



September 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

Our meetings this month will occur in two locations and dates in celebration of **National Drive Electric Month (NDEM)**! This will be a great opportunity for all of us to meet and talk about EVs and show off our electric cars to the public.

NDEM NORTH Event: Saturday, September 13 - 10 AM to 3 PM

Algonquin Public Library
2600 Harnish Dr.
Algonquin, IL 60102

At 10 AM, Tracey & Kathy McFadden will present:

EV 101 - Everything You Need to Know about Electric Vehicles

<https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4887>

NDEM SOUTH Event: Saturday, September 27 - 10 AM to 4 PM

Fox Valley Mall
195 Fox Valley Center Dr.
Aurora, IL 60504

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

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

What a great month August has been for FVEAA. Fourteen people attended the East Troy train ride and tour of the train maintenance facility and museum. The lunch was excellent at the East Troy House, the oldest tavern in Wisconsin (Established in 1838). My thanks go out to my wife Kathy for taking the lead on the planning and logistics for this event.

At the Concours d'Elegance Auto Show in Geneva, Jaclyn Feakins's 2010 Tesla Roadster and Bruce Jones's 1930 Hupmobile hybrid were big hits. Bruce and Jaclyn spent the day meeting people and talking up electric cars.

In lieu of our September meeting, we have two fun events to attend as part of National Drive Electric Month. The first event is on Sept 13th at the Algonquin Public Library where my wife Kathy and I will give a talk entitled "EV 101 - What You Need to Know About Electric Vehicles". There will be many displays and activities for the entire family. The second is at the Fox Valley Mall in Aurora on Sept 27th. Please bring your cars to display, enjoy comradery with members of our group, and help educate the public on the benefits of driving electric. More information on these upcoming events is found in the links below, where you can sign up.

Algonquin Public Library Event: <https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4887>

Aurora Fox Valley Mall Event: <https://driveelectricmonth.org/event?eventid=4943>

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Drive Electric Events in September!

Stay Charged!

Tracey

Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

Good afternoon fellow members.

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:

We are currently around 5 attending but looking for more

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

There is a link for signing up to help!

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

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.

The Eclipse of the Electric Car

Electric cars began to fade from mainstream production in the 1920s and 1930s. Competing gas cars during that time were notoriously difficult to start using a hand crank. Ironically the invention of an electric starter motor by engineers Clyde Coleman and Charles Kettering, and first installed in a Cadillac on February 17, 1911 propelled the sales of internal combustion vehicles, helping to fuel the demise of electric cars.

The Milburn Wagon Company built its last car in 1923, followed by Columbia Motors in 1924. Rauch & Lang stopped production in 1932, and the Anderson Motor Company produced the final Detroit Electric in 1939. For the next several decades, internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles dominated the market—until 1973. However, electric vehicles didn't disappear entirely. Instead, they found specialized roles in industries where they had clear advantages. They were widely used in mines, factories, and warehouses as electric forklifts, tugs, pickers, and people movers.

Public transportation also made use of electric technology. Many cities operated electric trolley buses powered by overhead lines. Chicago, for example, ran a large fleet for years. These buses offered advantages over gasoline models—they climbed hills more effectively and produced zero emissions, helping reduce urban air pollution. Chicago's last trolley bus was retired in spring 1973, but an example renovated system still operates today at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois.

The electric golf cart was another innovation. Invented by Merle Williams in 1951, golf carts quickly became popular throughout the 1950s and remain in use today. Further advancements came in 1957 with the invention of the Silicon Controlled Rectifier, an improved motor controller that was adopted in forklifts and other electric vehicles.

During the 1960s, interest in electric vehicles grew as a potential solution to worsening urban air pollution, although public enthusiasm remained limited.

Meanwhile, NASA brought electric vehicles into the spotlight in 1971 and 1972 when Apollo 15, 16, and 17 astronauts drove Lunar Rovers on the moon. These rovers ran on non-rechargeable silver-zinc batteries.

It was the Arab Oil Embargo of 1973–1974, however, that truly revived public and industrial interest in electric cars. In this climate, the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association began to take shape, marking the start of a new era of electric vehicle advocacy and development.

Written by: Christopher Sharp
Interim Board Member, Historian

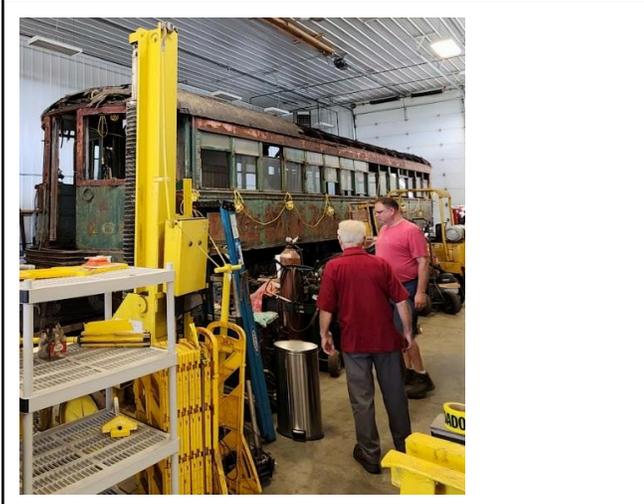
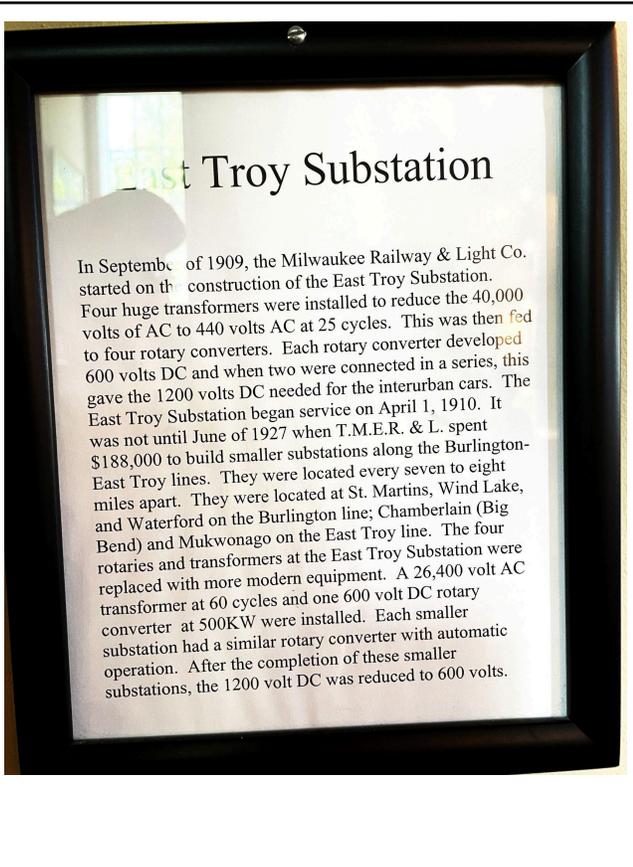
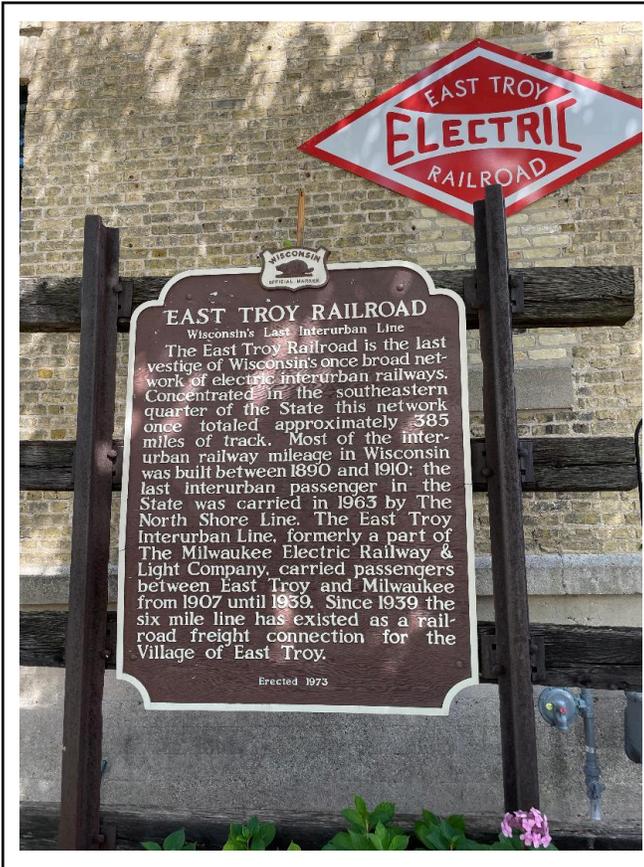


On-line attendees Rich Hirschberg, Bruce Jones, Ted Lowe and Wendy Vernon

East Troy Electric Train 8/23/2025



Ted Liu provided many of the photos shown here. What a great day for a train ride!





Lunch at The East Troy Inn

Wisconsin's oldest operating inn and tavern
Established in 1842

Geneva Concours d'Elegance 8/24/2025



Tracey McFadden and Jaclyn Feakins with their cars at the Car Club area of Concours d'Elegance in Geneva Sunday August 24th



Jaclyn's Original Tesla Roadster was quite a hit with event goers.



Tracey McFadden inspired sales of beverages at the Concours by the Universal Unitarian Society of Geneva. Now they have a permanent gazebo just for that purpose!



Huge Cadillac electric SUV at the show. (See how tall the hood is compared to the adults on the right!)



Amazing variety and high quality of cars at the show!



Original Meyers Manx dune buggy



Tracey talking EVs and selling cool beverages on a beautiful day.

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 & Kathy McFadden will be the guest speakers with their talk, "EV 101 - What You Need to Know About Electric Vehicles" kicking things off at 10:00 a.m.
- 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 anniversary
- 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

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 2025-09-09 04:58:10

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	63	63
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	70	70

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	100.0%
Avg. Paid Up Days	388.3 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 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.

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 2025

Bruce Jones

- The meeting started at 7:03 p.m.
- INTRODUCTIONS
 - Interim Vice President – Marty Belovicz held introductions all around
- PRESENTATION
 - Bruce Jones gave a presentation on his 1660-mile road trip adventure in a 2023 Chevy Bolt EV from Naperville, IL to Washington D.C. area and back in June.
- BREAK
- NOMINATIONS
 - Interim Vice President – Marty Belovicz opened the nominations for officers and board members.
 - The following **nominations** were made (and also include one made* since the meeting:)
 - President: Tracey McFadden
 - Vice President: Marti Belovicz
 - Secretary: Bruce Jones
 - Treasurer: Michael Moravek*
 - Board: Chris Sharp
 - Board: Ted Liu
 - Board: Don Brown
 - Board: Jeff Miller
 - Elections normally are held in September but due to the two NDEM events we will hold the elections in October.
 - Current officers and board members will retain their positions until the October meeting.
- UPCOMING EVENTS
 - Rich Hirschberg provided an update on outreach events.
 - East Troy Electric Train Ride and Board Meeting
 - Concours d’Elegance in Geneva

- The NDEM north event at the Algonquin Public Library will serve as our monthly meeting in September.
- ADJOURN
 - The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

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/1D3OfsK5ilypWnLORQSLMZ0LndJxtMtTjKkkYerF9Lfw/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