

# NORTH BAY CHAPTER



**Electric Auto Association**  
Promoting Electric Vehicles Since 1967

NOVEMBER 2013 EDITION

## CONTENTS

This Month's NBEAA Meeting.....	1
Future NBEAA Meetings.....	1
Upcoming EV Events.....	1,2
EV News.....	2,3,4
Update on Charging Stations in the North Bay.....	4

## THIS MONTH'S NBEAA MEETING

### November NBEAA Meeting

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

Program: Alan Soule will describe why taking a road trip in an EV is different and more fun than in an ICE vehicle. He'll also describe how to plan a road trip and what to look out for along the way.

## FUTURE NBEAA MEETINGS

### FUTURE MEETINGS:

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Jo Dempsey and Steve Williams will do a Show & Tell on Jo's new Fiat 500e

January 11<sup>th</sup>: ?? Any suggestions?

## UPCOMING EV EVENTS:

Bay Area Science Festival: Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> for 11 AM until 4 PM at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. The goal of the festival is to celebrate the Bay Area's scientific wonders, resources, and opportunities by exploring the role of science, engineering, and technology locally & in the world. Young people will understand that science is fun, exciting and important, encouraging them to pursue careers in science; parents will feel more confident about supporting their kids' interests in science; teachers will have new resources to get students thinking about science outside of the classroom; and, policy-makers and corporate leaders will understand that the public demand for science-related resources is real...and requires investment and support.

## UPCOMING EV EVENTS (CONT.):

Cool the Earth EV Road Rally: The Golden Gate Chapter of the EAA is working with Cool the Earth ([www.cooltheearth.org](http://www.cooltheearth.org)) to organize an EV Road Rally in April, 2014. The rally will start at Crissy Field in San Francisco and finish at Bardessono in Yountville. There will be stops along the way to promote EVs. They are looking for volunteers to drive in the rally and to help organize charging during the rally. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out in any way.

West Coast Electric Car Guest Drive Tour: Has been postponed until next spring

## CHAPTER NEWS

Chris Jones has completed the update to his '66 Mustang conversion. He did a battery capacity check and updated slides 23-29 that are on the website with the data. The good news is the batteries are on track to last me 10 years down to a 24 mile range, 3 more miles than I need on a regular basis. The complete information for the update can be found at: [www.nbeaa.org/local\\_evs/jones/](http://www.nbeaa.org/local_evs/jones/)



## EV NEWS

Blink has been Sold to Car Charging:

As you may have heard, Car Charging Group (“CarCharging”) just acquired the Blink Network and all of the Blink related assets. CarCharging has been in the EV charging business since 2009 and are the owner of the largest independent public EV charging station network. If you have an urgent maintenance issue (i.e. your charger does not work), you can contact the Blink Call Center at (888) 998-2546.

## EV NEWS (CONT.)

### Chargepoint Launches New Financing Program For EV Charging Stations:

EV charging giant ChargePoint is the latest to take advantage of this idea, partnering with Key Equipment Finance to launch a \$100 million lease-to-own program for EV charging stations. The new offer will let small and medium sized companies and municipalities install EV chargers with no upfront cost. ChargePoint's purchasing program is inspired by the success that SolarCity and other companies have been having in the renewable energy field.

### California's System of Zero Emission Vehicle Credits is Working as Hoped For:

The state's Air Resources Board has mandated that 15% of new-car sales in 2025 consist of ZEVs, but the system allows companies that aren't selling enough clean cars to meet the mandate to purchase credits from those that are. At this point, this means that Tesla and Nissan, the only automakers who are selling substantial numbers of pure EVs, stand to do a nice little business selling credits to other automakers (currently, only the six largest companies are subject to the mandate, but that number will expand in 2018). The reason for the program is that the state must meet a federal EPA deadline of 2023 to clean up its polluted air, or risk losing federal highway funds.

### Car Charging Partners with Parking Concepts to Offer Electric Vehicle Charging Services:

Through this partnership, Car Charging already provides EV charging services at a commercial building in Concord that is near the BART station. The property has 869 parking spaces serving tenants and visitors, and the EV charging services are provided on the ground floor of the Tower Garage. Parking Concepts is a parking garage operator that provides parking solutions to more than 200 garages located in hospitals, stadiums, special events, offices and some of the busiest airports in the United States.

### Toyota Cuts the Price of the Plug-in Prius:

Toyota is the latest automaker to pare its plug-in prices, announcing a reduction of over \$2,000 in the MSRP for the 2014 Prius Plug-in Hybrid. Starting MSRP will be \$29,990 for the base model and \$34,905 for the Advanced model. The Advanced model will offer an optional Technology Package that includes a couple of autonomous driving features: Dynamic Radar Cruise Control and Pre-Collision System. Monthly sales of the PPI reached an all-time high in August and a third-best-ever figure in September.

### EV Charging Etiquette:

I am going to repeat the EV Charging Etiquette rules in case anyone missed it last month

#### 1. EV Spots for EVs

It's absolutely never acceptable for an internal combustion car to park in a spot designated for a plug-in car. That's a firm rule, no matter how crowded a parking lot is, and no matter how infrequently the charging location is used.

## EV NEWS (CONT.)

### 2. No Nasty Notes

Electric car drivers should never leave nasty notes. If the charging spot you counted on using is ICED—the term referring to a charging spot occupied by an internal combustion engine car—by all means, the plug-in driver should leave a note on the windshield explaining the predicament. The note can be firm, but should be expressed in polite language—in a good-will gesture that will hopefully convince the offender not to make the mistake again.

### 3. Charge Only When Necessary

Don't charge if you don't need a charge. Leave the spot free for another EV driver that might need the charge to safely complete his or her daily travels.

### 4. Charge Up and Move On

Only occupy a charging spot while your car is being charged. As soon as the charging session is completed—either when your battery is full or when you have adequate range to comfortably reach your destination—be prepared to unplug and move your car as soon as possible, making way for a fellow plug-in driver. (Many charging networks and car apps can be set to notify you by email or text when your charging session is completed.)

### 5. It's Okay to Ask for a Charge

If a charging spot you needed is being used, and you are able to park next to a car that is currently charging, it's perfectly fine to leave a note asking the owner to plug your car in after his or her session is complete. If you have receive such a note, honor the request. If the charging session requires a fee, you are obviously not obligated to activate the charging session (and incur a fee)—although that kind gesture will likely be returned some day. As with any note left on a windshield, it's advisable to include your name and cell phone number so you can be contacted.

### 6. Don't Unplug Plug-in Hybrids...

An owner of a pure electric car owner, like a [Nissan LEAF](#), does NOT have the right to unplug a plug-in hybrid, such as a [Chevy Volt](#)—just because that car has a back-up gas engine.

#### ...Except When Plug-in Hybrid Is Done Charging

The exception to Rule #6—and applicable in fact to any other plug-in car— says that it's okay for one plug-in car owner to unplug another car, if the first car has clearly finished charging. In this event, the driver who makes the switch should leave a note explaining why it was unplugged. The note should be full of gratitude and include your cell number. (The PlugShare app has a notification function so drivers can contact each other prior to unplugging. Drivers should try to make contact prior to unplugging.)

## EV NEWS (CONT.)

### 7. Safety First

Practice safe charging. This means properly managing the cord. Neatly wind the cord on its holder, and tuck it in so people will not trip on any excess length, or drive over it.

## UPDATE ON NEW CHARGING STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY

No new stations to report, however, the 3 stations in Sebastopol are operational with no apparent changes to the site.

### Planned Installations:

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

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