



November 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 November 19, 2021
and will be ONLY VIRTUAL**

We are using the Zoom video-conferencing platform to hold this VIRTUAL 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 November 2021 Monthly Meeting

Time: Fri November 19, 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>

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 Jeff M covering his Comed RRTP costs compared to the past, and fixing the Yellow Box Clipper Creek charging station
- 8:15 Break
- 8:30 Jeff M installing charging and Starlink Dishy McFlatface in Arizona

- 9:00 Meeting Close

October Meeting

Thanks to Marc for giving us an excellent update on his twin OpenEVSE charging stations, and thanks to Michael for giving us his view on the Dupage County Forest Preserve and alternate fuels, and charging.

November Meeting

For vacation some people pack their swim suit and go to the beach, I pack my tools and go build stuff.

In November I am going to talk about the various projects I did last month while on vacation in Arizona. Don't worry, you will be seeing some pictures of beautiful scenery, however they also have various projects we built in the foreground. Curt and I installed "Dishy MvFlatface" for Starlink internet service. We fixed his problems with a lack of grounding in his subpanels, removed the Challenger brand circuit breakers from his main panel, as they are a known fire hazard, and eventually got his charging station to actually charge his car. It was the second most involved charging install I have done, but not because it needed everything, but because the house had so much wrong.

We will also look at my use of Comed Residential Real Time Pricing (RRTP) and try to determine if it is as good of a deal for me as it once was. Considering I am getting solar, how does that factor in. Bob K gave us a presentation on his solar plus RRTP some time ago, but I am trying to figure out if it makes sense for me going forward. I plan to compile my average cost per KWH by month for many years to see how it has changed over time.

December Meeting

We have reserved a room at Duke's in Crystal Lake for December 10th. Put it on your calendar and come celebrate another successful year helping people learn about EVs! The FVEAA is going to pay for some appetizers and soups. Duke's has various good vegan options if you prefer that, and I routinely order their vegan chili. I feel like it is better than my own. If you want to charge at my house please arrive by 6:30PM so we have time to get organized and charging before we carpool over to Duke's. If you need longer than 3 hours of charging time, let me know and we can work that out too.

Recent Events

Vaccines and boosters are on the front of my mind as we enter winter. If anyone reading this isn't vaccinated, and hasn't had an appointment to ask your doctor, go ask your doctor. If you were vaccinated more than six months ago, start looking into boosters. I was vaccinated over 6 months ago and recently got my booster.

I am getting Solar

As I write this there is a giant pile of shingles in my driveway. By the time you read this they should all be installed, so don't show up at my house expecting free shingles. I did spend the extra money for the hail rated shingles so check back in 30 years to see if that worked out or not.

With a bit of help from Kyle I installed the chunk of conduit from the attic to the basement. This conduit eliminates the need to run conduit down the outside of my house from top to bottom. It also makes it easy to keep everything inside, away from the elements. The only thing that will be external on the side of the

house will be the safety disconnect. Hopefully this configuration will limit or eliminate down time if the house ever needs new siding. However, one thing to keep in mind with conduit running from the roof through the house is condensation. Cold air from the roof would meet humid air from the house and cause condensation inside the conduit. To avoid this I used water tight fittings when the conduit is inside the house and will ask the electrician who is doing the rest of the work to do the same up to the point he can plug the conduit internally with duct seal.

What is duct seal? It's similar to play doh but it's formulated to never dry out. You pack it into the conduit around the wires to prevent humid air from entering the conduit in the winter. Everyone should check their breaker box and conduit for cold air, or cold conduit and use duct seal on any that are cold or have cold air flowing out of them. Doing this saves you from having corrosion issues inside your panel. When I moved into my house there was rust on my panel and my main breaker was corroded quite badly. It had to be replaced when I did the 400 amp service upgrade. For a solar system the voltage is even higher, and in most installs the inverter is the low point, so where the water collects. If your conduit is all external then this isn't really a concern, but with my install passing through, and terminating, indoors condensation is a problem I will have unless I take preventative action.

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Gardner-Bender-1-lb-Plug-Duct-Seal-Compound-DS-110/100212441>

A pound of prevention costs less than \$4, plug your pipes before it gets really cold!

Back on topic, the solar array is 25 Silfab 380 Watt panels for a total of 9.5 KW DC. It is using a 7.6KW AC string inverter by SolarEdge. This is as many solar panels as I can fit on the upper roof on the front of my house. Other roof surfaces are either more shaded, or facing a less optimal direction.

Comed RRTP update

As many of you will recall I have been a user of COMED Residential Real Time Pricing (RRTP) for a number of years now. At the coming meeting I plan to give an update on how that is going these days, and what are my plans as I am now adding solar with net metering.

Insulation

I am working on adding insulation to my attic. As the story goes, I can use less or make more. With the solar on my roof I won't cover all of my current usage, so I need to figure out ways to reduce my usage, especially as energy prices are climbing. Attic insulation is a clear winner in this space, so I need to get something done with that. There will be more to come in this space as I figure out more.

Articles I found interesting:

<https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2021/11/14/economy/bezos-musk-feud-rivian-tesla/index.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/stella-vita-solar-campervan-netherlands-spc-intl/index.html>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/10/the-2023-bmw-i4-is-the-electric-bmw-sedan-youve-been-waiting-for/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/10/toyota-sets-aside-3-4-billion-for-american-electric-vehicle-batteries/>

<https://www.chevybolt.org/threads/post-when-you-are-notified-to-have-your-battery-replaced.41021/page-8>

<https://electrek.co/2021/10/28/12500-electric-vehicle-incentive-survives-bidens-updated-build-back-better-proposal/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/heres-what-the-infrastructure-bill-means-for-road-safety-and-evs/>

The moving target of incentives.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/department-energy-launches-national-initiative-clean-heating-and-cooling-systems>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/custom-electric-cars-take-charge-at-sema-2021/>

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/11/researchers-demonstrate-complete-solar-powered-hydrocarbon-production/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/hyundai-hints-at-ioniq-7-with-its-latest-concept-ev-seven/>

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/11/its-time-to-delete-carbon-from-the-atmosphere-but-how/>

<https://grizzl-e.com/product/usa/refurbished/grizzl-e-refurbished-2/>

This looks like a really good value for a charging station. Produced in North America even. The refurbished ones are particularly interesting on the value front. They are also configurable on how much current they deliver, which is a nice feature.

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/lithium-metal-hybrid-battery-promises-lighter-longer-range-evs-by-2025/>

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/11/can-we-run-our-trains-using-big-batteries/b>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/kia-teases-a-big-electric-suv-with-the-ev9-concept/>

<https://arstechnica.com/cars/2021/11/subaru-shows-off-its-first-electric-vehicle-the-solterra-suv/>

Upcoming Events

Rich Hirschberg

None to report at this time.



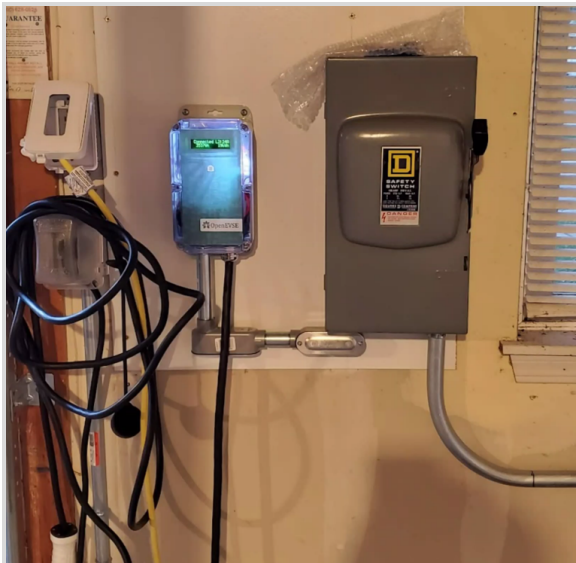
Jeff Miller presiding over the Oct. 15 meeting



Mike Webster, (CAFM) Fleet Manager, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County discussed their sustainability efforts, and future EVSE /charging station potential. The FVEAA can assist the District when ready



Marc Stettner discussed his dual EV charging station setup in his garage that Jeff (“Johnny Apple-EVSE”) helped design and install. The day following our FVEAA meeting Jeff then flew to Arizona to install an EVSE for Curt Lusby. WOW what dedication!



One of Marc’s two 48 amp charging stations



“A crimp a day keeps the doctor away,” says Jeff Miller.



Square D shutoff switch and fuse disconnect panel provides added protection (just in case!) up to 20k volts DC shorts and tries to flow from the car battery back to the AC wiring in the house. Also a convenient way to turn off power to the charging system from the garage if needed



October 15 attendees... plus Curt Lusby

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 2021-11-15 04:58:10

Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	86
Users Never Logged In	34
% Active Users	60.5%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	329.2 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>

FVEAA On YouTube - Check out our videos!

Ted Lowe

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

Ted Lowe

We currently have **72 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 2021-11-15 04:58:09

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	66	62
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	73	69

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	94.5%
Avg. Paid Up Days	311.6 days
% With Email	95.9%

Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

Ted Lowe

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 November 15, 2021 12:16pm



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!

Meeting Minutes - Oct. 15, 2021

Bruce Jones

Oct 15th Meeting Notes

- Jeffrey Miller, President, called the virtual meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- He had the Initial welcome, with meeting attendees each introducing themselves

Mike Webster, Fleet Manager, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

- Mike discussed the Forest Preserve District's many sustainability efforts including
 - the use of various alternative fuel vehicles
 - installing solar panels at the fleet facility,
 - future EVSE /charging station potential.
- They have several electric vehicles which are very popular with the staff, and they have a high interest in the Ford Lightning when it comes out.
- The FVEAA can assist the District when they are ready.
- They have a new job posting – Chief Partnership & Philanthropy Officer
 - <https://dupageforest.isolvedhire.com/jobs/351980.html>
- Notes in Chat - FVEAA in the news
- Fox Valley Car Show Puts Spotlight on Electric Vehicles - article In the Chicago tribune aurora-beacon-news
 - Oct 5, 2021 — A new type of car show gave people a glimpse at the world of electric cars as the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association offered its own ...
 - National Drive Electric Week and FVEAA in the News
 - <news/ct-abn-electric-cars-st-1006-20211005-2w2eawzzirfkbbxk3f4pb6cj24-story.html>

Break 8:15 - 8:30

- DUAL EVSE
 - Marc Stettner showed photos and discussed the dual 48 VAC charging station wiring that Jeff helped design and install in his garage
- They reviewed various technical aspects of EVSE installations
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 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).