

# WCZC News

## Newsletter of the Windy City Z Club

Volume XLIV, Issue No. 5

Editor: Jim Koolish

July/August 2020

wczc.news@gmail.com



## Upcoming Events

### August 16

Oak Park Chrome & Coffee and WCZC Picnic

### September 14

ZCon  
Nashville

### October

Continental Oktoberfest

### November

Annual Birthday Dinner

See full schedule on page 3 for more details

## The President Sees

Jeff Pleiter, President



I have confirmed that we will be hosting the Midwest Z Heritage event in 2021. Assume a June date for now. The pandemic is still with us, so our event schedules this year continues to be very limited, in the interest of safety. Thank you for people who have been independently setting up events. Generally, the events we have had have been lightly attended. I have been very busy with work, and since my tenant moved out, most of my spare time has been focused on maintenance and repairs on my rental house. I am thinking it is time to sell, which means I lose my extra garage space. If sold, I will be looking for winter storage for a couple of Zs.

We asked people to send in pictures of their Z activities for this issue. I have not had my cars out much, but I did get out to Saganashkee Slough for the photo in this issue and a drive through the forest preserves. I just yesterday noticed that my antique plates expired December 2019. Never did get a notice from the Secretary of State. One more thing I need to add to my list. You might want to check your plates too.

### EVENTS

**August 16 - Car Show Oak Park Coffee and Chrome** followed by forest preserve cruise and picnic. A big thank you to Bob Rosecrans for setting up this event. Oak Park is holding a coffee and chrome show from 8:30 - 10:30. Following that people can meet at the Starbucks near Butterfield Road and Downers Drive at 12:00, which will be followed by a cruise in the south Cook Co. forest preserves. Bring lawn chairs and a picnic lunch and we will socially distant congregate at the

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:  
wczc.news@gmail.com

## Note:

The response to the request for photos was pretty anemic. Let's try again for the next issue.

Send photos to  
wczc.news@gmail.com



Zoom Meeting

## The President Sez

*Continued from page 1*

model airplane flying field. Bob has sent out an Evite.

**ZCON 2020 Sept. 14-19, 2020.** The event is still on with a few changes to events and locations. See ZCON website for schedule details. The convention will be held in Franklin Tennessee at and around Nissan's Headquarters. Website is [www.zcon.org](http://www.zcon.org). The hotel will be taking measures to address sanitation regarding the coronavirus as well as changes to registration room procedures. There is a Tuesday evening special presentation by Nissan. Fingers crossed we will get some information on the new Z.

ZCON registrations were 100% refundable to July 1<sup>st</sup>, and 50% refundable to July 31<sup>st</sup>. Please update your Evite RSVP or let me know if you plan on attending. At this time, I am still planning on attending and will be reaching out to the yes and maybe RSVPs to see who is still planning on going, and to see if there is an interest on caravanning together down to the event.

**Continental Nissan Octoberfest.** We will need to check with the dealership to see if this is a go.

**November Birthday party.** We plan on doing this if we can. Will look into a socially distant solution.

If you are interested on attending any of the above or have an idea for another event let me know, especially if you are willing to take the lead on the event.

Ron Janicki sent us some scanned images of old newsletters, which offer a window to the history of what was going on with the club at that time. Some of these will be included with the next several newsletters starting with this one.

Nissan unveiled more information on their Nissan Ariya electric crossover SUV. I find it very intriguing as I am interested in eventually purchasing an electric vehicle, as one of the family daily drivers. At least another year before we will see it come to market. That's OK, my Honda Pilot is still on winter tires, in my garage on a battery maintainer. We can get by using only my wife's car for now. The Pilot has only gone out for a mile or two trip, such as when we had to drop off the Cube for exhaust repairs. I keep thinking I should put the summer all-seasons on the Honda, but so far have not got around to it. Maybe I can hold off until winter rolls around again.

## Z News

From Z Parts Depot

One of the most influential sports car designers has passed. Yoshihiko Matsuo, who was the team lead of the 240z, worked alongside Mr. K to create one of the most iconic sports car lines that is still successfully running 50 years later. Matsuo-san, who's birthday was this past Friday, turned 87. The following day, Matsuo-san rode his motorcycle to the hospital after dealing with pneumonia related complications and passed on the day after his birthday.

He began sketching cars early in his childhood and worked on concepts such as the three-wheeled truck while starting out in a small division of Daihatsu. Soon after receiving his college degree, Matsuo-san landed a job with Datsun, where his first project was the Datsun Baby. He went on to be a key part of the Bluebird 410 design team, which was lacking success, and thus came the Bluebird SSS, which was his first performance project. After a warm reception in the industry with the SSS, he was put in charge of the new sports car project, spearheaded by none other than Mr. Yutaka Katayama.

The iconic design became an instant hit during its release in 1969 in Japan, and completely change the sports car industry once hitting the US markets in 1970. His successful vision has led to hundreds of thousands of devoted enthusiasts that have grown over the years. His energy and enthusiasm for his work was often put in the spot light the past couple decades for stateside fans every year at the International Z Car Convention, which is held in conjunction with the Z Car Club Association. Matsuo-san was often seen mingling amongst his fans, just as any other enthusiast would be, except he would be discussing his designs and willing to sign autographs and tell stories with anyone nearby. He would often be a part of the Convention's special guest discussions, and give a full detailed presentation of his design from start to finish, which was truly impressive to be a part of

Matsuo-san leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire Z enthusiasts for years to come.



## Member Photos

Glenn, Jim, Jeff, Ted



## WCZC 2020 Schedule of Events

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

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact and Details	WCZC Event
August 16	8:30 am	Oak Park Coffee and Chrome & WCZC Picnic	Oak Park and South Cook County Forest Preserve	Bob Rosecrans Evite has been sent	Yes
September 14, 2020		ZCon	Nissan Franklin, TN	Evite has been sent	Yes
October	TBD	Continental Oktoberfest	Continental Nissan	TBD	Yes
November	TBD	Annual Birthday Dinner	TBD	TBD	Yes



## Store

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



Road America June Sprints, Photo by Glenn J.





## 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  
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### Local Specialty Sponsors

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Bennett Coachworks, Milwaukee, WI 414.298.2068  
Associated Tire & Battery, Oak Park, IL 708.383.6673

### National Sponsors

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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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# CONTINENTAL



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**Parts & Service Hours**  
Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
Friday: 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Showroom Hours**  
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Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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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

V.P. of Activities - OPEN

Patrick Sylvester, V.P. of Administration - 847-895-6939

Sue Chan, Membership - wczcmembership@gmail.com

Jim Koolish, Newsletter - wzc.news@gmail.com

Glenn Johnson, Webmaster - webmaster@windycityzclub.com

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 call 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:

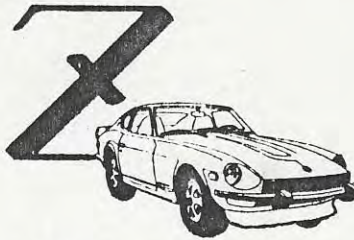
WINDY CITY Z CLUB  
6770 Aspen Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532

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

OR

- 1: Download form and print or save. 2: Attach completed form and email to: wczcmembership@gmail.com
3. Use the PayPal button on the home WCZC web page to send in your Payment





**Windy City Z Club**  
1511 Cornell Ct.  
Hoffman Estates, Ill. 60194

December 22, 1976

Dear Z Club Member:

The 20 members and one guest attending the tech session at Libertyville Datsun on December 4th were given a very informative presentation by Don Walters, Training Supervisor from Datsun Central in Hinsdale. Included in the discussion were several movies concerning the fuel injection system on the 280's and carburetion on the earlier Z's. Don was very knowledgeable and handled all of the questions from the floor in a very candid manner, which is very refreshing! If you have ever asked a dealer any question about your Z, you know what I mean!! In addition to the representative from Datsun, Al Kircher from Pennzoil was present and gave a brief dissertation on motor oil, and of particular interest was his comments concerning synthesized oil, especially Mobil 1, as Pennzoil does not currently market a lubricant of this type. At the end of his presentation, he held a raffle and gave a case of Fram oil filters as the prize!! It was won by our one guest, and he doesn't even own a Z!!! Our thanks to Ken Gustafson and Randy Marrs for setting this up!!!!

Our monthly meeting on December 12th was something of a fiasco! There were 35 members and six guests in attendance, and the management of the Ground Round, in their infinite wisdom, allocated two rows of tables in the large room, instead of giving us our usual room in the back! Needless to say, this was totally inadequate for our needs. For openers, the clown insisted on playing his accordion as loudly (and badly!) as possible while we were trying to talk; second, we did not have the entire room, and were undoubtedly disturbing the people at the other tables; thirdly, it took 45 minutes to convince the management to discontinue the electronic baseball game the kids were playing - it wasn't that they were playing it, but the game screen and money box were directly behind one row of our tables!! To keep a long story short, we evacuated the place at 7 P.M. and went to Jake's, and had our meeting and dinner there!! Jake's loves us, in part because Shelley Brown goosed the manager by mistake!!!! Our next meeting is January 9th at Lord Byrons, at 6 P.M.. A map and instructions are enclosed. Any questions, call Dirk at 696-0005! For all those members that paid for dinner in advance at the Ground Round for December 12, your refund check is enclosed!!

Once we finally settled in at Jake's, we got down to business. Two important items were voted on immediately; first, the increase in WCZ dues to \$7.00 for single and \$10.00 for dual memberships was voted on and passed; second, it was proposed, voted on and passed that outgoing officers, whatever year, would constitute an advisory board for the following year. This year's officers accepted the advisory positions! Both votes were unanimous!!

One additional item of interest was announced at the meeting; WCZ Club jacket patches will be sent to all members renewing for 1977! There is no charge for the first patch, and additional patches may be purchased for \$1.50 each. The patches will be sent out in the January mailing! Please note, 81 renewal applications were sent out in the November mailing, and to date, we have received slightly over 50% back! Any of the 81 members that do not renew will not be receiving any additional mailings!!



If you have not already done so, please send in your ballots for the election of next year's officers!! The cut off date is January 5, 1977. The ballot count and new officers installation will take place at the January meeting!!

Your club's officers for 1976 would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" to all of the members for making this a very successful and rewarding year. We have seen the club grow from 15 members in it's infancy to the current membership of 181!! Any club is only as strong as it's members, and this is a very strong organization, indeed!! At times we have had our doubts concerning which path to take, and may have made some mistakes or inadvertently ruffled a few feathers. For these, we extend our apologies, but our only concern was for the club's best interest, and thus we cannot be sorry! 1976 was only the beginning - the best is yet to be!! We wish the new officers the best of luck for the coming year. Thank you all again!!

#### PRESIDENT'S NOTES

This month we compared the four speed and five speed transmissions of the 1977 280 Z. On the four speed transmission, the gear ratios are as follows: 1st: 3.321, 2nd: 2.077, 3rd: 1.308, 4th: 1.000, Rev: 3.382. On the five speed transmission, the gear ratios are as follows: 1st: 3.321, 2nd: 2.077, 3rd: 1.308, 4th: 1.000, 5th: 0.864, Rev: 3.382. Notice that all the gears, 1st thru 4th in the five speed transmission are the same as the four speed transmission. Therefore, the five speed transmission is not a performance transmission, but a gas saving transmission, with the last gear being an overdrive gear. Performance can be attained by changing the differential gear from 3.545 to a 3.90. With the five speed transmission and the 3.90 rear end (3.90 option is ordered from Datsun competition department after the car has been delivered.) the final drive ratios are lowered. In other words, the car is much quicker off the line, and the final drive ratio between the five speed and the four speed transmissions being about the same.

If you're into skiing, several WCZ members go skiing every Saturday evening at Wilmot mountain. For more information, call Dirk at 696-0005!!

We'd like to wish the entire membership a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!!

See you next year!!

June Reiss  
Secretary







