



# October 2024 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 **October 18, 2024**  
**7:00 p.m. and will be IN-PERSON and on-line**

## Location:

Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva  
102 S 2nd St, Geneva, IL 60134

MAP: [📍 Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva](#)

Meeting starts at 7pm and will run until about 9pm.

Topic: FVEAA Monthly Meeting

Time: Fri October 18, 2024 6:45 PM CT (pre-meeting setup check), Meeting  
7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Dial-in for audio-only users: Call: 312-626-6799  
Enter Meeting ID when prompted: 95901481473#  
Participant ID: (blank, just #) \*6 mutes/unmutes

## Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual Meeting Starts (to test connections)
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:40 Bruce Jones, 50th anniversary event planning
- 8:10 break
- 8:15 Jeanne Neltner on her 2023 Bolt purchase
- 8:35 Don Grillo on his Cadillac Lyric lease
- 9:00 Close

## September Meeting

Thanks again to William McDaniels for reviewing the small, but interesting, Netgain Micro 880 series of motors. I really like the Zamboni use case! The reality is there are quite a few different use cases the press fit shaft solution allows this to support, including the high power golf cart market.

<https://www.texasbowhunter.com/discussions/forums/forum/topics/d-i-y-projects/310838-show-of-f-your-golf-cart-mods>

This is a thread on a hunting forum about how people modify their golf carts for hunting. 500 plus amp controllers are pretty normal. From what I understand there are now OEM companies building for these use cases, and they might be interested in one of these motor and controller solutions.

Thanks again to Tracey McFadden for all of his hard work in helping the EV cause! It's fun to see what you have been up to.

## October Meeting

**Tracey is running the meeting this month, so check out the VP section for what he has planned.**

### On vacation?!?

I am heading to Arizona again this October, and will be installing a couple of mini split heat pumps in my friend's house there. He is up in the mountains, and heating is the big need there, not cooling. We are going to put in two small units, one in the basement, and the other in the back bedroom on the main floor. The largest part of the house already has a larger mini split that was installed many years ago. These are going to displace resistance baseboard heaters. As he is keeping everything else largely the same, it should yield a nice annual cost savings. For his needs, I think it's going to be great.

I finally used heating mode on my Gree heat pump the other day. It made the house warmer! It didn't need backup heat yet, so that test is still yet to come. It did ramp up to over 5KW on the outdoor unit, which is considerably higher than the AC run rate.

After 6 years I finally had my first issue with the charging stations I built. One of them had the terminal block, with the hot wires still attached, come off the printer circuit board, and land on the steel backer plate, shorting out. It blew one of the fast blow fuses, the 100 amp breaker it is connected to, and the 150 amp breaker in the main going to that sub panel. It made quite a bang too! I have ordered replacement parts and will update next month on the repairs. I have been very happy with these stations. For their capability, and cost, they have been actually reliable. Total delivered over these 4 has been around 89,000kwh! Over 50,000 kwh of that is through just one station. It looks like a couple of them are getting a new layout as part of the upgrade process. OpenEVSE has started using a much fancier screen, and that has the WiFi module integrated into it, but not a temp sensor. I will try to document the process as I go along. I was hoping it would be a simple board swap, but it looks like I might have to drill a few new holes for

the new hardware. Not a big deal though. It's nice I can order parts, and replace and upgrade it all with very minimal physical changes. The load carrying components are all staying the same.

Ford is offering free home charging station install, and this video describes the limitations. It's pretty generous.

<https://youtu.be/26w463OFmMk?feature=shared>

## Vice President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Greetings EV Enthusiasts,

I gave two EV 101 presentations in September. Both were well received, and I mentioned the FVEAA in both. One was given to the Midwest Save Our Ancestors Remains & Resources Indigenous Network Group (SOARRING), a group who has as part of its mission to educate the public about various American Indian environmental issues. The other was at the Batavia library where Jeff Miller helped out by displaying and explaining various EV plugs for charging and assisting in answering questions from the audience. (see pic below) Thanks so much Jeff!

As many of you know I am a gear head who grew up near Detroit. I spent much of my youth, building, repairing, and getting involved in a myriad of activities that were car centric. Everyone in Detroit identified with a brand of vehicle. You were either a Chevy man, a Ford man or a Chrysler (Mopar) man. My father, who taught me auto mechanics at a young age, worked for GM for 30 years so we were in the GM camp. We, like so many, saw the Cadillac as one the best automobiles Detroit could offer. My dad, who had purchased a used 4 door caddy when I was young, liked to joke around. He once said in response to a friend of mine whose father was driving a 2 door Cadillac, "Owning a two door Cadillac is like wearing a tuxedo without the pants". Humor was his strong suit. Why I never forgot his Cadillac remark I'm not sure.

Speaking of Cadillac's, we are fortunate to have a guest speaker this month, Don Grillo, a good friend of mine who is from Detroit and also a retired airline pilot. He has recently leased the new Cadillac Lyric EV (a four door) and is going to tell us all about it. I had the opportunity to drive it to the National Drive Electric Week event at the Aurora mall for display as Don was out of town. (see photo below). A big shout out to Marty Belovicz and Bruce Jones for organizing this event. Incidentally, Cadillac Lyric in the second and third quarter of 2024 accounted for 19% of Cadillac sales in both quarters.

Our second guest speaker this month is Jeanne Neltor. She is also a friend of mine from the Unitarian Universalist church where we meet each month. Jeanne approached me at a recent picnic and said "I want to buy a 2022 Chevy Bolt. Can you help me find one?" I was more than willing to help as I love the hunt. After narrowing down that she preferred the Bolt EUV vs the standard Bolt and wanted a dark color I went to work. I came up with several cars that were available in the Chicagoland area to include a 2023 model year. Jeanne jumped on the 2023 and brought it home. Jeff Miller took the reins from there and assisted her in choosing and later installing her home charging station. Jeanne is going to tell us all about the car as well as her car buying experience.

Our group the FVEAA is celebrating 50 years in 2025. We are asking all members to bring their ideas and willingness to help, to October's meeting. Some ideas so far include a Union Illinois Electric Train museum ride, a joint event with the solar energy association (they are also celebrating 50 years), a summer cookout, tailgate party at the Kane County Cougars game, and library displays.

We are asking each member to consider how they may help the group by either:

- 1) Volunteering to be the contact person to coordinate other volunteers to help with an event
- 2) Coming up with other ideas you think would be a way we can celebrate. Displays, social functions, etc.
- 3) Serve on a committee to help plan an event.

Stay charged!  
Tracey



EV 101 Presentation- Batavia Library

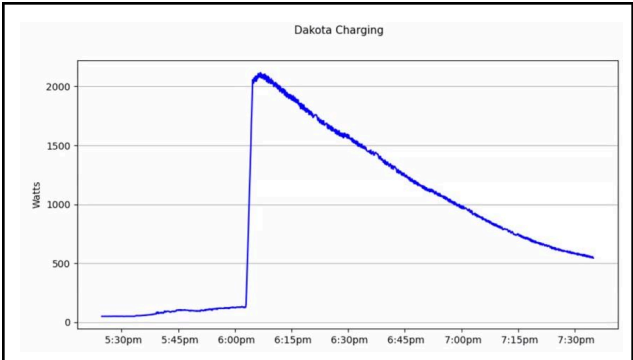


At the NDEW event with Don's Caddy

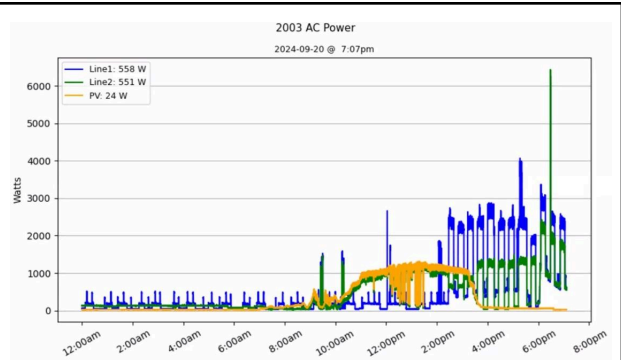




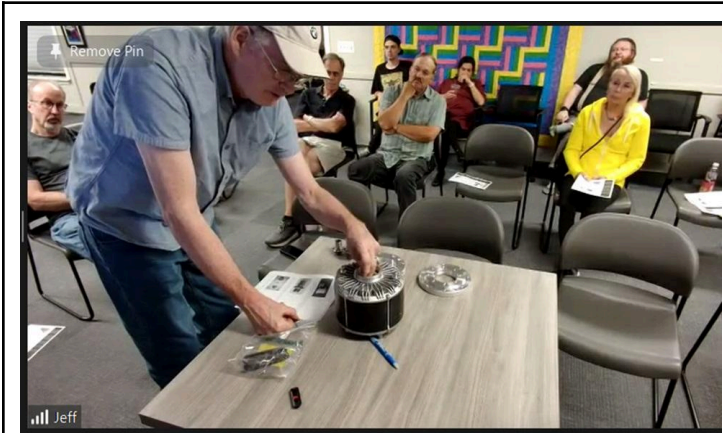
Sept. 20, 2024 FVEAA Meeting at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva



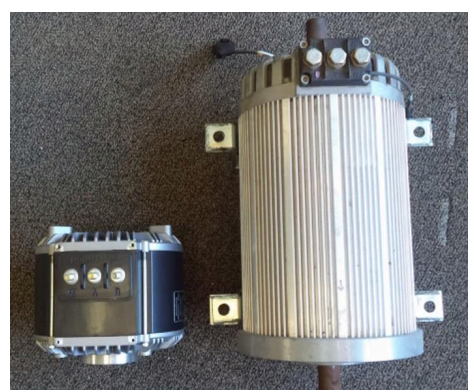
Ted Lowe's graph on Dodge Dakota electric charging, from his home grown monitoring system



Ted's chart on Electrical energy - solar in yellow



William McDaniel showing the new motor from Netgain - the small powerful Micro 880 AC series motors

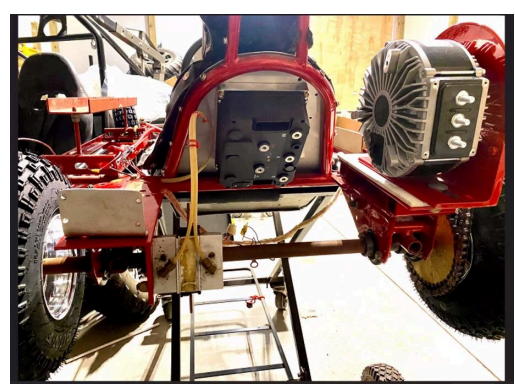


Micro 880 AC motor uses same controller as the Hyper 9



Zamboni ice scraper using the new motor - Able to carve ice up to the wall

One application for the small form factor motor



Small motor go-kart with AC motor



National Drive Electric Week North - 9/29/24  
Old Library Parking Lot, Grove Ave., Elgin, IL  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rich Hirschberg



National Drive Electric Week - FVEAA North event 9/28/2024 run by Rich Hirschberg



There was a very nice variety of electric vehicles on display including a Tesla Roadster



Air suspension tank in the frunk - Model 3



Model 3 lowered



Tesla Model X flashy interior



Tesla Model X with famous gull wing doors





Rob Schwartz checking out an original Tesla Roadster

**National Drive Electric Week South 10/05/24**  
**Fox Valley Mall, Aurora, IL 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Bruce Jones



National Drive Electric Week - South event at Fox Valley Mall. Headed up by Marty Belovicz with assistance from Bruce Jones. We had a visit from Jason Frank on the Mall staff. Luke Burrows from ComEd was there and Michael Howe the Associate Manager for EV Support Programs with PlugInAmerica participating as well.





Marty running the NDEW South show!



Tracey McFadden with a beautifully wrapped Cadillac Lyric EV he borrowed from a friend.



Sweet Blue Rivian



Kim and Tom Hunt with their Chevy Bolt. (And they just replaced the battery in their other car - a 2013 Nissan Leaf)



Amy beside her red Ford Mustang MachE



Joe Dubanowicz and his Chevy Bolt. Joe I like your sweater (I Drive an Electric Car... Your Welcome)

\*\*\*If you know of upcoming car shows, cruise nights, parades, or get-togethers, please shoot me an email - [GoAFVs@yahoo.com](mailto:GoAFVs@yahoo.com)

**Upcoming EVents – Fall & Winter**

Take care,  
Rich Hirschberg  
(c/t) 847.347.7171  
Email: [GoAFVs@yahoo.com](mailto:GoAFVs@yahoo.com)

**FVEAA HOLIDAY PARTY - FRIDAY, DEC. 13, 2024**

Put it on your calendar! The FVEAA holiday party will be at  
The Great Escape  
9540 W Irving Park Rd, Schiller Park, IL 60176

Co-payment for the event is **\$10 per person**  
Family style meals

**FVEAA business cards available!**

Ted Lowe

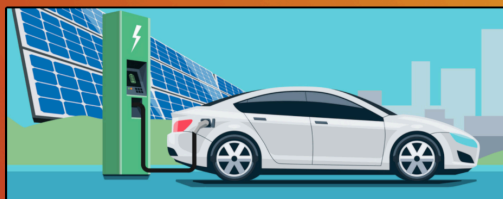
See one of the officers to get some cards to hand out to people at various EVents and daily life to promote EVs and our organization!

# Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

PO Box 214  
Wheaton, IL 60187-0214

630-260-0424  
[contactfveaa@fveaa.org](mailto:contactfveaa@fveaa.org)

Free Yourself From The Pump<sup>fm</sup>



Join Us and Discover How!

Check [fveaa.org](http://fveaa.org) for details about our **monthly meetings!**





You can use the many membership-only tools on our website after you login! 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 2024-10-17 04:58:12

### Website Registered User Statistics

Statistic	Value
Total Users	117
Users Never Logged In	40
% Active Users	65.8%
Ave. Days Since Last Visit	845.2 days

The **FVEAA Facebook group** has 135 members as of 1/17/24! 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/>

Here is the **FVEAA's Facebook Page**. Like Us!

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

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\\_Pgp6g-HEuMICWMO2akPw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg_Pgp6g-HEuMICWMO2akPw)

**Membership Update**

Keep an eye on the **active paid-up** members count! 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 2024-10-17 04:58:11

**Count of Members by Type**

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Charter Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	62	60
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	69	67

**Other Statistics**

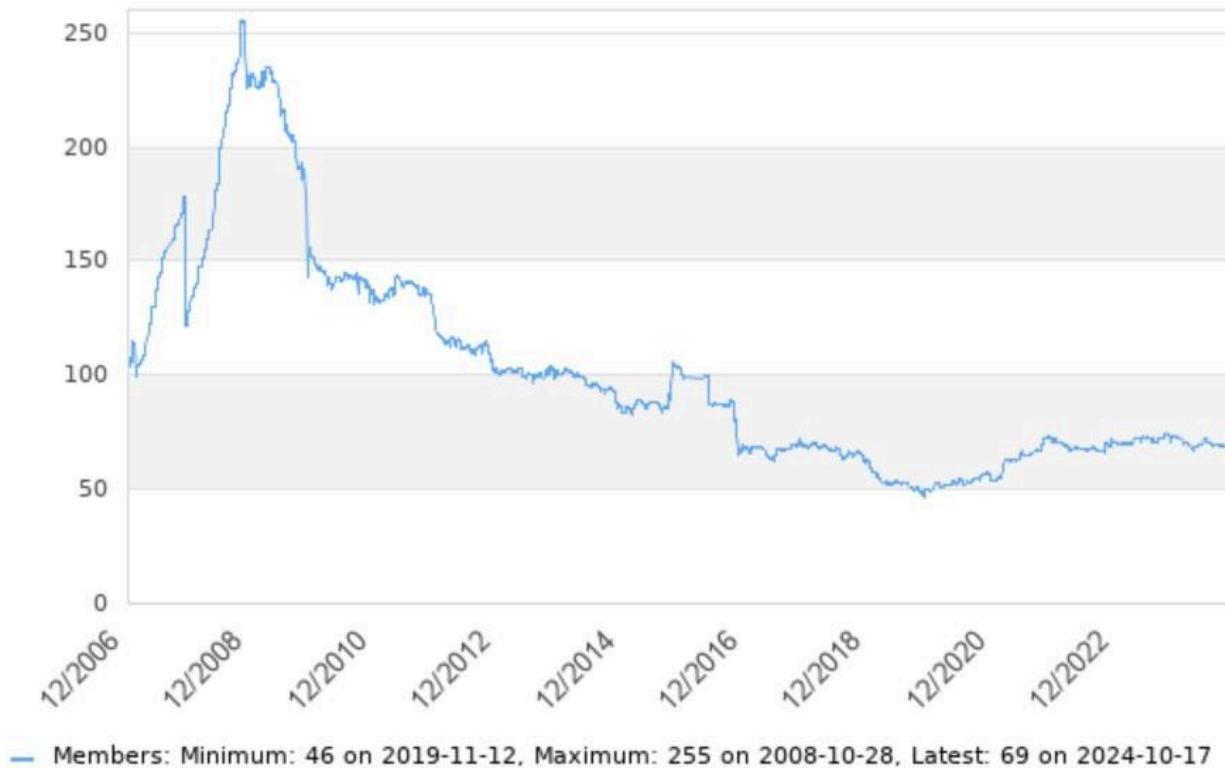
Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	97.1%
Avg. Paid Up Days	364.9 days
% With Email	97.1%

**Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History**

**We are growing!** 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 October 17, 2024 11:43am



### 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!**

**Notes**

- The meeting began at 7:05 p.m.
- V.P. Tracey McFadden initially began introductions which were held all around.
- Ted Lowe described his homemade monitoring system and showed a few charts on his solar panels, ebike and electric Dodge Dakota.
- William McDaniels presented the brand new Netgain Micro 880 motor
  - developed by Netgain chief Hunter Hamstra and team.
  - William showed other components he provides like custom shafts, adapter plates (from Great Britain) for small motorized vehicles like go-karts, Zamboni ice scrapers and small off road vehicles
  - [go-ev.com/motors-micro.html](http://go-ev.com/motors-micro.html)
- Tracey McFadden provided an update on his various adventures in EV Advocacy, his new solar panels, the Concours D'elegance, and various photo shoots.
  - Wow Tracey you sure get around. Great job promoting EVs and the FVEAA!
- Nominations were finalized, closed and Elections were held. Congratulations to this year's six returning officers plus first timer Ted Liu as an Officer of the Board! Welcome! Ted will be traveling to Phoenix in his Model 3 in Oct. so hopefully we'll get an update on how that trip went in an upcoming meeting.

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

- President: Jeffrey Miller
  - Vice Pres: Tracey McFadden
  - Treasurer: Ted Lowe
  - Secretary: Bruce Jones
  - Board of Directors:
    - Rich Hirschberg
    - Marty Belovicz
    - Ted Liu
- 
- Rich Hirschberg provided an update on upcoming EVents
  - The meeting ended around 9:20 p.m.

**FVEAA Membership Application Form - Version 2023-12-04**

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 (1 year), \$38 (2 years), \$56 (3 years)
Business	\$100
Premier Business	\$250
Charter Business	\$500
Youth (21 or younger)	\$10

**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 Charter Business Members

### Illinois Alliance for Clean Transportation (IACT)

Samantha Bingham  
2 N LaSalle St #950  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Email: [info@il-act.org](mailto:info@il-act.org)  
Web: <https://il-act.org>



Illinois Alliance for Clean Transportation (IACT) (formerly known as Chicago Area Clean Cities) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit working to promote the use of clean fuels for clean air throughout Illinois. Our alliance includes people from private business, academia, government, scientific research and energy and environmental services. Our main goal is to help with the adoption of cleaner transportation options.