



August 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

When: Friday, August 15, 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

7:30 Bruce Jones - 1660 Mile Road Trip in a 2023 Chevy Bolt EV

8:40 Break

8:45 Officer / Board Nominations

8:50 Rich Hirschberg - Upcoming Events update

9:00 Adjourn

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

What a great summer this is turning out to be. Our thanks go out to Chris Sharp for all the work he put into making our 50th anniversary picnic at Fabyan Forest Preserve such a success. I know everyone learned a lot from the talk he gave at the picnic on the history of our organization. He has done a monumental job researching FVEAA history.

Our picnic was co-hosted by the Illinois Solar Energy Association, also celebrating 50 years as a group. Their solar ambassador Mike Bullock gave a great talk on how he presents the benefits of solar to the general public. He pointed out that people are naturally resistant to change. The best way to overcome this is to provide personal stories highlighting the rewards and financial benefits of making the change. His talk certainly applied to our group as we promote the use of Electric Vehicles through National Drive Electric Month and other EV promotional activities such as the upcoming car show in Geneva.

The Geneva Concours d' Elegance auto show will be held on Sunday August 24th between 10 am and 4 pm. This is a great opportunity to show off your EV, mingle with antique car collectors and members of our group as well as enjoy the day in beautiful downtown Geneva, IL. This is one of the biggest and most prestigious car shows in the Midwest. There will be thousands of people in attendance. Our cars will be on display in the car club area where we can show off our EV's and talk with attendees about the benefits of driving electric. This year we are again fortunate to have Bruce Jones's Hupmobile in the main event on 3rd street.

All cars must register in advance for the event. The entry fee is \$25 and all proceeds go to the Living Well Cancer Center in Geneva. Please register as soon as possible. The link to the registration form is below. You must print it out and mail it as they do not accept fax or online registrations. Be sure to fill out the Car Club Information as indicated below:

Name of Car Club __FVEAA__ **Club-Region** __Fox Valley__

Club Contact _Tracey McFadden_ **Contact-Number**_630-697-5115

<https://genevaconcours.net/Media/Media-pdfs/GC-car-club-registration-2025-pdf-version.pdf>

We have openings for new board members and will be holding elections in October. This offers a great opportunity to contribute to our organization and become part of the decision-making process. Please let any of our board members know if you are interested in being nominated.

Fourteen people will be attending the FVEAA Electric Train event on August 23rd. This is another part of our 50th anniversary celebration and offers a unique opportunity for our members to see multiple electric trains running in each direction. We were able to get specialty tickets that allow us a special "behind the scenes" train ride and tour at the maintenance facility, car barn and museum.

Unfortunately, I will not be at the meeting on Friday August 15th as I will be attending the funeral of a good friend in Colorado. The group will be in good hands as our Vice President Marty Belovicz will be conducting the meeting. Bruce Jones will speak about his recent cross-country trip in his Chevy Bolt. Stay Charged!

Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

Good morning fellow EVer,
I am excited about the upcoming events! The NDEW 50th is at Fox Valley mall at the end of September. See the link for volunteering and visiting:

<https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4943>

There will be a link for signing up to help shortly.

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=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAA>

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 and my phone number is 847 321 5734.

FVEAA 50th Anniversary History

Christopher Sharp

Fox Valley Electric Auto Association Meeting Places - 1975 to August 2025

The Fox Valley Electric Auto Association has held regular monthly meetings during its history in various locations including member's homes, in banks, in schools, in aircraft hangers, in churches, in parks, in parking lots, in automobile dealerships, and in factories. There were times when our meetings were cancelled and that was usually from bad winter weather.

The first place that the FVEAA met in 1975 was at the home of John Stockberger, who invited interested people to his home workshop (located directly behind his house) when he and others started converting cars to electric power in the mid to late 1970s.

Very little information is available at this time about those early meetings. The first good information came in 1984 from the organization newsletters. John Emde was the newsletter editor from 1984 to 1990 and these newsletters can be found on the F.V.E.A.A. Web site. The group's newsletters had meeting minutes in them and letters from the club's Presidents. Although there is a lot of information in the newsletters, usually technical, they do not provide a complete history. The following is a list of the meeting places found including some unusual places.

January 1984 - May 1984

Mid-American Federal Savings
250 E. Roosevelt Rd.
Wheaton, IL.

June 1986 - April 1990

Cragin Federal Savings and Loan
335 W. Wesley Street
Wheaton, IL.

May 1990 - June of 1999

College of DuPage
22nd and Lambert Rd.
Glen Ellyn, IL.

July, August and September 1999

Ed Meyer's Aircraft Hanger
216 Sunshine Drive
Bolingbrook, IL.

October 1999 - September 2005

Triton College
Industrial Careers Building - Room #108
River Grove, IL. 60171

October 2005

Meeting Cancelled due to meeting space availability at Triton College.

November 2005

Downers Grove Community Church
6600 S. Fairview Ave.
Downers Grove, IL. 60516

December 2005

Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
17 W. Maple Ave.
Hinsdale, IL. 60521

January 2006 - June 2007

Packer Wings Aircraft Hanger
Clow International Airport
130 S. Clow International Parkway
Bolingbrook, IL. 60440

July 2007 - January 2012

Packer Engineering
1976 N. Washington Street
Naperville, IL. 60563

February 2012 - February 2020

Community Christian Church
1635 Emerson Lane
Naperville, IL. 60540

March 2020 -

In 2019 a Coronavirus outbreak started in China. It spread around the world and by the early months of 2020 it was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Social distancing was thought to be one of the ways to slow down the spread of this deadly disease, but it posed a challenge to the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association that had traditionally met in person every month. Jeff Miller, who was the President of the FVEAA at that time was up to the challenge. He, with the help of Marty Belovicz and other members of the organization moved the monthly meetings "Online" using the Zoom video conferencing platform. As the pandemic subsided, "hybrid" meetings were held both on-line and on-site.

2022 - present

The following location secured by Vice President Tracey McFadden eventually became the location of choice after on-site meetings resumed in 2022, a location in the northern IL suburbs closer to many of the officers.

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

Written by; Christopher Sharp
Interim Board Member, Historian

**Photos of 50th Anniversary Picnic
Sun July 27, 2025 FVEAA + ISEA**

Bruce Jones, Kathy McFadden,
Maureen Stillman, Wendy Vernon



2025 FVEAA Board Members Ted Lowe, Tracey McFadden, Christopher Sharp, Jeffrey Miller, Ted Liu, Rich Hirschberg, Marty Belovicz, Bruce Jones



50th Anniversary Picnic Coordinators Wendy Vernon for ISEA and FVEAA, Chris Sharp picnic coordinator and Bruce Jones.



Left: Jeffrey Miller (L) is awarded a lifetime EAGL award by Rich Hirschberg who created the EAGL Awards (Earth, Air, & Green Leadership). Jeff has been a driving force for Electric Vehicles for almost 7 years as President of the FVEAA, and all-around expert on the topics of EVs, charging stations, HVAC, heat pumps and sustainability. As said by Tracey McFadden, "I think we can all agree that Jeff has continuously gone above and beyond in his duties as president. Not only has he provided us with engaging meetings every month, but he generously gives of his valuable time to help so many of us with various EV needs. Whether it be to help with an EV conversion, installing a charging station, or providing expert advice when we are planning to purchase an EV, Jeff is always there to support us." Jeff will remain an active member of the FVEAA.

The EAGL awards help build cooperation and networking between our club and like-minded organizations and individuals.

ISEA - a tale of two groups - a) Education and b) solar energy / battery storage. The Illinois Solar **Education** Association (ISEA), is a non-profit organization that promotes the widespread adoption of solar and other forms of renewable energy through education in Illinois. It is a chapter of ASES, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that advocates for sustainable living and 100% renewable energy by sharing information, events, and resources to cultivate community and power progress.

The Illinois **Solar and Battery** Association is the other half of the group, more technical in nature. This year they will host the FIRST Annual Illinois Solar AND Storage Tour <https://illinoissolar.org/>



Interim President Tracey McFadden kicked off events with a welcome, and introduced speakers



Chris Sharp, board member, headed up the picnic events, and gave a detailed FVEAA history



Jeff Gahris - Illinois Solar Education Association Ambassador



Mike Bullock - Illinois Solar Education Association Ambassador



Fabyan Shelter #1 with nice ISEA and FVEAA banners and displays



Great crowd - around 50 attendees total



Kevin Zak, Jaclyn Feakins, Ted Lowe, Bob Kaplow



All dishes, cups, utensils, table cloths sustainably provided by Wendy Vernon. Thanks Wendy! It really reduced what was thrown in the trash.



Wendy Vernon's nice ISEA displays



FVEAA displays including picture board from Triton College club car project



Jaclyn Feakins,
Tracey McFadden
and Katherine Klock



Jeff Miller, cook, EV
expert, past President
extraordinaire!



Thanks to Howard
Hansen especially
for your set-up and
clean up work!



Dr. Beckie & Steve
Bergman



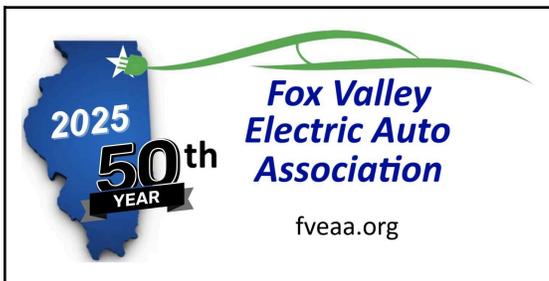
Kevin Zak, former president with
sister Laura (Zak) Baus.



Don Brown, Kathy McFadden, Andy Schaeffer.
Andy thanks for assisting Chris Sharp!
Don thanks for funding the shelter reservation!
Kathy thanks for manning the check-in table!



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

Electric Train Museum Trip

- East Troy, Wisconsin (address TBA) - *send email and payment to Tracey McFadden*
- Date: Sat., August 23rd
- 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 dutch) together. It will be a fun summer event for all members.
- Afterwards the Board of Directors hold a planning meeting at the McFadden's

The Geneva Concours d' Elegance Auto Show (see entry under "President's Words")

- Date: Sunday August 24th.
- Times: 10 am and 4 pm.
- This is a great opportunity to show off your EV, mingle with antique car collectors and members of our group as well as enjoy the day in beautiful **downtown Geneva, IL**.
- This is one of the biggest and most prestigious car shows in the Midwest. There will be thousands of people in attendance.

- Our cars will be on display in the car club area where we can show off our EVs and talk with attendees about the benefits of driving electric.
- This year we are again fortunate to have Bruce Jones's Hupmobile in the main event on 3rd street.
- To enter your vehicle, you need to register ahead of time

NDEM - NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC MONTH

NDEM NORTH - Rich Hirschberg

- Algonquin Public Library
- Date: Sat., Sept. 13, Rain Date: Sat., Sept. 20
- Times: 10 am to 3 pm
- Tracey McFadden will be the guest speaker with his talk, "EV 101 - What You Need to Know About Electric Vehicles".
- Many displays, activities, and local involvement
- <https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4887>
- Algonquin Library, 2600 Harnish Dr., Algonquin, IL 60102

NDEM SOUTH - Marty Belovicz

- Fox Valley Mall for 50th coordination
- Date: Sat., Sept. 27
- Times: 10 am to 4 pm
- "This event is an annual event at a popular mall - showing and informing the public about EVs and their benefits"
- <https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4943>
- FVM - 195 Fox Valley Center Dr., Aurora, IL 60504

***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

FVEAA "About Page" updated

Ted Lowe

The page was updated to reflect our recent elections of Interim leadership. <https://fveaa.org/about>

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^{fm}



Join Us and Discover How!

Check fveaa.org for details about our monthly meetings!



**Fox Valley
Electric Auto
Associaton**

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 2025-08-11 04:58:10

Count of Members by Type

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

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	100.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	406.8 days
% With Email	97.1%

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 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 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 EEvents 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.

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!

07/27/2025 Joint FVEAA & ISEA Picnic

The monthly meeting was the 50th Anniversary Family Potluck Cookout with the Illinois Solar Energy Association (ISEA) (Actually ISEA is split into two organizations, the non-profit Illinois Solar Education Association and the Illinois Solar Energy and Storage Association.)

- Location: Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva Shelter #1
- The meeting started with early setup by Marty, Wendy, Chris, Tracey, Bruce, Don and Howard
- Jeffrey Miller cooked the Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, and vegan burgers. Thanks Jeff!
- Excellent displays, socializing, eating, walking, talking!
-

Introduction and Speakers

- Tracey McFadden, interim President welcomed everyone and introduced each speaker
 - Rich Hirschberg presented Jeff Miller with an EAGL award for his outstanding 6 ¾ years of excellent service for the FVEAA.
 - Christopher Sharp interim board member and historian, presented the history of the FVEAA
 - ISEA speaker Mike Gates presented on ISEA
 - ISEA speaker Mike Bullock talked about the ISEA as well
 - And a good time was had by all, despite the high heat and humidity!
 - Thanks much to Wendy Vernon for providing the table cloths, plates, utensils, cups, ISEA displays. And to Howard Hansen for the setup and clean up work!
 - Thanks to everyone for the excellent pot-luck food!
-
- The picnic meeting ended around 3 p.m. with cleanup ending around 3:45

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
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.

FVEAA 50th Anniversary Planning

Bruce Jones

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D3OfsK5ilypWnLQSLMZ0LndJxtMtTjKkkYerF9Lfw/edit?tab=t.0>

NOW on GOOGLE DOCS

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DmgQDA08bLQwUBgNy9ews9zV9wASTgzBUUp_FmAvjV9Y/edit?gid=0#

2025 FVEAA SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY Events

MONTH	2025 FVEAA SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY MEETING / EVENT	CHAIR	EMAIL	PHONE
2025				
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	bjone35@aim.com	630-864-9669
MAY	May 29 Kane County Cougars Baseball Game THURSDAY night Success!	Tracey, Bruce Jones	tracer500@gmail.com	630-697-5115
JUNE	June 21 Sat. Car Show. CANCELED by Home Depot	Rich Hirschberg	goafvs@yahoo.com	847-347-7171
JULY	July 27 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	greenenergytriad68@gmail.com	630-780-3271 (h)
	(ISEA) Nicola Brown and Leslie McCain https://www.illinoisolar.org/	Wendy Vernon	wavemon@yahoo.com	630-761-9602
AUGUST	Aug 23 Sat. East Troy Electric Train ride Officers and Board members 10:30 a.m. meet briefly at McFadden's house N9148 Oakwood La. Mukwonago, WI 53149. 11:00 a.m. everyone meet at Elegant Farmer 1545 Main St., Mukwonago, WI. Board train to East Troy Depot. See museum, w special tour of train barns. Lunch nearby (pay dutch).	Tracey & K McFadden	tracer500@gmail.com	630-697-5115
	All return on train to Elegant Farmer. Board members depart for McFadden's for Board Meeting. Other attendees may continue to ride the electric train or view the local sites.			
	Aug 24 Sun. Concours d'Elegance Geneva	Tracey McFadden	tracer500@gmail.com	630-697-5115
SEPTEMBER	September Library events	Chris Sharp		
National Drive Electric Month from Friday, Fri Sept. 12, to Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025.				
	9/13/2025 National Drive Electric Month North event. Backup rain date 9/20 ALGONQUIN PUBLIC LIBRARY	Rich Hirschberg	goafvs@yahoo.com	847-347-7171
	9/27/2025 (tbd) National Drive Electric Month-South - Fox Valley Mall 50th anniversary and car show event. Backup date 10/4	Marty Belovicz	martin@totalsystemintegration.com	847-321-5734
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				
OTHER	50th Anniversary Literature - promotions, Library Displays	Chris Sharp	greenenergytriad68@gmail.com	630-780-3271 (h)
	Picnic coordinator and ISEA contact	Wendy Vernon	wavemon@yahoo.com	630-761-9602
	50th Anniversary Logo, Artwork, Banner	Bruce Jones	bjone35@aim.com	630-864-9669