

NORTH BAY CHAPTER



Electric Auto Association
Promoting Electric Vehicles Since 1967

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THIS MONTH'S NBEAA MEETING

Saturday, January 9th: At the December meeting, there was a lot of discussion about how to get more people to drive an EV. One suggestion was for the NBEAA to create a printed handout that would answer the basic questions about driving an EV. Another was to create a handout addressing range anxiety. I would like to create both of these handouts at Saturday's meeting. Please think about what someone who is not driving an EV would be concerned with in regards to buying or leasing an EV.

The meeting will be held at Thunderstruck Motors, 2985 Dutton Ave, Suite 3, in Santa Rosa from 10 AM until noon.

FUTURE NBEAA MEETINGS

FUTURE MEETINGS:

February 13th: Design a program where the NBEAA could work with the dealers that sell and lease EVs to train the EV sales staff. Dealers reps will be invited to attend this meeting.

March 12th: A review of the EVs that are available in 2016.

NBEAA BUSINESS:

New Chapter President

I need to step down from the position of president of the NBEAA. There are two reasons for this. One is that it is only 5 months until I leave for the 80eDays event and there are a ton of preparations that need to be done before June 1st. The second is that I have been president for 4 years, now, and I think that it would be good to get a fresh approach to guiding the chapter. The Chapter By-laws call for an election for president. I have spoken with a few of the active members and Bruce Nyden has volunteered to be the president for one year. If anyone else would like to volunteer for this position, please let me know by Saturday, January 16. The election will be done by email on January 17.

EV NEWS:

Nissan and BMW Collaborate on Fast Charging Stations

There is a partial thawing in the ice for DC Fast Charging. Nissan and BMW are working together to add public DC Fast Charging (DCFC) stations. Each of the DCFC stations will have both the CHAdeMO and CCS connectors so the LEAF, i-MiEV, Soul EV, i3 and other EVs that use the CHAdeMO or CCS can all charge at the same station. There will be 120 of these combined stations spread across 19 states, including California. The stations will have 50 kW power capacity and be in the Greenlots network. All of the stations are also compatible with the Nissan EZ-Charge card which allows drivers access to stations across multiple networks. It appears as though the efforts to eliminate the CHAdeMO charging system have failed with over 10,000 CHAdeMO charging stations worldwide. For the near-term, the dual-standard DCFC stations will be the norm with the Tesla Supercharging stations remaining separate.

The New Transportation Bill Includes Some EV Incentives

The new transportation bill passed by Congress and signed by the President (referred to as FAST) includes support for alternative fueled vehicles. One of the provisions mandates that the Department of Transportation designate corridors for EV charging and hydrogen, natural gas and propane fueling on US highways. These corridors must be designated by the end of 2016 and will be chosen based on “strategic importance”, expected demand and the location of existing infrastructure. Another provision authorizes the GAO to install charging stations at its facilities that are available to the public for a fee. The federal tax credit of up to \$1,000 for home charging station (and 30% of the cost for businesses, with a maximum of \$30,000) has been renewed. Also, the existing tax credit of up to \$7,500 for plug-in vehicle purchases remains unchanged.

California Has Run Out of the Green Carpool Lane Stickers for Plug-in Hybrids

Polls have shown that access to the HOV lanes on the highways in California has been one of the most attractive incentives for drivers to adopt a plug-in vehicle. The state legislature passed laws that would make the green HOV allowable stickers available to the first 85,000 adopters of plug-in hybrids. The last green sticker was issued on December 18th, so unless the legislature increases the amount of available green stickers, plug-in hybrids acquired from now on will not be allowed in the HOV lanes. The DMV is still accepting applications in case the allotment is increased. If the allotment is increased, the green stickers will be issued on a first come, first served basis. There is still no limit to the amount of white stickers that will be available to battery electric vehicles (BEV). All valid HOV stickers will remain in effect until January 1, 2019.

ChargePoint to Attract Businesses to Their Network by Offering Advertising

ChargePoint has created a business program where ChargePoint will advertise those businesses in the program to ChargePoint members. The program is called “ChargPoint Places”. The intent of this program is to attract more EV drivers to its business members which, of course, would also increase the amount of charging that would take place in the ChargePoint network. ChargePoint also believes that this program will make some EV drivers aware of charging stations that they may not know existed.

EV HISTORY

Please open the pdf attachment to the email transmittal for this newsletter and read the ad for the 1915 electric car. It is amazing how the reasons for owning an electric car have not changed in 100 years. Thanks to Don Christian for sending me this ad. (I had to send it as an attachment because it doesn't print out large enough to read on one page)

UPDATE ON NEW CHARGING STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY

The charging stations listed, below, have been added to the plugshare website since the last newsletter. Note that in a pinch, you can always charge at an RV Park (for a fee). One or more of the listed charging stations may be repeats. If so, sorry about that.

- Several Tesla destination charging stations have been added. Find them with the Nav App in the car.
 - (4) Level 2 J1772 at 1465 North McDowell, Petaluma, free, not networked, 7AM-6PM, only
 - (4) Level 2 J1772 at Enphase Energy, 1420 N McDowell, Petaluma, (employees only)