# 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW AND WELCOME 2024!

## TESLA OWNERS CLUB NEW ENGLAND

#### The State of the Club, April 2024:

We have been an official Tesla Owners Club for a little over two years and our second year was even more successful than our first year. We have great hopes for the future!

- The Club: We are the official Tesla Owners Club for New England and cover a large geographic area that consists of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island. Connecticut has its own established club.
- Membership Growth: There are now 553 registered members (up from 325 at the beginning of last year).
- Events and Meet Ups:
  - TOCNE members have the opportunity to attend TOCNE organized events. These include our core monthly "Charge and Chat" meet ups as well as other special events scheduled throughout the year. There are also non TOCNE organized events, which are currently mostly opportunities for high performance driving.
  - "Charge and Chats" are monthly meetups at superchargers located throughout New England. They provide a great
    opportunity to get together with current and future Tesla owners, and they are a forum to socialize and discuss
    recent Tesla model and feature developments, regional supercharger news, upcoming club events and more. Some
    also have optional post-event drives and activities. We had nine Charge and Chats last year in Massachusetts,
    Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Details are posted in advance on the TOCNE website. We usually take
    a break over the winter months.
  - Special Events (2023 and early 2024) included:
    - An exclusive "behind the scenes" tour at high end collision and Tesla-certified body shop Today's Collision, in Malden MA.
    - A meet up with Rafael de Mestre, an electromobility pioneer and driver behind the longest standard electric car journey to circumvent the globe in Tesla Roadster, VIN 507, at Woburn MA.
    - A Whale Watch from Gloucester MA.
    - A drive in Maine's Katahdin Woods & Waters Scenic Byway.
    - An impromptu meetup with a Cybertruck driven by Sawyer Merritt.
    - An Eclipse viewing in Jackman Maine.
    - All were fun! Expect more this year. Details will be posted in advance on the TOCNE website.
  - In addition to the annual Electric Day held by MassTuning at Canaan Motor Club, NH, and several Laps for Charity days held at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon NH, the opportunities for High Performance Driver Education (HPDE) and track events for TOCNE members were expanded with the first Unplugged Performance TeslaCorsa East, held at Atlanta Motorsports Park in July, and the introduction of the new Mountain Pass Performance / Gridlife Model 3

Challenge Racing series for those of you with Model 3s.

- Community Advocacy, Outreach and Education:
  - TOCNE members attended multiple events organized by Drive Electric Earth Month and National Drive Electric Week. Both these national campaigns aim to share information about electric vehicles, and support the mission to educate people in what it means to Drive Electric. The Hebert Candy Mansion Event, held in Shrewsbury, MA has become one of the largest NDEW events in New England.
  - TOCNE leadership continue to develop close connections with New England Tesla service centers, and volunteer to help with Q&A and new owner orientation and education during peak end-of quarter delivery

President: Aaron Quirk Vice Presidents: David Connaughton, Matthew Miller, Bev Jones & John Harris Newsletter: Bev Jones (and ChatGPT) Media / Video: Owen Sparks





times.

- Our partner club in Pennsylvania, TOCPA, holds regular on-line educational courses for Tesla owners in the Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, New Mexico and New England Clubs. <u>https://www.tocpa.club/Events/</u>Last year, these included "Boot camp road tripping" and "Boot camp FSD". They are continuing this year. They are free for TOCNE members, but you will need to get the registration code. Contact us on our website.
- TOCNE leadership continues to pursue opportunities for discounts for club members on Tesla-related products. Check them out on our website.



Indiana Sunset, Model 3 Performance

# EVENTS

# (I) UPCOMING TOCNE ORGANIZED EVENTS:

With 2023 very much now in the rear view mirror, just like the Indiana sunset above, we are moving forward in 2024. It promises to be even busier and more successful year than 2023! Please check the website for upcoming events as the details (time and / or location) may change closer to the time

#### (A) Charge and Chat, Hanover MA

When: May 11, 2024 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Location: Tesla Supercharger, 1775 Washington St, Hanover, MA 02359

(B) Charge and Chat, Location TBD Save the date!

When: June 15th, 2024 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



Hanover Supercharger Charge and Chat 2023

# (2) UPCOMING NON-TOCNE ORGANIZED EVENTS

#### (A) Attend National Drive Electric Earth Month (NDEEM) Events - April

- Each year, National Drive Electric Earth Month works with communities across the country to organize events in support of the mission to educate people in what it means to Drive Electric.
- These volunteer run events feature EV owners and their cars sharing real world ownership experiences related to daily use, charging and range. Some events also feature test rides and drives for owners willing to participate. A few events feature local dealership participation with cars and test drives.
- NDEEM events have grown in size and diversity in recent years and have evolved from mostly Teslas to a broader range of electric vehicles for people to see. We encourage members interested in sharing their car and personal experiences to sign up for NDEEM event(s).
- This is a perfect way to support Tesla's mission to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy.
- For a list of events check the National Drive Electric Earth Month website (check back from time to time as additional events are still being added): <u>https://driveelectricearthmonth.org/attend</u>

#### (B) Hebert Candy Mansion EV Show National Drive Electric Earth Month (NDEEM)

When: April 27, 2024 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Location: 574 Hartford Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA

This year The Hebert Candy Mansion EV Show held in Shrewsbury, MA joins the list of events after a long history of success

in the fall during National Drive Electric Week. The event showcases many EV's giving both current and prospective owners a chance to see a variety of brands and have some fun at the same time. For more information, and to register visit the event page at: <a href="https://driveelectricearthmonth.org/event?eventid=4237">https://driveelectricearthmonth.org/event?eventid=4237</a>

#### (C) Laps for Charity NHMS Road Course

When: May 03, 2024 430 PM - 7:00 PM Location: NHMS, 1122 Route 106 North Loudon, NH 03307

This is not an official club event. Laps for Charity is your chance to drive your vehicle on one of New Hampshire Motor Speedway's racing surfaces, or experience a ride in the official NHMS pace car all while supporting children in need throughout New England! Please register here with Speedway Children's Charities.

#### https://www.speedwaycharities.org/events/#newhampshire

Tesla Owners Club of New England members have been donating and participating in Laps for Charity events since 2021. Included in your registration is three group laps with a pace car in your own vehicle and a photo in victory lane.



TOCNE members at NHMS, Loudon NH 2023

We typically meetup and wait for all the ICE cars to finish and then go on the track as a group. For those seeking a more exclusive experience, VIP sessions are also available and includes the opportunity to be the only vehicle on the road course during your five laps, plus a photo in victory lane.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact New Hampshire Chapter Director Danielle Cyr at DCyr@NHMS.com. Remember, your support of this event will benefit the New Hampshire Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities!

#### (D) Model 3 Challenge

When: May 18 - 19th, 2024 Location: Canaan Motor Club, 18 Orange Rd, Canaan, NH 03741

This is not an official club event although club members will be attending. From Model 3 Challenege. "Growing tired of lapping days? Not enough power to be competitive in time attack? Looking for the next step? Maybe the Model 3 Challenge is just what you're looking for. An accessible driving series for those looking to compete in a road-course environment with EVs. Competing with similar cars means it's all down to the driver and car setup."

"EVs are reliable, fun to drive, cheap to run, and incredibly evenly matched. The perfect base for some classic touring car fun!"

"A unique format allows for a close battling experience without the risk of wheel-to-wheel racing, and a lower barrier to entry as road-going cars can be used. The perfect combination of daily driver and track car!"

"We're excited to formally introduce a new format for 2024 – Club Events! Model 3 Challenge Club Events will be run similar https://model3challenge.racing



to a typical Time Attack format. In addition, the only modifications needed to your Model 3 are racing brake pads and brake fluid!

The organizers have partnered with MassTuning TrackFest, New England's most prominent grassroots track day organizer. Canaan, opened in 2016, is a1.3 mile racetrack with eleven turns and perfect for an electric platform! Canaan's management is environmentally conscious and forward thinking. The track will soon have nine Level 2 chargers available (5 previously) with thanks to a donation from Mountain Pass Performance. The motor club has a 30kW+ Solar System that together with the on site chargers helps support electric vehicle racers.

https://model3challenge.racing/club-event-2024-canaan-motor-club/

#### (E) Mt Washington Road Race Transportation Volunteer Opportunity

When: June 15, 2024 6:30 AM - 1:00 PM Location: 1 Mount Washington Auto Rd, Gorham, NH 03581

We are inviting our members to help with the upcoming Mt Washington Road Race. This is not a Tesla Owners Club of New England sponsored event, just a volunteer opportunity.

Every year there is a runners road race up the Mt Washington Auto Road and runners \*scramble\* to find rides down the mountain after the race. This is a great opportunity to show off our Teslas to the local community and ride up the Mt. Washington Auto Road and enjoy the view for FREE. Who wouldn't want a ride in a Tesla? and NO braking is needed going down the mountain. Check our website for full details on how to volunteer and how and where to pick up runners for the race..

https://teslaownersnewengland.club/event-5642448

# (3) 2023 AND RECENT 2024 EVENTS:

2023 was the year of the Cybertruck first deliveries.

2024 is the year of FSD V12, S/X refresh with new bumper cameras and ambient lighting, Cybertruck and the new refresh model 3 with the stalks removed from the steering wheel. The Model 3 is now safer, quieter and more efficient. Are we getting closer to full autonomy and removal of the steering wheel for robotaxi?

#### (A) Tesla Service Center Opens In Burlington, VT (April 2024)

The Tesla Service Center in Burlington VT is now open! On Thursday April 11th, TOCNE leaders John Harris and Bev Jones traveled from Massachusetts to Burlington VT for the grand opening celebration. There were hands on vehicle and solar demonstrations, food and not one, but two Cybertrucks. It was also an opportunity to connect with Todd Lockwood and Tesla Owners Vermont. Exciting times ahead with service and deliveries on the horizon and lots of room to grow.



The Tesla Team, Burlington VT



Opening celebration attendees with the Cybertruck



Cybertruck #2 in the parking lot





Left: Mike from Tesla Energy, with a Powerwall 3 and John Harris. Right: Tesla Service demonstration.

#### (B) Charge and Chat and Eclipse Viewing ME (April 2024)

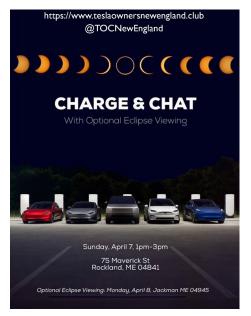
Members of the Tesla Owners Club of New England went to see the Solar Eclipse in Jackman, Maine April 08th 2024.

The trip started with a Charge and Chat at the new V4 Superchargers in Rockland, ME. These next generation DC fast chargers are a significant milestone in Tesla's efforts to expand the North American Supercharger network to all EVs adopting Tesla's North American Charging Standard (NACS) or using the CCS1 adapter. This is also the first Tesla site nationwide to receive federal funding under the NEVI (National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) initiative.

The path of the eclipse crossed New England over Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Jackman, was on the path of totality. A group of club members stayed over in Waterville Sunday evening and traveled to Jackman ME, 89 miles and 1hr 50 min north, on Monday. The total eclipse started lasted 3 min and 36 seconds, and reached totality at 3:31 pm. The partial eclipse lasted from 2:18 pm to 4:39 pm. This was the last opportunity to see a total eclipse in North America for the next 20 years, and the final chance to see one in New England until 2079.

The group charged in Waterville and then topped up in Jackman which has 4 V2 150kW Superchargers. The chargers were busy with our convoy of 10 Teslas and the estimated 20 additional Teslas in town.







Above: Rockland Supercharger and Below: Evening meal in Waterville



Montage - Bev Jones

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Tesla Owners Club of New England @TOCNewEngland

TOTALITY! 🥳

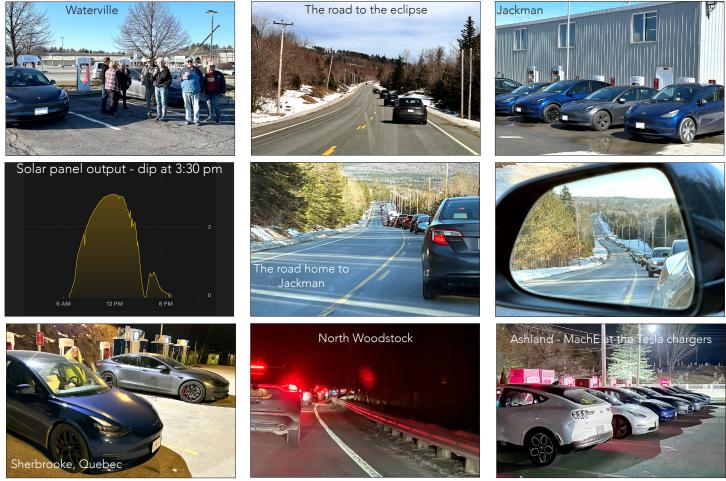
Last week, members of Tesla Owners New England traveled to Jackman, Maine, to view the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse! They also checked out the first V4 Supercharger in New England located in Rockland, Maine.

Adventure awaits, hope in your @Tesla and go explore!



8:27 PM · Apr 14, 2024 · 3,462 Views

Thousands of people traveled to Maine for the eclipse, and the numbers were amplified by perfect viewing weather in New England that day. After totality ended, most members of the TOC New England group headed home south. The first 2 miles back to Jackman took ~2 hours. The remaining 90 miles to Waterville took an additional 5 hours (usually 1 hour 50 min). Some of our group arrived home in eastern Massachusetts at 3 am, with a travel time of a little over 11 hours for ~290 miles. A couple of group members, on the advice of a local resident, decided to go north, over the Canadian border, through Quebec and back into Vermont at the I91 border crossing, and then home. The northbound border crossing into Canada was slow, but otherwise there was little traffic and no wait times for charging. Arrival time for this 460 mile route was 3:30 am, a small difference in travel time compared to those who drove south, and definitely less stressful!



## (C) Sawyer Merritt & Cybertruck at Chestnut Hill Supercharger, Newton MA (March 2024).

What a great impromptu meet up! Sawyer Merritt, on his birthday, drove Ethan Zebroni's Cybertruck to meet TOCNE members at the Chestnut Hill Supercharger in Newton MA.

From drone shots at least 115 people attended. West coast attendance on the East coast! Tesla Energy also came and bought a Powerwall 3 and Tesla Solar Roof for TOCNE members to get a "hands on" look.

With thanks to the members and leaders of the Tesla Owners Club New England, Sawyer Merritt, Ethan Zebroni and Tesla Energy.

And one more thing! What should turn up but a fully prepped Model 3 Challenge Performance 3! More on the Model 3 Challenge later.

Top: The Cybertruck arrives, driven by Sawyer Merritt.

Middle: Drone and ground images of TOCNE members, the Cybertruck and a LOT of Teslas.

Bottom: Tesla Energy with Powerwall 3 and Solar roof, Model 3 Challenge car.



## Meet Sawyer Merritt and the Cybertruck

Sunday, March 24th 1 - 2 pm The Street Chestnut Hill Supercharger 55 Boylston Street Chestnut Hill, MA 02467



















#### (D) Cybertruck Delivery Event, TESLA, Boston MA (November 2023)

The cybertruck made its New England debut at the Tesla showroom in downtown Boston at the end of November. Very impressive "in person"! John Harris (center), Bev Jones and Mathew Miller (right), three of the TOCNE leadership made it to the showroom to see it.







(E) Cybertruck at ALSET Auto, Framingham MA (March 2024)



Left: The Cybertruck, the surprise visitor to the meet up. Club president Aaron Quirk with Seth Caplan, of Alset Auto, Framingham, and Owen Sparks reflected in the side of the Cybertruck.

#### (F) Refresh "Highland" Model 3 Makes it to Massachusetts! (March 2024).

The new refreshed "Highland" Model 3 has been available in Europe since the end of last year, but has only recently made its way to the US. Bev Jones test drove the RWD drive version in downtown Boston at the beginning of February. The AWD Long Range model made it to MA a few weeks later. Courtesy of Tesla, our club members were offered an exclusive opportunity to test drive it at our meetup on March 2nd at Alset Autos in Framingham MA. The car was fully booked for test drives for the entire time! The consensus opinion is that it is comfortable, quiet and luxurious - Model S-like, and that it handles well. There will be a learning curve for the new steering wheel without stalks, and the new indicator / drive / reverse / park controls. There is there is a lot of speculation about the specifications for new Performance Model which will be released very soon though.

Left: RWD refresh Model 3 in Boston and Middle: Interior and steering wheel without stalks. Right: AWD refresh in Framingham.



#### (G) TESLA Service Center, Dedham MA (December 2023)

TOCNE leadership continue to develop close connections with local Tesla service centers and staff. On this Saturday in December, leadership were at the Tesla Dedham service center, "Celebrating the holidays with hot chocolate, sweets and test drives". Unfortunately there were no S Plaid or Roadster test drives, although there were plenty of drinks and snacks.

Left: John Harris and Mike DelPonte, Tesla. Middle: Tesla Dedham service center floor. Right: Always a favorite, an original Roadster.







## (H) Sandy Munro visits TOCNE and MA (again! March 2023)

Left: John Harris, Sandy Munro and Steve Turney. Right: Cory Steuben and Sandy Munro with their loaner Model 3.







Sandy Munro, the Teardown Titan, and Cory Steuben made a "flying" visit to Boston last March. TOCNE arranged to meet them at Logan Airport and TOCNE member Steve Turney loaned them his Model 3 LR for the duration of their trip. This was Sandy's second meeting with TOCNE and we hope that there will be a third soon! Check out Sandy on Munro Live on X and YouTube. He has already started his teardown of the Cybertruck.

#### (I) Rafael de Mestre, Electromobility Pioneer, Woburn MA (July 2023)

Rafael de Mestre is an electromobility pioneer and driver behind the longest standard electric car journey to circumnavigate the globe in 127 days, with his Tesla Roadster, VIN 507. Rafael has set several world records:

- Winning the first EV race around the world in a STANDARD all-electric vehicle;
- Being the first man to drive ALONE around the world in an electric car;
- Making the FASTEST electric vehicle circumnavigation around the world ever (127 days);
- Making the LONGEST drive in a standard electric car (28,282 km/17,570 miles).

Rafael met TOCNE members at the supercharger in Woburn MA. Although on that evening he was driving a Model 3, he talked about his trips around the US and the world in his first generation Roadster.

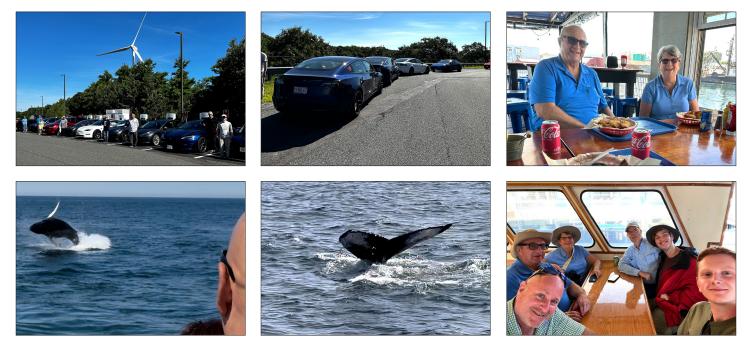
Rafael is traveling through the US again this year and wants to meet up with TOCNE in Massachusetts in early Summer. Come back and check our website for date / time / place details closer to the event.

https://electrek.co/2023/08/02/the-first-tesla-and-first-ev-to-drive-around-the-world-is-doing-it-again-now/



#### (J) Charge and Chat with Whale Watch, Gloucester MA (August 2023)

The meet up started with a Charge & Chat at the Gloucester Tesla Supercharger at Gloucester Crossing. A group of TOCNE members then joined a Whale Watch and spent the afternoon seeing whales off the coast in Stellwagen Bank.



## (K) Events in New England States (2023)

New England covers a very large geographic area. Although the majority of Tesla owners are concentrated in Eastern Massachusetts, TOCNE leadership take care to organize events in the other states.

- MAINE: Charge and Chat in Saco and a scenic drive through Katahdin Woods.
- MASSACHUSETTS: Charge and Chats in Burlington, Framingham, Gloucester with whale watch, Somerville and Woburn, and a scenic drive up Mount Wachusett.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE: A Charge and Chat at Seabrook, with a scenic drive along Rte 1A to Kittery, ME, and a scenic drive up the Mount Washington Auto Road.
- **RHODE ISLAND**: Charge and Chats in East Greenwich and Providence.







(L) Today's Collision - Exclusive Behind the Scenes Tour (May 2023)



TODAY'S Collision Repair Center 375 Washington St, Malden, MA 02148



Today's Collision Repair Center was founded in 1989. It is one of the few Tesla authorized and approved body shops in America, and they are a Tesla Owners Club of New England sponsor.

Most of the Tesla bodywork repair, and all of the Tesla glass replacement, is performed at the Malden Repair Center. Less complex bodywork can also be performed at the newer Danvers location. TOCNE members were treated to an exclusive and in depth, behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of their state-of-the-art autobody shop, and found out what it takes to repair a damaged Tesla and restore it back to showroom condition. After a very tasty lunch, owner and CEO Bobby Cobb lead an informative Q&A session. The event was AWESOME!



Teslas parked outside Today's Collision

Bobby Cobb and TOCNE President Aaron Quirk



Drone view of the parking lot

TOCNE members in the repair shop



Attendees in front of the food truck

Vicki McInnis, Director of Marketing & Bobby Cobb









TOCNE members have needed to use Today's Collision. The high winds in mid December 2023 bought a tree down on Bev Jones's Model 3. Today's repaired the storm damage to the bodywork, paint and roof glass. Communication during the repair process was excellent and they are friendly and very professional - a class act! The car looked better than when it was new.



Repair Process YouTube Video: Https://youtu.be/n6RxuRFr\_As

At the end of the newsletter is a more detailed document describing the different stages of the repair process. Most have QR codes that link to a video.

# (4) HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVING & TRACK DAYS (2023 - 2024):

These events are not organized by TOCNE but are regularly attended by TOCNE members who register with the organizations directly. Members have attended Laps for Charity, at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, NH, and the EV Track Day held by MassTuning at Canaan Motorsports in Canaan, NH, for the last couple of years. 2023 saw the addition of the first East Coast Unplugged Performance TeslaCorsa East at the Atlanta Motorsports Park, in Atlanta, Georgia, and a new grassroots racing series, the Model 3 Challenge, presented by Mountain Pass Performance and running at selected Gridlife events.

#### (A) SCDA Winter Car Control Clinic, Lime Rock Park CT (February 2024)

TOCNE leaders Bev Jones and John Harris attended the Sports Car Driving Association's Winter Car Control Clinic at Lime Rock Park, CT in February this year. It's a huge amount of fun even for experienced drivers, and is a great opportunity to test the limits of your Tesla in winter driving conditions and learn how to control it. The skid pan, on drift mode, was awesome. And the weather cooperated - it snowed!

But the most important reason to go was to take the new and less experienced family drivers, in Bev's case her son. He drives the family's RWD Tesla Model 3 SR+. It is better to learn how to handle a sliding car under controlled conditions with an instructor than out on the open road on his own. Not something he learned during standard Drivers Ed in Massachusetts.

The day started with an informative and well delivered talk on vehicle dynamics, understeer and oversteer, and car control. We then went out onto the auto cross track and skid pan for the rest of the day to put into practice what we'd learned at the chalk talk. Mission successful. At the end of the day Bev's son felt confident about the car's limits, what would make it slide and how to handle it in the snow and ice. Bev's eldest daughter got the same out of her day at the car control clinic two years ago. Well worth it for their driving safety and she'll be back with her youngest daughter next year.



#### (B) TeslaCorsa East, Atlanta Motorsports Park GA (July 2023)

"TeslaCorsa was founded to encourage Tesla owners to experience the limits of their cars in a professionally managed race track environment. By exploring the limits in a controlled environment we can ensure maximum fun, safety and absence of speeding tickets. Enjoy a day at the track surrounded with fellow Tesla friends."

TOCNE leaders Bev Jones and John Harris traveled from Massachusetts with TOCNE member Steve Turney to the Atlanta Motorsports Park in Dawsonville, GA for the first TeslaCorsa event hosted on the East Coast, TeslaCorsa East 1. All previous events in the US were hosted on the West Coast.

Ben Schaffer, the CEO and Co-Founder of Unplugged Performance and Randy Pobst, American race car driver and journalist, were there for the day. After a chalk talk, Tesla drivers set off for the track. UNPLUGGED PERFORMANCE OF UNPLUGGED PERFORMANCE

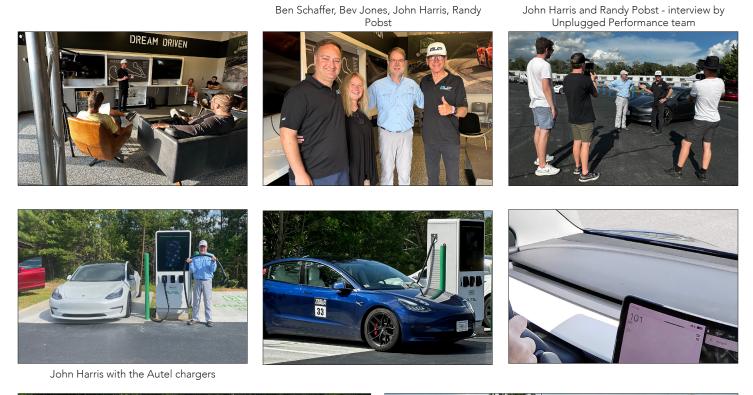
Test out your Tesla, on track

Register at teslacorsa.com



Charging is an issue for EV drivers at track events. Some of the West coast tracks (Laguna Seca, Buttonwillow and Thunderhill) now have Tesla superchargers installed on site. Atlanta Motorsports Park, in partnership with Indigo Energy, has installed five Autel MaxiCharger DC Fast Level 3 Chargers that offer up to 180kW of charging. This provides up to 125 miles of range in 10 min with a maximum 400A output current. A total charge requires just 20 – 30 minutes for most vehicles. A CCS adapter was needed for the Teslas.

"Electric vehicles are the future of racing, and EV owners deserve an uncompromised experience when pushing their performance to the limit," says AMP owner and CEO Jeremy Porter. "From hyperexotics to luxury vehicles to EV retrofits, everybody who comes to AMP deserves speedy charging off-track so they can get back to shaving off their times on-track. Our long-term ambition is to be an incubator for using mobility technology. Currently we have three EV technology companies at Atlanta Motorsports Park and installing level three chargers crystallizes our commitment to this tech." https://allongeorgia.com/georgia-sports/atlanta-motorsports-park-becomes-first-race-track-to-install-level-3-fast-chargers-for-high-performance evs/#google\_vignette





#### (C) MassTuning EV Track Day, Canaan Motorsports NH (August 2023)

MassTuning TrackFest, New England's most prominent grassroots track day organizer, holds an Electric Day every year at Canaan Motor Club in New Hampshire. Canaan is a 1.3 mile racetrack with eleven turns and is perfect for an electric vehicle. Although Teslas dominate, the event is open to all Electric vehicles. All registered drivers, from beginners to veteran drivers, had 2 hours of seat time! Spectators are welcomed. Novices with limited to no track experience were given priority for instruction.



Daniel Bona and John Harris both S Plaid drivers

Teslacorsa meets Electric Day

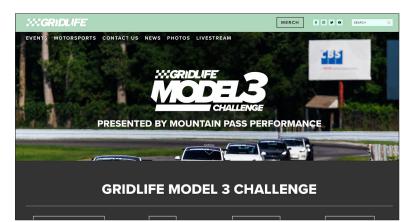


# (D) GridLife Model 3 Challenge Presented by Mountain Pass Performance, Lime Rock Park CT (August 2023)

After more than a year of preparation, the first Grassroots EV-only race in North America took place August 2023 at Lime Rock Park CT - GRIDLIFE Model 3 Challenge Presented by Mountain Pass Performance.

#### https://www.grid.life/model3challenge?fbclid=lwAR0qAu\_MK2aWN7Kow2KAQBLVDwxy5T3iBOQ3BXS9aaiJkV6A5bq39KFyjSU

Competitors had nearly 120 minutes of track-time, live stream coverage, practices, qualifying, and three races. The last race saw multiple lead changes, and over a dozen passes. At the end of the weekend, only two points separated the 1st and 2nd place finishers, and only six points separated the 3rd and 4th place finishers!. This was the "big" East coast event last year. The season ended with a similar "big" West coast event at the WeatherTech Raceway, Laguna Seca, Salinas CA.



Model 3 Challenge at Lime Rock Park







East Coast Model 3 Challenge Team at Lime Rock Park

Lime Rock Park

Laguna Seca





West Coast Model 3 Challenge Team at Laguna Seca



Thanks to Rishie Garg for these great images from the Model 3 Challenge at Laguna Seca!

Rishie and ZEVcentric are based in Fremont CA, a few miles from the Tesla Fremont factory. He is extremely knowledgeable and offers consulting and installation services. Check him out:

https://zevcentric.com/?customer\_posted=true#NewsletterForm--tem-plate--16626995364085\_\_newsletter

# OTHER TESLA NEWS ELECTRIFIED GARAGE

Electrified Garage (EG), the first independent Tesla repair facility, has been in business for over five years now. Earlier this year, they relocated from their original Seabrook NH site to a new facility in Amesbury MA.

• EV TRAINING

We all know EG for their general EV maintenance and repair and customization, and more recently their electric vehicle conversions. EG also offers more in-depth EV training sessions. TOCNE's Bev Jones, along with her son, attended one of

these training sessions in June 2023.

The first day was an immersive, classroom-based study of Tesla vehicle systems including high voltage safety, body structure, suspension, brakes, steering, TPMS, thermal management, HV battery, LV electrical systems, charging system, and infotainment. The second day transitioned to the workshop with practical hands-on training alongside Chris Salvo and Chad Hrencecin, with a brief appearance from Rich (rebuilds) Benoit. This allowed us to apply what had been learned the day before. The practice car was Bev's Model 3 Performance, which needed its annual service.

The EV training curriculum is currently being updated. Multiple different courses will be offered, some on-line and some in person. Courses should be available in the second half of 2024 for those who are interested. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bd2dICOISOM



#### The "Classroom" with a spare motor on the floor, and dinner at a local seafood restaurant

#### ELECTRIFIED CARE

Amber, a Bay Area start up founded in early 2023 has launched a new aftermarket Tesla warranty product called AmberCare for Tesla Model Y, 3, S and X owners. After the original warranty expires, there are currently limited options if something breaks in the car. They will offer different plans to cover the drive units, the battery and more. When a claim is filed Amber works with qualified repair shops to fix the problem.

The Amber team attended a Tesla EV training session at EG in Amesbury MA in June 2023. EG and Amber have teamed up to offer Electrified Care, an extended service plan designed specifically for Electrified Care customers. Electrified Care was launched in December 2023. Interested owners can contact the Electrified Garage team for more information on coverage options, term lengths, and pricing.

https://techcrunch.com/2024/03/20/amber-ev-tesla-extended-warranty-service-funding/

https://www.electrifiedgarage.com/electrified-care

https://electrek.co/2024/03/20/owners-of-aging-teslas-this-new-bespoke-warranty-plan-is-for-you/?fbclid=IwAR2V3Q-nA0mHmCyaCJF3B6zq2riVxyqogMFgOiPT9xRiJKM9BNdRqy2jdg



Amber Care team





Rich Benoit, Chris Salvo, Chad Hrencecin, Bev Jones



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# NEW ENGLAND SUPERCHARGER NEWS (John Harris)

A LOT has happened since our last New England Tesla Charging update. Tesla has opened an incredible 26 supercharger sites since the beginning of 2023. There are also 10 sites under construction in various phases of completion, with the majority awaiting utilities or Tesla to bring on-line. We currently know of 12 additional sites permitted or in planning, with many more presumably in Tesla's pipeline.

In Massachusetts new sites are being added to areas with a rapidly growing demand for charging: Framingham (2), Newton, Dedham, Lynnfield and Revere to name a few. New sites along busy commuter routes include Lowell, Lawrence, Lynnfield and Canton, MA. And for those that escape to the Cape, Provincetown has just opened a new 12-stall supercharger to meet the needs of the busy summer vacation season. And two existing supercharger sites in Braintree and Lee are being modernized. Braintree will be removing the eight 72kW urban posts, replacing them with 20 250kW posts. Lee will remove the original eight 150kW v2 posts and replace them with eight v4 250kW posts.

#### For our northern New England members

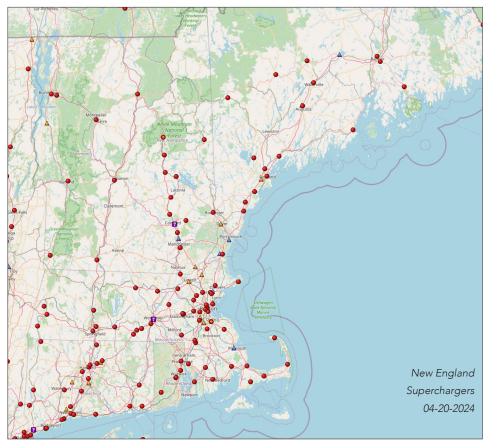
- Tesla has been adding sites in New Hampshire to meet demand for residents, commuters and summer vacationers in Salem, Manchester, Hookset, Epsom, Thornton, Portsmouth and Dover. The Epsom and Portsmouth superchargers will be at new Common Man Roadside convenience stores (Epsom is open, Portsmouth may soon break ground). Seabrook will be getting an additional supercharger site soon to augment the original one which is one of New England's oldest sites.
- Vermont has a new supercharger in Bennington to fill a large hole in the network. Another is being built further north in Vergennes.
- Maine has had some welcome additions along the Maine Turnpike in Wells, Saco and Bangor. Tesla also added one in Windham to cover those in and around Sebago Lake. A NEVI funded v4 supercharger has opened at Rockland (the first in New England) and another in Augusta is expected to begin construction soon.

#### For our southern New England fans:

- There are two new sites in Rhode Island located at Neon Marketplace convenience stores in Warwick and Portsmouth since our last update. This closes out the list of known Neon Marketplace supercharger projects as their previous rapid expansion appears to be on hold for now.
- Connecticut has seen superchargers open in Fairfield, East Haven, Vernon and Enfield with two under construction in Southington and New Haven. The Enfield site is noteworthy in that it appears it might have been the first new site to be built with MagicDock (versus being upgraded after the fact).

#### Highlight Projects.

• New England's first Supercharger Solar Canopy. Tesla has indicated a goal to include solar and energy storage with supercharger sites for some time now. A co-installed solar canopy offsets the cost of the supercharging energy de-



livered, and battery storage can help reduce the cost of demand charges imposed by utilities. The new Canton, MA 20-stall site under construction will be the first New England site to include a solar canopy (there are currently no plans for energy storage to go with it). The supercharger installation itself is complete and the site is now waiting for Tesla to commission it. The foundation work for the solar canopy including footings and conduit are place and ready. There is currently no information on when the solar canopy itself will be installed.

 Tesla's first NEVI funded project, and New England's first v4 Supercharger. When the state of Maine announced their NEVI funding project awards in August 2023, two projects appeared on the list for

Tesla. The first of these projects in Rockland was underway in late December, 2023 at the Hannaford supermarket. This location is ideal, providing charging along Maine's coastal Route-1 and filling a large gap in the regions DC fast charging network. As work progressed, it was confirmed that this site had the new v4 charging posts assumed to be needed to meet NEVI funded project requirements. More recently, a permit was found for the second Tesla NEVI site in Maine in Augusta, which will be located not far from the existing supercharger there. As a NEVI funded site, both will be open to all EV's and use Tesla's latest V4 supercharger post design which are installed closer to the center of each parking spot and include longer charging cables and "Magic Dock" built-in CCS adapters for non-Tesla charging. There are only a handful of sites with v4 supercharger posts in North America to-date as Tesla begins the transition to the new technology here.

#### Non-Tesla Charging, Magic Dock and v4 Superchargers.

There continues to be a lot of talk on social media about Tesla's planned opening of their North American supercharger network to non-Tesla vehicles. As all the major auto manufacturers have now signed on with Tesla to adopt NACS, the first companies are now enabling their vehicles to charge on the Supercharger network with adapters. Ford and more recently Rivian have added support to their EVs, and have begun shipping NACS-to-CCS adapters to their customers. Tesla has been very busy preparing for this by visiting all existing v3 supercharger sites in New England between October and December 2023 to perform site upgrades. By monitoring regional site status in the cars navigation or mobile app, one could see two-three sites undergo partial or complete site closure each day as the work was performed by teams of Tesla charging employees. It is assumed that work is substantially complete at this point, and the supercharger sites themselves ready for non-Tesla's.

Current information suggests that Tesla supercharger sites enabled for non-Tesla use will become available in other car's navigation systems as part of the roll out. It's presumed that only  $v_3 + v_4$  supercharger sites will be enabled for non-Tesla use. It's not clear if they will all be available, or if there will be a selected enablement and gradual expansion of what sites non-Tesla's can charge at like how Tesla rolled out non-Tesla charging across Europe.

On the topic of Magic-Dock enablement of v3 supercharger sites, after a slow start, it appears Tesla are installing Magic-Dock at some of their new sites being built in New England. After finding MagicDock at the new Enfield, CT site last year apparently Tesla's first new site opening with this connector, MagicDock upgrades were added to the Provincetown, Foxborough and Lynnfield superchargers prior to opening this year. MagicDock has also been found at the new Canton and Dedham supercharger sites under construction as well.

Tesla is ramping up deployment of v4 supercharger posts in North America. For the past year and a half, site plans have regularly included design options featuring v3 charging posts and alternative or v4 charging posts. Including both in the plans gave Tesla the option to install either one at the time of construction. It wasn't until recently that the first sites started to be built with the new v4 charging posts from those dual-option plans. Now, in the last month or so, we've started seeing some plans only show v4 charging posts – a clear sign Tesla has begun the transition to the next generation technology for future sites. While it's just beginning in North America, in Europe, v4 supercharger posts are becoming quite common for new builds as they began installing them there early last year. Note that globally, for the near term, v4 supercharger sites will continue to deliver a maximum of 250kW depending on vehicle and conditions. These sites are equipped with the same supercharger cabinets that have been deployed for years at all v3 sites. It's unknown if these cabinets can deliver the higher output alluded to for v4 as-is, or perhaps will need in-cabinet power electronics upgrades. The new v4 posts are being installed with upgraded wiring to support higher output than v3 posts. While the promise of higher v4 charging rates isn't here yet, the benefits for non-Tesla charging should still be significant.

Tesla Level 2 Charging. Tesla has announced partnerships with several major hotel brands over the past few months to install Tesla Universal Wall Connectors(UWC) at thousands of locations across North America beginning in 2024. Agreements with Hilton (9/23), Best Western (2/24) and Choice Hotels (2/24) may just be the beginning for Tesla, and seems to indicate the beginning of a new business initiative to deliver universal level-2 charging at scale, just as they have done with supercharging. If history repeats itself, Tesla seems poised to be a major player in level-2 charging and will likely find ways drive costs down as they've done with supercharging, making it an obvious business choice for customers looking to deploy charging solutions. An interesting related bit of news is that Tesla has now started communicating new level-2 sites going live via the Twitter handle @TeslaCharging, just as they've been doing for some time now for Superchargers. Each of the four sites shared since they started doing so in February 2024 have been 6 stall destination charging sites co-located with hotels (3 Marriott branded, 1 Hilton branded).

I also hear that Tesla is working on or at least experimenting with applying the prefabrication concept to these level-2 installations, promising faster and lower cost installations.

Tesla Supercharger Site Voting is available quarterly. Visit this link to vote on up to five locations each quarter or to see the current quarterly voting results.

https://www.tesla.com/supercharger-voting

Suggest a Supercharger Site. If you have a location in mind that would benefit from having a supercharger visit this link:

https://www.tesla.com/suggest-superchargers

The Tesla official map provides locations for Tesla Stores and Galleries, Service, Body Shops, Superchargers, Superchargers Open to Non-Tesla, Destination Charging and Self-Serve Demo Drives.

https://www.tesla.com/findus

Unofficial Supercharger Network Information showing the latest information on open, under construction and permitted supercharger sites can be found at <a href="https://super-charge.info">https://super-charge.info</a> (not affiliated with Tesla). This site is updated regularly using crowd-sourced information from the Tesla owner's community.



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