charging session remotely! Good to know if this ever happens again!

Final comments by the author:

In order for EVs to REALLY replace ICEs, **we need reliable rapid charging EVerywhere** (like at current gas stations - renamed to "re-energizing stations"). Nobody should have to or would hire an administrative assistant to take a 30 mile day trip with their bike. ;^} (wry smile)

And experiences like this are part of why i'm in the early stages of planning to buy a 200+ mile range OEM EV. i've enjoyed (and stressed) driving short-range conversions for 20 years now and i'm still patient & committed but also getting older and want more life experiences with less anxiety & frustration :)

Login to our FVEAA website and check it out! Ted Lowe

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



FVEAA Web Report as of 2021-08-18 04:58:10

Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	79
Users Never Logged In	32
% Active Users	59.5%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	297.5 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 112 members as of 6/15/21. 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>

The **Fox Valley Electric Auto Association** has a YouTube channel! Subscribe to us and check out our videos! We've had this channel for many years but we're going to start using it more to attract new members and promote EVs. Please let me know if you have some FVEAA-related videos to post.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg_Pgp6q-HEuMICWMO2akPw

Membership Update

We currently have **65 active paid-up** members. Many members have taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered by the new website! **Please renew & recruit new folks!!!**



FVEAA Membership Report
as of 2021-08-18 04:58:09

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	59	57
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	66	64

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	97.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	332.8 days
% With Email	95.5%

Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

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 August 18, 2021 9:04am



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!

Intro

- Jeffrey Miller, President, called the Outdoor and virtual meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
 - Initial welcome, Jeff had everyone introduce themselves at the outdoor CCC meeting and on-line
 - Welcome to Robin Dunlop who attended - all the way from Gurnee!
 - Bob Baker, long time member presented flyers on his Car Show coming up July 31st
-
- 7:40 Rich Hirschberg talked about the Summer Celebration Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show,
Saturday July 24, 10:00 – 4:00 p.m. (RAIN DATE: Saturday, July 31)
100 Barrington Rd, Schaumburg,

ENTRY FEE (donation): \$10.0 per show vehicle + non-perishable food donation + operation airlift items
<https://homedepotvehicleshow.weebly.com/>
-
- Car Show - Cary United Methodist Church Saturday, July 31,
500 First Street, Cary, IL 60013
9:30 - 10 Registration
10-1 Car viewing
1:15 Car Judging & awards
Bob Baker 847-525-5348
Free will donations will be accepted
-
- The Midwest Green Car Expo and NDEW Northern Event,
Saturday, September 25, 10:00-4:00 p.m.
240 N. Grove St, Elgin, (Old Library Parking Lot), o
<https://TheMidwestGreenCarExpo.weebly.com>
-
- The NDEW Southern National Drive Electric Week Event,
Saturday, October 2, from 10:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Fox Valley Mall (southeast parking area), Aurora,
<https://driveelectricweek.org>

Joe's ID4

- Tracey McFadden's friend Joe attended the meeting with his Volkswagen ID4.
- Joe gave a tour of the car and everyone gathered around and had a great time checking it out
- See Joe's UTUBE site for many videos on his EV trips and information:
<youtube.com/JKEV123>

Break

Article

- Jeff suggested checking out the July/Aug Car & Driver magazine that has a great article about a 1000 mile race of EVs
<https://www.caranddriver.com/features/a36877585/ev-1000-11-electric-cars-long-distance-race/>

Jeff's Journeys

- **Jeff Miller our adventurous president described his travels with son Sam to California to purchase a Model 3 and their scenic drive back to Illinois - over 4000 miles**
- **The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 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

EV Converters LLC

Rolly Waller
130 Windsor Park Dr, C121
Carol Stream, IL 60188
Cell: 630-865-5744
Email: 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).