



January 2025 FVEAA Newsletter

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

The FVEAA is a Not-For-Profit Illinois Corporation and the Chicago-area chapter of The Electric Vehicle Association

FVEAA Monthly Meeting

When: Friday, January 17, 2025 - Doors open at 6:45 pm

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

Where: 102 S 2nd St, Geneva, IL 60134

Map: [Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva](#)

Virtual 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

Meeting Agenda

- 6:45 Virtual meeting begins to test connections and chat
- 7:00 Introductions
- 7:40 Luke Burrows on the ComEd EVSE programs they offer
- 8:10 Break
- 8:15 Bruce Jones to go over 2025 events
- 9:00 Close

President's Words

Jeff Miller

December Meeting

Thanks to everyone that made it to the Great Escape! I certainly had a good evening chatting with everyone!

January Meeting

First we have Luke Burrows from COMED speaking on the three EVSE programs that they offer. I understand not much has changed, however it's early in the year, and there is still

money in the programs. Bruce is going to cover the 50th anniversary events, and who is helping out organizing them.

2025 Event list, please see list at the end of newsletter, and reach out to sign up to volunteer.

i-Miev Sold!

I sold the i-Miev to a family in Algonquin for \$1500. I listed it in the morning, and it was gone by noon, so I guess it was popular enough! It served my family well in its four years of service. I am happy that I had it through some very strange times. Jessica, having recently upgraded from the 2017 Bolt to the 2023 Tesla Model Y observed that the Y needs to be charged far more frequently than the Bolt does when it's cold out. I have noticed that if you routinely preheat the cabin, that seems to have an impact on how many KWH you need day to day. Since we didn't have that feature enabled on the Bolt, that wasn't an issue. She still loves the Y though, and it is working great for our needs. She has driven it to Springfield IL, and we have taken it as a family on some trips out of town already, so it's doing the job very nicely.

Heat pumps!

My system continues beating my expectations. I figured by 10 degrees it would be running in backup heat, but so far it hasn't resorted to firing up the resistance elements. Even with the cold weather this week, it still hasn't kicked on the backup heat. I don't think it's been officially 0 yet, but I am still impressed that it has made it this far. Once winter is over, I will do a summary on energy usage by the heat pump for my house. As I expected, it isn't a huge savings over my old gas furnace, but I am saving money during the summer.

My LG ventless washer / heat pump dryer combo unit continues to run well, and delivers on the promise of clean clothes for less effort and energy than our previous system. It's been running far more than usual as we have a new puppy, which requires much cleaning up after. Thus far in January it has used 35KWH, and it only had 2 days with no usage. It runs 1 to 4 loads the rest of the days. The biggest day so far was 5.9KWH. In December it used 44 KWH with a 3.7KWH max day. It's been running quite a bit, and not costing me very much. It's also reduced my heating bill, which is welcome, by not constantly sucking all of the nice warm air out of my house!

The last gas appliance is a 75 gallon, forced induction, gas water heater. During the Christmas party Kyle asked me if I wanted to go in on a deal with him to buy three 65 gallon Rheem Platinum units. He only needed one, but in my mind the 65 is a bit small for how my family uses hot water. So I bought two! The 80 gallon was only a few hundred more money, and it just made sense to have two 65 gallon units instead. I am hoping in the summer they do a very nice job of cooling my house, as they won't need to run the resistance elements in fast recovery mode. They are currently still waiting to be installed, but once that is done, the gas will be turned off at my house! I will also add that all of the gas burning appliances were drawing air from the house, the water heater, dryer, and furnace all used house air to support combustion, and while the water heater and the furnace don't move quite as much air out as the dryer, they still moved a substantial amount of air out of the house.

Springtime plans

Now is the time to plan for Spring! My siding has hail damage, and I plan to replace it in the spring. However I am not going to pass up the opportunity to not just replace the siding, but also improve the insulation of my house at the same time! My goal is to have at least R6 insulation outside the studs. The walls are probably R13, and with the studs, that averages out to R12. Putting R6 outside the studs will bring the wall to R18, and with R6 being continuous, it will really improve the quality of the wall assembly. Also important, that should severely limit condensation in the fiberglass batts inside the walls. I don't exactly know how this will go yet, but I would really like to make this improvement, as it is expensive to do it when you aren't already replacing the siding.

Federal Tax Credits for EVs

Below, Tracey talks about the incoming US government removing the EV tax credit, and I would like to make an important point. The tax credit, as a US job creation tool, is working very well! Hyundai/Kia/Genesis have started building their EV's in the US, in a brand new factory they built. Those are good paying US jobs that removing the tax credit for EVs would directly impact. I hope the new government realizes the effectiveness of this law.

Vice President's Words

Tracey McFadden

I'm looking forward to celebrating our 50th anniversary as a group. We have many events planned and are asking for member volunteers. This can include assisting a facilitator in their event or coming up with ideas for an additional group event. Please let any board member know if you want to get involved.

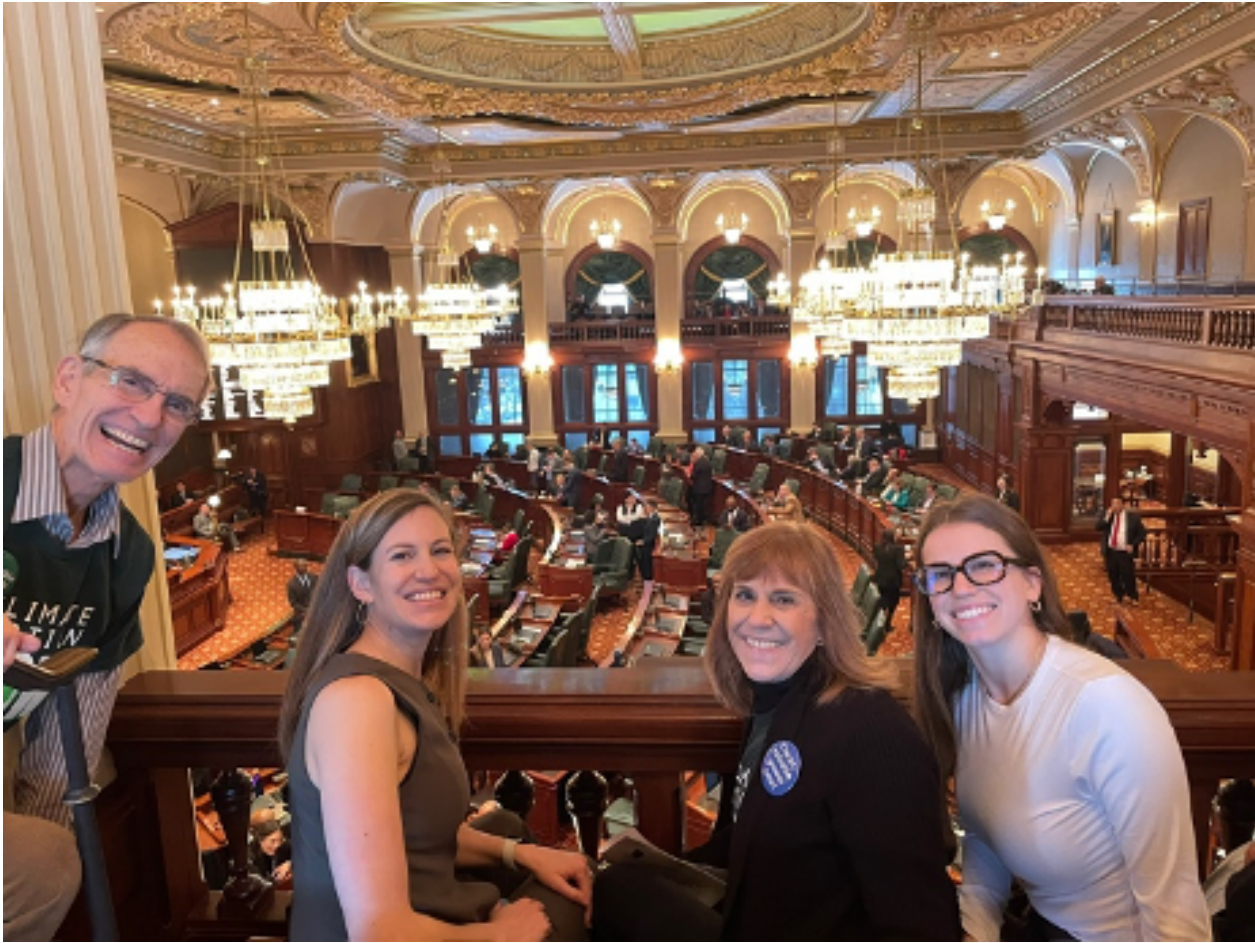
As most of you know, the incoming administration in Washington has signaled its plans to remove the federal tax incentive of \$7,500 for electric vehicles. I believe the car companies will offer incentives as a workaround to keep selling EV's. In fact, S&P Global Mobility predicts a 36% increase in EV sales in the US market in 2025.

Wisconsin news: Beyond the extra \$175 additional cost for EV registration, as of January 1, 2025, Wisconsin has imposed an excise tax of 3 cents per kilowatt-hour when charging at an EV charging station (DC Fast or level 1 and 2). This tax does not apply to home charging.

My family traveled to Lobby Day in Springfield on January 7th. We were able to talk to our state senator and other lawmakers to express concerns related to the electric grid, transportation, and reducing hazardous emissions in our homes and businesses. Items that were emphasized on transportation included: 1) putting state standards in place that increase the availability and reliability of zero emission vehicles 2) moving our public fleets to zero emissions and 3) increasing the buildout of charging infrastructure.

Stay Charged!

Tracey



Lobby Day in Springfield, January 7, 2025

Photos from December 13, 2024 Holiday Party

Tracey McFadden and
Bruce Jones



Dec. 13, 2024 Fox Valley Electric Auto Association Holiday Party at the Great Escape restaurant 9540 W Irving Park Rd. Schiller Park (wind turbine/ EV charging stations in back)



(L to R) Tracey (“Elf”) McFadden, Colin Warrick, Allen Lane, Rich Hirschberg, Marty Belovicz, Jeffrey Miller



Mr & Mrs. William McDaniel



Fearless Leader Jeff Miller



Maureen Stillman and Jacyn Feaking



Bob & Judy Kaplow, Howard Hansen & Pat Williams



Bob Baker, Steve Ledger, Margie & Doug Brezina



Marty Belovicz and Kyle Platt



The Johnsons - Ray, Ken, Willow and Laura



Larry Hanes, Evelyn Johnson, Diane Johnson



Upcoming Events Rich Hirschberg

***If you know of upcoming car shows, cruise nights, parades, or get-togethers, please shoot me an email - GoAFVs@yahoo.com

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

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

Free Yourself From The Pump^{fm}

 Join Us and Discover How!

Check 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 2025-01-15 04:58:10

Website Registered User Statistics

| Statistic | Value |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Total Users | 119 |
| Users Never Logged In | 41 |
| % Active Users | 65.5% |
| Ave. Days Since Last Visit | 884.4 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/@evsforever/videos>

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 2025-01-15 04:58:10

Count of Members by Type

| Membership Type | Count | Paid Up |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| Family | 4 | 4 |
| Individual | 60 | 60 |
| Lifetime | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 66 | 66 |

Other Statistics

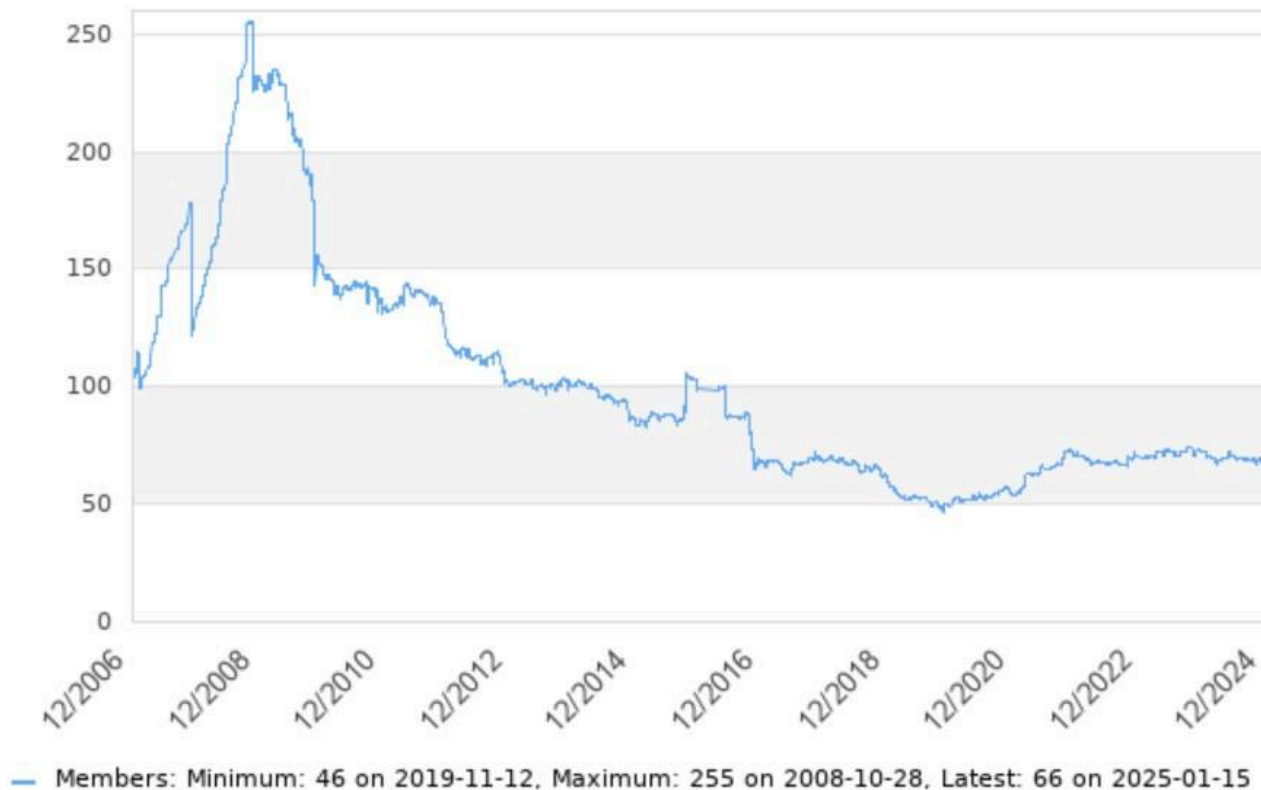
| Statistic | Value |
|-------------------|------------|
| % Paid Up | 100.0% |
| Avg. Paid Up Days | 371.8 days |
| % With Email | 97.0% |

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 EV 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 January 15, 2025 3:15pm



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!

- The FVEAA annual holiday party started at 6:00 p.m. at The Great Escape, 9540 W Irving Park Rd, Schiller Park, IL 60176
- The restaurant, and owner Brian were very accommodating for our 26 attendees.
- President Jeff Miller welcomed everyone and a delicious dinner was served.
- A slide show from Bruce was shown with all 2024 activities on a monitor provided by Marty.
- For entertainment, Rich Hirschberg posed holiday riddles, puns and trivia while Bruce handed out EV awards and gifts to everyone.
- Finally, our talented V.P. Tracey, who was attired in a flamboyant holiday elf outfit, played holiday music on his guitar, and led everyone in joyous singing to end the evening around 10 p.m.
- Thanks EVeryone for a great evening and a great 2024! See you in January to start our 50th anniversary year.

NOTE SEE 50TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING WORKSHEET AT END OF NEWSLETTER!

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
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.

| 2025 FVEAA SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT - CHAIR and Committee Sign Up | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| MONTH | 2025 FVEAA ANNIVERSARY MEETING / EVENT | CHAIR | EMAIL | PHONE | NOTES |
| JANUARY | Planning and prep | | | | |
| | 1/21/2025 Say "NO to COAL" for IMEA powered cities Naperville, St. Charles, Winnetka | Maureen Stillman | maureen.stillman@gmail.com | 630-605-0629 | Wear RED to oppose coal |
| FEBRUARY | | | | | TBD |
| MARCH | | | | | TBD |
| APRIL | Earth Day - Peck Farm Park | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| MAY | Union IL Electric Train museum / ride | Rob Schwartz | rschwartz350@sbcglobal.net | 847-833-7598 | |
| | | Rich Hirschberg | goafvs@yahoo.com | 847-347-7171 | follow up with Rob on this |
| | | Chris Sharp | greenenergytriad68@gmail.com | 630-780-3271 (h) | |
| | | Jeff Miller | millerjeffreys@gmail.com | 630-540-8351 | |
| | | | | | |
| JUNE | Friday June 20 Summer Solstice Event/ Cookout. | Marty Belovicz | martin@totalsystemintegration.com | 847-321-5734 | |
| | Car Show | Rich H. | goafvs@yahoo.com | 847-347-7171 | |
| | | | | | |
| JULY | July 4th Parade | Ted Lowe | | | check on registration |
| | Tailgate party Kane County stadium - throw first pitch | Tracey McFadden | tracer500@gmail.com | 630-697-5115 | tbd |
| | | Marty Belovicz | martin@totalsystemintegration.com | 847-321-5734 | |
| | Joint 50th anniversary event w IL Solar Energy Assoc. (ISEA) | Wendy Vernon | wavernon@yahoo.com | 630-761-9602 | Date and progress tbd |
| | | Howard Hansen | hghnsn@yahoo.com | 708-243-3054 | |
| | https://illinoisolar.org/#:~:text=Founded%20in%201975%2C%20incorporated%20in,the%20majority%20of%20its%20history | Ted Lowe | ted.lowe@fveaa.org | 630-260-0424 | |
| | | | | | |
| AUGUST | Sport - Chicago EV mixed Celebration | Marty Belovicz | martin@totalsystemintegration.com | 847-321-5734 | tbd |
| | Ted Liu - coordinate a Tesla Meetup w Chicago and Michigan | Ted Liu | tedliu@sector0.net | 312-285-0845 | tbd |
| | | Tracey McFadden | tracer500@gmail.com | 630-697-5115 | |

Cont'd

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--|------------------|--------------|
| SEPTEMBER | September Library events | Chris Sharp | | | |
| | Parade - | Laura Baus | baushaus4@sbcglobal.net | 224-279-5681 | prefer texts |
| | Grundy County Corn Festival Parade or other location? | Sharon White | peezmom@gmail.com | 630-533-1181 | |
| | | Phil White | phil@photofill.com | 630-269-7933 | |
| | National Drive Electric Event - North | Rich Hirschberg | goafvs@yahoo.com | 847-347-7171 | |
| OCTOBER | Fox Valley Mall 50th car show combination event with National Drive Electric Week-South | Marty Belovicz | martin@totalsystemintegration.com | 847-321-5734 | |
| | (note- 1983 car show at the Fox Valley Mall) | Tracey McFadden | tracer500@gmail.com | 630-697-5115 | |
| NOVEMBER | | | | | |
| DECEMBER | Special Dinner Celebration w speakers | Chris Sharp | greenenergytriad68@gmail.com | 630-780-3271 (h) | |
| | | Howard Hansen | hghnsn@yahoo.com | 708-243-3054 | |
| | | David Aarvold - (Chris Sharp to provide contact info) | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | |
| | 50th Anniversary Literature - promotions | Chris Sharp | greenenergytriad68@gmail.com | 630-780-3271 (h) | |
| | Promotions | | | | |
| | Library Displays | Chris Sharp | greenenergytriad68@gmail.com | 630-780-3271 (h) | |
| | Banners | Bruce Jones | bjone35@aim.com | 630-864-9669 | |