


## Upcoming Events

**Nov 14, 2026**

*Birthday Dinner*

*Glen Ellyn, IL*

**Sept 19, 2027**

*Cantigny Show*

*Wheaton, IL*

*See schedule on page 3*

## The President SeZ

**Ty Ozgen, President**

The word is “fuel damper” or perhaps “fuel dampers”. As the years go by, I tend to learn more about my Z’s as they develop issues that render them inoperative or perhaps a more appropriate word is flammable. What am I talking about? Well, about a month and a half ago I was going to drive my 1983 280ZX, but as I pulled it out of the garage, I noticed there was a leak toward the rear end of the car - a fuel leak. I thought to myself, “Well that’s not good”. I stopped the car right away and tried to look underneath but did not see anything leaking. The car started backed up and nothing, no leak. I wasn’t exactly sure what to make of it but nevertheless pulled it back into the garage to look at it in the future. In doing some research, I know there is the fuel tank, the fuel pump, as well as fuel lines back there but also something called a fuel damper. Not exactly sure where the leak came from so I got in touch with Fred who probably knows these cars better than I do. He concurred that it certainly might be a bad hose, fuel pump, or clamp. I thought I’ll get around to it later. Well, I never got around it for most of the summer, as I did have my other Z’s to enjoy. About three weeks ago, I decided to take a look. I am fortunate that I do have a 4 post lift and drove it onto the lift to check to see where it may be leaking from. It was a site to see as I brought a small ladder to climb up to the car while it was on the lift. I made sure that it was not in gear and the parking brake was on as I started it. Yes, it

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## Officers

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Open

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## Notes

This newsletter was created with a new app, as Microsoft Publisher was discontinued. Please excuse the temporary formating errors, as I learn to use the new app.

# The President Sez

*Continued from page 1*

was leaking!! I found it!! It was leaking right by the fuel damper. So I immediately stopped the car to look closer. I was able to tighten the fuel line clamps a little bit as they seem to be ever so slightly loose. Did that solve the problem? I don't know as I haven't started it since. But at least I narrowed it down.

2 weekends ago I was going to bring my 1980 280ZX 10th Anniversary up to the Woodfield Nissan Cars and Coffee as I had not driven this car at all this summer. I did detail it for the event as it was dusty, even sitting under a car cover. I connected the battery, got in the car to pull it out of the garage and what did I see? A leak in the same spot as my other Z. How could this be? Déjà vu?? Immediately shut the car off and looked underneath, but it was not leaking at that time. What did I do? Pulled it back into the garage, disconnected the battery and put it away again. It did not leak as I restarted it. How frustrating!! I really wanted to drive it that day and it really looked good. I love having the older cars but I get ticked when they misbehave. It's like a love hate relationship. I did some research online on intermittent fuel leaks specifically for the 280ZX's, and apparently, it might be the fuel damper, which sits right next to the fuel pump. There is a small diaphragm inside this fuel damper that regulates the fuel pressure/pulsations that go to the fuel injectors. They over time tend to develop a leak and cause the symptoms that I described above. I went ahead and ordered 2 of them assuming that my 10th Anniversary was doing the same thing. Parts of these cars can be somewhat challenging to find, but I was able to find them at Z Car Depot. Will I get to them this year? Probably not. They will be on my to-do list for next spring/summer though. I'll keep you all updated.

Anyway, since we last chatted, we have had a few events. Unfortunately, I was not able to make the Geneva Concours this year. The weather was perfect and those who did go said it was a wonderful time. The Cantigny car show was unfortunately canceled due to heavy rain, but those of us who bought tickets for that event can use them for next year's event. Earlier this month we were able to drive up to Woodfield Nissan to have our annual Oktoberfest Cars and Coffee. The weather was outstanding and plenty of Z's were present from all different generations. It was a nice gathering for everybody and included complementary bagels, donuts, and coffee provided by Woodfield Nissan. Many thanks to Scott Gabrenya for allowing us to show our Z's in their parking lot and providing a new Z as part of the show. This will hopefully be an annual event for us in the fall.

We were also able to have the Fall Fling on Sunday 10/18 . The morning itself was relatively cool, but the day warmed up quite nicely. We had a fast drive up to Rockford and then casually drove south along the Rock River with some beautiful scenery. We stopped at a few locations for photo ops ending up in Dixon Illinois, where we had lunch as a group. We were joined along the way by WCZC member Bill Garthe with his beautiful 1980 Black/Red 10th Anniversary 280ZX. He lives out that way and it was nice of him to join us. It was very enjoyable just to drive outside of the Chicago area on uncrowded roads with trees on one side and a river on the other. Thank you to all who attended. I know we all had fun. What did I drive? My 1990 300ZXTT with its new tires. How did it run? Like a dream!!

What's coming up next? We have our Windy City Z Club 51st birthday party on Saturday, November 14. The Evite has already been sent a few weeks ago. Please respond to the Evite but to confirm your reservation I need payment via check or via PayPal by November 7th. We will be returning again to Reserve 22 in Glen Ellyn. The cost is $25 a person. The club picks up the rest of the tab. We will have some raffle prizes, pictures of past events, speeches by all of the officers as well as elections. Please feel free to bring a raffle item to donate. This is always a very well attended event and a great way to finish another successful year for our club. Z ya then…



# Member Column

By Bob Rosecrans

**240Z Love Hate Relationship**

Henry Winkler (The Fonze) once said if something or a person is important in your life, write it down or send that person a letter. This really hit a chord with me as I thought about family, friends, clubs, civic organizations and of course the 240Z. When I was in the army I would get frequent letters from my girlfriend later to be my wife Marlene. She was in graduate school and would write about her classes, new friends, professors, riding her bike to buy groceries, and cooking Asian food with a Japanese friend. I would reread the letters and dwell on every word, I felt connected. A military person today may receive a text message or an emoje. I wonder if they feel connect?

I have a love, hate relationship with my 1973 240Z. I bought the car in 1976 so I've owned it for over 50 years and obviously have a love for the vehicle. Thinking back on family, friends, etc. we tend to remember the good things, the fun, jokes, goofy times, relationships, great meals but relegate the bad things to some vault under lock and key. I remember the great driving experience of the 240 as soon as I bought the car. People giving me the thumbs up, headlights flashing at me to acknowledge the Z, people at cruise nights telling what a great car or I had one and should have never sold it. But what about the bad things: warped head, radiator leaks, rusting fenders, leaking floor panels, losing hub caps, mufflers falling off the car. Yes, my muffler fell off the Z and a cop pulled over and made me go back and it up. How about the time my window feel down in the winter and me working outside to repairing it. I could go on but you get the gist. During early ownership a WCZC member, Cam Baugh was instrumental in helping me with the car. Nothing was too big or small for Cam. Cam and his wife Patti became good friends. They have both passed and were just wonderful people. A few years ago their daughter, Tina saw a post I made on Facebook. She was just a little girl back in the day but she remembered Marlene and me. We exchanged Facebook messages and guess what, Tina and I are friends on Facebook. Connected.

I've done minor repairs and maintenance on my 240 but getting older definitely limits what I can do or really should I say, do I really want to do that? Finding someone to work on a 240 is a challenge. Chicagoland used to have few Z shops, gone but lovingly remembered. Obviously, I'm not shipping my car to California which seems to be the Z repair hub. I have a few things I want repaired and/or upgraded. I had a local shop do work for me in the past but to my surprise they don't want work on the car. They informed me they have transitioned to working on high end cars, BMW, Mercedes, etc. and do have room to work on mine because it would take up valuable shop space as likely the repairs would take too much time. Next step, I go to the internet looking for repair shops, emailing a number of them and even visiting one with a list of things I wanted repaired. One shop even specialized in Japanese cars and had a Z on their webpage. I'm hopeful. I follow-up all of the internet contacts with phone calls and left messages. Not one shop called me back, that's right not one called me back.

I'm on a mission so I continued the internet search using the same pattern above, complete personal information to include make of car, etc. Wow, I finally hit a shop, they emailed me back within 24 hours and said we can do that work. Would you like to make an appointment? An appointment, yes give your next slot! Two weeks away, I can handle that considering what I've been going through. Took the Z to the shop, received estimates and a time line for completion of the work. The next day I received a call from the shop owner and said he could save me money with some alternate parts. He said some people demand original parts that may have the vehicle brand on it say Buick or Ford which is pricey. My Z is not all original and frankly, I don't care, go ahead save me some money. Bryan, the shop owner as well as his staff, were professional and polite keeping me informed throughout the process. Custom Classics does restoration and maintenance work with the pricing listed per hour based upon materials, mechanical, paint, frame work, fiberglass, aluminum, electrical. If interested the shop is Custom Classic, 518 East Burnett Road, Island Lake IL 60042. (847) 487-0828, www.customclassics.net. They are open M-F from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, closed on Saturday and Sunday.

What's the status of my 240Z love, hate relationship? Unknown. I've looked at Bring-A-Trailer but the 240Z is always pulling at my heart strings. If I sell the car, I want it to go to someone who would appreciate and take care of it like I love it. We'll see what the next chapter holds.

*Editors Note: Bob's Z is currently listed on Bring-A-Trailer.*

# WCZC 2026 Schedule of Events

| Date | Time | Event | Location | Contact and Details | WCZC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| November 14 | 6PM | WCZC B-day Party | Reserve 22<br>Glen Ellyn, IL | Evite Has Been Sent | Yes |
| TBD | | Winter Meeting(s) | | | |
| | | ZCon | Mississippi | | |
| September 19, 2027 | | Cantigny | | | |
| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | |
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## Z 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

## New Member

New member Brian Brazda has a website for his Z cars. Check it out at:

zcars@brazda.com



# WCZC Activities

## Geneva Concours  Photos by Glenn J.








# WCZC Activities

## Fall Fling  Photos by Glenn J., Ty O., Jim K.













# WCZC Activities

Woodfield Nissan  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

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

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Hochman Fabrication and Speed, Wheeling, IL 847.777.1287

TonyMotive Performance, Glenview, IL 708.691.3813

## 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



# WINDY CITY Z CLUB

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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 1-year or $50.00 2-years. New memberships due at time of joining. Renewals due January 1st of every year**

## I AM INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

o Autocrossing
o Trips-Touring
o Rallying
o Car Restoration
o Road Racing
o Social Events
o Tech Seminars
o Hosting a club event
o Customizing
o Committee Volunteer
o Club Representative
o 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
27447S.WildwoodDrive,Monee,IL60449
Your membership packet will be sent to you by return mail within two to four weeks



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