



THE PRESIDENT SEZ
Jeff Pleiter, President



It is mid-summer now and we are at the point where the temperatures average the highest and the events continue to be fast and furious. Allie and I attended the Midwest Z Heritage Event that was held in Dublin, Ohio. Up to a week before the event, I feared a forecast in the 90s would be a repeat of the last Z Heritage event in Dublin when it was over 100 degrees and you could not spend much time outside. Fortunately, the forecasted temps dropped during the week approaching the event, and it turned out to be a beautiful summer weekend with high temps in the 80s. The fastest route to Dublin is to take I-65 south to I-70 west. We decided to divert off I-65 at Route 30 and make our way east and south, following some highways and some back roads using Waze. The route was more scenic than the highway route, but took a little longer. We arrived just in time that evening to pick up our registration packet.

The event was held, as it was last time when hosted by ZROC, as a show within a show in conjunction with the Arthritis Foundation Charity car show. Friday night was a cruise-in, and show cars could pretty much park anywhere that night. One of the featured cars for the Arthritis Foundation Show was Nissan's own Z32 Nissan 300ZX. This resulted in a location for all the Z cars right in the featured parking lot in front of the main stage. The stage featured great bands both Friday night and Saturday night that covered classic rock from the 50's to 70's with a few forays into more modern music. Friday night after getting reacquainted with some of the Ohio ZROC people, we grabbed sandwiches provided by ZROC and then sat down and enjoyed the music during the beautiful summer evening.

Windy City Z Club Officers
President – Jeff Pleiter 630.832.7857
VP of Activities – Larry Klem 630.915.1799
VP of Administration – Pat Sylvester 847.895.6939
Secretary/Membership – Sue Chan 630.379.6917
Treasurer – Bill Bragg 262.697.1779
Newsletter – James Snyder wczc.editor@gmail.com
Webmeister – Glenn Johnson 630.363.2081

The next day was the main car show, and 2000+ antique, classics, hot rods, muscle cars, exotics, and pretty much any other special interest car you could think of were re-parked in their assigned areas. While the Arthritis show judging went on around the rest of the site, ZROC judged the Midwest Z Heritage show. Meanwhile, we could checkout the other show cars, and also three Nissan race cars that Nissan Corporation had provided at their expense from their Heritage Collection. There ended up being about 54 or so Z cars present. Being in the featured area brought a lot of exposure to Z Cars and the Z car community to the general car enthusiasts. Allie and I were parked next to Mic and Jo Wildin who had also brought their 280ZX from Indy, and George Furbush from WCZC with his 280ZX.



Photo by Jeff Pleiter

The evening included a dinner with the usual raffle prizes and trophy presentation. There was a minor hitch when it turned out that while ZROC had ordered enough trophies, they had not anticipated the walk-ins and did not have enough plates to put on the trophies. The three WCZC cars that attended each won a trophy. George took first place and I second in stock 280ZX, and Lee Klem took a 3rd place against some tough competition in 1st generation modified. Following the dinner, Allie and I decided to go out and join the group watching Saturday night's band. Sunday we took the faster route home following the highways and made good time.

At the dinner, ZROC awarded the traveling trophy

to Nissan for bringing in the 3 race cars all the way for Nashville at their cost. Now the intent of the traveling trophy was to go to a non-host ZCCA club based on points awarded based on club car participation and trophies won. It was suggested to me that I should protest this award, but instead I talked to them later while watching the band about their decision, especially since WCZC only had managed to bring three cars to the event. The thing was the Cleveland club and the Indy also had similar low attendance. Talking to the ZROC president and other officers later in the evening, they said they had decided to award the traveling trophy to Nissan based on the effort and cost that Nissan had expended to get three Heritage cars to the event, and to make a point about the low participation from the non-host Z Clubs. Frankly I could not blame him for that, since I was really disappointed by the lack of cars from our club. Indy had one car and their events person here with his family without a Z car. I don't know how many cars Cleveland had, but I think it was also about 3 cars. Really, if we are going to keep this event going, we need to participate in each other's host events to keep it alive. Recently, Lee Piven the President of ZROC did contact me to let us know that the traveling trophy was coming to WCZC based on participation and trophy placement. I know that some pressure was put on him from others.

Photo by Jeff Pleiter



The following weekend was the Road America Vintage event with a lunch presented by Hagerty Insurance. I'll let Larry cover this event as I was out in San Diego with Allie where she was awarded her pin from the Romance Writers Association for publishing 25 books. As part of this trip to California we decided to fly in early to San Francisco and take a few days to drive down along the Pacific Coast Highway. I don't have a bucket list, but this would have been on it if I did.

Arriving in San Francisco we drove out along the coast a short distance and stayed in Santa Cruz. We eat at Shadowbrook Restaurant at the recommendation of the hotel clerk. This was a very scenic restaurant on the side of a bluff along a small river. I was not impressed by the seafood campanella I had, but this place was more about the ambiance. This is a place where locals go for special occasions, anniversaries, proposals, etc. A gondola takes you down the bluff to get to the restaurant and the restaurant was in a converted luxury home which had a converted supper club / hunting lodge ambiance. It was a very beautiful structure, with views over the channel and lush landscaping. We concluded the evening on the Santa Cruz pier. The next day we continued the drive down the coast, stopping at the Monterey Wharf, where we saw harbor seals and otters and where we also had a brief tour of adjacent historic buildings which got a great recommendation from the docent for a restaurant at the Ventana Inn and Spa, where we ate lunch later on down the road. It was a bit up in the hills and had a spectacular view from their patio with good food. The drive along the coast is just fantastic. The roadway is a great winding drive and the scenery is spectacular. There are many turnoffs along the way for views of the coast and photo ops.

If you do the drive I have a few suggestions. Some people had said to rent the Mustang convertible, but we opted not to due to the cost being more than \$1,200 more. Instead we rented a compact car, which turned out to be a Nissan Versa Note and a good decision. The weather turned out to be generally in the 60s with a brisk breeze off the ocean and wisps of fog. We saw quite a few Mustang convertibles, but if they had their top down, they also had their windows up and I suspect the heater on. The Note is a small hatchback, but it had plenty of room for us and our luggage. The handling was pretty nimble and it was good fun to drive. I would avoid a mini-van or SUV if you can, as their size would put a damper on the driving fun and make the drive too much work. In fact at one point we passed an accident where one of five Ford Expeditions carrying Chinese or Japanese tourist had crashed and rolled on its side, causing us only a short delay as only one lane was open. The only downside to the Note was there was no cover to hide the luggage, and it could really have used some more power when you needed to get back on the road from a turnout, which was made harder when you could not see far past the curve for coming traffic. One other tidbit is traveling north to south means you don't need to cross traffic to get to the turnouts.

So on the third day we needed to get from our

overnight stop in Oceana past Los Angeles to San Diego. We figured we had time for a few stops in Santa Barbara and other places along the way, as long as we kept an eye on Waze so we could get past LA by 3pm. Unfortunately, shortly after we got started on the PCH, we came to an intersection where they had completely closed the highway. The next alternate route into Santa Barbara was the 101. It was also completely closed due to a jack-knifed truck on a bridge. So along with many others we went further inland and were jammed onto the 154. The scenery and road through the hills were beautiful, but we were bumper to bumper in traffic getting to Santa Barbara.

We arrived way later than planned, and just grabbed a fast food lunch and headed onto the main highways to get through L.A. So that entire drive was spent driving mostly on highway traffic, except for one 20 minute stop south of L.A. at Piedras Blancas to see the Elephant Seals. Once in San Diego, Allie spent the day at her convention, and I went down to the San Diego waterfront where I toured the Midway aircraft carrier and walked around. The Midway tour is very interesting and highly recommended if you ever get there. The Harlequin awards was typically corporate, except the attendees are mostly all women, the men are allowed only if the wife is getting an award. So it was about a couple hundred women, with a few husbands and a couple of male corporate types (most of the corporate were also women) and desserts.

Join us for the Montgomery Fest Car show August 14, and the WCZC picnic on August 21. See Larry's column for more info. I am not making it to ZCON this year, so I hope to get an attendee to do a write up for the net newsletter.

As always, to keep up to date with the WCZC please visit our WCZC website and/or Facebook page, as more and more often we post information and photos there on a timely and sometimes real time basis.

~ Jeff



Photo by Larry Klem

Larry Klem, V.P of Activities

Well hello fellow WCZC Members, dang its already August and I've started to see "Back to School" sale ads - a sure sign that we need to get out there and enjoy our cars while we can. Come to think of it, those three words are eerily similar to the



worse three words of a young parent's Christmas Eve; "Some Assembly Required".

This article will be, surprising enough, rather short - I know writing is not my strong suit.

This summer has seen some amazing events, WCZC's return to Road America, various Cruise Nights, a fantastically planned (not by me) Road Rally down Rt. 66, a road trip to Dublin OH for this year's Midwest Z Heritage Show where our club won the Club Participation Award among other individual awards. I am pleased to see how the club's events have diversified to

serve a wide variety of member's interests. As always, I am open to your suggestions and input for future events.

As the duly designated "chief spammer" for the club, you get a steady barrage of Evites from me; please try to RSVP to those messages as knowing the number of participants helps greatly in planning for events. Turning to the dog days of summer's events I am grateful for the Keca's volunteering their lovely patio and swimming pool for this year's Summer Picnic. Dovetailing on that event, Keith K. is spearheading a morning Rally to Starved Rock and Rick U., our destination expert has volunteered his insight to the local attractions for that trip - thank you guys. I encourage all to participate and enjoy the day with our Z cars (I refer back to my first sentence). I also appreciate Bob & Marlene R. stepping up to suggest some mid-week events, now if we could only get the weather to cooperate this all would be so much easier to manage...

Additionally, there are Evites sent for several Car Shows and Cruise nights - look for more to come. I did want to mention the Orak Shriners show on August 20th. This being my first time attending that show I will only relate what I've heard from other members experience, the show supports a good cause, is fun and laid back in atmosphere and well managed. I personally like the addition of a pig roast, beer garden

and A/C'ed hall to cool off in. There is an existing Evite for this event, the Chicago area members are meeting at the Stateline Oasis then caravanning to the show to meet up with our Northern Indiana members. I like the idea of this venue as I look at diversity of club events from both the type of activity to its geographic location, remember that we have members from WI to IN. I'm just glad we can serve more constituencies.



Well, there it is, short and sweet. Enjoy your summer, enjoy your Z Cars and come join us.

~ Larry

We welcome your photos, articles or Nissan news of interest! Please send them by the 10th to wczc.editor@gmail.com. When submitting photos, please indicate the event and day.

~ ~ ~



Boutique



WCZC patch - \$3/ea

License plate frames - \$3/ea or \$5/pair

WCZC polo shirt - \$30, specify size

Contact Jeff at villazx10@comcast.net to purchase.



For Sale

If you have any Z related inquiries or items for sale, please send them to wczc.editor@gmail.com

Windy City Z 2016 Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact & other info
Aug 2-6		ZCON (Z Car Convention)	Toronto, Ontario	http://zcon.org
Aug 14	10-3	Montgomery Fest Car Show	Austin Park, Montgomery, IL	https://ci.montgomery.il.us/DocumentCenter/View/689
Aug 20		Orak Shriner who		Larry Klem
Aug 21	9 am	Starved Rock Road Rally	16461 South Ellen Drive Plainfield, to Starved Rock, IL	Keith and Ree Keca 815-919-8390
Sept 18	9-3	Cantigny Car Show		http://www.cantigny.org/calendar/signature-events/car-show
Oct 8	10-2	OctoberFest	Continental Nissan 5750 S. La Grange Rd Countryside, IL 60525	Larry Klem 630-915-1799
Nov TBD		WCZC Birthday Party		

Photo by Larry Klem



Midwest Z Heritage Fest July 8-9

Photos by Jeff Pleiter





Road America July 16

Photos by Larry Klem





Hi Folks,

Since I read in the newsletter that the club was once again having the Z Zone. I found two photos showing the Z Zones signs of the past. The silver 71 240 Z was mine, and we still have it. The sign was painted by my father. That photo was 1981. The second shows a portion of a very large sign in 1982. During those years the club was at all the major races. Often a parade lap.

I still have hundreds of photos starting in 1976 when we joined WCZC. I made an album with hundred of club photos. A number of years ago I was told that a club member claimed that the albums were his and took them. I am not sure what ever happened to them, but they were club property. Maybe someday I will pull out my copy and send them to the club. Also I have all the newsletters starting in 1976 to present.

Now that we retired I have more time to play with our Z's, and all my "Z Stuff"

If anyone wants to check out a place where your Z is protected from moisture, and can be driven 12 months a year.....then visit us in Oro Valley, Arizona (Tucson)

~ Ron Janicki





WCZC SUMMER BASH - PICNIC!!!

FUN, GAMES, POOL AND FOOD!!!

WHEN: SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST

CRUISE AT 9:00 A.M. - PICNIC AT 1:00 P.M.

WHERE: KECA RESIDENCE- 16461 S. ELLEN DR., PLAINFIELD, IL 60586

HOSTS: KEITH & REE KECA (815-919-8390)

Let's start with a cruise to Starved Rock! Meet at 9:00 AM at the Dunkin' Donuts located at 3011 Plainfield Rd, Joliet, IL, next to The Home Depot. From there the group will do a cruise on some fun, winding roads to Starved Rock and back.

We plan to arrive back at Casa Keca (address listed above) for a 1:00 pm Club Picnic. Members not wanting to do the Cruise are encouraged to join us for the picnic.

The pool will be open (weather permitting), so don't forget your swimsuit and towel(s).

Entrée provided by the WCZC, (chicken vesuvio, vesuvio potatoes and penne sausage and roasted red peppers), and we ask you to please bring a side dish and beverage.

An email to Ree at kumakura@comcast.net what side dish you will be bringing, would be appreciated





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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____, 20____

Name _____ Dual Member's Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____
 Cell Phone Home Phone Work Phone

Occupation _____ Birthday (Mo/Day) _____ Shirt Size _____ Dual Member's Birthday _____ Shirt Size _____

E-mail address (please print): _____
 Your e-mail address is important because we send the WCZC newsletter and club notifications via e-mail.
 Please remember to keep us updated if your e-mail address changes.

Type of Zs Owned (Please indicate year and quantity):

240Z _____ 300ZX _____

260Z _____ 350Z _____

280Z _____ 370Z _____

280ZX _____

How did you hear about our club? _____

Membership Categories: Please check one

\$30.00 for one year (incl. foreign countries) \$25.00 for one Associate year*
 \$50.00 for two years (incl. foreign countries) \$40.00 for two Associate years*
 *Associates must live at least 300 miles outside Chicago

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 Car Restoration Committee Volunteer
 Road Racing Club Representative
 Social Events Leadership Role

If you have any questions concerning these categories, please contact one of the Club Officers listed above.

Please make your check payable to the Windy City Z Club and mail it with this application to:
 WINDY CITY Z CLUB
 6770 Aspen Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532

Your membership packet will be sent to you by return mail within four to six weeks