



## May 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 May 15, 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 May 2020 Monthly Meeting (VIRTUAL ONLY)

Time: Fri May 15, 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

- 7:30 Tracey will speak briefly on why he chose Community Solar
- 7:45 Hal Sprague, Community Solar Coordinator, Trajectory Energy Partners
- 8:00 Break
- 8:10 Marc S on his roof top solar adventure
- 8:30 Jeff M - Various solar options with EV's and Real Time pricing
- 9:00 Close up

## President's Words

Jeff Miller

### April meeting

Thanks to Dawn and Ted for the excellent presentations last month. Dawn's presentation was far more insightful than I anticipated and she did an excellent job explaining the challenges that they face in building free charging for people. I hope to support Dawn and Volta in the future in their adventures in supporting us. Ted did a great job demonstrating the results of the long project of upgrading the website. Thanks for the work and education! (Thanks Jeff, bowing with hands clasped, Kind regards, ted)

### May meeting

First we will have Tracey and Hal

They will be discussing Community Solar and why Tracey chose that path. Hal is the Community Solar Coordinator for Trajectory Energy Partners.

Then we will have Marc, a neighbor of mine, discussing his exploration of the various roof top solar vendors he received proposals from, and what they all have to offer. Marc used to be in the construction business so he has a different perspective on building projects than I do and he has put his knowledge to great effect in his evaluation. I have provided a few tips and tools for him to use to evaluate the proposals and a bit of electrical guidance.

I will be doing a presentation looking at the dollars and cents around Comed RRTP in combination with the various residential solar options. Should you cover your whole electric bill with solar capacity while owning three EV's? Let's crunch some numbers and try to find out! Disclaimer: energy prices are guaranteed NOT to be the same in the future.

### Be SAFE

PLEASE be safe, stay home, keep your hands clean and follow the guidelines provided by the CDC. Check for updated guidance about once a day, don't drive yourself crazy, but don't lose track of what is going on. This virus is dangerous because it only kills a small percentage of the people it infects, allowing it to spread far and wide enough through the population and get to those vulnerable people we all care about.

### My recent projects

I have received a deposit from a buyer for the Model S, and the pickup scheduled on May 21st.

I eventually listed the car on cars.com for free and a paid ad on Autotrader. I got a lead off of cars.com that wants to buy the car, but he was beat out by a lead from cargurus that paid the deposit. All the leads I received from Craigslist were dead ends. The problem with Craigslist is that some email providers reject their emails, and the person emailing into the system just thinks you aren't responding. If you publish your phone number, then you get scammers texting you. It was easily the worst experience for getting contacts that were malicious. The other sites resulted in contacts and generally they were valid. I would suggest

posting on all of them, and maybe not post your phone number on Craigslist. You might lose some contacts, but it might be worth it. In the end I was offering a smoking pandemic driven deal and a couple of people who knew what they were looking at jumped on that deal. The other person that contacted me had no idea what he was looking at and was trying to price compare my car to a 40kwh Model S at Gerald Nissan that was a similar price. That gave me a good chuckle. In the end he left far more knowledgeable about EV's and he has kept in touch and has been getting advice and guidance on various other EV shopping tips and tricks.

I also took my car in and had Tesla fix the squeak in the HVAC blower area under warranty. They also told me that the doors on a Model S should open when not more than 2 Newtons of force is applied to the handles. Very handy so that I can now quantify if the handle is working properly or not.

My son and I finished the first of two subwoofer cabinets for the theater. Jessica reports that she can hear it in the middle of the cul-de-sac, but not on the other side of the cul-de-sac. It is a good thing we are building a second one.

I also put up a third rack to hold Jessica's winter tires for the Bolt.

## **The present**

Two months of isolation have come and gone, and I haven't yet lost my sanity. I am working on a new client now and that is keeping me very busy. I still encourage you all to stay safe as best as possible. Employ technology to meet with your friends, and be safe when doing your shopping. Likely between now and our next newsletter we will have less restrictions on our movement. Personally I will take very few liberties with those reduced restrictions and will stay home the vast majority of the time. I am fortunate, and not everyone can do this, but for those that can, please keep your risks low as we start to slowly venture back out again.

## **Articles I found interesting**

It seems to me like things are slow in the EV news world, but maybe it is just because I have been watching virus news.

<https://www.thedrive.com/news/33342/tesla-swapped-2004-ford-f-450-super-duty-is-an-electric-truck-for-the-people>

Contributed by Bruce J

<https://jalopnik.com/the-extreme-e-series-already-has-seven-teams-1843298593>

<https://jalopnik.com/the-slick-looking-chinese-ev-xpeng-p7-claims-a-longer-r-1843109418>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2020/04/are-electric-vehicles-doomed-we-dont-think-so-despite-poor-sales/>

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj--iMtToRO\\_cGG\\_fpmP5XQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj--iMtToRO_cGG_fpmP5XQ)

YouTube video series showing a fairly complete tear down of a brand new Tesla Model Y. I have watched all the episodes available and I found it very interesting.

<https://electrek.co/2020/04/22/study-of-3900-electric-cars-how-the-tesla-model-3-transformed-ev-charging-habits/amp/>

<https://jalopnik.com/mazdas-next-rotary-engine-likely-to-be-in-the-mx-30-1842938053>

<https://electrek.co/2020/05/05/tesla-model-3-was-best-selling-car-in-the-uk-in-april/>

<https://gizmodo.com/the-scientists-who-wont-give-up-on-the-warp-drive-1843177029>

Could be considered an EV?!?!?!?!?

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

## Upcoming EVents

*Rich Hirschberg*

### **POSTPONED by the City of Elgin**

#### **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.

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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### **No-Contact Vehicle Parade - Saturday, May 16, 1030 am to whenever**

On Saturday, May 16th, in the event that it doesn't rain, we will be doing a vehicle parade around Elgin, IL. From the West side to the East side and ending at the Grand Victoria Casino boat in downtown Elgin.

Meet at the old **Walmart** on **Randall Road** next to the **Elgin Home Depot** and across from the Harvest Bible Chapel.

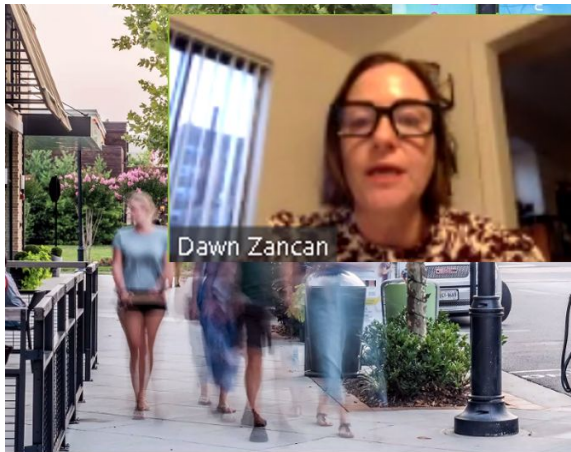
Gather from 1030 to 1130 am.

Parade starts at 1130 am. We will be traveling on main drags as well as neighborhood streets to cheer up people who are tired of the lockdown, bored with being stuck at home, and those that just like a parade.

Led by the **Kane County Sheriff's Department**, car clubs of varying sizes, styles, and brands will come together to lift the spirits of the residents of Elgin.

The parade will probably last around 30-45 minutes depending on our speed, traffic lights, and the occasional train (hopefully not).

Contact me with questions - **847.347.7171**. Or on FB or LinkedIn - Richard Hirschberg



Dawn Zancan

**VOLTA** | Drive Forward

dawn@voltacharging.com

VOLTA EV FUELING SERVICES



- Our goal: to provide lowest EV fueling costs for consumers
  - Draws more people to charging locations
  - Charging becomes integrated into one's everyday life activities
- Fueling costs
  - FREE
  - Sponsor Displays pay for installation, electric fuel, maintenance
- Free fueling: L2 power @7.7kW
  - 25-35 miles powered in 1 hour – a day's utilized fuel while shopping, eating out or taking in a movie

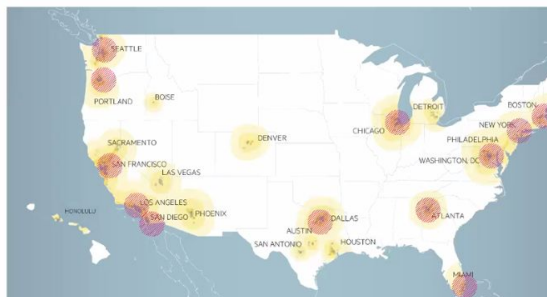
**Dawn Zancan Director of Site Sales & Development with Volta Charging presented an outstanding talk on: Moving Forward - A Revolution in EV Charging Infrastructure**

<https://voltacharging.com>

**We build it. They will charge.**

Volta focuses growth in top media markets with high electric vehicle adoption. We seed new networks by providing the first Volta stations free of cost.

● Current network ● Growing markets



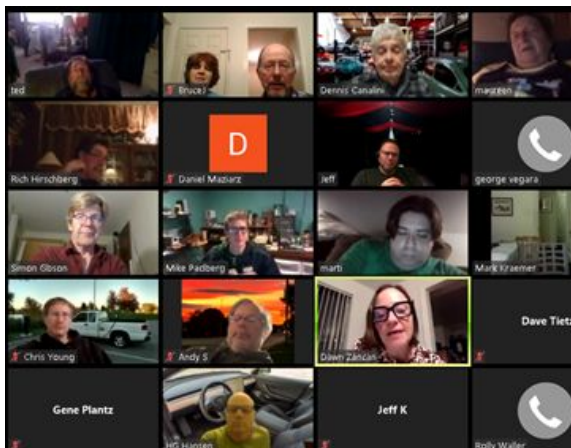
Volta Stations



- Electrical Specs**  
208/240VAC, 40A, 10kW max UL E472596
- Power Requirements**  
Charging unit: 50A/2P, 208/240 breaker  
Display/connectivity: 20A/1P, 120V breaker
- Network Connectivity**  
4G/LTE signal
- Digital Screen**  
55" diagonal / 1080 px x 1920px
- Screens on both sides  
Standard J1772 connector for EV charging, cord length 20'

Some

slides from Dawn's Volta presentation



**Attendance peaked at 30 people for our 2nd virtual meeting!**



**Ted charging Electric Dakota at a Volta station**



Ted Lowe presented on the new FVEAA web site [www.fveaa.org](http://www.fveaa.org) !



Awesome job and an awful lot of work went into building that, THANKS TED! (Thanks Bruce! Bowing with hands clasped \_()\_ Kind regards, ted)



Benjamin Nelson charges his EV with home solar



Chris Young with a background showing his converted Chevy S10 electric



Howard Hansen, a man ahead of his time.. So why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway Howard?



BEST Ever virtual background in a Zoom meeting! Clever use of green screen AND green shirt Howard :) <3



Austin Powers says Howard is rather good looking...

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 2020-05-12 04:58:08

### Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	55
Users Never Logged In	23
% Active Users	58.2%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	76.8 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>

We currently have **52 active paid-up** members. Four members have already taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered by the new website! **Please renew & recruit new folks in 2020!!!**



## FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2020-05-12 04:58:08

### Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	2	2
Family	4	4
Individual	45	43
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	53	51

### Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	96.2%
Avg. Paid Up Days	237.6 days
% With Email	94.3%

## Encouraging Our Membership To Grow in 2020 and Some History

**Happy 2020 EVeryone!** 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 EEvents. Volunteer to attend EEvents on behalf of the FVEAA (with or without an EV)! Your ideas on how to help grow the FVEAA are welcomed at anytime, 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 EEvents with our converted EVs. The first Tesla Roadster was just coming into being. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA in 2020!!!**



## FVEAA Paid Up Members as of May 12, 2020 9:11am



### 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!

## FVEAA Meeting

- The Zoom meeting conference call was started by Ted Lowe at 6:45 p.m.
- Jeffrey Miller opened the meeting at 7:05 with introductions all around

## Intro

- 7:40 p.m. Tracey McFadden introduced Dawn Zancan of Volta, whom he met at a previous function and invited her to present at the FVEAA meeting. (Thanks Tracey!)

## VOLTA

- Dawn Zancan, Director of Site Sales & Development with Volta Charging presented
- their unique business model for free charging station infrastructure
- For locations like shopping malls and parking areas where they can get 5000 weekly eyeline hits of the advertising on the Volta charging station (not for apartment buildings for example)
- Fabulous presentation, excellent product. Thanks Dawn!
- [dawn@voltacharging.com](mailto:dawn@voltacharging.com)
- <https://voltacharging.com>
- A copy of Dawn's presentation can be downloaded here. Thanks Dawn and Tracey!  
[https://www.fveaa.org/fb/Volta%20Story%20\\_485.pdf](https://www.fveaa.org/fb/Volta%20Story%20_485.pdf)

## Naperville charging station REBATE! (Thanks Jeff)

- This is the city of Naperville EVSE form for \$700 rebate for residential and \$500 non-residential rebate
- <https://www.naperville.il.us/globalassets/media/projects/electric/2020-electric-vehicle-charging-station-rebate-application.docx.pdf>
- AND the Federal Government has a \$1000 rebate as well
- <https://afdc.energy.gov/laws/10513>

And there is a solar Panel Rebate as well in Naperville - \$300 per kW capacity (AC) (though we were told originally it was based on DC, experience indicates AC)

BREAK - we held a 10 minute break

## NEW FVEAA WEBSITE

- 8:40 Ted Lowe Presented - FVEAA's new website demo and Q&A
- This took Ted quite a while (100's of hours) to revise from the ancient version of Joomla 1.0 (2006) to Joomla! 3.x
- He walked through the various web pages
- LOOKS GREAT TED! THANK YOU !!
- It was suggested we need an updated listing/viewing of members' vehicles on the home page (Thanks for your suggestion Folks! i do have an idea for a way of doing this where all people can be involved and will be sharing it idea soon! Kind regards, ted)

## Open Discussion

- Here's the latest video on Ben Nelson's series about converting a farm tractor to electric. In this video, he is trying to figure out the hydraulics.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8elwv8e1E>
- The group had an open discussion the last 10 minutes covering a variety of EV topics

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 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

**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**  
**Only The Best**

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**

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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).