



Volume XXXIV, August 2011

James Snyder, Editor

THE PRESIDENT SEZ
Ty Ozgen, President



The saga continues. In my last newsletter article (you do read my articles...right?) I was talking about the new tires I got for one of the non Z's that I own and how much of a difference it made. If you remember I also had mentioned that upon close inspection of my '90 300ZXTT that the rear tires were quite worn on the inside. This is in fact quite common in these cars as they have a negative camber that helps with the handling. Anyway, I was hoping to hold off buying a new set until next spring. It is already August and the summer is winding down ever so slowly so to buy a set and use it for a few months just to store the Z for the winter made no sense. I was not seeing any cords yet so I thought I could get another 1000miles on it easy. Well, I could not get it off my mind. I am driving on tires that are 13 yrs old, with over 26k miles on them, and noisy. I don't want to have a problem. Alright Ty, just bite the bullet and buy the tires. I really like the Bridgestone's I had just bought from Tire Rack plus I have had good luck with this brand in the past so I went to the Tire Rack website to check on some prices. I plugged in my Z's info and the fact that it was a Turbo and clicked enter. That's weird. I only got 7 choices of tires, 6 of which were track/competition tires. I must have made a mistake. I tried it again and same thing. What is going on here? The "Tire Rack", the tire supplier of tire suppliers has only 1 road tire for my 1990 Z? How can that be? I know the Z is 21 years old but come on!! And the only street tire brand they had is called "Fusion"? What the h--- is a Fusion? I decided to call them. Same story. It appears that the rear tire size (245 45-16) is not that "popular" anymore and manufacturers are no longer making that size. The fronts are not a problem, just the rears. Are you sure you don't have any sitting in the back somewhere? They were sure. Well, I decided to call around to Discount Tire, NTB, even Sears without any luck. I even tried local non chain stores as well as Nissan and

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got the same answer. My 1990 300ZXTT is now obsolete. I was in a state of panic. How can I drive my Z anymore? It has ancient bald tires that could blow any minute, even while parked. Should I buy the Fusions even though I don't know a thing about them? What if Tire Rack runs out of those before I come to a decision? What do I do then? I called Tire Rack again to inquire about this Fusion brand. Turns out they are a lower level brand of Bridgestone that is cheaper in cost but apparently a good tire. I read the reviews about the tire and finally ordered a set of 4. I felt like I was stuck buying them but really had no other choice. My Z will be sporting Fusions.

The tires came and they looked OK. The treadwear was 360 and the temperature and traction were rated A so how bad could that be? So I put 2 of them in the passenger seat and 2 in the rear compartment and went to have them mounted and Road Force Balanced. As I drove the Z home, I immediately noticed the quietness compared to the old tires. The tires did balance quite well but they did feel a little squirrely. That might be because they have a decent amount of tread on them. I haven't really pushed them yet since they are new but so far so good. Time will tell.

So you think that is the end of my saga? Not quite. 3 days later I was going to take the 300 to work. As I was putting my briefcase into the rear hatch I noted a something odd. My Z seemed as if it was leaning a little to the left. That's weird. Did I run up on top of one the kids shoes or something? Then I saw it. What da!!! I had a flat tire. The left rear tire was as flat as could be. I couldn't believe it. I was pissed. Was it the Fusion? I knew I should not have bought those tires. Was it the valve stem? I did not have the time to

deal with it so I took my E55, the one with the new Bridgestone tires. That night I took the tire off and there it was; a huge bolt sitting at the edge of the outside tread. It barely had 100miles on it and the tire was toast. Where in the world did I pick this up from? There was no way they could repair this. Great! Now what? I only had one option. I called Tire Rack and ordered another Fusion. What a waste of money. So back to the store to have the tire mounted. Then back onto the 300. What a hassle. You know what the funny thing is? Way back in 1998, April 22nd to be exact, was when I had last purchased a set of tires for this car. On May 2nd of that same year, with only 60miles on the new tires, I did get a flat tire due to a nail. Wow! What a coincidence. That time though they were able to fix it. Moral of the story: Don't buy new tires.....

Z ya ~ Ty



Jeff Pleiter
V.P of Activities

Despite rain on the Saturday before, and a cool cloudy start in the morning, it turned out to be a beautiful day for the cruise-in at the Volo Auto Museum. Dave Johnson, Rich Ropp and I met for breakfast at Walker Bros. Pancake House in Lake Zurich.

If you get there too late, you often have to wait to get in, but we walked in straight to a table. From there it was a short cruise to the Volo Auto Museum. Pat and Bobbie Sylvester and Ken and Rosie Jamin met us there. We parked our cars up in the outside grassed car park area. The featured vehicles were early Fords, but the Fords turned out to be a mix of cars from the 40s on up to current Mustangs. Theoretically cars were supposed to be at least 20 years old to participate, but it was not enforced. There were not a huge amount of cars at the cruise in perhaps due to the early coolness and clouds in the morning. However, there was no rain and the day cleared up and warmed up nicely. Because we brought cars to the cruise-in, the museum provided us with arm bands to get in free. Its been a while since I have been to the museum, so most of the cars were new. While one barn has the older "classic cars", most of the barns contain cars from the 50's, 60's and early 70's. Most of us are fans of the muscle cars and that is what is mostly represented along with the hot rods. I am partial to the Mustangs, but I am a fan of all fun



cars. The movie and star cars are also fun to see. On the way back it was a perfect day to take of the T-tops and cruise.

Upcoming events include:

A car show at Stratford Crossing Mall on Sunday August 21 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Gary Ave and Schick Road. www.stratfordcrossing.com for more info. No cost for registration. Just show up.

September 3, from 9 am to noon is the next Supercar Saturday event. They moved it from the Arboretum of South Barrington to the Bolingbrook Promenade in August. They have not posted where it will be in September. Watch for an evite once I have more info. If it is at the Arboretum, I plan to add lunch and a trip on the backroads to Anderson Japanese Gardens if people reply with interest.

September 16-18 is the Mecum Auction in St Charles Illinois. Plan on attending on Saturday, September 17. Gates open at 8 am and the auction starts at 10 am.

General admission is \$15. I often record the Mecum and Barrett-Jackson auctions on DVR so I can zip through the commercials and cars I don't want to see. I thought it would be fun to attend one in person.

Spent some time in Italy last month. I kept an eye out for Z Cars, but did not see a single one. The Porsche 911 seems to be the sports car of choice there. Plenty of other Nissans there,

many of which were the Nissan Micra. Also noticed a number of Nissan small to midsize SUVs there we don't have. They seemed to be more stylish than the Murano and Xterra that we get here. Tons of Smart cars and people on Vespas that seem to have no care for their own lives the way they dodge in and out of traffic within inches of the cars, buses and trucks surrounding them. We bussed in from the ports and took walking tours of the cities, so I did not drive over there at all. The signage seemed to be poorly done in general and the people were very aggressive drivers like you find in the heart of any of our major cities. I think I could find my way around, or deal with the aggressive driving if taken alone, but not both together. Someone told me you have to grow up in Rome to be able to drive there. I would have to agree. Anyway we had a good time while there, but the air travel sucked. Delays and lost luggage. We flew on Continental, but the flights were booked by others. I'll have to be pretty hard up to fly Continental again.

~ Jeff



MARKET

2003 350Z Touring Silver with black interior in excellent condition with 20000 Miles. It has never being out in the snow and have kept it in the garage. 3.5 engine, 6 cylinder, automatic and stick transmission.



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If you have photos or articles that you'd like to contribute to the WCZC newsletter, please submit them to wczc.editor@gmail.com

Volo Auto Museum Aug 14th

*Photos by
Jeff P.*



Windy City Z Upcoming Events Calendar

Date & Event	Venue	Contact & Info
TBD – Z Progressive Dinner	Various member's homes.	
TBD – Fall Colors of Indiana	Indiana	
Sept 17 – Mecum Auction	St Charles, IL	villaZX10@comcast.net
Sept (TBD) - Octoberfest	TBD	
Oct 8 – 24 hrs of LeMons	Autobahn Country Club, Joilet	
Nov (TBD) – WCZC Birthday Party	TBD	villaZX10@comcast.net



*12th Annual
Midwest Z
Heritage Show
June 10-12*



*Photos by
Ted & Barb T.*



The ZCON Story,
And I'm sticking to it!
By Carl Kush

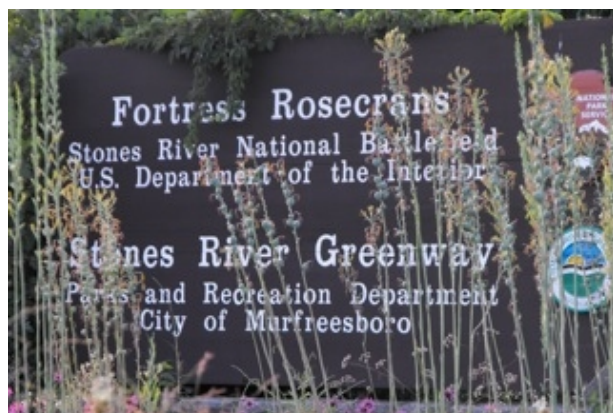
Saturday July 16 we are on I-65 south on the first leg of a three day journey to Z Island, when a 350Z appears in my rear view mirror. The rolling meet up with Bob and Marlene was not expected, but set the tone for a great trip to Savannah, Georgia. We would meet the Keenes that evening for dinner in Smyrna, Tennessee.



Photos by
Carl Kush, et al

The three couples from Windy City Z Club, Bob and Marlene Rosecrans, Tom and Sharon Keene, and Carl and Judy Kush thought it would be a good idea to visit some other attractions on our way to the land of the palmetto bug. After researching what seemed like a hundred hotels for the two stops along the way, the plan was set.

First stop about halfway was Smyrna, Tennessee, and a visit to nearby Murfreesboro and the Stones River Civil War battle ground and museum, with a guided tour by Bob and Marlene. Sunday found us roaming Point Park on top of Lookout Mountain with the panorama of Chattanooga far below. A ride on the Incline Railroad, and a night aboard the legendary Delta Queen river boat, complete with ghost stories, brought Sunday to a serene conclusion.



Thursday was prep day and staging for the car show, and Friday the big show inside the airconditioned convention center. It was sort of a mystery why the People's Choice cars were staged outdoors. As usual, a very nice banquet and awards ceremony ended the formal listed events.

Tom and Sharon Keene brought home the People's Choice gold with their 300ZX TT. Had it not been for a mix-up in registration, Bob and Marlene would have won Daily Driver with their 350Z. Carl and Judy got a piece of the action with a first place for their 350Z in street modified. 150 cars and more than 350 people attended the event.

The awards this year were a little different, a nice medallion to take home instead of a trophy, and a certificate with the winner's car and description to be mailed later.

The certificate is an ornate modification of the ZCON poster with the awarded car replacing the green 240Z, probably with a foil representation of the medallion.

This was a great trip made better with the company of our great Windy City Z Club friends.

~ Carl

ZCON
Savannah, GA
July 18-23



*Photos by
Carl Kush,
et al*





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