



April 2014 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

April 18, 2014

Community Christian Church

1635 Emerson Lane, Naperville, Illinois 60540

is at the intersection of Ogden and Rickert Drive in Naperville.

Also called the "Yellow Box." We'll meet in the little theater on the west side, 1st floor.

Map: [Community Christian Church](#)

DOORS OPEN 6:30 p.m. MEETING STARTS 7:00 p.m. ENDS 9:15 p.m.

Agenda

- 6:30 Doors Open
- 7:00 Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions
- Committee Reports
- Old Business / New Business
- Presentation: Bruce Jones - State of the States
- Presentation: Mike Willuweit - Lithiumizing the Porsche Club Car
- Break
- Discussion: Ted Lowe - Dodge Dakota Quad Cab Club Car Project
- 9:15 Close

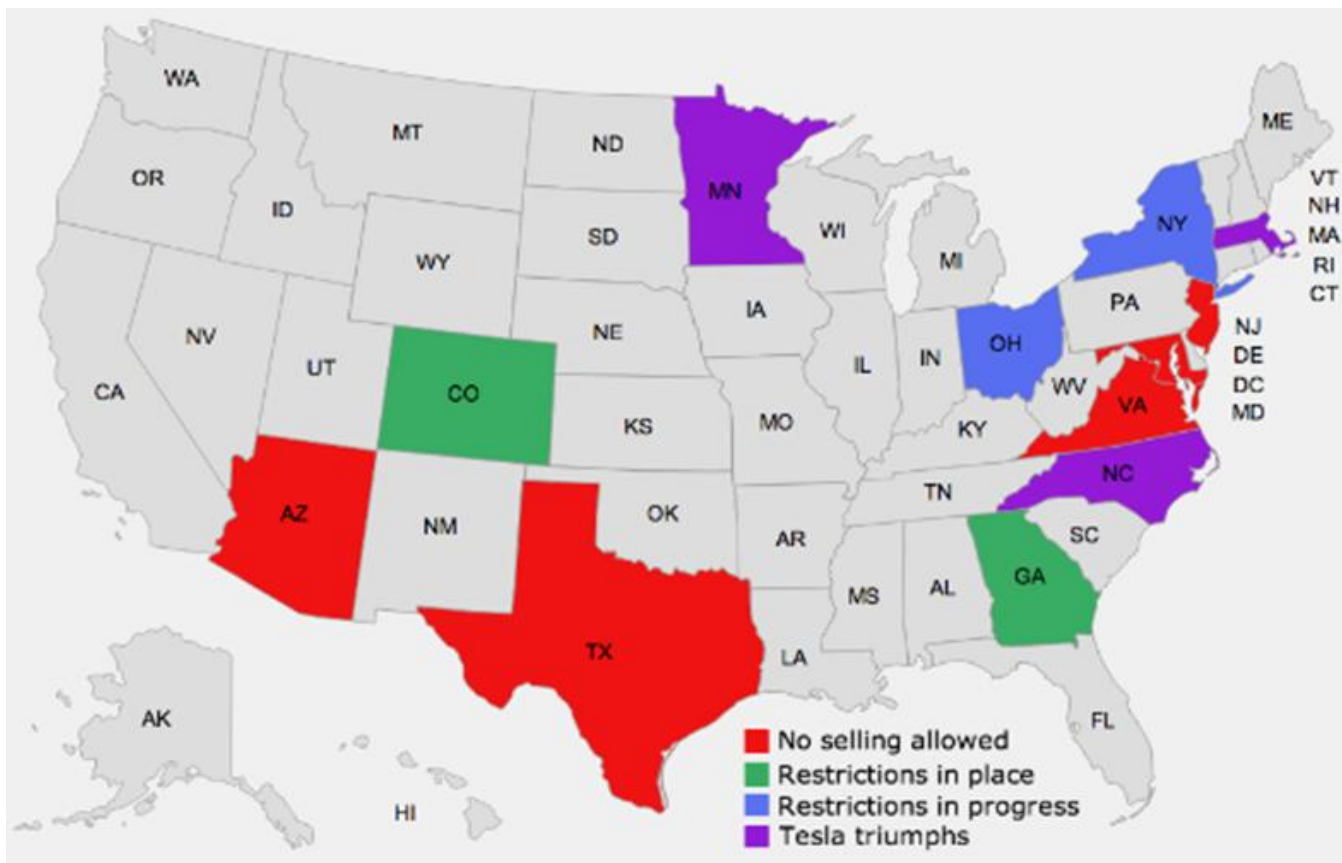
President's Words

Bruce Jones

Hi EVeryone,

Last month we had two excellent presentations, one by Brian Levin Director Strategic Accounts at ChargePoint on full featured electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and the other by our own Ted Lowe on a 2000 Dodge Dakota Quad-Cab electric conversion. There is a large group of members with keen interest in conversions, and another group interested in the ever-expanding list of commercially available electric cars, so we try to provide a good balance of presentations and projects for both kinds of members.

Tesla is certainly a company that has shown leadership over the years in electric vehicles and they have broken many barriers holding back the technology and sales of EVs. Even from a sales standpoint they do it differently than other car manufacturers, and by selling their cars directly to consumers without the dealer markup, it has caused major disruption in the market place. Auto dealer organizations of course are fighting Tesla tooth and nail in many states. So where do we stand? Here's information gleaned from a great Forbes article



<http://www.forbes.com/sites/markrogowsky/2014/03/15/after-the-new-jersey-ban-heres-where-tesla-can-and-cannot-sell-its-cars/>

STATE of the STATES -regarding selling cars (TESLA's) without "Dealers"

- **FIVE STATES THAT BAN SELLING CARS DIRECTLY TO CONSUMERS WITHOUT DEALERS**
- NJ, MD, VA, TX, AZ – Population 57M
 - have bans on selling cars directly
 - Tesla has showrooms in these states but is unable to actually sell its cars
 - Tesla staff can't tell potential buyers how much cars cost or help them buy one
 - But Tesla's cars are available for purchase on the company's website
 - In Maryland, customers can test-drive a Tesla, but can't buy one there.
- **2 STATES - SIGNIFICANT RESTRICTIONS**
- CO and GA – Population 15M
 - have significant restrictions
 - Colorado: Tesla has one store, outside of Denver. Under a law passed after the one store's opening, Tesla cannot open any more stores in Colorado.
 - Georgia – only 150 Tesla's can be sold. A pending bill would raise number to 1,500, but Tesla owners would not receive the state's \$5,000 rebate for an EV.
- **2 STATES – PENDING LEGISLATION**
- NY and OH – Population 31M
 - New York: Aides to Democratic Governor Andrew Cuomo promised auto dealers that he'll sign legislation working its way through the state legislature, banning direct car/ Tesla sales
 - Ohio: Last December, state auto dealers tried to get legislators to sneak a Tesla ban through on an unrelated bill. They failed. The bill is back this year, in cleaner form. If passed, it will limit Tesla to the two dealerships it currently has in Ohio

- 3 STATES WITH TESLA WINS
- Massachusetts
 - Tesla won a lawsuit brought by auto dealers there challenging its license for a dealership in Natick, a Boston suburb. The dealers lacked standing under the law, according to the court.
- Minnesota
 - A bill to stop Tesla died in the state legislature. Auto dealers gave up the fight last March, though suggested they could start fighting again someday.
- North Carolina
 - In June, a similar bill to Minnesota's died in North Carolina's statehouses.

RESTRICTED - BUT BUILDING DEMAND

In my mind the opposition to Tesla may backfire on the auto dealers in the long term. Some states like Connecticut are *incenting* their auto dealers with rewards to sell electric vehicles! So millions of people in restricted areas like NY or NY just have to travel over the border to Connecticut to make their purchase at a Tesla store. And drivers may also purchase Tesla's on-line.

In many instances where a sought-after product was limited in supply or restricted initially, people went out of their way to make a purchase. (I think of Coors beer when it first came out and was only available in Colorado). Limited introductions can help the company size up the marketplace and also cause positive feelings in consumers who are able to purchase something that is not easy to obtain.

History has also shown that Elon Musk has overcome skepticism, criticism and obstacles multiple times to show the critics wrong in a big way. We're all hoping he can continue the winning streak as a disruptive force in the car market.

THIS MONTH

This month we'll be tackling the car conversion topic and Ted Lowe will be handling much of the meeting. We offer our condolences to Vice President Rich Hirschberg who is dealing with the passing of his mother in Arizona, and I am still working through the loss of both parents one day at a time. So we thank the members for all their prayers and support during these last few months., and especially Ted and those who are picking up the ball and running with it so nicely.

See you Friday
Bruce

FVEAA is on Facebook - Like Us!

Grant Gerke

<https://www.facebook.com/FoxValleyElectricAutoAssociation>

facebook

Email or Phone Password

Keep me logged in [Forgot your password?](#)

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association is on Facebook.

To connect with Fox Valley Electric Auto Association, sign up for Facebook today.



Fox Valley Electric Auto Association
 ★★★★★ (6 ratings)
 104 likes · 13 talking about this

Automotive
 We are the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association (FVEAA). We are the northern Ill. chapter of the Electric Auto



104

This Month's Presenters

Bruce Jones - PEV Update, State of the States

Mike Willuweit - Porsche 944 Club Car

Ted Lowe - Dodge Dakota Conversion

Rich's Ramblings

Rich Carroll

For several years, I was among the enthusiasts looking for the ideal gasoline car to convert. Ideal candidates had a good efficiency to start with, a suspension that could carry a battery pack (lithium, NiMH, or lead), space for a somewhat rectangular shaped pack, and room for electronics. When the business was good, we looked at sedans from Geo Metros to BMW M3's, and lots in between. Most of the time, finding a decent car that wasn't completely used up, but had a bad gasoline engine, was likely to cost 2,000 to \$3,000 at a minimum. Usually you needed to have a small contingency fund to repair brakes, or whatever else went along with the particular used car you were considering.

Things have changed. There are a series of Coda cars that appear on eBay with some regularity. These are new, never titled 2013 vehicles, that come with a Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin, exactly the same documentation that comes with every new car to get a title and plates in every state. The one in particular that I looked at (<http://r.ebay.com/NsKiL7>) has no motor, no trans, no battery pack, and is also missing several other components. You will need to source some form of a transmission, although the extras from Azure dynamics would work well. You could use a Subaru or Nissan differential from one of their cars with independent rear suspension without great difficulty. All the other pieces you could easily source from any EV builder (Build EV naturally comes to mind, but you have several choices.)

Rather than end up with a conversion that already has lots of miles on it, you end up with a new car. These cars are available as 'rollers' (no drive train, battery pack or other components) or as 'gliders' (has a drive train, but no batteries, no BMS.) When these cars were built (about 2012 or 2013) they met all federal regulations for

safety items, and had list prices of around \$40,000. (Of course, you could get a \$7,500 federal tax credit if you bought a complete Coda, new) You can purchase the 'rollers' for somewhat less than \$3,000 today.

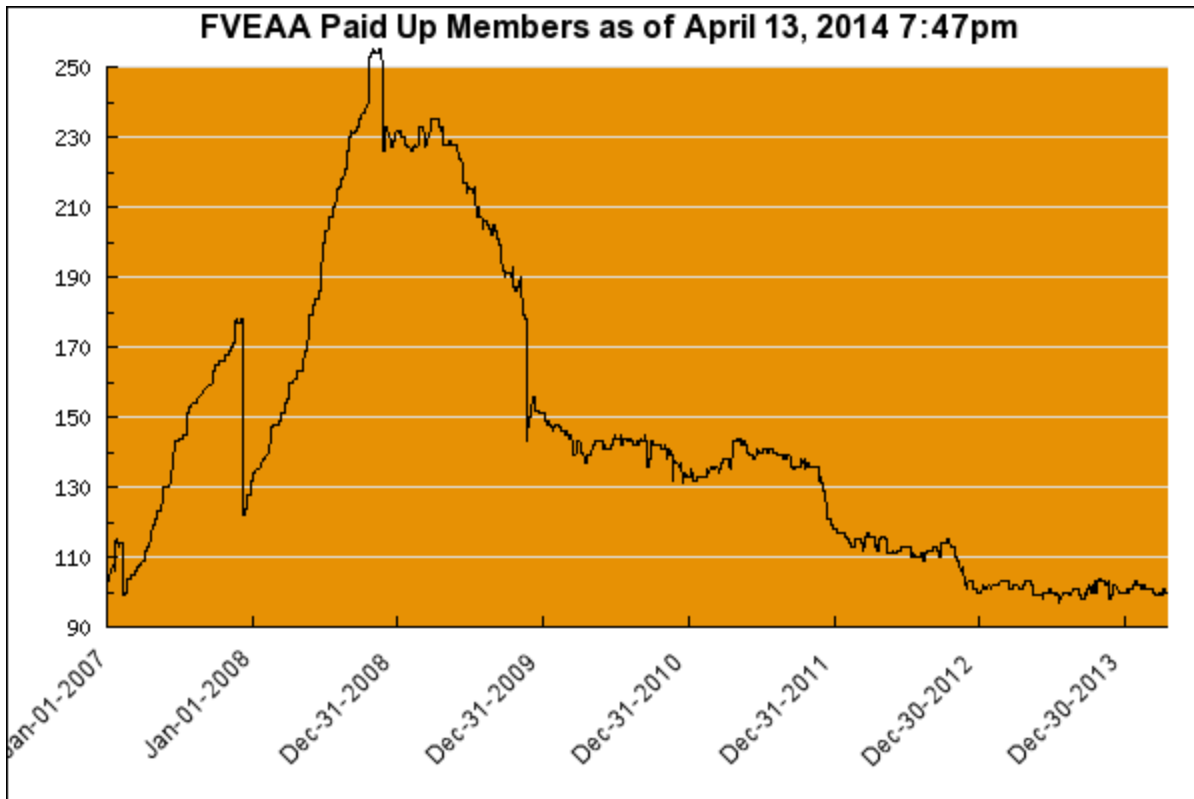
Codas are not Teslas, but never pretended to be. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coda_Automotive and <http://codacars.com/> The Coda company was probably undercapitalized from the start, they reportedly made only 500-700 and sold 100 before filing for bankruptcy. This car on eBay is serial number 434. It seems to me that such a body would be an excellent place to start in building a reasonable EV of your own. If you spend 2K or 3K on a body, why not spend the money on a body with no miles, a 'new' title, and less worn parts?

Membership Update

Ted Lowe

Let's GROW the FVEAA in 2014!

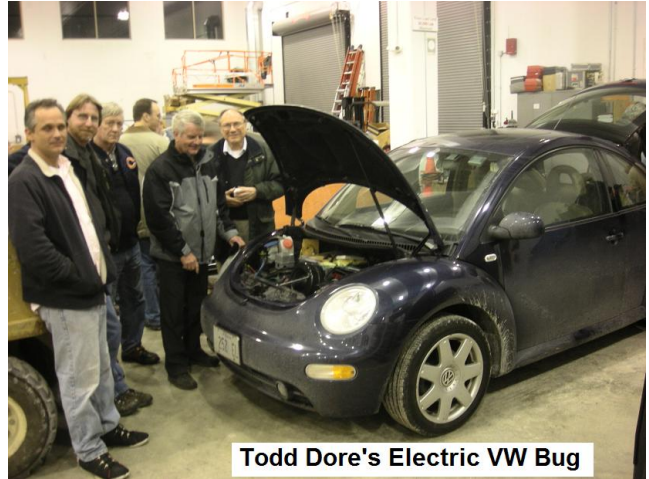
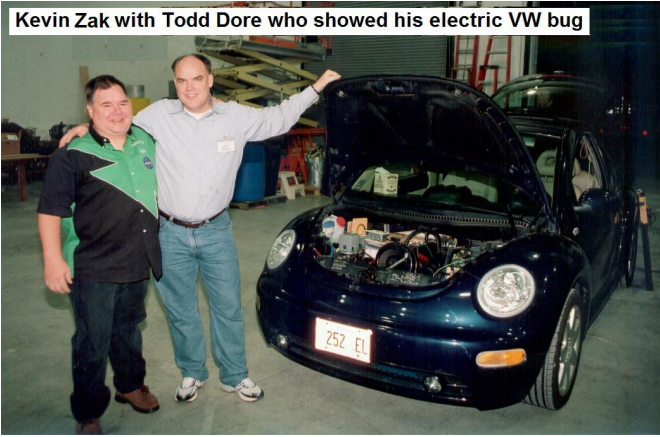
We currently have 100 paid-up members and here is our membership size over time:



Tribute to Todd Dore

Good luck to Todd and Maribel in Singapore!

Kevin Zak with Todd Dore who showed his electric VW bug



Todd Dore's Electric VW Bug



Todd presents his trip across Texas in his electric car



Todd's Tesla Model S

Last Meeting



Brian Levin of ChargePoint



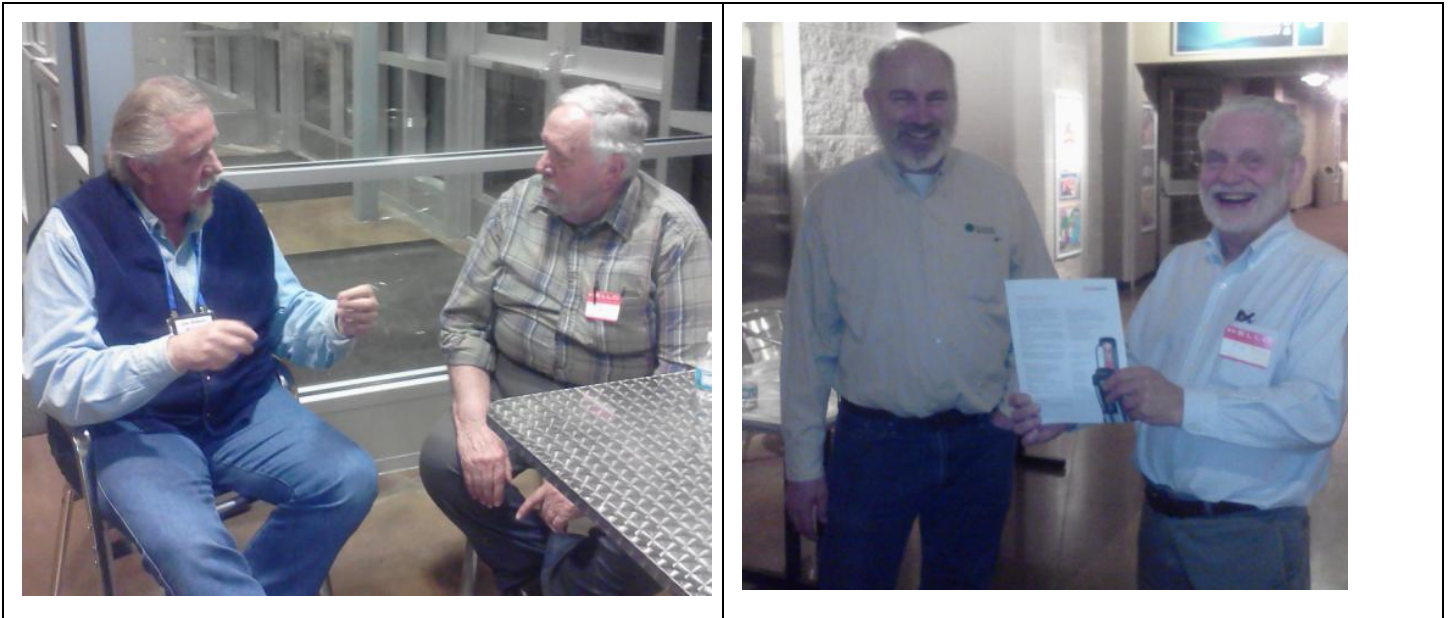
Jeff Miller our new Treasurer



President Bruce Jones



VP Rich Hirschberg



Meeting Minutes

Grant Gerke

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Outreach and Company News:

Rich Hirshberg talked about the St. Charles Green Fest Outreach and this event will be held on April 26 at the Hickory Knolls Discovery Center. The fest promotes environmentally safe practices, products and companies in your community with resources to help everyone learn about being more environmentally conscious.

Treasurer News:

Jeff Miller is our New Treasurer as Todd Dore heads to Singapore. We bid a fond farewell to Todd.

Miscellaneous:

Dio Vesselinov's car is for sale (and a 9-inch WARP motor controller too), check the FVEAA message board for details Jim Schmid suggested deep dives on technical subjects periodically throughout the year and was willing to coordinate a BMS panel for an upcoming meeting.

1st Speaker:

Brian Levin from ChargePoint and provided an overview on their efforts to install electric charging stations in the Midwest and the entire country. He mentioned that charging installations are picking up and they don't set rates like other EVSE providers. They are targeting workplaces and retail stores, where studies show consumers spending more money they stay at an outlet. He mentioned that there are 4,111 registered EVs in Illinois and we are one of the Top 10 regions in the U.S. for electric vehicles.

Brian Levin, Director, Strategic Accounts
ChargePoint | www.chargepoint.com
1.847.903.6652 direct | 1.312.275.7107 fax
Brian.Levin@ChargePoint.com
Skype: BrianLevin

2nd Speaker

Ted Lowe presented the 2000 Dodge Dakota Quad-Cab Project
He discussed and proposed handling the donation of the truck to FVEAA. It needs new batteries and currently has lead acid, but it could be converted to use Lithium ion.

<http://www.fveaa.org/docs/vehicles/jose-dodge-ev-donation/>

- Green, power steering, rear anti-lock brakes
- A/C, power windows, power door locks with remote 9 inch Advanced DC motor
- DC Power Raptor controller
- Zivan 120 volt charger
- Zivan DC-DC converter
- Xantrek link 10 Battery monitor
- 24 Trojan T-145, 6-volt batteries
- Optional battery heaters
- 40 mile range

Since Ted was the project manager for the Porsche conversion in 2007, he wanted someone else to take over as project manager for this project. Ted will arrange the transportation of the truck to his garage. Bruce, as the president will assign a head of the committee to be in charge of this effort.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

Membership Form

Ted Lowe

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



**NetGain
Motors, Inc.**

Exclusive worldwide distributor of
WarP™, ImPulse™, and TransWarP™
electric motors for use in electric vehicles
and electric vehicle conversions.

WWW.GO-EV.COM

800 S State St. Suite 4
Lockport, IL 60441
630.243.9100



Bob's Hillview Auto

Bob Baker

4c Hillview Dr

Lake Barrington, IL 60010

Work: 847-842-9543

Email: bobshillviewauto@gmail.com

Web: www.bobshillviewauto.com