

Barry Rands Receives Drive Electric Award



Barry Rands received the 2023 City Captain Award from Plug In America. Barry was recognized for his work establishing the local Drive Electric Week promoting electric vehicles in SLO County.

In 2011, Plug In America, Sierra Club and the Electric Auto Association co-hosted [National Drive Electric Week](#), a nationwide celebration to raise awareness of the many benefits of all-electric and plug-in hybrid cars, trucks and motorcycles, which subsequently became an annual event that now welcomes about 200,000 attendees across 300 events spanning all 50 states.

Barry has been an active, enthusiastic volunteer with the San Luis Obispo Climate Coalition and Citizens' Climate Lobby in California since his retirement seven years ago. After attending his first National Drive Electric Week event in 2017, he spearheaded the Climate Coalition's efforts to host its first NDEW event. Since then, he has led or co-led the annual fall Drive Electric event in SLO. He also helped the Coalition add Drive Electric Earth Day to its calendar.

Barry has shown initiative and creativity in creating local events that attract a diverse audience, and he continues to work tirelessly to create opportunities for SLO County's residents to meet EV owners, drive electric vehicles and learn about the benefits of electrification, often for the first time.

The next Drive Electric Week will be held Sept 27-Oct 6, 2024.

