

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association
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July 2011 FVEAA Newsletter

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

Next Meeting

**Friday, July 15th, 2011 - 7:00PM (doors open at 6:30PM) at
Packer Engineering, 1976 N Washington St, Naperville, IL 60563**

Packer Engineering is on the East side of Washington St, just North of the I-88 Tollway (North of Diehl, South of Warrenville Rd). Turn off of Washington onto Bighorn at the Packer Engineering sign, then take the first right into Packer Engineering and then an immediate left. Park in the lot between the buildings. 1976 is the new building up the hill. Enter the building in the middle of the North side.

Agenda

- Call To Order
- Old Business
- Committee Reports
- New Business
- Before Intermission Program: John Emde discusses 'pots'
- Intermission: Refreshments, Networking and EV Viewing.
- Program: 350Green will discuss the Chicago EV Consortium and further stages of the buildout of charging stations in the Chicago metro area.

John Emde has promised that, as available, he will try to add to our meetings by giving a short discussion of a particular component of EV's. Many EV's use a potentiometer, called a pot or a pot box to signal how far the accelerator pedal is pressed. Many controllers, including the venerable Curtis, use a 0 to 5 K pot box for this input. John will tell us what a 0-5K pot means, what resistance it should measure at certain pedal openings, and how smoothly it should show differing resistances. Lately, we have found several EV's with a rather sudden onset when the accelerator pedal is slowly pushed, and John will explain why that might be happening to you.

A new bill has been introduced into the US House of Representatives by Judy Biggert, R-13th Dist, Hinsdale, IL. HR 1685 is a comprehensive bill to establish EV deployment areas, either in municipal groups or in corridors. The stated objective of the bill is "To establish programs to accelerate, provide incentives for, and examine the challenges and opportunities associated with the deployment of electric drive vehicles, and for other purposes."

Next the bill is referred to several committees for comment, then back to the US House for a vote.

The bill has been referred to the following committees:

[House Energy and Commerce](#)

[House Transportation and Infrastructure](#)

[House Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit](#)

[House Oversight and Government Reform](#)

[House Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and Procurement Reform](#)

[House Ways and Means](#)

[House Budget](#)

It may have significant wording changes from the input of other committees and other Representatives.

There is a lot of interesting things in this bill, and the strong possibility is that some amendment(s) will add some additional positive or negative features. Please keep posted on this bill, as it is quite likely to affect the EV community significantly.

You can find the current status of the bill at anytime at:

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h112-1685>

You may read the full text of the bill at:

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h112-1685>

Essentially, this is a bill to facilitate and fund rapid, near-term deployment of electric vehicles in established deployment communities. These deployment areas must demonstrate consumer benefit, with a minimum of "\$2,000 in benefits to each of the first 50,000 consumers who reside in the deployment community who purchase electric drive vehicles." Phase one will have ten deployment communities in the USA.

- Other parts of the bill offer:

- Tax credits for various refueling (charging) options
- Establishment of electric vehicle refueling (charging) property bonds
- money for infrastructure planning
- Loans for electric drive component manufacturing
- Loan guarantees for advanced battery purchases, including those used for stationary purposes

This is a little unusual in that the bill is sponsored by a Republican: [Rep. Judy Biggert \[R-IL13\]](#)

but Rep. Biggert's cosponsors are all Democrats. They are:

[Ted Deutch \[D-FL19\]](#)

[Anna Eshoo \[D-CA14\]](#)

[Edward Markey \[D-MA7\]](#)

[Jerry McNerney \[D-CA11\]](#)

As Charles Dudley Warner said, "Politics makes strange bedfellows."

I was able to finally connect with Tim Mason, President of 350Green. Tim and Mariana Gerzanych, CEO of 350Green are hoping to be in Chicago next Friday to meet with the new Commissioner (Rich Rodriguez) and First Deputy Commissioner (Karen Weigert) of the Environment for Chicago. Tim will send a list of sites that 350Green is working on, and if we don't get it into this newsletter, we will have it at the meeting, and likely posted to our forums.

Rich Rodriguez, the newly appointed Chicago Commissioner of the Environment, was the former President of the CTA. Weigert is coming to the Department of the Environment from her position as senior vice president of Urban Partnership Bank, a community development organization. Hopefully, this will be a productive trip for Tim and Mariana.

Meeting Minutes - June 2011

Bruce Jones

The meeting started promptly at 7:00 p.m. and everyone who was there early introduced themselves. Tonight we have six electric vehicles to view at the break.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OUTREACH - Rich Hirschberg mentioned several cruise nights are listed on the forums, including Eco Fair 360 festival in Walworth county July 8 – 10, the Midwest Renewable Energy Association in Custer Wisconsin this weekend. And in July, the Hybrid fest at the Madison fairgrounds.

NEWSLETTER – Keith Baubkus had no news.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – George was not present to report.

PROGRAM – Bruce Jones had no news.

TREASURER – Todd Dore said the FVEAA has plenty of money in treasury and then gave a report on the GREEN FEST May 14 – 15 cost around \$3300 and was within budget. There

were two other seminars going on at McCormick Place and the Green fest was better attended. We had a very well constructed booth, which was well attended, and Todd Dore did an excellent job managing the entire project.

BATTERY SURVEY

Rich Carroll surveyed the audience on the batteries used in their EVs and approximate miles they provide. He received a wide variety of answers, with members noting mileage was reduced quite a bit in the Winter

NEW BUSINESS

PIKE'S PEAK EV

June pike's peak race had an electric car attempt the course last year and had a record run. The electric car took only 14 minutes which was an excellent showing for an EV.

SIERRA CLUB

Ted Lowe mentioned that the Sierra club with a million members is starting an EV campaign, and for outreach they want the FVEAA to be a partner.

STRANGE STORY

Rich mentioned the Chicago Electric Vehicle Consortium was originally charged with helping plan the rollout of charging stations in Chicago as part of the \$14.99M grant. The first part of the rollout included \$1.1M plus \$.9M matched by the state of Illinois rollout in new charging stations. The rollout includes 207 level 2 chargers plus 73 high speed DC quick charging stations. 350Green, the company won the bid by providing \$2M of services plus \$6.8 of additional stations. Ten percent of the chargers were to be installed by December and 30% by March. It appears 350Green has not achieved the goals or answered questions however. Rich then described a recent meeting of the National Battery Alliance where, after the end of the meeting, executives of 350Green entered and were instantly surrounded by venture capitalists and others with many questions.

Rich also fielded many questions about the situation and stated that, unfortunately Chicago's commissioner of the environment and 1st deputy commissioner were not retained by the new City administration, even though it appeared they had been doing a good job. Rich also mentioned the CEVC had served its purpose and the City is now using an industrial municipal consultant Roland Burger with Antonio Benici to help with the rollout.

PLUGS

Two 25' cables were shown with J-1772 plugs, but the FVEAA has not made any decision on where to install them.

BREAK

Six Electric Vehicles were on display.

8:45 p.m. DOOR PRIZES

Door prizes included NetGain pens, two NetGain shirts and other goodies.

TWO SHORT PRESENTATIONS

TAXES AND EVS

Rich gave an excellent presentation addressing questions such as, "Taxes – What should EVs Pay?" See file "June FVEAA Program 2011-06-17.ppt" which includes detailed breakdowns of gasoline costs, taxes and the Highway Trust Fund, Federal Taxes, and associated State Taxes.

2008 FORD RANGER CONVERSION

Then Vivek Mohan, an intern at SAIC in Lisle, and student at ISU, described his Ford Ranger EV conversion and talked about some of the lessons he and his father learned with the batteries, controller and lacking a battery management system. The truck is currently in Texas, and has not been used much as Vivek's father Ram travels quite a bit. He is looking to sell it. Those interested should contact Ram directly. Members can view the presentation in the FVEAA file bank at

http://www.fveaa.org/fb/2008_Ford_Ranger_EV_Conversion_2011-06-17_295.ppt

SPECS:

Vehicle: 2008 Ford Ranger Single Cab Truck

Motor: NetGain Warp-9 DC motor with .875" CE Shaft

9"diameter, Double ended shaft, series wound DC motor

Drivetrain: Original 4 speed trans axle with electric motor in place of engine

Controller: Curtis NG

Batteries: 20 AGM 12v batteries

System Voltage: 240 Volts

Charger: Zivan NG3

High frequency Battery Charger

Single-phase 230/115 VAC

Converted: At Predator Performance, DuBois, PA www.predator-performance.com

Membership Form

Ted Lowe

FVEAA Membership Application Form

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 ? _____

Member Types and Annual Dues (Please circle one)		Newsletter Delivery Types (Please circle one)	
Individual	\$15	No Newsletter	\$0
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Business	\$100	Postal Mailed	\$15
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Charter Business	\$500		
Total Due from Both Columns:			

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

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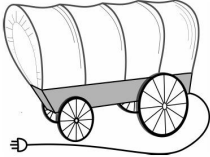
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