

# WCZC News

## Newsletter of the Windy City Z Club

Volume XLI, Issue No. 8

Editor: Jim Koolish

September 2017

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## Upcoming Events

### October 1

Fall Fling to New Glarus

### October 7

Octoberfest

Continental Nissan

### October 14

Coffee and Chrome

Iron Gate Motor Condos

### October 15

Mini Fall Fling

Sandwich, IL

### November 4 or 11

Annual Birthday Party

See full schedule on page 4 for more details



Oops !

On the way to the Autobahn

Photo by Dane H.

## The President Sees Z

Jeff Pleiter, President



### Past Events:

A group of WCZC cars and members attended **Cars and Track event, at the Autobahn Country Club** on Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>. Many of us drove down together after meeting at a Downers Grove Starbucks. Glenn decided to take his new daily driver, a 2017 Mustang GT California Edition, so we made him drive at the end. He does say however that that he prefers the Z over the Mustang. Dane Hiteman, unfortunately had a mechanical failure on the way to the track - his transmission cross member failed, and the driveshaft fell. The good news is the exhaust caught the driveshaft before it hit the pavement, or it could have been much worse. As it worked out, he just needed a tow back. He is now a candidate for the Broken Z Award. We had a treat seeing a 1991 Nissan Figaro. This is a neat little RHD car that was never imported by Nissan. The weather was beautiful and we had a nice touring session on the south track. Autobahn Country Club holds similar events regularly. See photos on page 5

The Westmont **Cruise Night** original event date was cancelled due to weather; it was rescheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>. Larry Klem arranged an area, with the organizers, for our club to park on Main Street (Cass Ave.) and we had fifteen cars show up. Weather was great, if a bit cool. See photos on page 6

**Glendale Heights Show and Shine** was September 17<sup>th</sup>. It was show and shine participants choice event with trophies. With a few exceptions, WCZC filled the import/tuner class and we came home with Jim Koolish winning 1<sup>st</sup> place, Tony Antiporek winning 2nd Place, and I won 3<sup>rd</sup> place. An added attraction was the Octoberfest

Continued on page 3

## Officers

### President

Jeff Pleiter: 630.832.7857

### VP of Activities

*It could be you!*

### VP of Administration

Pat Sylvester: 847.895.6939

### Secretary/Membership

Sue Chan: wczcmembership@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Bill Bragg: 262.697.1779

### Webmaster

Glenn Johnson: 630.363.2081

### Newsletter

Jim Koolish: 847.269.3175

## Notes

If anyone has any club activities they would like to sponsor or if anyone would like to volunteer to be VP of Activities, please contact Jeff Pleiter.

The following is a link to an article about z -cars, in Autoweek

[Autoweek.com/article/classic-cars/heres-how-nissan-370z-came-be](http://Autoweek.com/article/classic-cars/heres-how-nissan-370z-came-be)

## Member of the Month

Bill Graue

Barb & I ordered our 240Z in October of 1970 and got married the same month. The Safari Gold Z finally joined us in June 7, 1971 and we've been together ever since. We didn't intend to keep the car forever but the ever-tightening safety and emissions regulations during the 70s resulted in cars that didn't inspire the urge for something new and by the time they did we had become too attached to the GOLDNOLZ. (Our vanity plate that not everyone gets).

Our focus was not to keep the car bone stock to maximize resale value but rather to keep messing with it to make it more pleasant to look at and more fun to drive. Thus the early addition of the American Racing "Libre" wheels (I liked their look on the BRE Datsuns), a BRE "Spook" front spoiler to address a "wind wander" issue at higher speeds, and an ANSA rear muffler. Later modifications included headers and a different cam for better breathing.

I think the primary reason we continue to own the car is that the styling has aged quite well. It still looks very good to us. We have many photos of it but my favorite is the one accompanying this article of Mr K standing next to it. This picture was taken in the Z Zone at Road America I believe in 1997. The Windy City Z Club hosted Mr. Katayama and his entourage that weekend, for which Datsun/Nissan was the featured marque and Mr. K was an honored guest. He was a most gracious and charming gentleman. It was an honor to shake the hand of the man whose vision and perseverance produced the car that has now been a part of our lives for 46 years and counting.



beer and food tent. While the forecast did show the possibility of rain, we were dry all day. See photos on page 7

In addition to the photos in the newsletter, there are photos of all the events on the WCZC Facebook page and website.

**Upcoming Events (look for upcoming Evites and info on the website.):**

**Fall Fling to Wisconsin - October 1.** Meet at the Starbucks on Butterfield Road at Downers Drive, at 8:30 am or meet us at the Suisse House in Monroe, WI at 11 am. This will be a modified version of the drive we have done from Monroe to New Glarus. Some roads will be the same, some will be different. The drive will stick to more of the main roads, avoiding potential resealed and sanded roads, and will be shorter. There appears to be a model train museum where we can stop along the way. The plan will be to spend some time in New Glarus and/or at the New Glarus Brewery. The fall colors won't be in full swing, but I hope that makes for more open roads. This trip is subject to rescheduling to October 15<sup>th</sup>, if the weather is bad on Oct. 1. Note that I-90 construction appears to be finished, so the plan would be to go up I-355 to I-90 and head west instead of I-88 to Rt. 39, as we have done in the past. I plan on doing a verification drive next weekend. If you are interested in joining me on the verification drive, perhaps because you can't make Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, let me know ASAP.

**Oktoberfest hosted Continental Nissan. October 7** from 11 am to 2 pm. This is a show and shine event that happens rain or shine, so come with or without your Z as weather dictates. Continental will provide food and drink, and usually has a few raffle items to give away to club members.

**Chrome and Coffee at Iron Gate Motor Condos - October 14 9 to 11 am** Japanese import theme- 2212 Ferry Rd in Naperville.

**Mini Fall Fling to Sandwich IL - October 15.** Meet at the Starbucks on Butterfield Road at Downers Dr. at 9:30 am or meet us at the Bull Moose Bar and Grill for lunch in Sandwich, IL at 11 am. Again, this will be a modified version of a previous drive we did to Sandwich. Some Roads will be the same, some will be different. After lunch we will spend some time walking around the downtown shops of Sandwich. I have already done the verification drive, so we should be on all paved roads. This event is also subject to rescheduling, if the weather is bad.

**WCZC Annual Birthday Party.** We are working on the location, with a primary date of Nov. 4 and fall back date of November 11. Save the date(s). Officer positions will be open, so consider serving your club. The VP of Activities position is still open.

Did you see that the last 1996 300ZX imported to the United States, #300 of 300 Commemorative editions, was

recently auctioned off for \$90,100?

Recently, Allie and I went to visit our daughter, and as we often do, we tied in a mini vacation / book research into the trip. We flew into Asheville, NC and headed into the mountains to Maggie Valley NC. This is about ½ hour from Tail of the Dragon. Our standard car rental reservation was not available, so we were upgraded to an Infinity QX 70. A nice upgrade, although it was the base version I believe. It had power with the 3.7L engine and was pretty comfortable to drive/ride in. The Blue Ridge Parkway was nearby, so I was able to tie a couple of hours of scenic curvy roads that included the Parkway, followed by an even tighter, curvier and challenging road down from the Parkway down into the valley, where Allie did an interview with a local outfitter store and we had some great BBQ out of a food truck. I was a bit surprised by the handling of the QX70. I expected a modern Infiniti SUV that seemed to have some sporting aspirations, to have a bit better handling. It did corner relatively flat, at least as compared to my DD Honda Pilot. But the steering was slow to respond to inputs. You had to allow for a bit of time to pass before it responded. You had to be thinking about moving the wheel about a second ahead of when you wanted the adjustment for the curve. I was very similar, in timing and seat of the pants feel, to my 280ZX, but with more mass. I think my Honda Pilot responds quicker to inputs, although it has more body roll. Anyway, I guess my expectations were unrealistic for the QX. The roads and scenery were awesome though, and I am thinking that if I do go to ZCON next year, routing the drive down through this area and taking some of these roads might be the way to go.

## Z Nuts

You Know you are a Real Z Nut when.....

*These signs of Z car fanaticism are updated and edited from an original list, from the St Louis ZClub*

- You take pictures of things simply because they have the letter Z on them.
- The letter Z is on your personalized license plate and it took weeks to come up with just the right version.
- You can't walk past a model car display without buying a Z.
- You think Fast and Furious had a poor selection of cars.
- You pay \$100 per month to store a Z that is probably worth \$2,000.

## WCZC 2017 Schedule of Events

For more information, contact Jeff Plieter, unless noted otherwise.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact and Details
October 1	8:30AM	Fall Fling to New Glarus	Starbucks at Butterfield Rd. and Downers Dr.	See Evite
October 7	11:00AM	Octoberfest	Continental Nissan	See Evite
October 14	9:00AM	Chrome and Coffee	Iron Gate Motor Condos, Naperville	Evite to follow
October 15	9:30AM	Mini Fall Fling to Sandwich, IL	Starbucks at Butterfield Rd. and Downers Dr.	Evite to follow
November 4 or 11	TBD	Annual Birthday Party	TBD	Evite to follow



**Store**

Contact Jeff at [villazx10@comcast.net](mailto:villazx10@comcast.net) to purchase

**License Plate Frame**

\$3 ea. or 2 for \$5



New WCZC shirts can be ordered directly from Cherokee Rose Embroidery. 630.941.3305. See the WCZC Website, for more information

**Follow Us**

[www.windycityzclub.com](http://www.windycityzclub.com)

[www.facebook.com/pages/windy-city-z-](https://www.facebook.com/pages/windy-city-z-)



## People - Autobahn

Photos by Jim K





## People - Westmont

Photos by Jim K





## People - Glendale Heights

Photos by Jim K





# Cars

Photos by Jim K



Berwyn Route 66 Car Show August 26, 2017



Supercar Saturday— Promenade September 2, 2017



## Sponsors

Windy City Z Club has many sponsors. Most Nissan dealers will provide a discount when asked. We recognize and thank the following companies, for providing constant support to the club, our members, and the national Z community. Please let us know, if you think your company should be on this list.

### Local Dealers:

- Continental Nissan, Countryside, IL 708.352.9200
- McGrath Nissan, Elgin, IL 855.315.4191
- Arlington Nissan, Buffalo Grove, IL 847.590.6100
- Woodfield Nissan, Hoffman Estates, IL 847.310.1900
- Gerald Nissan, Naperville, IL 630.355.3337

### Local Specialty Sponsors

- Sound Performance, Bensenville, IL 630.893.5002
- Bennett Coachworks, Milwaukee, WI 414.298.2068
- Associated Tire & Battery, Oak Park, IL 708.383.6673

### National Sponsors

- Tire Rack, South Bend, IN 800.428.8355
- Motorsport Auto, Orange, CA 800.633.6331
- Stillen, Costa Mesa, CA 866.250.5542
- Courtesy Nissan, Richardson TX 800.527.1909
- Jim Wolf Technology, El Cajon, CA 619.442.0680
- Avalon Racing, Londonberry, NH 603.425.2270

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**Showroom Hours**  
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**Sales Hours**  
Monday-Thursday 9am - 9pm  
Friday 9am-9pm  
Saturday 9am-6pm  
Sunday Closed

**McGrath Nissan**  
945 East Chicago Street, Elgin IL 60120  
McGrathNissan.com  
Sales: 855-315-4191 • Service: 855-315-4192

**Service & Parts Hours**  
Monday-Thursday 7am-7pm  
Friday 7am-5pm  
Saturday 8am-2pm  
Sunday Closed



# WINDY CITY Z CLUB

Jeff Pleiter, President - 630-832-7857  
 Patrick Sylvester, V.P. of Administration - 847-895-6939  
 Sue Chan, Membership - wczcmembership@gmail.com  
 Jim Koolish, Newsletter - 847-269-3175  
 Glenn Johnson, Webmaster - 630-363-2081  
 Bill Bragg, Treasurer - 414-697-1779

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

**I AM INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING:**

- Autocrossing
- Trips-Touring
- Rallying
- Car Restoration
- Road Racing
- Social Events
- Tech Seminars
- Hosting a club event
- Customizing
- Committee Volunteer
- Club Representative
- 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

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**