



# July 2025 FVEAA Newsletter

## Fox Valley Electric Auto Association

fveaa.org

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

### FVEAA Monthly Meeting

## 50th Anniversary - Joint Picnic, Fox Valley Electric Auto Association (FVEAA) and Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA)

**When: Sunday July 27, 2025**

**Where: Fabyan Shelter #1, Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva, IL  
Near 1925 S. Batavia Avenue, Geneva, IL 60134**

ISEA and FVEAA JOINT SIGN UP: [PICNIC SIGN UP](#)

Plan to arrive 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. to find parking, help set up, and start the picnic. NO Zoom!  
Picnic lunch starts at 12 noon and after speakers present it will run until about 3 pm.

### **Parking: Carpool if you can!**

Limited parking is available right near Shelter #1, and we'll aim to have as many EVs there as we can. The main parking lot for Fabyan Forest Preserve Shelter #1 is right off Route 31 as shown on the map (next page) and parking availability will be determined by our attendance plus the general public coming to enjoy the forest preserve.

Overflow parking if needed is on the East side of the river near the Fabyan Windmill located at 1500 Crissey Ave. Geneva, IL 60134 then take the footbridge over the river to Shelter #1.

Electricity will be available to power the microphone plus crock pots you may bring

### **Meeting Agenda:**

10:00 a.m. Setup crew

**Everyone arrives** - bring Pot Luck food, Cooking starts

12:00 noon Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Speeches

Tracey McFadden FVEAA Introduction

Rich Hirschberg - presentation

Chris Sharp - History of the FVEAA

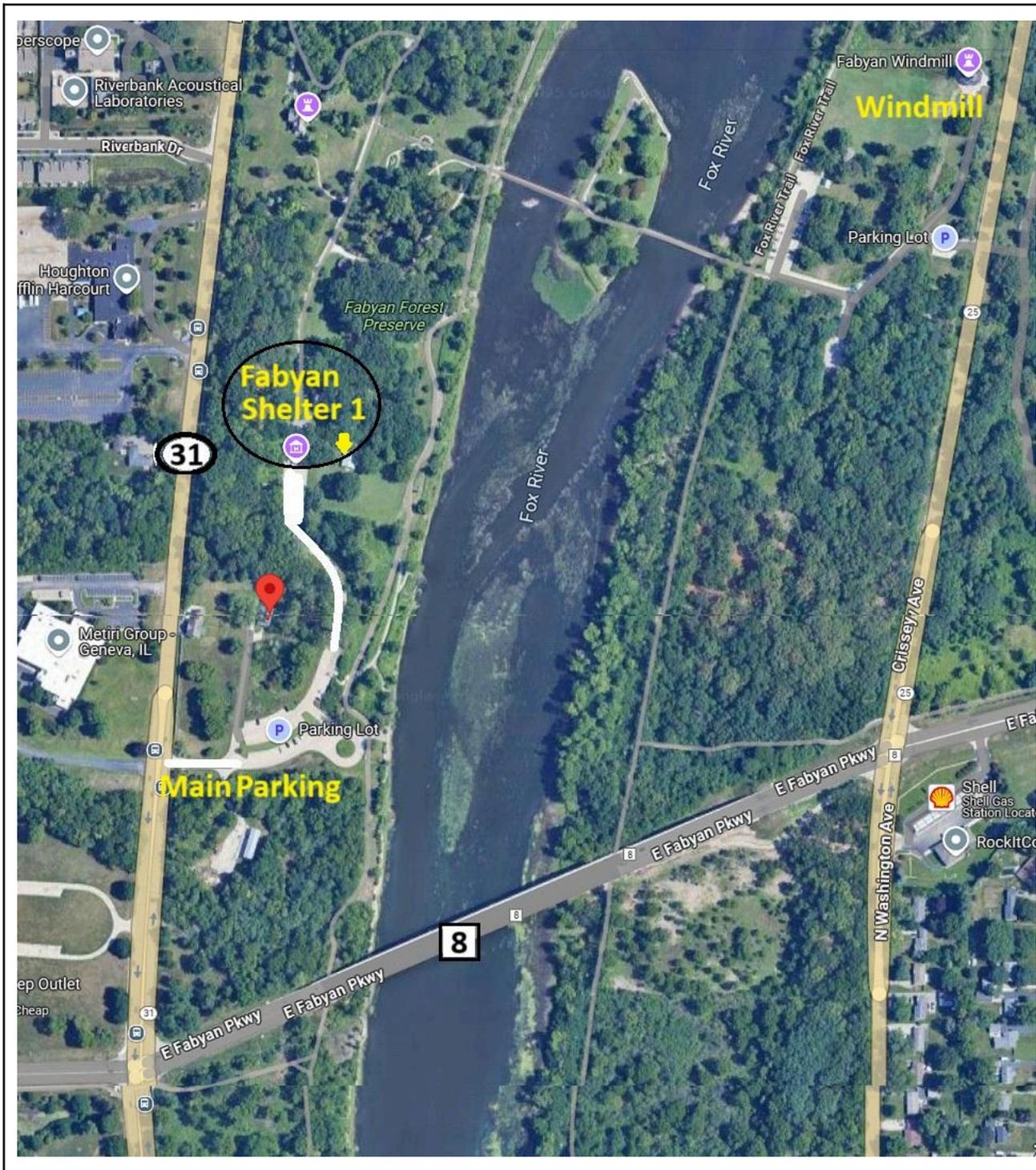
ISEA Introduction and Speakers

See displays, socialize, eat, walk have fun, talk with visitors

3:00 p.m. End, clean up

**Where:** Fabyan Forest Preserve, Shelter #1 on the west side of the Fox River off Route 31 approximately at this address **1925 S Batavia Avenue, Geneva, IL 60134**

**Map:** [Fabyan Forest Preserve Shelter #1](#)



There are many things to enjoy near the Shelter besides the river walk, like the Japanese Tea Garden and the awesome Fabyan windmill on the east side of the River.

## President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Greetings EV drivers and enthusiasts,

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the FVEAA!

Our July meeting/celebration will be held at the Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva, Illinois, Shelter #1 on Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 3 pm. This will be a potluck picnic with hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and some vegan fare provided. Please bring a dish to pass and any nonalcoholic beverage you wish to drink. Please be sure to register to attend this event.

At this meeting, we will get an inside look at the history of the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association as presented by FVEAA Board member Chris Sharp. Chris has done some extensive research into our history so it should be a fantastic presentation.

Members of the Illinois Solar Energy Association, who are also celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, will also be in attendance. We can expect to hear more about their organization at the picnic.

I want to encourage everyone to sign up to attend our Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup> outing to East Troy, Wisconsin. We will be taking a train ride on a historic electric train, touring the electric train maintenance barn and the electric train museum, shopping at the Elegant Farmer specialty shop, and enjoying a no-host lunch together in downtown East Troy. Please sign up by emailing me at: [Tracer500@gmail.com](mailto:Tracer500@gmail.com) with the "Electric Train Tour" in the subject line. You may also sign up at the Batavia picnic on July 27. The cost is \$28 for adults and \$14 for children. You may pay by Zelle at: [kmcfadden78@gmail.com](mailto:kmcfadden78@gmail.com), or bring a check or cash to the July 27<sup>th</sup> picnic. July 27<sup>th</sup> will be the last day to sign up and pay.

This is turning out to be a fun filled summer for our group. I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events.

Stay Charged!

## Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

This is coming to our busy time and I have had a couple of outreach items coming up. First is the opportunity for use a green energy to reach out in new directions, I am a retired member of the Palatine Jaycees. They are always looking to show new and update the community and members as a young people leadership organization. This is their current chapter structure in Illinois and they have a much larger US and international footprint. Phase one is have us be part of a community / member EV learning sessions, the nice part is they do all of the footwork and we provide the presentation and information. Myself and Tracy are currently working with the palatine jaycees president about a presentation in the next month or so.

I have created a form to let us know your thoughts and opinions on the future meetings:

[https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAO\\_\\_d1nGyFUMINRMEo4SU1aVzRERkExQVhKNEpCVjE1WS4u](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAO__d1nGyFUMINRMEo4SU1aVzRERkExQVhKNEpCVjE1WS4u)

In addition we will be running several upcoming events if interested reach as we are always looking for smiling EV faces there.

I would also like to see what interests and projects you would like to see or help in. My email is [martin@totalsystemintegration.com](mailto:martin@totalsystemintegration.com) and my phone number is 847 321 5734.

## Photos of June 20 Meeting

Bruce Jones



On-line attendees on 6/20



On-site attendees in Geneva, IL



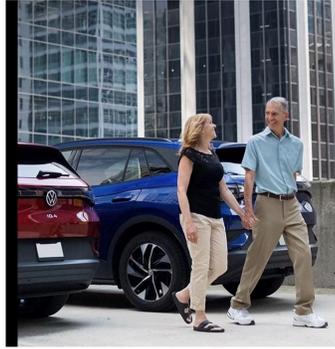
Tracey and Dr. Kathleen McFadden provided an educational overview of EVs!

## Fun, Reliable and Quiet to Drive



## Electric Train Ride and Tours

East Troy, Wisconsin  
Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.



*Thank You!*

**Tracey E. McFadden**  
Interim President, FVEAA

**Kathleen L. McFadden, Ph.D.**  
NIU Professor Emerita of  
Operations Management



## 50th Anniversary History Highlights

Christopher Sharp

### Car Conversions in the 1970's

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The Arab Oil Embargo of 1973-1974 created a liquid fuels shortage in the United States and interest in alternative energy and alternative transportation grew fast among the American public. And then a number of people started to take action.

According to old club newsletters, at least 4 FVEAA members converted gasoline powered cars to electric power in those early days. These four men were John Emde, Kenneth Meyers, William Shafer and John Stockberger. Details below.

John Emde

6542 Fairmount Ave.

Downers Grove, IL. 60181

Conversion; 1974 Subaru GL Coupe

Source of Information; Arlene Emde (John's wife). John's first car had no heat or defroster in it.

Kenneth Meyer

1303 Indiana St.

St.Charles, IL. 60174

Conversion; NSU Prinz ( a West German Car )

Source of information; June 2002 Newsletter under "Presez Comments".

William "Bill" H. Shafer

308 S. Ave.

Oak Park, IL.

Conversion; 1967 Dutch DAF

Source; Page 2 of a letter to the United States Department of Energy.

John Stockberger  
2S.643 Nelson Lake Road  
Batavia, IL.  
Conversion; Ford Pinto  
Source; June 2002 Newsletter.

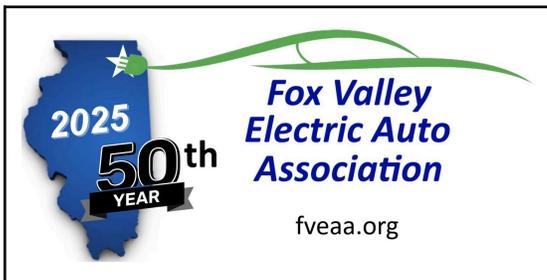
Written by; Christoher Sharp  
Thur. June 5,,2025  
Interim Board Member

## On Modernizing Our Logo

FVEAA BoD



**We are updating our official FVEAA logo! The one above has served us well for about 20 years. The one below, that Bruce Jones has creatively assembled partly based on our parent organization the Electric Vehicle Association, is almost ready for release. As you can see, it also helps us celebrate our 50th year as an organization! What do you think? Please share your thoughts and ideas, thanks!**



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

## Upcoming EVents

Rich Hirschberg

### **50TH ANNIVERSARY Potluck Picnic**

The joint 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Potluck picnic with the Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA).

- Location: Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva, Shelter #1
- Date: Sunday, July 27th
- Time: 10:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, some vegan fare and water will be provided.

- Please bring a dish to pass and any non-alcoholic beverage of your choice.

### **ELECTRIC TRAIN MUSEUM TRIP**

- East Troy, Wisconsin (address TBA) - *send email and payment to Tracey McFadden*
- Sat. August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Times: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- We will board an electric train, tour the train barn and museum, shop at the Elegant Farmer specialty shop, and enjoy a lunch (pay duth) together. It will be a fun summer event for all members.
- Afterwards the Board of Directors hold a planning meeting at the McFadden's

### **Changes in upcoming 50th Anniversary Events**

- Rich's June 21st Car Show was canceled. But stay tuned. Looking for a location and date, possibly sometime in August

### **NDEM - NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC MONTH**

NDEM NORTH - Rich Hirschberg

- Algonquin Public Library
- Sat., Sept. 13, Rain Date: Sat., Sept. 20
- Tracey will be the guest speaker with his talk, "EV 101 - What You Need to Know About Electric Vehicles".
- Many displays, activities, and local involvement

NDEM SOUTH - Marty

- Fox Valley Mall for 50th coordination
- Date: TBA

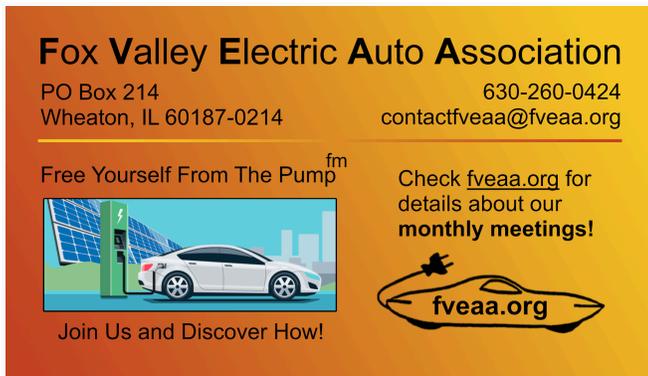
\*\*\*If you know of upcoming car shows, cruise nights, parades, or get-togethers, please shoot me an email - [GoAFVs@yahoo.com](mailto:GoAFVs@yahoo.com)

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

## 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

Free Yourself From The Pump<sup>fm</sup>  
Check [fveaa.org](http://fveaa.org) for details about our monthly meetings!

Join Us and Discover How!

[fveaa.org](http://fveaa.org)



## Login to our FVEAA website for access to lots of member-only tools!

Ted Lowe

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 On Facebook - Join Us! Like Us!

Ted Lowe

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>

## 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/@evsforever/videos>

## Membership Update

Ted Lowe

Keep an eye on the **active paid-up** members count! Many members have taken advantage of the multi-year renewals offered on the website! **Please renew & recruit new folks!!!**



## FVEAA Membership Report

as of 2025-07-16 04:58:12

### Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	60	59
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	67	66

### Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	98.5%
Avg. Paid Up Days	395.0 days
% With Email	97.0%

### Encouraging Our Membership To Grow and Some History

Ted Lowe

We live in a large metro area with 8 million people and EV adoption is growing, 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!

Our membership count peaked at 255 members in October 2008 when gas was nearing \$5 per gallon! We were also attending lots of invitational EVents with our converted EVs. The first Tesla Roadster was just coming into being. **Let's get out there and grow the FVEAA!!!**

### 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

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!**

6/20/2025

Pre-Introduction

- Tracey McFadden, interim President started the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a brief introduction.

August Electric Train Ride

- Tracey then gave an overview of the August 23rd 50th anniversary Electric Train trip in East Troy Wisconsin that includes a special tour of the barns and museum behind the scenes. Please sign up as soon as possible by sending an email to tracey, and then payment.

Introductions

- Tracey then held introductions all around and on-line

Presentation: EV 101: Everything You Need to Know about Electric Vehicles

- Dr. Kathleen McFadden and Tracey gave an epic presentation and complete education of Electric Vehicles.
  - Test your EV knowledge
  - Benefits of driving an EV
  - Types of EVs and how they work
  - EV batteries
  - Charging an EV
  - Purchasing an EV
- Fabulous job, thanks Kathleen and Tracey!

Break

Chris Sharp - 50th Anniversary Family Potluck Cookout

- The Joint 50th Anniversary Celebration and Family Potluck Cookout with the Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA).
- Location: Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva, Shelter #1
- Date: Sunday July 27th
- Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, some vegan fare and water will be provided.
- Please bring a dish to pass and any non-alcoholic beverage your choice.

Upcoming Events

- Rich Hirschberg gave an update on upcoming events
  - **50th Anniversary Family Potluck Cookout**
    - The Joint 50th Anniversary Celebration and Family Potluck Cookout with the Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA).

- Location: Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva, Shelter #1
  - 
  - Date: Sunday July 27th
  - Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.
  - Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, some vegan fare and water will be provided.
  - Please bring a dish to pass and any non-alcoholic beverage your choice.
- 
- **Sat. August 23rd Electric Train Museum Day Trip**
  - National Drive Electric Month
  - **NDEM – Sat. Sept. 13th North – at Algonquin Public Library**
  - **NDEM – Sat. Sept 27th South – Fox Valley Mall, Aurora**
- 
- The meeting ended around 9:35

**Membership Form***Ted Lowe***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.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D3OfsK5ilypWnLorQSLMZ0LndJxtMtTjKkkYerF9Lfw/edit?tab=t.0>

2025 FVEAA SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT- CHAIR and Committee Sign Up					
MONTH	2025 FVEAA SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY MEETING / EVENT	CHAIR	EMAIL	PHONE	NOTES
JANUARY	Planning and prep				
FEBRUARY					
MARCH					
APRIL	Earth Day, Sat. April 19th. Peck Farm Park 4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva, IL Setup 10:00 a.m. Event from 11am- 1 p.m.	Bruce Jones	<a href="mailto:bjone35@aim.com">bjone35@aim.com</a>	630-864-9669	Promote the 50th anniversary at Earth Day. Wear FVEAA shirt
MAY	May 29 Kane County Cougars Baseball Game <b>THURSDAY</b> night Success!	Tracey, Bruce Jones	<a href="mailto:tracer500@gmail.com">tracer500@gmail.com</a>	630-697-5115	
JUNE	<b>June 21</b> Sat. Car Show. <b>CANCELED</b> by HD	Rich Hirschberg	<a href="mailto:goafvs@yahoo.com">goafvs@yahoo.com</a>	847-347-7171	Rich Hirschberg's excellent Home Depot car show
JULY	<b>July 4th</b> Friday - Brookdale Parade Line up 10:30. Starts 11:00 a.m.	Bruce Jones	<a href="mailto:bjone35@aim.com">bjone35@aim.com</a>	630-864-9669	<a href="https://www.aboutbrookdale.org/fourth-of-july-parade-picnic/">https://www.aboutbrookdale.org/fourth-of-july-parade-picnic/</a>
	<b>July 27</b> Sun. 10:00 to 3 p.m. Summer Joint 50th Anniversary Event/ Pot luck Cookout w IL Solar Energy Assoc. Fabyan Forest Preserve Shelter #1. 1925 S Batavia Ave; Geneva 60134 (Route 31) just north of Fabyan Parkway, west side of Fox River.	Chris Sharp	<a href="mailto:greenenergytriad68@gmail.com">greenenergytriad68@gmail.com</a>	630-780-3271 (h)	BIG EVENT! Date booked by John Balk. Thanks! Chris Sharp to promote 50th anniversary with a speech and displays etc. Set up at 10:00. noon we'll kick off w a few speeches and lunch
	(ISEA) Nicola Brown and Leslie McCain <a href="https://www.illinoisolar.org/">https://www.illinoisolar.org/</a>	Wendy Vernon	<a href="mailto:wavemon@yahoo.com">wavemon@yahoo.com</a>	630-761-9602	ISEA contact
AUGUST	<i>Rob Looking for appropriate car show or event</i>	Rob Schwartz	<a href="mailto:rschwartz350@sbcglobal.net">rschwartz350@sbcglobal.net</a>	847-833-7598	
	<b>Aug 23</b> East Troy Electric Train ride 10 a.m. to farmers market. Board train at East Troy Depot: 2002 Church Street, East Troy, WI. See museum, w special tour of train barns. Lunch nearby (pay dutch). Then FVEAA Board Meeting	Tracey & K McFadden	<a href="mailto:tracer500@gmail.com">tracer500@gmail.com</a>	630-697-5115	We'll travel by electric train to and from the Elegant Farmer (farmer's market) 1545 Main St., Mukwonago, WI. THEN FVEAA Board Mtg for officers and board@McFaddens
	TBD	Marty Belovicz	<a href="mailto:martin@totalsystemintegration.com">martin@totalsystemintegration.com</a>	847-321-5734	tbd
	TBD	Ted Liu	<a href="mailto:tedliu@sector0.net">tedliu@sector0.net</a>	312-285-0845	tbd
SEPTEMBER	September Library events	Chris Sharp			
<b>National Drive Electric Month from Friday, Fri Sept. 12, to Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025.</b>					
	<b>9/13/2025</b> National Drive Electric Month - <b>North</b> event. Backup rain date 9/20 ALGONQUIN PUBLIC LIBRARY	Rich Hirschberg	<a href="mailto:goafvs@yahoo.com">goafvs@yahoo.com</a>	847-347-7171	Possibly library location.
	<b>9/27/2025 (tbd)</b> National Drive Electric Month- <b>South</b> - Fox Valley Mall 50th anniversary and car show event. Backup date 10/4	Marty Belovicz	<a href="mailto:martin@totalsystemintegration.com">martin@totalsystemintegration.com</a>	847-321-5734	Marty to check w Fox Valley Mall on coordinating w their 50th anniv.
OCTOBER					
NOVEMBER					
DECEMBER					
OTHER	50th Anniversary Literature - promotions, Library Displays	Chris Sharp	<a href="mailto:greenenergytriad68@gmail.com">greenenergytriad68@gmail.com</a>	630-780-3271 (h)	
	Banners	Bruce Jones	<a href="mailto:bjone35@aim.com">bjone35@aim.com</a>	630-864-9669	