



October 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, October 17, 2025 - Doors open at 6:45 pm

The 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 Ken Johnson – Update on his Corvair Project
8:00 Election of Officers for 2025-2026
8:15 Break
8:25 Chris Sharp – Vintage EV plates
8:30 Jeff Miller - Report on a Naperville homeowner's All-Electric Project
9:00 Adjourn

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Dear EV Enthusiasts:

September was packed with exciting activities for electric vehicle enthusiasts!

We kicked off the month with our northern **National Drive Electric Month (NDEM)** event at the Algonquin Library. We had a great turnout of vehicles. Kathy and I presented "EV 101", which was well received with lots of thoughtful questions from the audience. A big shoutout to Rich Hirshberg for organizing this event!

Afterwards, Kathy and I drove our EV to Hoffman Estates for the **Electrify Expo**. This massive event—spanning over a million square feet—featured every major EV manufacturer, from Ford and GM to Lucid, Rivian, Toyota, and many more. Attendees enjoyed demo rides, tried out e-motorcycles, bikes, scooters, skateboards, and even electric go-karts for kids. Presentations every half hour covered EV facts and myths, while additional exhibits highlighted EV tire manufacturers, solar, charging infrastructure, and my personal favorite—the “Pivotal,” an electric-powered personal airplane.

Another highlight was the **NDEM at Fox Valley Mall**, where both the FVEAA and the mall celebrated their 50th anniversary. The event drew a strong turnout from members who shared their love of EVs with mall patrons. Thanks to Marty Belovicz for organizing this event.

Kathy and I were also honored to represent FVEAA at the **Illinois Environmental Council’s 50th Awards Gala** in Chicago—an extra special occasion since our daughter Kady was one of the sponsors.

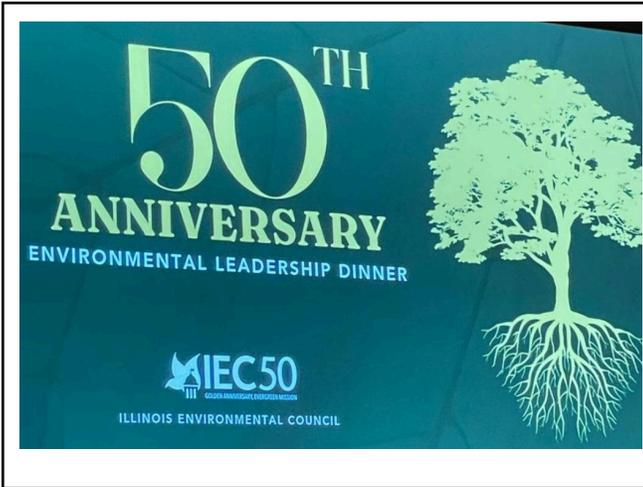
To round out the month, I joined the **Sierra Club Transportation Team** in a discussion on funding solutions for the Transit Bill. While a proposed \$0.03 per kWh tax on public EV charging was quickly dismissed, other ideas are still under review.

Looking Ahead:

On Friday, Nov 14th, Kathy and I will again present “**EV 101**” at 7:00 PM at the Unitarian Church in Geneva. This talk will provide EV-curious consumers with key information about owning and driving an EV. The general public is invited.

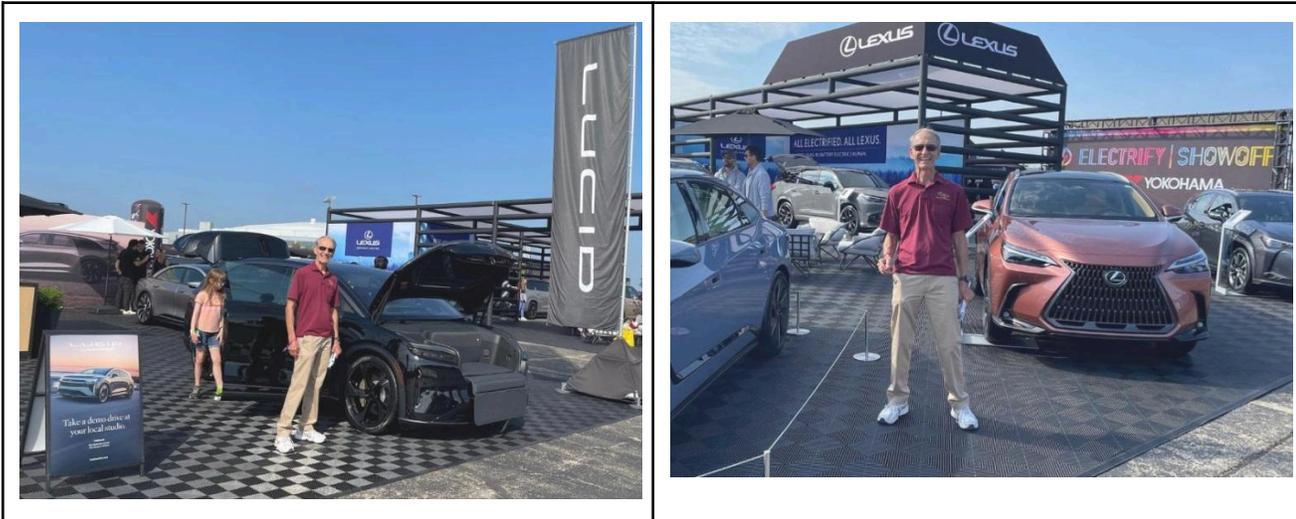
Stay Charged!

Tracey



9/27/2025 ELECTRIFY EXPO





Officer / Board Nominations For October Elections

- Elections normally held in September will be held at the October meeting, so current officers and board members will retain their positions until then.
- Here is the current updated list of nominations. Regarding board members, note that Jeff Miller has decided not to run, Ted Lowe has decided not to run, and Rich Hirschberg has decided to run.
 - President: Tracey McFadden
 - Vice President: Marty Belovicz
 - Secretary: Bruce Jones
 - Treasurer: Michael Moravek
 - Board: Rich Hirshberg
 - Board: Ted Liu
 - Board: Don Brown
 - Board: Chris Sharp
- Paid-up members present at the meeting (in person or on Zoom) may vote in the elections.
- Note all Officers and Board Members communicate using the WhatsApp application for group texting, and access Google Docs for newsletter editing.

Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

Good afternoon fellow members.

Thanks for the support for the NDEM at Fox valley mall. We had a decent response and were glad to meet some new people and provide some public EV education. The event was not as well attended as I would have liked to see but it was a great time.

Now this is done to start looking at new and exciting projects, ideas and new directions we can go. This is a pivotal time as the world is changing the time when we had to hunt for and

EV is long since gone. Now there are more EV's than ever but that creates many new challenges as many are not as versed in charging, traveling, and maintaining. This is where I believe we can make a difference in the EV world.

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_d1nGyFUMINRMEo4SU1aVzRERkExQVhKNEpCVjE1WS4z

I would also like to see what interests and projects you would like to see or help in. My email is martin.belovicz@mail.com and my phone number is 847 321 5734.

Opinion by Chris Sharp

Christopher Sharp

The World's Oil Industry Is in Turmoil

On August 2, the nation of Ukraine launched an aerial offensive against Russia using unmanned drones and flying bombs. The main targets have been oil infrastructure such as refineries, along with electric grids and natural gas facilities. As of October 6, reports indicated that 40% of Russia's oil refining capacity was offline. Ukraine is employing strategic bombing methods to disrupt Russia's energy systems.

How might this end? Hopefully, with a peace treaty between the two countries.

We need to be concerned about our own energy security. Ukraine has demonstrated that inexpensive drones, costing less than \$1,000 each, can cause significant damage to energy systems. Such weapons could be produced by any nation—or even by terrorist organizations and criminal groups. Our oil industry is just as vulnerable as Russia's. This has become a serious energy security issue.

The Fox Valley Electric Auto Association was founded in response to the Arab Oil Embargo of 1973–1974, when many people began looking at electric vehicles as a potential solution to energy security concerns. The question we should ask ourselves today is: *Are we moving in the right direction now?*

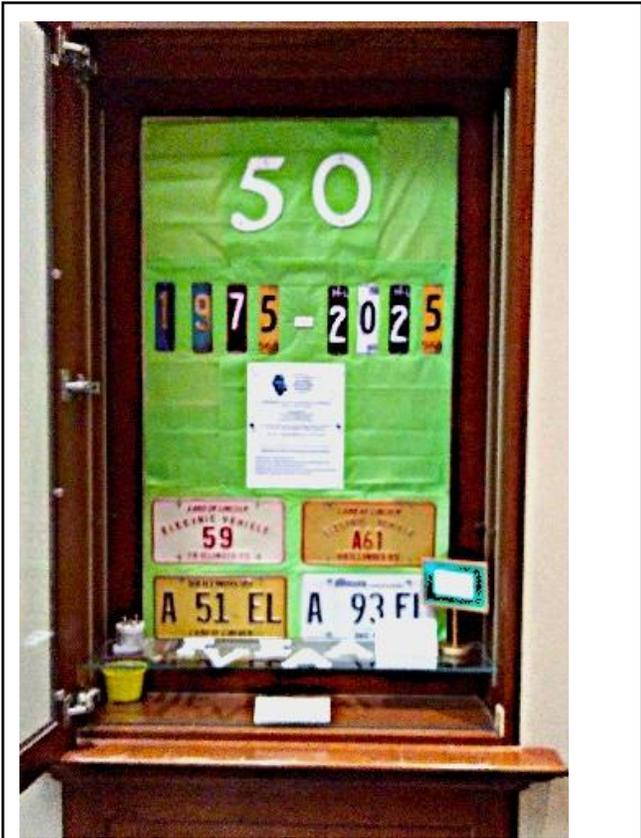
Nations such as Russia, Iran, Libya, and Venezuela are major oil exporters that are also under trade sanctions from the United States and other countries. One report noted that Russia once produced about 9% of the world's oil and exported most of it. What happens if it can no longer export that oil? What will happen to global oil prices then?

In the not-too-distant future, our citizens may face difficult energy choices they do not like.

Opinion by Christopher Sharp

October 6, 2025

Interim Board Member, Historian



Chris Sharp's library display of vintage EV plates for the FVEAA 50th Anniversary

Photos - FVEAA Meeting and National Drive Electric Month North Event 9/13/2025

Tracey McFadden, Bruce Jones





Bob Kaplow award winner



AAPLD EV Car Show!



Doug Cataldo Algonquin Library Outreach Director



Algonquin Area Public Library District (AAPLD) Library Staff



Kathy and Tracey McFadden with ID4 after they presented EV 101 to the attendees.



Kathy and Tracey with a Ted Lowe photo bomb surprise!



Algonquin fire department



Algonquin fire department first responders

Electric Vehicle Charging Safety Tips

Are you thinking of buying an electric vehicle (EV)? Here are steps you can take to lower your risk of fire and electric shock injury related to charging EVs.

Before buying an EV, have a qualified electrician install:

- A new, dedicated circuit for your EV charging device. Older home wiring may not be suitable for use with EV supply equipment.
- Level II charging devices (if that is your preferred charging method).

Scan to learn more!

Charging EVs:

- Follow manufacturer's guidelines when charging your vehicle. Check with your local dealer if you need additional information.
- Purchase a charging device that is certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Plug Level I EV chargers directly into an outlet designed to handle the amperage of the charging device. Never use a multiplug adapter or extension cord.
- Install a residual current device with the charging unit. It will turn off the power if a fault is detected and help prevent a fire.
- Place all charging device components out of reach of children when not in use.
- Maintain the components of your charging station according to the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines. Signs of excessive wear may indicate a potential shock hazard. Never use an EV charger with obvious signs of damage.
- Cover the EV charging station outlet to stop water from entering. Check the manufacturer's guidelines to make sure it is safe to charge your EV in wet conditions.

Charging an EV is safe when done with certified equipment. By following these tips, you can lower your risk of having an associated fire or an electric shock injury.

For more information and free resources, visit: usfa.fema.gov.

FEMA | U.S. Fire Administration | Fire in the Community

EV charging safety tip summary.



EV specific safety equipment used by first responders.



Scott Wilkerson's beautiful VW EV conversion and batteries



Travelin Tom's coffee





Lucid Air



Chris Young and Melany with his beautiful truck conversion

Upcoming Events Rich Hirschberg

Annual FVEAA Holiday Party

Stay tuned to this space for announcements of our annual Holiday Party.

Date/time: tbd

Location: tbd

Details: tbd

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\*\*\*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)

Rich Hirschberg (c/t) 847.347.7171 Email: [GoAFVs@yahoo.com](mailto: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 2025-10-15 04:58:02

**Count of Members by Type**

| Membership Type | Count     | Paid Up   |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Business        | 1         | 1         |
| Family          | 4         | 4         |
| Individual      | 64        | 61        |
| Lifetime        | 2         | 2         |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>71</b> | <b>68</b> |

**Other Statistics**

| Statistic         | Value      |
|-------------------|------------|
| % Paid Up         | 95.8%      |
| Avg. Paid Up Days | 362.9 days |
| % With Email      | 97.2%      |

**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 EV 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 NDEM 9/13/2025

Bruce Jones

### NDEM North

- The meeting and National Drive Electric Month North event coordinated by Rich Hirshberg started at 10:00 a.m. at the Algonquin Public Library, 2600 Harnish Dr.
- Presentation ***EV 101 - Everything You Need to Know about Electric Vehicles*** was given by Tracey and Kathy McFadden
  - After the excellent presentation, the Drive Electric event was held in the parking lot of the library.
  - Including First Responders showing EV safety equipment and methods like
    - Electric Vehicle Emergency Plug
    - Device for sliding under an EV on fire, to spray water up onto the car/battery
  - Thanks to Rich Hirschberg for spearheading the event!
  - The NDEM North event ended by 1:45 p.m. on 9/13/2025

### NDEM South

- The National Drive Electric Month South event was coordinated by Marty Belovicz at the Fox Valley Mall on Saturday Sept. 27.
- Start time was 10:00 a.m
- Thanks to Marty Belovicz for coordinating the event!
- The NDEM South event ended by 3:15 p.m. on 9/27/2025

**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.