



January 2026 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

When: Friday, January 16th, 2026

- 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

7:20 Steve Boje - Owner BOJ "E" Bikes "Everything to Know About E-bikes"

8:15 Break

8:20 Ted Liu - BP Pulse charging station grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony

9:00 Adjourn

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Happy New Year to all!

Our Holiday party was a great success. We enjoyed great food, wonderful friends, and fun entertainment. A special shoutout goes to three fine musicians --**Bruce Jones** (guitar and bass), **Mike Moravek** (tenor saxophone), and **Don Grillo** (harmonica) -- who joined me (guitar) as I dressed up as Elvis. Together, we sang Christmas songs and led lively sing-alongs.

Many thanks to **Rich Hertzberg** for leading us in his always popular Christmas trivia game, and to **Bruce Jones** for making and handing out his gifts and trophies.

I am eagerly looking forward to the many speakers and activities planned for 2026. I know it will be another banner year for our group. It is truly an honor to serve as president of such a talented and passionate group of EV enthusiasts.

This month, we are delighted to have as our guest speaker **Steve Boje** from Boje E-bikes in Batavia (Chicagoland's largest E-bike store). Steve is extremely knowledgeable and passionate about all things related to electric bikes. (See his bio further down in the newsletter). This promises to be a very informative and engaging talk you won't want to miss. Please feel free to bring friends who may be interested in electric bikes as we will truly have the expert on hand to answer questions.

Our second speaker of the evening is our own board member, **Ted Liu**. He will speak about his experiences attending the grand opening of the new BP Pulse EV charging hub in Des Plaines, and highlight what the new 40-bay charging hub has to offer. Bruce Jones, Tom Coleman, my wife Kathy, and I also attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony in December and found the experience worth sharing with the group.

One question I am frequently asked about is the outlook for future EV sales. After some research, I have condensed some forecasts for 2026 EV sales below:

- **Global Growth & China Dominance:** Globally, the number of EVs on the road is expected to rise significantly (Gartner says 116 million EVs total), with China still leading (61% share), but Chinese brands are also pushing hard into Europe.
- **US Market Slowdown:** Expect slower growth or slight dips in US EV market share as big incentives end, leading to fewer sales driven purely by subsidies, notes Cox Automotive, Edmunds, and BNEF.
- **"EV Winter":** Some analysts point to a cooling or "EV winter" in the US due to policy shifts and higher prices, contrasting with earlier, more optimistic growth projections, says Bloomberg.
- **Key Trends:** More affordable models (like new Bolts/Leaf's), increased range (400+ miles), and the impact of new tariffs and changing tax rules will shape 2026, say Edmunds and Gartner.
- **More Models Coming:** Despite setbacks, many new EVs are expected in 2026, with German brands and Chinese manufacturers expanding their offerings and European markets seeing growth, report Electric and Automotive News.

In short, 2026 appears to be a transition year: the US market adjusts to reduced government support, while the global EV transition continues with increased competition, more diverse and more affordable options.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on January 16th.

Stay charged!

Tracey

Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

Fellow EV team members:

As we start the year I reflect on having a great year and having a great 2026.

My goal is to look at programming and talks that will impact each member and growth of the organization. I am also looking into a session or EV learning or EV elevator speeches, I mean an interactive session on creating talking points to talk to non EV owners. Thinking the idea is to have points and counter points maybe in addition to allow critical think thru the process. As we are not to force the idea driving EV but to show how we as a group and individuals went about our journey and how and why we drive EV's. In addition I am looking to work with the mall in running several EV events through out the summer and even drive electric event maybe. I am finding that living without the specific charger is not problematic, stay tuned for a presentation soon.

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.

**Photos of FVEAA Holiday Party 12-12-2025
Aurelio's Pizza in Geneva, IL**

Bruce Jones

Good food, conversation, music and a rockin good time was had by all - around 27 of us!





“Saxy” Mike Moravek - tenor sax, harmonica, bells, and vocals.



Tracey (Chuck Berry) McFadden does it all on acoustic guitar and electric guitar



The Band! With Tracey (Elvis) leading the way. Bruce Jones (R) on Bass and acoustic guitar.



Don Grillo (2nd from left) joins the band and delivers a fantastic improv harmonica solo



Rich keeps us all guessing with his entertaining Christmas trivia game. Thanks again Rich!

FVEAA Holiday Party December 12, 2025

By Bruce Jones



Tracey McFadden - President

Marty Belovicz - Vice President

Michael Moravek - Treasurer

Bruce Jones - Secretary

Rich Hirschberg - Board Member, Outreach

Ted Liu - Board Member

Chris Sharp - Board Member, Historian, Quartermaster

President
Tracey
McFadden

Ted Lowe - Committees: Web site, Membership, Newsletter Distribution

Year end slide show ran during the evening showing all the different Events



Thanks to Judy Kaplow for this shocking set of road signs.

Happy New Year EVERYONE!

**Photos of BP Pulse Opening 12/19/2025
2991 Mannheim Rd, Des Plaines, IL 60018**

Bruce Jones

Official opening of the BP Pulse charging facility on a frigid day, 12/19/2025 in Des Plaines.





Tracey and Kathy McFadden warming up



Bruce and Tracey check out a charger





Ted Liu, Tracey McFadden, Tom Coleman, Bruce Jones holding the ComEd rebate to bp



Bio of Steve Boje: Our January Guest Speaker

I'm Steve Boje, founder of BOJ-E-BIKES, our local e-bike specialty shop in Batavia. We have a showroom full of test bikes to help narrow down wants and needs during the shopping process. We also have a service center for regular maintenance and warranty work throughout the ebike journey.

We offer rentals too, so you can encourage your friends and family to go for an ebike ride with you on the Fox River Trail. We have grown exponentially over the last 5 years, and the industry is still gaining momentum.

It all started when my dad, an e-bike enthusiast, kept running into the same frustrations: tons of choices, no way to test them before purchase, and mediocre to poor after-sales support. I saw those gaps in the market and decided to fix them. We've certainly fixed them for the brands we carry, but we do our best to serve anyone out there with an ebike just like my dad once was.

We built our business around what truly matters—helping riders. We can take athletic riders and turn 20 miles into 50, but it is more heartwarming to take those with physical limitations and find them the perfect tool to add excitement, enjoyment, and a positive impact on their mental and physical health. Everyone deserves a chance to keep riding, they just need to realize that these awesome tools exist - and we are the ideal concierge ensuring you get the right bike to be confident and comfortable.

That customer-first approach has earned us a solid reputation in the Fox Valley community as the go-to spot for knowledgeable, no-pressure guidance and reliable support.

See Steve on WGN:

<https://wgntv.com/spotlight-chicago-sponsored-content/boj-e-bikes-batavia-e-bike-shop-rentals-ser-vice-parts/>

10 things to know about ebikes from BOJ E Bikes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xANaf4yw8SA>

Upcoming Events

Rich Hirschberg

Stay Tuned!

Take care, Rich Hirschberg (c/t) 847.347.7171

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 137 members as of 12/10/25! 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 2026-01-13 05:58:02

Count of Members by Type

| Membership Type | Count | Paid Up |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| Business | 1 | 1 |
| Family | 4 | 4 |
| Individual | 64 | 64 |
| Lifetime | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 71 | 71 |

Other Statistics

| Statistic | Value |
|-------------------|------------|
| % Paid Up | 100.0% |
| Avg. Paid Up Days | 338.9 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 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

Mike Moravek

As the new Treasurer, I have submitted to and received confirmation from the Secretary Of State for Illinois that our organization's Registered Agent has been changed to yours truly and is officially on file with the State.

Thanks again to Ted Lowe for his 7+ years of fine service in this position and for guiding me through the various aspects and access issues! Thanks Ted!!

A brief Treasurer's Report to our forums will be updated 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.

For those new to the Forums, to see the **latest** post, go to the above link. At the top or bottom of the first page, select the largest page number (currently [8]) and the latest financial post will be at the bottom of that page.



Feel free to contact me at moravekmike@gmail.com 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 12/12/2025

Bruce Jones

Introductions

- Location: Aurellio’s Pizza 330 W State St, Geneva, IL 60134.
- Set up prior to 6 p.m. and ordering of food began as guests arrived.
- President Tracey McFadden opened the Holiday party around 6:50 p.m. with a welcome, happy holidays and an overview of the night’s agenda
 - After everyone ordered their meals and near the end of dinner,
 - Rockin’ Christmas holiday music was provided by the “Banjo Brothers Tracey McFadden (alias Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry) on acoustic and electric guitar, Bruce Jones on acoustic guitar and bass, and “Saxie Mike” Moravek on the Saxophone, bells and harmonica
 - With a fantastic improv blues harmonica performance from guest Don Grillo
 - After about 6 “performance” songs they played 6 singalong Holiday songs
 - Bruce handed out special awards to the Officers and Board, then party gifts to the rest of the attendees
 - Rich Hirschberg provided his usual fantastic Christmas Trivia game
 - The Year’s EEvent slide show prepared by Bruce played all night on the TV monitor
- and a good time was had by all

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. but some stayed later to catch up!

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.