





# Volume XXXIII, April, 2010

James Snyder, Editor

## THE PRESIDENT SEZ Ty Ozgen, President

Two thousand seven hundred forty five miles. I can't believe it. That is what I drove last month during our Spring Break trip to Florida. If my



memory is correct, the last time I came close to driving that many miles was when I drove to the 2001 National Z Car Convention in Kingston, Ontario. Back then, things in my life were a little bit different. For example, I drove my 1990 300ZXTT with Sonnie in the passenger seat, seven months pregnant with our first. In the back, we had a small suitcase and car cleaning items since I was showing my Z. The only noise in the car was the music that was playing in the in-dash cassette player, the both of us talking and the hum of the 3.0 liter twin turbo. This time, we were in a rented 2009 Chevrolet Suburban, with Sonnie at my side again but also three you kids trying to decide who gets to sit in the third row seat. The vehicle was loaded with a couple suitcases, bags of toys, a cooler and other foods, as well as pails and shovels for the beach. The noise came from a portable DVD player blasting so the third row seat occupants could hear everything. I swear I think I know all the lines to about 4 or 5 movies by heart. Yep, life is sure different. Not that I am complaining now..... The best part of this trip was that it was a practice run as we will be doing a road trip again this summer to the National Convention in Nashville. Yes, I will be Z less but it will still be a lot of fun!

The drive to Florida itself was nice. We did it in 2 days, leaving on a Friday afternoon and stopping just south of Nashville for the night. This took just under 8 hours for those interested in going to the National Convention. The next day we got down to Orlando before heading to Sarasota the next night for the rest of the week. This was the first time I traveled down to Florida in a car other than as a youngster riding in the back seat of a station wagon with no air conditioning and vinyl seats. You could really see the transition of the spring colors as you got further south. By the time

## Windy City Z Club Officers

President – Ty Ozgen 630.910.3616 VP of Activities – please volunteer! VP of Administration – Jeff Pleiter 630.832.7857 Treasurer – Bill Bragg 414.697.1779

we were in southern Georgia it was all green. Why am I here in Chicago again? Also, I think I am done eating at McDonalds for the rest of the year. I swear kids would have no problem eating there all day and all night. I just can't put down another Big & Tasty without mayo. Another thing that I thought was interesting was the traffic. Here we are in the middle of nowhere, traveling down the interstate and it is like rush hour traffic, except instead of commuters there are people just like us heading somewhere for spring break.

So what did I think of the Suburban you ask? I'll be honest, for all the stuff we brought it really served its purpose. These days the airlines charge you for everything...extra luggage, carry-on luggage, etc. so I know we did save quite a lot of money by not flying. Then the hassle of waiting in line for security, being frisked, taking off your shoes, lugging all the stuff, watching the kids, what a pain. The Suburban was very comfortable for everyone with plenty of room, rode very smooth but it was a boat to park. It did have a back up sensor which did come in convenient when backing up. We averaged about 18 mpg, doing mostly 75-80 mph. By no means was I the speed demon though. Everyone was flying on the roads like me. When we got back, the thing was filthy and I don't mean the outside. From cookies, to straws, to gum, to wrappers, to sand, I mean it was a mess. I felt so guilty that I vacuumed it prior to returning it. I got so carried away that I even contemplated treating the leather seats and dash with conditioners but I had to draw the line. Poor Suburban, I don't think anybody really cares for it since it really doesn't have an owner. It probably wanted me to adopt it. Sorry, it is just not possible. Would I drive down there again? No problem. As for my wife and kids, they may have some reservations.

I apologize for not having the Auto Body Tech Session as the shop failed to return my calls for some reason. Anyway we have several things coming up in May including our last Z General Meeting at 6 PM, Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Fuddruckers in Downers Grove. Then we have our Spring Fling on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. (see flyer) This promises to be great driving event but on local roads. If ever you wanted to caravan with the Z's but not venture too far away, this is your opportunity. Send Bob Rosecrans an email at rosez@wowway.com. Get them Z's ready as the good weather is here!!!!!

Finally, I want to wish Jeff and Allie strength during these hard times. I won't go into the details but their son was recently in the hospital with a very serious illness. Sometimes we forget how delicate our lives are and how things can change quickly. We really need to appreciate the people in our lives and what we have. I am proud to be part of this Z family and do appreciate the friendships that I have made and I hope we can all pray for him and his family for a speedy recovery.

~ Ty

## Jeff Pleiter, V.P. Admin. & Membership

The winter tires and wheels have been removed from my Mini Cooper S daily driver, and new summer tires put back on. It's a clean high mileage 2003 that Steve at Continental Nissan found for me for under \$9,500. It's a very fun to drive car that I can drive hard and not worry about.

But, Spring means it is time to get the Zs out of storage. I'll see you all at the May 2 last seasonal Z General Meeting and then the May 16<sup>th</sup> Spring Drive Event. I am looking forward to that.

That will be a busy weekend – the day before, on the 15<sup>th</sup>, I'll be at a Teen Street Survival Driving Course with my 18 year old daughter. The events are held by BMWCCA, SCCA and Tire Rack nationwide, and locally are held several times a year at the Tire Rack in South Bend. This is a teen driver training safety school where they teach safe driving techniques, such as how to recover from a skid, and basic defensive driving information. It should be both fun and educational for the both of us. Check out <a href="www.streetsurvival.org">www.streetsurvival.org</a> if you want more information for your teen. She will be driving her own 1996 Bonneville…not one of my Zs!

A number of people are going to the Branson Z Fest the first weekend in June. I'll have to pass on this one because it is my son's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. C.J. is doing very well right now, but has had more than his share of health problems lately. I have not shared this with a whole lot of people so far, so if you have not

heard, C.J. has been battling Hodgkin's Disease for the past few months. He has been through two rounds of chemotherapy and will likely be into third when this issue comes out. We had a scare recently when he was in the hospital for over a week with a serious bout of pneumonia, but is now back out and has been almost back to normal for a few weeks now. This is a highly treatable and curable cancer, especially for young kids, so we expect that by the end of the summer, he'll be back to his normal self. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.



Photos by Jeff Pleiter

You would think that would be enough to worry about, and certainly all my other worries right now are small. But one thing one small worry that was always in the back of my mind was driving the NISMO without a front plate. I have not been stopped yet, although one officer did pull out and look me over, but never stopped me. I guess age does have some advantages. Nissan give you a flimsy plastic holder they want you to drill mountings for in the front of the NISMO fascia. I never liked that idea. The ZEE bracket and Stillen tow hook mount bracket don't fit the NISMO fascia. The Stillen was a good concept, but their extension was not long enough for the NISMO. I finally found another NISMO owner with more time and tools than I have, who made up a few custom tow hook brackets. I was able to get the last full set he made. See the photos for the final result.



~ Jeff

# As posted in Autoblog.com by Sam Abuelsamid

It looks like there will be more than one car showing up the Walter Mitty Challenge at Road Atlanta next month wearing the colors of Pete Brock's BRE racing team. Just days after Mazda announced that it had prepared a BRE-liveried MX-5 for the Playboy MX-5 Cup, Nissan has announced that it is working on a Nismo 370Z with a similar color scheme.

The Nissan is, of course, a descendant of the Datsun 240Z John Morton drove to BRE's first SCCA National Championship in 1970. While the Miata got a very literal interpretation of the original BRE paint job, Brock has apparently worked with painters at Nissan to produce a modern iteration. The Z will be revealed at a special dinner at Road Atlanta on April 29 to kick off the big weekend of vintage racing.

The car has been built to SCCA T2 specs, and plans call for it to do some racing at Z Club events and SCCA regionals this summer.



### ~ Press Release from Nissan ~

Nissan Celebrates the 40th Anniversary of the Z's First National Championship with a BRE 370Z – Forty Years After Their Famous Victory in the 240Z, Peter Brock, John Morton and Brock Racing Enterprises Revisit Road Atlanta at The Classic Motorsports Mitty –

Forty years ago, the Datsun 240Z arrived in North America and changed the sports car landscape forever. That same year Peter Brock's Southern California-based Brock Racing Enterprises (BRE) racing team claimed the first of its two SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) National Championships at Road Atlanta with that first iteration of the now iconic Z®-car. It was the first time in racing history that a Japanese production racer had defeated the long-established champions from Germany and England in head-to-head competition. That championship win, with driver John

Morton at the wheel, firmly established the performance and engineering credibility of the popular Z.

The #46 championship car carried the now famous red, white and blue BRE paint scheme designed by Peter Brock. In recognition of BRE's multiple championships and the Z®'s first championship, Nissan North America has again teamed with Brock to create an updated rendition of the famous BRE livery, a specially modified 2010 Nissan NISMO 370Z Coupe.

The BRE 370Z will be unveiled at a special BRE Reunion dinner at the Classic Motorsports Mitty at Road Atlanta on Thursday, April 29 and will be displayed throughout the weekend along with a 40th Anniversary Edition 370Z and a large collection of the famous BRE racecars. Brock, Morton and many of the original BRE team members will be in attendance, as the BRE team is being recognized this year as The Mitty's honored historic racing team.

"To be able to gather with many of my old BRE crew members at Road Atlanta this year is a truly special occasion," said Brock. "There will be so many race fans of that era who will join us to celebrate, as well as modern vintage teams which will be bringing their own tribute BRE racers to compete on this fabulous circuit."

The powerful, sculpted shape of the Nissan 370Z gave Brock a dynamic canvas to exercise his design skills and update the BRE livery. He worked closely with the painters to finalize the details and make sure it met his exacting standards. "Because the 370Z has strong, sculpted shapes, I was able to make the livery even bolder and more aggressive," said Brock. "It was good to be in the paint booth working out the details of the design. I look forward to seeing it in a race track setting at The Mitty."

The new BRE 370Z is not just a show car, however, it's built for the track as well. As is appropriate to commemorate the championship car, it was built to current SCCA T2 racecar regulations and will see track duty later this year. It will also be on display at multiple Z® Club events around the country, including ZCon 2010, the annual Z convention, from July 28 to August 1 in Nashville.

About the Nissan 370Z 40th Anniversary Edition The 370Z 40th Anniversary Edition starts out as a 370Z Coupe Touring model equipped with manual transmission and Sport Package (including SynchroRev Match<sup>TM</sup>, front chin spoiler, rear spoiler, Nissan Sport Brakes, 19-inch Rays forged aluminum-alloy wheels and viscous limited-slip differential) and adds a premium "40th Graphite" exterior color and red leather-appointed interior.

Additional exclusive equipment includes a highluster smoke wheel finish, red brake calipers and 40th Anniversary badges on the rear hatch and front strut tower brace. Inside, along with the red leatherappointed seats are red door panel inserts, 40th Anniversary seatback and floor mat embroidery, red stitching on the center stack, shift boot and kneepads, smooth leather steering wheel with red stitching and a plaque of authenticity. Only 1000 examples of the 40th Anniversary 370Z will be available in the U.S.

In North America, Nissan's operations include automotive styling, design, engineering, consumer and corporate financing, sales and marketing, distribution and manufacturing. More information about Nissan in North America and the complete line of Nissan and Infiniti vehicles can be found online at <a href="https://www.NissanUSA.com">www.NissanUSA.com</a> and <a href="https://www.infiniti.com">www.infiniti.com</a>.



# **MART**

\*Email wczc.editor@gmail.com to post in Z Mart\*

Windy City Z Upcoming Events Calendar

Date & Event	Venue	Contact & Info
April 24 <sup>th</sup> – Tech Session	Body Shop TBD	tmo212@aol.com
May 2 <sup>nd</sup> - General Z Meeting	6pm at Fuddruckers - 1500	
	Branding, Downers Grove	
May 16 <sup>th</sup> – Spring Fling		Bob, Marlene & Jeff P.
June 4-6 – Branson Z Fest	Branson, MO	www.bransonzfest.com
June 12 <sup>th</sup> – Car show	Morris, IL (6-9pm)	www.morriscruisenight.com
June 25-27 – Midwest Z Heritagefest	Aurora, OHIO	www.clevelandrockz.com
July 11 <sup>th</sup> – Cruisin Z USA	The Promenade, Bolingbrook	tmo212@aol.com
July 28-Aug 1 – National Z Car	Nashville, TN	www.zcon2010.com
Convention		
Oct 22-24 – Fall Colors of Indiana	Indiana	tmo212@aol.com





March 15, 2010

Dear Datsun/Nissan Enthusiast:

As has become tradition, history will be put on track - and in the infield - this summer at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course with the Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio, June 25-27.

The annual celebration of legendary automobiles will celebrate Datsun/Nissan as the 2010 featured marque. We are honored to have Datsun/Nissan racing legend John Morton as Grand Marshal for the weekend. Makes and models from any nationality are eligible for the Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, June 27, so it's our goal to help Datsun/Nissans shine as a part of the vintage display.

Participants in either the Concours d'Elegance or the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual British Car Showdown on Sunday, June 26 are welcome to get on the track and take a parade lap around Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Additionally, each participant can purchase a special ticket package (detailed below) and will receive a commemorative souvenir.

### VIP Hospitality Ticket Packages\*

- -one (1) weekend general admission ticket
- -VIP Hospitality area access
- -parade lap of the track
- -\$40

- -two (2) weekend general admission tickets
- -VIP Hospitality area access
- -parade lap of the track
- -\$70

This special pricing for car clubs is only available for tickets purchased in advance by 5 p.m. on Wednesday June 23. \*Car club members are not limited to the above packages and can purchase any other type of ticket available for the weekend. Call 1-800-MID-OHIO or visit www.midohio.com to order.



Enclosed is information on car corrals and VIP parking for your club. We greatly appreciate your effort in communicating this event through your club newsletter, website or at your next club meeting. If you have any questions or would like to register your car club, please contact Connie Bruce at (614) 793-4610 or cbruce@midohio.com.

The combination of car shows and on-track activities will make the Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio one of the Midwest's greatest and largest automobile celebrations of the summer. We look forward to seeing you and your club at the Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio, June 25-27!

Sincerely,

Stephen Timms

Marketing and Promotions Coordinator



# VINTAGE GRAND PRIX OF MID-OHIO

FEATURING DATSUN/NISSAN

# GRAND PRIX of Mid-Ohio

JUNE 25-27, 2010

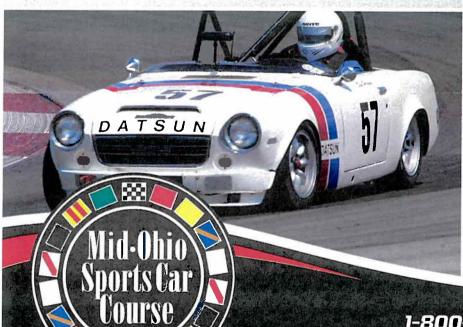
Datsun/Nissan makes its return to Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course as the featured marque of the 2010 Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio, June 25-27, 2010. All Datsun/Nissan car owners and enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in the Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, June 27. During the weekend, cheer on your favorite Datsun during the Nissan-exclusive race featuring Fairlady roadsters, Bluebird sedans, 240z and its successors, IMSA GT and GT Prototypes.

# Concours d'Elegance - Sunday, June 27, 2010

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Awards for Each Margue
- Open to all makes and models; car clubs and individuals
- Commemorative Souvenir
- Exclusive parking on Championship Row

# Celebrate classic cars on & off the track...

- Sportcar Vintage Racing Association races all day
- Nissan-exclusive race, celebrating the weekend's featured margue
- Legendary Datsun driver John Morton as Grand Marshal





DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO DRIVE YOUR CAR ON THE TRACK DURING THE LUNCHTIME PARADE LAP

# VINTAGE GRAND PRIK OF MID-OHIO

# **VIP Hospitality Ticket**

ì	(1 weekend ticket & hospitality)	\$40.00
	(2 weekend tickets & hospitality)	\$70.00
	General Admission	<b>秦</b> 5.11
1	Saturday	\$15.00
	Sunday	\$15.00
	Weekend (Fri-Sun)	\$25.00

These **ticket prices** are available only in advance and must be purchased by **Wednesday**, **June 23**. General admission tickets are available at the gate, and all tickets to the Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio cover the entry fee for the car show. Children 12 and under are admitted free

Call 1-800-MID-OHIO or visit www.midohio.com for more information or to order tickets.

1-800-MID-OHIO / MIDOHIO.COM

MORE THAN 400 AUTOMOBILES ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND! BE A PART OF THIS EXTRAVAGANZA!

# **CAR CLUB CORRAL RESERVATION FORM**

# MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE VINTAGE GRAND PRIX OF MID-OHIO JUNE 25-27, 2010 LEXINGTON, OHIO

Please note: only complete this form if you need to reserve a corral for your car club.

The Concours d'Elegance is open to both individual classic car and vintage automobile owners and car club members. The 2010 Concours d'Elegance is open to all makes and models. Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course will reserve a parking area for your car club in the infield. Please have one member of your car club complete and return the form by Friday, June 11, 2010 to:

Mailing Address:
TrueSports, Inc.
545 Metro Place South, Ste. 400
Dublin, OH 43017-5367
Attn: Connie Bruce

-OR-

Fax Number: **614-793-4621** 

Please print:
Car club name:
How many cars from your club are expected to attend?
Car club contact person:
Address:
E-mail address:
Phone number: ()

If you have any questions, please contact Connie Bruce at 614-793-4610 or via e-mail at cbruce@midohio.com



# **SPONSORS**

Windy City Z Club has many sponsors. Most Nissan dealers will provide a discount when asked. We recognize the

following sponsors for providing constant support to the club, our members & the National Z Community.

### **Dealers:**

Continental Nissan, Countryside, IL, 708-352-9200 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:**

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# **National Sponsors:**

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The Windy City Z Club would like to thank all our sponsors for their support of the club. Please let us know if you think your company should be on this list.

