

NORTH BAY CHAPTER



Electric Auto Association
Promoting Electric Vehicles Since 1967

MARCH 2013 EDITION

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THIS MONTH'S NBEAA MEETING

MARCH NBEAA Meeting

Saturday, March 9th, 10 AM – Noon; **THUNDERSTRUCK MOTORS, 2985 Dutton, unit 3 in Santa Rosa.**

Rhonda Berney will present a Show & Tell about her Honda Fit EV.

FUTURE NBEAA MEETINGS

FUTURE MEETINGS:

April 6th: Chris Jones will describe the upgrades to his Mustang. (Note revised date because of Day on the Green)

May 11th: Dave Malloy will describe his battery management system.

A Summer Month: The SF Bay LEAFS and the NBEAA have their monthly meetings on the same Saturday of the month. I expressed my frustration at this issue to Howard Clearfield, the president of the SF Bay LEAFS, who responded with equal frustration and suggested that one month, this year, we have a regional meeting with the NBEAA, SF Bay LEAFs and any of the other Chapters that would be interested. Please let me know how you feel about this and, if you think that it is a good idea, where you think that the meeting should be held. I think that it would be a tremendous opportunity to get ideas from other EV drivers. Please send your email to info@nbeaa.org.

UPCOMING EV EVENTS:

CELEBRATION OF OPERABLE VACAVILLE FAST CHARGER!!

The Fast Charger in Vacaville is now operable!!! There is going to be ceremony commemorating its return to service. The celebration will take place on March 8th at 10 AM in the Park & Ride parking lot at Bella Vista Rd & Davis St in Vacaville. For more info: http://www.electrcauto.org/events/event_details.asp?id=304706

UPCOMING EV EVENTS:

Day on the Green

For the 2nd year, the NBEAA will participate in the Show & Tell at the Day on the Green event on April 13th at Montgomery Village from 11AM until 4PM. We are structuring this year's event like we did the National Plug-in Day event last September where the local EV dealers will be giving test drives to the public and the NBEAA members will be showing their cars and answering questions. With the success of last year's National Plug-in Day, I expect that this event will draw hundreds of people who are interested in EVs. Please contact Mike Newell or Alan Soule if you are interested in showing your EV.

EV NEWS

Report on Annual Electric Auto Association Meeting

On February 23rd, the EAA held their annual meeting in Palo Alto. Listed, below, are some of the highlights from the program, but if you want to review the slides from the entire program, click on this link <https://electricauto.site-ym.com/news/117552/Annual-Members-Meeting-Presentation-slides.htm> and then click on the [click here link](#) after the phrase "Annual Meeting slide presentation".

- The EAA website is being under-utilized. Actually, I am guilty of that, myself, so I checked it out and sure enough, there is a lot of information on the EAA's website. I recommend that you check it out to get a feel for what information is available (www.electricauto.org)
- Our Chapter's current revenue sharing funds available is \$2,110.00. We'll use some of this for the Day on the Green and National Plug-in Day events, but not all.
- A suggested etiquette for courteously utilizing charging stations is to leave your cell number in the charge port of your car so if some goes to unplug you, they will, hopefully call you to find out if it is ok to unplug your car.
- If you purchased a qualified EV in 2012, use IRS form #8936 to apply for your federal tax credit and if you purchased an EVSE in 2012, use form #8911 to apply for your federal tax credit.
- The CSAA has one truck in the Bay Area that has the capability of giving EVs a quick charge for 15-20 miles in case you run out of charge. The truck is stationed in Hayward, so it would take a little while to get to the North Bay. You have to be a member of the CSAA to receive this assistance.

Report on the 2013 Plug-in and Electric Vehicle Showcase

On Thursday, February 28th, the East Bay Clean Cities Coalition (www.cleancitieseastbay.org) sponsored a meeting in Suisun City to bring fleet managers up to date on matters regarding alternative fuel vehicles. Because electric vehicles are the predominant alternative fuel vehicles, most of the content of the meeting was about EVs. Here are some of the highlights from the meeting:

- Compressed natural gas vehicles are the fastest growing alternative fuel vehicles in California. However, there are twice as many EV charging stations as there are all of the other alternative fueling stations combined.
- Governor Brown's office is generating a EV readiness Guidebook for local governments. Sonoma County's Dave Head is part of the group developing this guidebook.
- Tesla is marketing fleet sales.

Report on the 2013 Plug-in and Electric Vehicle Showcase (cont.)

- Calstart, a State program that promotes large electric vehicles, can provide up to \$85,000 towards the purchase of an electric or plug-in bus or truck.
- Proterra, is testing its prototype all-electric bus in Southern California that has 60 kWh batteries and gets .5 miles per kWh. It gets short, fast charges at stops on its route so it stays charged throughout the day.
- The California Center for Sustainable Energy, which is the organization responsible for sending out the \$2,500 rebates for purchasing an EV, just received an additional \$10 million dollars to continue funding the rebate program.
- Obrie Hostetter, from eVgo, said that their goal is to have a fast charger every 5-7 miles on the major freeways of California. To charge on eVgo's chargers, you can have a monthly subscription or pay by the charge. The cost of either method has not been determined, yet.
- Aerovironment and Ecotality, the two EVSE manufacturers at the meeting, both said that their fast chargers are supporting the CHAdeMO system for now, but will add a connector for the SAE Combo system when there is demand for it.
- The Toyota RAV4 EV is available, now. The salesman at the meeting claims that in range mode the RAV4 EV has a practical range of 160 miles. The plug-in Prius has an all-electric range of 11 miles. However, you can get a conversion for a standard Prius installed at the Luscious Garage in San Francisco with an all-electric range of at least 25 miles.
- Ford sent a representative out from Dearborn who explained that Ford will be concentrating on plug-in hybrids until they feel that the public will accept EVs.
- The Chevrolet spokesman described the new Chevrolet EV, the Spark. They gave test drives in the Spark. Chevy will start delivering the Spark in June of this year. He didn't say what the range of the Spark is.
- None of the Ford or Chevrolet EVs will have the ability to fast charge for the near future. When they do offer fast charging, it will be with the SAE Combo system.
- Some good EV related tools and information can be found at www.afdc.energy.gov/tools

UPDATE ON NEW CHARGING STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY

New Level II's up and running

(3) Level II J1772) at the Cinema in Sebastopol (Chargepoint)

NEW: DC Fast Charger (CHAdeMO) at Chateau Montelena in Calistoga (Ecotality).

Planning to get installed:

County installed chargers in Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Windsor. After these are up and running, chargers are planned for Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Guerneville, Doran Park and maybe Sea Ranch.

Note: The City of Santa Rosa charging stations are now pay stations and require a Chargepoint card.