

WCZC News

Newsletter of the Windy City Z Club

Volume XLIII, Issue No. 2

Editor: Jim Koolish

March 2019

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Upcoming Events

April 7th

General Meeting

Panera in Wheaton

May 11th

Tech Session

Turtle Wax in Addison

May 18th or 19th

Spring Fling

TBD

June 13th

Midwest Z Heritage

Cuyahoga Fall, OH

July 16th

Zcon

Branson, Mo

See full schedule on page 3 for more details

The President Sees Z

Jeff Pleiter, President



After a long dreary winter it seems like Spring may finally arrive. The first day of Spring was this Thursday and old man winter's grip seems to be slipping, as the forecast is for highs in the 50s. The recent rains seem to have washed the salt from the roads. If the forecast holds, I may take the cover off one of the Zs and get the car out for the first drive of the year, on Saturday or Sunday. See the listing below and keep your eye on Evites and our website for upcoming events.

Nissan has hit a milestone selling 400,000 Nissan Leafs (or is it Leaves?) and has come out with the bigger battery longer range Leaf e+. Nissan sold 654 Leafs in February and 211 370Zs. More than 3 times as many Leafs than Zs. While it was February, what does this portend for the next Z, as more and more mainstream auto makers amp up their production of electric and electric hybrid vehicles?

Top Gear (see TG.com) asked Nissan's Chief Planning Officer, Philippe Klein, if performance cars are in the frame for Nissan's future. "There are a lot of answers to this question. First of all, it's true that performance cars are 'under the gun' of regulations. It's making the idea more complicated. But the emotion [for us] is still there, for us and for our customers. We have the Z and the GT-R, lots of fans, and we are fans of these cars also. I'm not able to give you details, but I would like you to keep in mind that we are considering the future of these vehicles."

Why should we keep the faith? It's been an awfully long time, Philippe "Yes, you should keep the faith, because we do! The driving experience is very high on our priority list. I don't know how much

Continued on page 2

Officers

President

Jeff Pleiter: 630.832.7857

VP of Activities

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

Looking for volunteers to assist with planning and implementation of activities. Contact Jeff to volunteer and/or suggest activity ideas.



The President Sez

Continued from page 1

experience you have with EVs, but they are very fun to drive. If you drive a Leaf e+, it is quite fast, with good acceleration, with a low centre of gravity, and it's easy to drive and fun to drive. "This is why we're moving to electrification with [hybrid] e-power. In the end we would like the regulations to take nothing away from how fun the car is to drive. It's not always easy, but this is the direction. Yes, we're still looking at the future of sports cars, hot cars and fun to drive cars."

Interesting, isn't it, that as soon as we probe the future of quick Nissans, the man in charge of the company's future cars starts talking up electricity? So, will the next Zed or GT-R go EV? "We're still working hard on different options" says Klein, "but I can't give you an answer just yet. The regulations bring a lot of concerns, so the question is how to answer these constraints and still offer a car to the consumer that's fun to drive. But there are different options and we're working on them. We're defending the sports car."

Time for one last query. While the 370Z goes wrinkly and old, Toyota's new Supra is *the* cult car of 2019. Would Nissan need to form an alliance, like Toyota and BMW did, to build a new 370Z? After all, the brand is already in bed with Renault and Mitsubishi. Klein is very coy with his answer. "I cannot answer this - what I can say is whatever we do, we have to carry our brand very strongly, otherwise it makes no sense."

In other Nissan news: Nissan turns to the 2019 Rock the Ocean's Tortuga Music Festival, part of Live Nation's premier family of country music festivals, to reveal its latest production vehicle. Nissan promises a special vehicle debut during a live performance before thousands of festival attendees on Friday, April 12, the first evening of the three-day festival. "Nissan is constantly looking for new ways to directly connect with customers. The Tortuga Music Festival gives us a stunning reveal spot for a new 2020 Nissan vehicle with thousands of music fans to help share the moment," said Claudia Marquez, vice president, sales and vehicle operations, Nissan North America. "This important new production model is going to turn heads, both on the beach and on social media." Could this be the new Z? I highly doubt it as the previous response to Top Gear indicates it is still a work in progress. Motor Trend has captured spy photos of what they describe as a camouflaged 2020 Nissan Juke. This seems

the likely candidate.

Activities News: Our President's Dinner was held at Livia Italian Eatery in downtown Elmhurst, IL. We had 19 members show up for a social dinner event. Everyone had a good time and the food was delicious. See the photos in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.

WCZC General Meeting April 7. Our next event is currently planned to be a WCZC meeting to be held Sunday April 7th at 6 pm at the Panera Bread at 25 Rice Lake Square in Wheaton Illinois 60187. We will be in the reserved room. Note that the time is 6 pm, not 5 pm, as we have started to go to recently. Someone else has the room reserved at 5 pm. This will be a business meeting/planning meeting as well as a social gathering. If we are lucky, it will be Z weather.

May 11 Turtle Wax Tech Session - in response to popular demand Ty has scheduled another Turtle Wax tech session. It will start at 9:30AM and run until approximately 1PM. Coffee and donuts will be served. We will meet on the east side of the building at 2250 W. Pinehurst Blvd, suite 150, in Addison. Lime green cones will be set up to note the parking area. They require a head count so please respond ASAP to the invite that will be sent out shortly.

Spring Fling Drive- Weekend of May 19. This weekend has been selected because it appears to be the only weekend that is open for this Drive within the time period. Reserve the space on your calendar. Exact day and location TBD.

June - Midwest Z Heritage 2019- June 13-15 hosted by the Cleveland Z Club. Registration is open for the event and the host hotel which is the Sheraton Suites in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. www.midwestzheritage.com. Events include brewery outing, drives, car shows, karting, and dinner/awards/raffle. Car Show will be at Summit Racing. More events are in the planning stage.

July -International Z Car Convention 2019 July 16-21 in Branson, Missouri hosted by the Ozarks Z Club and combined with the Branson Z Fest. Hilton Hotel Branson. Registration is now open for the event and the hotel. www.zcon.org. Early bird pricing ends 2/28. The ZCON Branson Announcement video can be found on vimeo.com. Note both car shows will be in air-conditioned halls.

August 25 - Geneva Concours d'Elegance. We are looking into getting registered as a club for the car club area.

WCZC 2019 Schedule of Events

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

| Date | Time | Event | Location | Contact and Details | WCZC Event |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------|
| April 7th | 6PM | General Meeting | Panera 25 Rice Lake Square Wheaton, IL | Evite to follow | Yes |
| May 11th | 9:30AM | Tech Session | Turtle Wax 2550 W. Pinehurst #150 Addison, IL | Evite to follow | Yes |
| May 18th or 19th | TDB | Spring Fling | TBD | Evite to follow | Yes |
| June 13-15 | | Midwest Z Heritage Fest | Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio | See Evite See Z Heritage Website | Yes |
| July 16-21 | | ZCon | Branson, Mo | See Evite See ZCon website | Yes |
| August 25 | | Concours d'Elegance | Geneva, IL | Evite to follow | Yes |

Z Store

Contact Jeff at villazx10@comcast.net to purchase

License Plate Frame

\$3 ea. or 2 for \$5



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

Z Events

President's Dinner Photos by Jeff P. & Jim K



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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.

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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

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)

\$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