

Directions: From the Boughton & Weber Rd intersection, go south 0.5mi (past all the malls) and turn right (west) on Clow Intl. Pkwy. Park in the lot next to Charlie's Restaurant. The meeting is in the Packer Wings hangar (second hangar north from the parking lot). Enter the hangar from the side door on the south side.

**Meeting: Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Doors open at 7:00PM**  
**Meeting starts at 7:30PM**  
**Clow International Airport**  
**130 S Clow Intl. Pkwy, Bolingbrook, IL 60440**

**Fox Valley Electric Auto Association**  
PO Box 214  
Wheaton, IL 60189-0214

<p><b>FVEAA NEWSLETTER</b> <b>Fox Valley Electric Auto Association</b> A Not-For-Profit IL Corporation &amp; Chapter of the Electric Auto Association (eaaev.org)</p>	
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December, 2006

**Meeting Agenda**

*Ted Lowe*

Call to Order and Introductions

Approval of Minutes

Treasurer's Report – Dale Corel

Old Business

- ➔ Last call for 2007 Renewals (NAG NAG)
- ➔ Online ordering of business cards, FVEAA shirts and badges
- ➔ EAA flyers ordered

New Business

- ➔ Charging Infrastructure updates
- ➔ 6th EVer woes?
- ➔ New club project opportunity

Members Show and Tell

- ➔ Five minutes to anyone to talk about their EV projects or other EV-related issues

## Intermission - Refreshments, Networking, and Membership Renewals!

### Programs

- Ted Lowe - Effective Emailing and New FVEAA Website Forums - Ted will present information on effective email techniques and how to use our new FVEAA Forums.
- Todd Dore - Prius Plug-In Hybrid Experiences and Demonstration - Todd will present his experiences driving his PHEV Prius for the last month and will have his car at the meeting for closer inspection.
- Ed Meyer – The Latest on the New Ed Meyer Charger - Ed will continue the discussion on effective battery charging and give us any updates on his new charger.

### President's Words

*Ted Lowe*

Happy Holidays Everyone Everywhere! We have much to be happy for... Good friends, ample (too much :-) food, warmth from the cold, etc.! But more specifically in the FVEAA and EV marketplace in general, things are looking up. 2007 promises to be a time of great progress for the FVEAA with our Charging Infrastructure project picking up steam, the production of an 'EV Promotion Video', many new members buying or building an EV, and numerous fun outreach Events in the planning stages. Electric transportation (and PHEV's) seems to be in news more and more often, and rightfully so. How can we reduce our contribution to global warming, decrease our dependence on foreign fossil fuels and clean up the environment all at the same time? Dump the Pump! Drive Electric! The FVEAA has been practicing this and preaching this mantra for over 30 years! So this HAPPY FVEAAer wishes you all Happy Holidays!



### Meeting Minutes

*Ted Lowe*

**Minutes for FVEAA meeting November 17, 2006 at Clow Airport in Bolingbrook.**

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Lowe approximately on time and started with 'sounds you won't hear here' (rev'ing engines, cranking and not starting engines, etc.) We proceeded with introductions of members and a good number of guests. The October minutes were approved. No treasurer report was given in Dale's absence. Ted announced that business portion of future meetings will follow a different, more standard format, namely dividing all business discussed into Old Business and New Business. This will allow members to give updates on existing projects and also bring up new ideas and issues for consideration.



**Old business:** A motion was passed to send the Catlow Theatre a token of our appreciation for hosting our Event at their "Who Killed the Electric Car" film showing. Treasurer Dale will send a brief thank you note with a \$25 check to the Catlow owner. A motion was passed to honor former

president Kevin Zak with a lifetime FVEAA membership.

**New business:** Ray DeBoth announced that his son Jim has ordered a Tesla Roadster! We then held the 2007 elections (see separate article). At a future meeting, Jim will present pictures and stories of his visit to Tesla Motors in CA and his test ride in the Roadster. A motion was passed to form a new 'EV Promotion Video' project committee. Committee chair will be Ted Karson (in absentia) and initial committee members are Tim Moore and Peter Hartel (both in absentia), Rich Hirschberg and Ted Lowe. A new forum section will be created to track the status of this project. Ted Lowe then discussed new and improved website features, with the most significant being the new Membership Database he implemented. This feature will greatly reduce the overhead required to track our membership, process new members and renewals, and also empower many new member-only website features (like Forums coming by December).

During intermission, George Gladic sold tickets to this month's raffle and Ted Lowe collected renewals and new memberships. We were also pleasantly surprised by the attendance of a new couple that drove their Toyota Rav 4 EV to show off! We enjoyed a mini-tour of their EV under the limited outdoor light. After intermission, we held the raffle (see separate web article) which raised \$22 for the FVEAA. Thanks go out to The Soap Shoppe in Oregon, IL [www.oregonsoapshoppe.com](http://www.oregonsoapshoppe.com) for donating their fine products!

The program portion of the meeting included Ted Lowe's presentation on Battery Watering Techniques and Todd Dore's and John Emde's presentation on their installation of the Manzanita Micro Plug-In Hybrid Kit into Todd's Prius. The meeting was adjourned about 11pm.

## Newsletter Editor

*Rich Carroll*

This has been a month of much excitement on many fronts. Several EV's that have been in the club for years have moved to new hands. Steve Grushas sold his EV, and now has a new Commutacar and plans for a Citicar in the future. The yellow Escort that was Steve's has stayed in the club, now in Ted Sanders capable hands. Paul Harris' Mazda is still reportedly for sale. Todd Dore, as you heard at the last meeting has added a multi-thousand-dollar plug to his Prius, making it the first Plug In Hybrid known in our area. With new members in the last few months, dues renewals, and changes in



cars, unfortunately our Web server crashed earlier this month. Fortunately, we have Ted Lowe at the controls of the web pages, but he had to burn lots of the midnight LED's this month (you didn't expect him to burn midnight oil, did you) to get web pages and email back to normalcy. OK, perhaps not much can be said for normalcy in the life of an EV'er, but we do make efforts to look that way. The forums and the shirts/namebadges web programming took a lower precedence in this reconstruction, so bear with those not being implemented yet. Thanks Ted, that was a lot of extra effort to make that look seamless, and it is appreciated.

## FVEAA Election Results

*Ted Lowe*

We held our annual elections at the November meeting. Our current President (Ted Lowe), VP (Todd Dore) and Treasurer (Dale Corel) ran unopposed and were reelected. Thanks Ted, Todd

and Dale for your continuing service!!!

Current Secretary Tim Moore chose not to run for another term. THANKS TIM for your great service all these years!!! Our newsletter editor Rich Carroll stepped up to serve as Secretary. Thanks and welcome to the Board of Directors Rich!!!

We had some friendly competition for the three Director positions. These five members were nominated : John Emde, Rich Hirschberg, George Gladic, Stephen Grushas (in absentia) and Ed Meyer (in absentia). All the members present voted for up to three directors with these results: John Emde - 17 votes, George Gladic -12 votes, Rich Hirschberg and Ed Meyer - 11 votes each and Stephen Grushas - 5 votes. The membership decided to give the nod to Rich Hirschberg because he was present. Congrats to all that ran and thanks for your service! In summary, the About Us page on our website will be updated as follows:

2007 Officers and Directors  
Ted Lowe, President  
Todd Dore, VP  
Rich Carroll, Secretary  
Dale Corel, Treasurer  
John Emde, Director  
Rich Hirschberg, Director  
George Gladic, Director

### Illinois' First Public Avcon Charging Station To Be Online In Less Than A Month

*Ted Lowe*

About a week ago, I received a call from an architect firm that is completing the construction of a library in Chicago (more details coming soon). They had applied for LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) (see <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>) for their building but fell a few credits short due to some misunderstandings of the exact requirements for some credits.

One of the credits that was denied was for the installation of an EV recharging station. They had installed an outdoor 20A 120V outlet near a dedicated parking spot, but were later told that they needed to go the Avcon route. So, long story short, the FVEAA will provide the Avcon Power Pak (actually, will reimburse them for it's purchase) and we will send out a joint press-release (and perhaps hold a joint-press conference) in the future. This single credit will push the library building over the required threshold for LEED certification (a HUGE result for the architecture firm) and is obviously a win-win for us as well (both public exposure and charging infrastructure to use). Stay tuned for more details.

### Infrastructure Charging Project Update

*Ted Lowe*

I contacted the EAA Board and verified that they have setup a special fund for us to use to collect tax-deductible donations as part of our Charging Infrastructure Project fund-raising campaign ( to be launched in 2007). Thanks go out to Todd Martin for arranging this special fund! I contacted Tom Dowling (<http://www.evchargernews.com>) to alert him that we will soon be submitting

Illinois charging stations for the first time! He said "bring it on." (paraphrased)

Finally, Tom Dowling has requested to the EAA Board that the EAA treasury set up a one-for-one matching program for charging infrastructure Special Funds as they have done several times in the past. I have not heard back on his request yet.

If you, or any individual, company or organization you know, wants to make a tax-deductible donation for 2006, please consider this worthy local cause! Our fund is Special Fund 2006-020 and details are here: <http://eaaev.org/eaadonationsfundlist.html>. Thanks!

## EV Discussion List

*A resource*

Are you looking for technical help on an EV project? If so, tap into an incredible resource on the Internet, the EVDL! This is a mailing list of EV experts and enthusiasts from all the world that pose questions and share answers on EV technical issues. It is a very active list, so setup an email filter to sort your email to a separate mailbox. More info at: [www.madkatz.com/ev/evlist.html](http://www.madkatz.com/ev/evlist.html)

## Final Chance To Renew Your 2007 FVEAA Memberships - Nag Nag Nag

*Ted Lowe*

If you have already renewed, thanks and you get to ignore the rest of this article :-)  
69 of our 105 members have renewed for 2007, leaving the following 36 of you:

Bil Becker	Adam Berlinger	John Berton	Brad Bueschel
Doug Butchart	Kris Campbell	Daniel Casey	Steve Chambers
Dale Corel	Jac Cornet	Ed Doerr	William Forde
Howard Hansen	Paul Harris	Peter Hartel	Jerry Herrick
Rich Hirschberg	Neil Huffman	George Kase	Michael Kroppe
Andy Lencioni	Ray Lesnik	Todd Martin	Richard Miller
Tim Moore	Ray Oviyach	Nat Pozorski	Richard Przybranowski
Rose Reddick	Andy Schaeffer	Louis Schuneman	Roma Stewart
Pat Stockbridge	Jeff Teppema	Laddie J. Vitek Sr	Dan Wierzbowski

There are now 3 ways to renew:

- Attend the December meeting to pay in person
- Snail mail your checks made out to "FVEAA", to FVEAA, PO Box 214, Wheaton, IL 60189-0214
- Skip the "Envelope, Stamp, Mailbox thing" by using our easy new **Renew and Pay** page: [www.fveaa.org/renew](http://www.fveaa.org/renew)

You can pay by credit card and be instantly renewed and not have to endure anymore NAGGING!

## Welcome New FVEAAers

*Ted Lowe*

Join me in extending a warm welcome to new FVEAAers:

John Bannes from Lemont  
John Downing from Sandwich

Paul & Gail Becke from Hoffman Estates

Welcome aboard folks! We hope to see you at meetings and other EVents! Let us know if we can be of help in your EV pursuits!

## EV's in the News

*Rich Carroll*

### **Nissan**

Nissan Motor Co. has announced plans for subcompact electric cars powered by lithium-ion batteries. Nissan seems to be determined to produce the batteries themselves, and have the vehicles on the market within three years. Nissan also announced that they would build gas-electric hybrid cars by 2010.

In trying to appeal to all segments of the “green” market, they will expand their development of diesel cars in co-operation with its French partner Renault SA. Nissan will also work with Renault towards the development of bioethanol cars.

### **TH!NK**

Ford has apparently resurrected the TH!NK, which is/was an electric city car project. You may remember that this was almost brought to fruition a couple of years ago, but succumbed to corporate cost-cutting. A newer design will increase usability. These are being developed in Norway, a cold twist for electric auto development. The new design is a two seater with a thermoplastic body which is impervious to rust and dents. More interesting than the new styling is the increased range, with Ford officials aiming at 80 miles between recharges instead of 50 miles (as the first generation TH!NKs showed.) Standard equipment includes anti-lock brakes, power steering, electric windows, and mirrors and central locking. Here is a red and a yellow supposedly pictured in the midnight sun.





## Tesla

Where is the financing coming from for the Tesla? Much of the sixty million raised so far has come from Elon Musk, one of the founders of the eBay auction site. Tesla is based in San Carlos, in the heart of Silicon Valley. Other major investors in Tesla include Larry Page and Sergey Brin, the founders of Google. Early purchasers include Michael Dell, of Dell Computers.

Tesla has released some details of its future plans, after the Lotus bodied Tesla Roadster goes into production in 2007. The roadster has an aluminum structure, and features a mostly stock, but stretched Lotus body. The sedan will have a steel structure, and the reported benchmark for size and performance is the BMW 5 series. The sedan is planned to have a motor mounted in the front, with rear drive wheels. Reportedly the batteries are also up front.

Tesla's projections note that new battery technology means it will be able to sell two variations of the car in the Britain. A £30,000 car will offer similar output to the 185kW Roadster with a 200 mile range, and will be an entry level model. Also proposed is a £40,000 luxury version with more powerful batteries and a 300 mile range.

Tesla also appears to be considering licensing the battery technology to other firms looking to develop their own EV's. This may diminish their research and development costs. Tesla does report that their 7,000 Li-ion cell pack now gets the UN-approved label that's been slapped on the 56 kWh, 366V Li-ion pack. Safety features of the Tesla pack include both active and passive systems to prevent thermal escalation (fires); its proprietary "redundant active / passive safety features" help prevent propagation of a "thermal runaway event" or fire.

## EDTA is not just a preservative

The Electric Drive Transportation Association conference was held in Washington, D.C. in late November. Some conference attendees were able to drive a fuel cell vehicle, or a Canadian built ZENN, or a GEM from the US. Fuel cell vehicles from Toyota, GM, Hyundai and Honda, were each present and are pictured below. The ZENN and GEM showed lower speed vehicles, designed for urban areas. The only plug in hybrid was Electro Energy's prototype. Several electric cars like the eBox, the Tesla Roadster, the Wrightspeed, and the Phoenix sport utility truck were also present. Miles Motors had their electric car on exhibit, but not available for drives.



This is the newest generation of the Toyota FCHV hydrogen fuel cell vehicle. The FCHV performs comparable to the 4-cylinder gasoline Highlander model on which it is based, but gets between 40-60

miles per kilogram of hydrogen, giving the vehicle a range of about 200 miles.



France is where the ZENN microcar is manufactured, although these were imported into Canada as engine-less "gliders." They are built as EV's in Canada, powered by conventional lead batteries, but the company plans to install the EESstor "super-battery" when it becomes available. A five hundred pound EESstor power pack will give the car 100 miles+ range. The EESstor power pack is still somewhat mysterious, although a detailed announcement is promised soon.



Hyundai showed their FVEC hydrogen fuel cell vehicle, and mentioned a Kia version as well. It was exhibited, but not available for testing.





From General Motor's came the Hydrogen3 fuel cell car, It is based on the Opel Zafira from GM Europe. Testing showed a car that was well refined and nicely responsive.

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This Honda FCX fuel cell sedan was based on the original EV-Plus electric car. It is the first fuel cell car to be leased to a consumer in California. Future plans for the FCX have a sleeker, more dramatic style, and supposedly, and improved performance.

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