

WCZC News

Newsletter of the Windy City Z Club

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Editor: Jim Koolish

June 2024

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Upcoming Events

July 28, 2024

WCZC Picnic

August 25, 2024

Geneva Concours

Geneva, IL

September 15, 2024

Cantigny Car Show

Wheaton, IL

See full schedule on page 3

The President Sez

Ty Ozgen, President

Our summer is now in full swing! So many things have happened since we sent out a newsletter last month. The cicadas have come out after 17 years underground, making their noise, mating, and now they are dwindling away after a month or so. I don't know about you but they sure do make a mess when they hit your windshield or your car's front bumper. They make a huge splatter that is nearly impossible to clean off the car without a lot of elbow grease. I wonder if Turtle Wax makes a product specifically for cicada guts? Luckily I have not had any jump in my car this time. I recall 17 years ago I was driving my '90 TT with the t tops off and one landed on my lap as I was stopped at a light. Not a pleasant experience.

If you remember my article last month, I talked about David Jarrell and how he was struggling with cancer. Unfortunately, he passed away last month after a courageous struggle. He had donated \$250 to our club before he passed which was much appreciated. We will put it to good use for our upcoming picnic in late July. I did have the chance to talk to him before his passing to personally thank him. Not only that, his wishes were also that instead of flowers for the funeral, people send donations to our WCZC or other charities. As a result, we have received many donations from his friends and family. I have been a member since 1993 and have never seen this kind of thoughtfulness toward our club. David, thank you so much for this generous gesture you made!! We all wish Barbro and the rest of his family much peace during this difficult time. He will be missed....

I unfortunately was not able to attend the Cobe Cup & Cruise that was put together by our members in Indiana, Carl Kush and Ted Targonski. (Tom Keane claims was had little involvement) I heard the weather cooperated and everyone had a good time. Please refer to Bob Rosecrans' and Jim Koolish's article for more information. I was on vacation overseas in Turkey during that time. As always, I like to look at all the different cars that are available that we do not have here in the

Continued on page 2

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Heritage Z

Notes

Submit your parking application, for the Geneva Concours ASAP

The President Sez

Continued from page 1

states. Many small cars and almost all with manual transmissions. As far as Nissan products, they only sell SUVs. The Qashqai (aka Rogue Sport but updated), the X-trail (aka Rogue), and an updated version of the Nissan Juke were available. No Zs....

We had a great turnout at the WCZC piZZa party at my car condo. Although it was a warm day, we had numerous members drive out to enjoy the day with their Z's. Many people sat inside to enjoy Lou Malnati's pizza, relaxing in the shade while others hung out by the Z's drinking a cool beverage. All in all, it was a great time. Check out page 6 and the website for some great pictures.

The next weekend we went out to Caliber Coffee in South Barrington, for a Cars and Coffee get-together. This turned out to be a wonderful event. Although it had rained in the area the night before everything was clear by the time we got there. It remained overcast, which certainly helped us avoid the extreme heat. I took my 1983 280 2+2 ZX turbo to the event. This is the most I've driven this car since I replaced the water pump a few months ago. I'll be honest, I was a little bit nervous. I knew the day was going to be hot and this certainly was going to be a test to make sure everything was put together properly, and I was not disappointed. It ran like a charm!! Phew!!! We had 18 cars show up, including two new Z's. This is the first time I've seen them driving on the road. All the other times were seen either at an auto show or dealership. We had a great time at the event. The coffee and treats were delicious, and the comradery was out of this world. We'll be back next summer.

Speaking of dealerships, Bill Kay Nissan had 4 Z's for sale. 3 used Z's with very low mileage and one new Nismo. The sticker on that was \$68,300 but add the "market adjustment" of \$20k, "vehicle recovery system" and "environmental protection package" and now we are at \$91,890. OMG!!! One of the used ones was sold to a person from Pennsylvania. I was told they flew in and drove it back home. I tried a few times to see if they would like to host a "meet and greet" like event for our club with regard to the new Z but never got a return call. Oh well.

As far as Nissan news, the end of the GTR is coming up upon us. Nissan has elected not to continue selling the car in the North American market. It has been a 17-year run and several different versions of the GTR have come out. To pay homage to the car there will be a T-spec Takumi edition and a Skyline edition. The former will sticker at \$151,090. If I recall properly that is nearly twice the price of what the GTR cost back in 2007. That's a lot of "dinero". Also to celebrate 55 years of the Z, Nissan will bring out a Heritage edition model. It's orange color pays tribute to the early 240 Z color. Starting price is \$59,135. See the photo on page one and check out our website for more information.

Upcoming events: we are going to have our WCZC picnic on July 28. Marlene Rosecrans was kind enough

to set this up. The location is at the Blackwell Forest Preserve (North shelter). An Evite went out a few days ago. Many members will be attending the 2024 Geneva Concours d'Elegance on August 25. We will try to park together in a designated car club area, but you must register your car to do this. Please see our website to click on the registration form. Space is limited.

On August 17, we are hoping to go up to Road America to watch the 2024 Pirelli GT4 America championship races. The Black Dog Speed Shop is racing a Nissan Z Nismo GT4 and they recently won at Sebring. I am in communication with Nissan North America to see if they can get us tickets or even have us park our Z's in the paddock area. More to come. Please keep a look out for evites for these events.

Member Column

COBE Cup Cruise

Bob Rosecrans and Jim Koolish

On May 25th, a wonderful Saturday morning, a small group die hard Z Cruisers made our way to Crown Point Indiana, for the 114th Cobe Cup Cruise. The WCZC event was organized by Ted and Barb Targonski and Karl and Judy Kush. We met at Ted and Barb's beautiful home in Crown Point, IN. The Targonski's opened their home with refreshments and most importantly restroom facilities. Refueled and refreshed, Ted and Barb led the group to the Crown Point Fairgrounds where all the cars, for the cruise, were staged and were also part of a large car show. Registration was \$15, with the money going to local charities.

A little history: The Cobe Cup was the precursor to the Indianapolis 500 one hundred and fifteen years ago. Ira Cobe, president of the Chicago Motor Club desired to host a road race in Chicago but was unable to find a suitable course, due to Chicago's many railroad lines. He found willing governments and available roads in Crown Point, Lowell and Cedar Lake Indiana. The Cobe Cup Trophy Race was held in Indiana for just two years, 1909 and 1910. The Cobe Cup was the first major auto race in the United States following a "grueling" 23.37-mile course. The race route went from Crown Point to Lowell to Cedar Lake and back to Crown Point. In 1910 the Chicago Automobile Association decided to make the race a speedway event rather than a road race and requested event proposals. Two proposals were submitted, one from Indianapolis and one from the Elgin (IL) Road Race-course. Indianapolis won the proposal, and the rest is history. Interestingly, the 1909 Cobe Cup was won by Louis Chevrolet and his teammate Bob Burman.

At 10:30 AM the group of over 100 cars was led out of the Fairgrounds to retrace most of the original race-course. Police had blocked off the major stopping points for about the first half of the course but no matter, there was still Saturday traffic. People lined the streets in Lowell and Cedar Lake and were waving and cheering. It was great see all the kids enjoying themselves, smiling

and jumping around. We were led back to Fairgrounds where there was more car viewing, 50/50 raffle, and people's choice car awards based upon decades. As it was an American car group, with the exception of our Z's, none of us won .

Around noon we all headed out to the Northwoods Falls Restaurant in St. John's, for a great lunch. We were all seated at one table on the deck, on a beautiful spring afternoon. Unexpectedly, probably due to the holiday weekend, we were the only ones on a huge deck. Good food, good beer and a great group of people. Bob: "I love going on cruises, enjoying the car, roads, sites, people, and the camaraderie." Ted provided directions for the Chicago contingent to avoid nearby construction, and off we went. A Big Thanks to Ted, Barb, Carl and Judy for arranging a wonderful event!!

New Member Column

Don Labriaola

Memories.

Wait, strike that.

Great Memories.

That's a better description of my feelings whenever the subject of my 1974 Datsun 260Z comes up. I was the second owner. I picked it up from a private seller in the summer of 1978 after I sold my 1977 Pontiac Trans Am. The two cars were as different as night and day. The '77 version of the Trans Am was highly touted for its handling capabilities. As good as it was, it was no match for the 260Z. To this day it's the only car I've owned that wasn't from a domestic manufacturer. And it was the first car I owned with a manual transmission and no power steering. It did, thankfully, have air conditioning.

Much about the car impressed me. Seems that the handling was dialed in perfectly from the factory. It was easily a match for Porsche 911s of the day and even years later. Even more impressive, to me anyway, was how comfortable my 6'3", 260lb. frame fit in the driver's seat. It was the first car I owned that had reclining seat backs which helped me set up a pleasant, snug fit. I could easily drive several hundred miles and be comfortable the entire way. It was also astounding in how well it traversed snow- and ice-covered roads.

There were a few issues that were somewhat of a challenge, starting with the factory carburetors. I was fortunate to establish a relationship with the manag-

er of the service department at Kickert Datsun in Harvey, Illinois. He also happened to be the owner's son and we were close in age. He suggested that I pick up a set of carburetors from an earlier model Z car, which solved my problem. After installing the carburetors, the engine ran as smooth as a Swiss watch.

One issue that eventually led to me selling the car after four years was rust. I had the worst areas on the car sandblasted and treated before a complete repaint of the car. No matter how hard I tried to keep up with it, the rust just couldn't be contained. The straw that broke the camel's back were the floor panels rusting through. They were bad enough that Fred Flintstone would have been right at home in the driver's seat.

It wasn't until years later that I came to really appreciate what a great car it was. I've had my share of performance and muscle cars since I let go of my Datsun, including two Corvettes and three Hemi powered Mopar's. As nice as those cars were, I don't miss any of them as much as I do the 260Z. By joining this club, I hope find a path to reunite with another Z car in the near future and enjoy it all over again. Also looking forward to meeting my fellow members and admiring the cars in the club.



WCZC 2024 Schedule of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact and Details	WCZC Event
July 28, 2024		WCZC Picnic	Blackwell Forest Preserve	Ty Ozgen Evite has been sent	Yes
August 25, 2024		Geneva Concours	Geneva, IL	Ty Ozgen—Submit parking reservation form ASAP	Yes
September 9, 2024		ZCon	Tampa, FL	Zcon.org	TBD
September 15, 2024		Cantigny Car Show	Wheaton, IL	Jim Koolish	Yes
November 9, 2024	6PM	WCZC B-day Dinner			Yes



Store

Contact Ty at tyozgen@gmail.com 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

WCZC Activities

COBE Cup Cruise. Photos by Jim K



WCZC Activities

PiZZa and Z's @ Iron Gate Photos by Jim K



WCZC Activities

Calibre Cars and Coffee Photos by Jim K





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:

McGrath Nissan, Elgin, IL 847-695-6700

Arlington Nissan, Buffalo Grove, IL 847.590.6100

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Local Specialty Sponsors

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Jim Wolf Technology, El Cajon, CA 619.442.0680

Avalon Racing, Londonberry, NH 603.425.2270

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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 _____ NISSAN Z _____

How did you hear about our club? _____

Membership \$30.00 per year: New memberships due at time of joining. Renewals due January 1st of every year:

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

27447 S. Wildwood Drive, Monee, IL 60449

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: membership@windycityzclub.com
3. Use the PayPal button on the home WCZC web page to send in your Payment