



February 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, February 20, 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 Jeff Miller - "Jeff's Journey: Renovating a Home the Wrong Way."

8:20 Break

8:25 Marty Belovicz - The quest for charging my EV

9:00 Adjourn

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Greetings EV Enthusiasts,

A big thank-you to **Steve Boje of BOJ E-Bikes** for his insightful January presentation. It was fascinating to dive into the details of electric bikes and better understand their technology and benefits. We also appreciate **Ted Liu** for sharing highlights from BP Pulse's charging ribbon-cutting ceremony—great news to see more charging stations coming online across the Chicago area.

Don't miss our **February meeting!** Former FVEAA President **Jeff Miller** will present a talk titled "*Jeff's Journey: Renovating a Home the Wrong Way.*" Jeff will walk us through his home renovation—what he built, why he built it, what it cost to heat the home this winter, and what still needs to be done to improve it. The presentation will touch on plumbing, electrical systems, HVAC, and a bit of building science.

The project was extensively documented through photos by **Bruce Jones**, whose contributions went far beyond photography—he played a significant role in the actual construction as well. Bruce wasn't alone, so come hear the full story of what's been done so far, why doing it "the wrong way" was sometimes unavoidable, and what Jeff has learned along the way.

In addition, Marty Belovicz will speak on his quest to find EV charging at his new apartment.

Finally, the good news and bad news.

There is good news in the used EV market.

"The increase in used-EV sales follows simple economics: There are finally a lot of these cars for sale and at relatively low prices. In 2023 and 2024, Americans snapped up 2.5 million electric vehicles, the majority of them under lease. These vehicles are now hitting the used market for the first time. And depreciation rates for EVs have been steep, so those seeking a bargain are increasingly landing on a battery-powered machine." *As reported by the Los Angeles Times:*

As for the bad news:

A new bill filed in Springfield would sharply raise annual registration costs for Illinois EV owners. **Senate Bill 3566**, introduced by **Ram Villivalam**, would increase the EV surcharge from \$100 to \$320 starting July 1, 2027—bringing total annual registration to about \$471 at current rates. The bill also creates an optional mileage-based fee of 1.5¢ per mile, capped at \$320 per year, with required mileage reporting and possible tracking. Both the surcharge and per-mile rate would rise annually with inflation beginning in 2028. The proposal will be considered during the 2026 session of the **Illinois General Assembly**.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meeting.

Stay Charged!

Tracey

Vice President's Words

Marty Belovicz

Fellow EV team members:

This is going to be a little light but I am looking to communicate with the 30 + owners of EV vehicles in the building to try to get a few members. And maybe have a spring EV event at the mall.

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.

Board Member / Historian's Words

Christopher Sharp

Ken Myers, A Pioneer in the Electric Car Movement

A good friend of John Stockberger was Kenneth O. Myers. They were both ham radio

operators and members of the Fox River Radio League. Both men converted gasoline-powered cars to electric power. Ken converted a NSU Prinz (a West German auto) to electric power in the 1970s (color: blue). Ken kept this car until the day he died (April 6/2001). This car was sold as part of his estate for \$999.00, and the couple who bought it drove it home under its own power.

I talked to one of Ken's daughters on the telephone Saturday, Jan 17, 2026. She informed me about a fact that I got wrong about her father. She told me that her father was not an Engineer. The fact is that Ken quit high school when he was 16 years old. He and his wife would get their GED later in life. Ken was very knowledgeable about electricity and electronics. He built his own television at one time. He worked for companies like National Electronics of Geneva and Richardson Electronics of LaFox. Ken was a self-taught type of person.

Ken was involved in designing and building electronic motor controllers for the club cars and many member's cars. One person commented that he thought that these motor controllers were advanced for that time.

Ken had many interests, and one of them was solar energy. He mounted some solar panels to the roof of his home. These were removed after he had died for the purpose of selling the house (estate sale).

Ken was never in the limelight. He seemed to always be in the shadows working quietly on electric car improvements. He was there when the Fox Valley Electric Auto Association was started and remained a member until he died. His memorial was well attended.

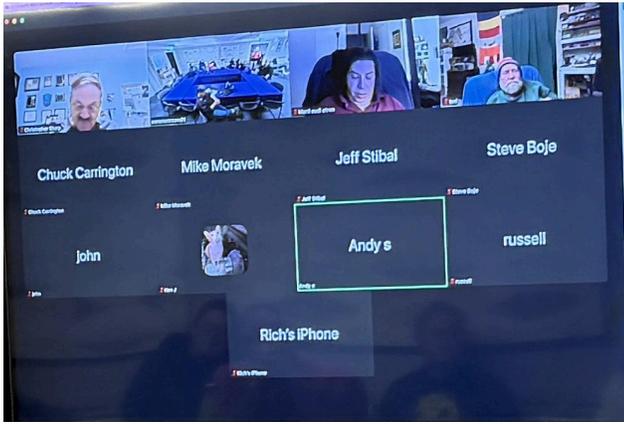
Ken was a family man. He married early in life. He and his wife had one son and two daughters. His daughter Karen (Myers) Whipple of Aurora was the person I talked to in January. Some of the other information that I found was from Ken's obituary.

Photos of Meeting 2026-01-16

Tracey McFadden



On site attendees 1/16/2026



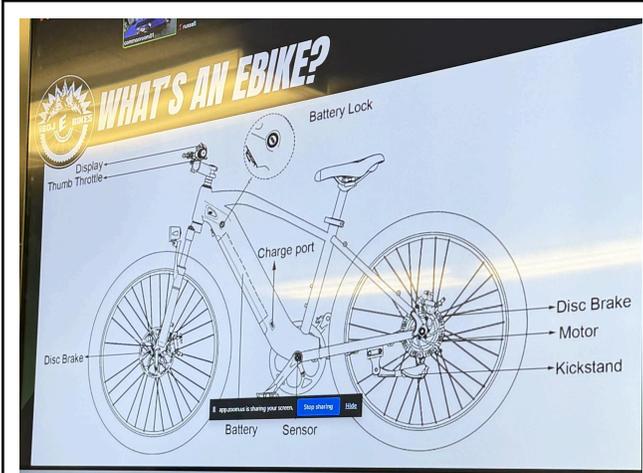
On-line attendees



Steve Boje of BoJe Bicycles presents on various aspects of electric bicycles.

	Streets	Max. Speed	Class	Use Paths	Use Trails	Use Sidewalk	Roads
Bicycles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Class 1 e-Bikes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Class 2 e-Bikes	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Class 3 e-Bikes	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Low-Speed e-Scooters & Micro-mobility Devices	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Other e-Scooters & Micro-mobility Devices	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
e-Mopeds (aka OPEVs)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

87miles SRTC, 2.3s, 440N.M, 12.5kw, 74v, 55AH, 187lbs



Ted Liu presented on the BP Pulse ribbon cutting ceremony held on a bitterly cold day 12/19 in Des Plaines - Great that 40 more DC Fast chargers are now available in that area near the airport.



Ted, Tracey, Tom, Bruce holding the \$ Half Million dollar check that was presented by ComEd to BP Pulse as their incentive for installing the stations.



Upcoming Events

Rich Hirschberg

Aurora Greenfest

Date: Sat., May 2,

Times: 10 AM to 4 PM,

Old post office, 18 W. Benton St., Aurora, IL

AuroraGreenfest.com

We will need to bring banners/signs, a canopy, table and chairs, handouts, etc.

VFW Post 5151 Vehicle Show

Tentative date: Sat., June 6th with Rain Date of Sat., June 13th

Tentative times: 10 AM to 3 PM

Caputo's Fresh Market, 1250 E Lake St., Hanover Park, 60133

Website: <https://Post5151VehicleShow.weebly.com/>

Resurrecting my old vehicle show with trophies, prizes, DJ music, a silent auction, mustache contest, charities, business sponsors, and other fun items

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 2026-02-15 05:58:03

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	4	4
Individual	64	62
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	71	69

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	97.2%
Avg. Paid Up Days	380.0 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 FVEA!!!**

Monthly Treasurer Reports

Mike Moravek

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 01/16/2026

Christopher Sharp

(Thanks, Chris Sharp for taking notes! Bruce)

Introduction

The meeting started at 7:06 pm.

The President of the FVEAA was the first to speak.

Tracey McFadden opened the meeting.

This was followed by the introduction of members.

The members introduced themselves.

Some of these people were present at the meeting place and the others were online.

BOJ-E-BIKES

7:35 pm. Tracey McFadden introduced the first speaker for this evening's meeting.

The speaker was Steve Boje.

Steve is the owner of the electric bike shop in Batavia called BOJ-E-BIKES.

Steve spoke on the subject of electric bikes until 8:27 pm.

BREAK was from 8:27 pm to 8:40 pm.

BP Pulse Charging Station Ribbon Cutting on 12/19/2025

At 8:40 pm, Tracey McFadden introduced the second speaker for the evening, Ted Liu.

Ted spoke about the ribbon cutting event at the bp plus charging station in Des Plaines, IL.

This was a location with 40 Fast and Ultra Fast chargers.

Location; 2991 Mannheim Rd., Des Plaines, IL. 60018.

This ribbon cutting event took place on the 19th of December (2025).

Attendees: Tracey and Kathy McFadden, Ted Liu, Bruce Jones, Tom Coleman

Meeting ended at 9:03 pm.

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.