



April 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

Note there are **TWO membership Events** this month! They are 1 week later than our normal 3rd Friday night meeting.

When: Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25, 2026

- Friday Doors open at 6:00 p.m., free pizza at 6:15, presentation at 7:00.

- Saturday Doors open at 9:45 a.m. Presentation at 1 pm.

Where: 102 S 2nd St, Geneva, IL 60134

Map: [Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva](#)

Join Zoom Meeting on Friday: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86736976188>

Meeting ID: 867 3697 6188

Friday Meeting Agenda - Artificial Intelligence Presentation:

- 6:15 Pizza Party
- 7:00 Tom Coleman "Artificial Intelligence & the Environment"
- 8:30 Adjourn

Saturday Meeting Agenda: Rivian - (No Virtual Meeting)

- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm: Morning Rides
- 12:00 noon: Lunch at Aurelio's Pizza
- 1:00 pm: Talk by a Rivian representative
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Afternoon Rides

President's Words

Tracey McFadden

Greetings EV Enthusiasts,

Last Month's Meeting: A special thanks to John Delurey from *Vote Solar* for his thought-provoking presentation on the future of clean energy. Without question, John is a dynamic speaker who thoroughly engaged all of us. His knowledge of the clean energy world is second to none. It's always great to listen to people on the leading edge of change, and who make such a positive impact on our environment.

Friday, April 24: Free Pizza Party and Talk - Artificial Intelligence & the Environment.

Tom Coleman, FVEAA member and Education Chair of the Chicago Metro Chapter of the Climate Reality Project, will give a presentation at our regular meeting location (UUSG in Geneva). Tom will explore the risks and benefits of AI and what it means for society, justice, and the environment. Come early for the pizza party at 6:15 pm; the talk begins at 7:00 p.m. **Please sign up** at www.uusg.org/climate so we can order the right amount of food. Bring your significant other and friends.

Saturday, April 25: Rivian Drive Event and Presentation – This month’s meeting is a true “hands-on” experience, where we will get to test-drive the R1S (SUV) and possibly the R1T (truck). It will take place at our usual meeting location (UUSG church in Geneva). The schedule of events is as follows:

- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm: Morning Rides
- 12:00 pm: Lunch at Aurelio’s Pizza
- 1:00 pm: Talk by a Rivian representative
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Afternoon Rides

Please reserve your slot today at

<https://rivian.com/demo-drive/book?locationId=16950caa-371b-4a8c-af1b-d25636321a7a>

Below is information explaining how Rivian is reshaping the EV industry by pioneering electric adventure vehicles, expanding the market with new customers, advancing commercial electrification, investing in future affordable and autonomous models, and strengthening U.S. manufacturing while lowering costs through strategic battery innovations.

- **Segment Innovation:** Rivian created the "electric adventure vehicle" category, proving that high-performance trucks and SUVs can be both eco-friendly and highly capable, shifting consumer perspectives.
- **High Consumer Demand:** As of mid-2025, the R1S is the best-selling electric SUV in the United States, and the company holds the highest brand satisfaction rating from Consumer Reports.
- **Market Expansion:** A majority of Rivian customers are new to electric vehicles, expanding the total EV market rather than just taking market share from other brands.
- **Commercial Adoption:** Through their partnership with Amazon, they are contributing to the electrification of logistics, with electric vans that produce 50% less carbon emissions than gas models.
- **Future Mobility Focus:** With initiatives like R2 and upcoming R3 vehicles, along with a partnership with Uber for autonomous transportation, Rivian is positioning itself to broaden the market by offering more affordable, technology-driven options.
- **Manufacturing and Jobs:** Rivian has generated approximately 8,000 jobs at their facility in Normal, Illinois, creating a robust manufacturing footprint.

Stay Charged!

Tracey

Fellow EV team members:

I will be working with the mall and complex are looking a few EV events information upcoming.

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



Board Member / Historian's Words


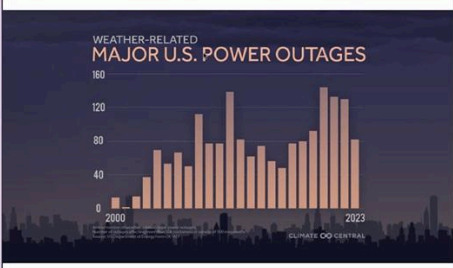

Christopher Sharp

Nothing this month.

Photos of Meeting 2026-02-20

Tracey McFadden

 <p>On-line attendees</p>	 <p>On-site attendees</p>
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 <p>Solar in the Community John Delurey March 20, 2025</p> <p>Outages on the Rise</p> <p>Outages have nearly doubled in the last two decades.</p>  <p>WEATHER-RELATED MAJOR U.S. POWER OUTAGES</p>	 <p>John Delurey, Managing Director of Campaigns at Vote Solar provided an excellent overview of the solar programs.</p>
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What Did We Find?

Expanding Rooftop and Community Solar by 8.5 GW by 2030 AND
Continuing to Build-Out Utility Scale Renewables...

Saves Illinois ratepayers \$3.44 billion

Reduces electricity rates by 43% compared to today

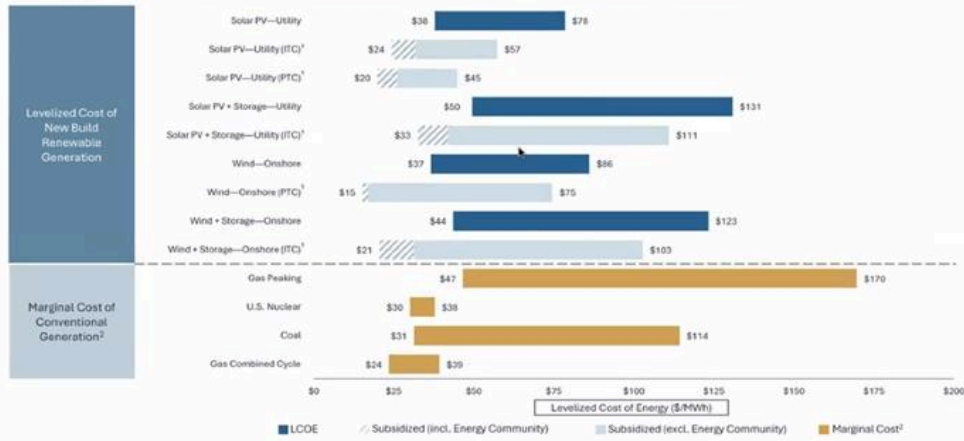
Creates nearly 63,000 more jobs by 2030

Reduces carbon dioxide by nearly 15% more by 2050

Local Solar is Affordable

Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—New Build Renewable Generation vs. Marginal Cost of Conventional Generation

Certain renewable energy generation technologies have an LCOE that is competitive with the marginal cost of selected conventional generation technologies—notably, as incremental, intermittent renewable energy capacity is deployed and baseload gas-fired generation utilization rates increase, this gap closes, particularly in low gas pricing and high energy demand environments

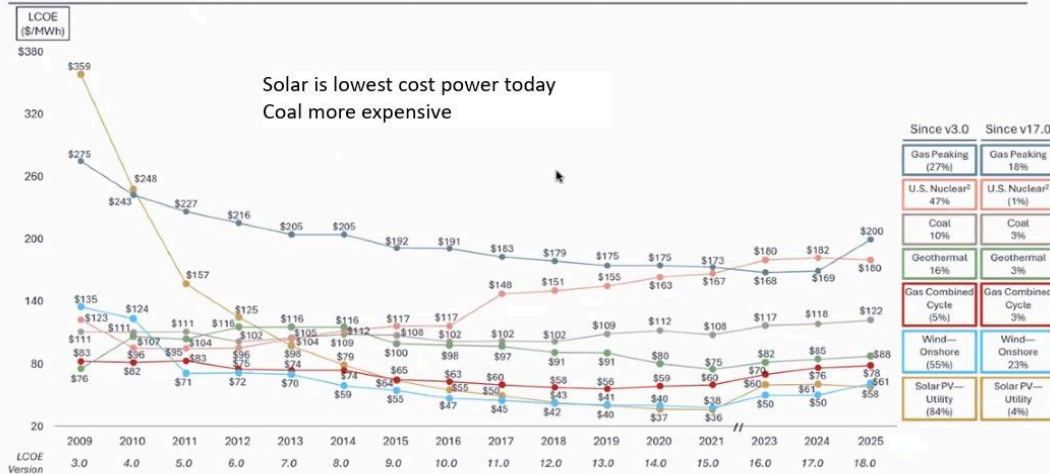


Light blue bars are with tax credit

Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Historical LCOE Comparison

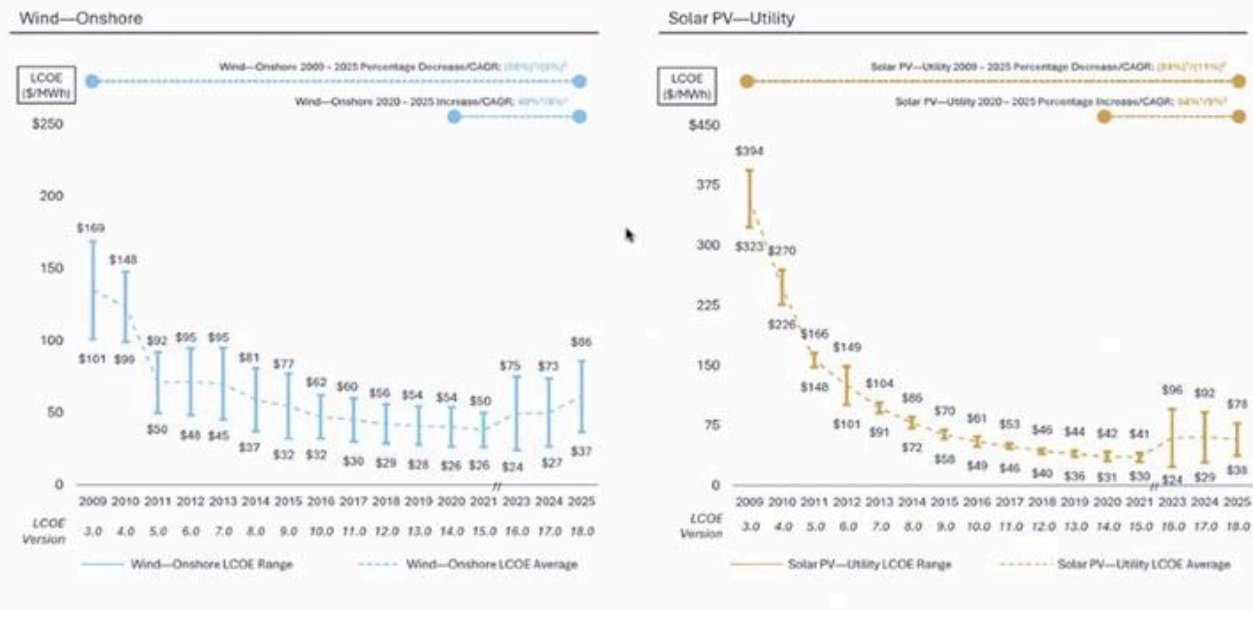
Lazard's LCOE analysis indicates significant historical cost declines for utility-scale renewable energy generation technologies, which has begun to level out and even slightly increase in recent years

Selected Historical Average LCOE Values¹



Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Historical Renewable Energy LCOE

This year's analysis shows a divergence in trends between wind and solar with solar costs declining slightly and wind costs increasing, likely reflecting the difference in supply chain conditions across each technology



March Guest Speaker Bio

John Delurey is the Managing Director of Campaigns at Vote Solar. Before joining Vote Solar, John helped build low-income solar programs for solar companies. He has prior experience coordinating grassroots advocacy efforts for the Sierra Club and voter turnout initiatives for electoral candidates. John is also a Boren Fellowship recipient for Swahili, having worked overseas on off-grid solar and electricity access in India and East Africa. He believes that the climate crisis provides an invitation to begin addressing long-standing economic injustice and that historically overburdened communities should lead the way to our renewable energy future.

Upcoming Events

Rich Hirschberg

Earth Day at Peck Farm Park

Date: Sat., April 18th,
 Times: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (set up at 10)
 4038 Kaneville Rd. Geneva, IL 60134-2572
[Peck Farm Park Earth Day 2026](#)

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: TBD - delayed due to lack of vet volunteers
 Tentative times: 10 AM to 3 PM
 Location: TBD (possibly 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 2026-04-15 05:58:04

Count of Members by Type

Membership Type	Count	Paid Up
Business	1	1
Family	3	3
Individual	61	58
Lifetime	2	2
Totals	67	64

Other Statistics

Statistic	Value
% Paid Up	95.5%
Avg. Paid Up Days	401.6 days
% With Email	97.0%

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 welcome 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

I post 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 a State Of Illinois Non-Profit Corporation, we have no requirement to publish our assets or financial statements publicly.

To make it easier to see the latest Treasurer Report, here is a forums tip to display latest posts on top:

<https://www.fveaa.org/forums/index.php?topic=1825.msg5662#msg5662>

Feel free to contact me at moravekmike@gmail.com if you have any FVEAA financial matters to discuss. Thanks!

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 02/20/2026

Bruce Jones

Introduction

President Tracey McFadden opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. and held introductions for those on-site and online.

He reviewed the evening’s agenda, then introduced John Delurey, the Managing Director of Campaigns at Vote Solar, who presented: “Solar in the Community.”

- John reviewed his background, international work promoting solar in places like Zanzibar, and experience with organizations including Certisun Solar and the Sierra Club.
- Topics covered the benefits of local solar, touching on EVs, electric grid outages, reliability, lack of adequate resources, understanding the problem, electricity affordability, measuring the outcomes, electric outages in under-resourced ethnic areas, the avoided cost conundrum, utility business model, reliability contingency plan, several detailed slides on Levelized Costs of Renewable Energy, Virtual Power Plants (VPPs), Investment in solar, and concluding local solar can be equitable.
- Coming Balcony (plug-in) Solar panels- especially for apartment dwellers
- Vote Solar!
- Noting the CRGA Clean and Reliable Grid Act was signed on Jan. 8, 2026 with help from Kady McFadden (Daughter of Kathy and FVEAA President Tracey McFadden!)



Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability (CRGA) Act

Signed Jan. 8, 2026 by Gov. Pritzker with assistance from Kady McFadden, daughter of Kathy and (FVEAA President) Tracey McFadden!!

The meeting ended at 9:01 p.m.

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.