



**THE PRESIDENT SEZ
Jeff Pleiter, President**



We have come to the end of another year, and as usual November brought our annual Windy City Z club birthday party. It has been 41 years since the club was formed by members in 1975 and 40 years since it was registered with the state in 1976. (hence the occasional question and confusion on what year to put on the cake). Held at Downers Sand Bar, it was a more casual affair this year, with a basic buffet mix of salads, pizza, chicken tenders, etc. Glenn ordered the birthday cake which you can likely see as one of the photos included in the newsletter. And as usual there were a ton of raffle prizes. The event was not without a few hitches, with the food and getting the slides running, but it was the usual fun end of the year get-together. Thanks to Larry Klem for finding the venue and making the arrangements, although unfortunately he did not make the event, due to a last minute invitation to crew for a race team in Atlanta the same weekend.

Elections for officers and other board members were held and there are a few changes this year. James Snyder, who has been doing a great job on our newsletter, has decided to step down as editor this year so he can devote more time to his family and his new job. Jim Koolish has volunteered to take his place, so this is the first newsletter published, with Jim at the helm. He said to expect some new ideas and changes going forward. Jim also always has his camera with him at events, so expect some good pics.

Larry Klem has also decided to step aside as full time VP of Activities. He did say he would

Windy City Z Club Officers
President – Jeff Pleiter 630.832.7857
VP of Activities – Kristian Lalik 630.818.6136
VP of Administration – Pat Sylvester 847.895.6939
Secretary/Membership – Sue Chan 630.379.6917
Treasurer – Bill Bragg 262.697.1779
Newsletter – Jim Koolish 847.269.3175
Webmeister – Glenn Johnson 630.363.2081

like to keep his hand in with some events, primarily race related, so expect his hands in some of those next year like the Road America event. Kristian Lalik has stepped forward into the VP of Activities position. He is a newer member and if you were at the birthday party, Fall Fling or some of the other events you probably met him and his Z31. He said he has some ideas for next year. Check out his column for more info on him and from him on forthcoming events. I suggested a President’s Dinner to be both the January event and WCZC General meeting. I am looking at doing it at DOC Wine Bar in Lombard. I initially planned for January 15, and posted that as a save the date on our Facebook page, but most of our board members can’t make that date for various reasons, so I think it will be move to Jan 29th, but I will need to confirm. Keep an eye on the emails, website, and/or Facebook for updates.

Registration is now open (www.zcon.org) for the ZCON hotel and registration to be held June 20-24 in Austin Texas. Since my son is in Austin, I am planning on going. Please let me know if you are also interested in going.

I write this as the snow is falling again and my Zs and many of yours are put away for the winter. Enjoy the breaks and spend time with friends and family over the Holidays. My son will be home from college for break this week, and my daughter will be home for Christmas. Perhaps

some Z goodies will find their way into your house over the Holidays and this winter. See you next year.

More and more the WCZC latest info is being put on our website and Facebook page, so to keep up to date with the WCZC please visit our WCZC website and/or Facebook page, as we post information and photos there on a timely and sometimes real time basis.

~ Jeff

Kristian Lalik, V.P of Activities

Hello everyone, my name is Kristian and I'm a newer member to the group. Some of you have noticed me and my fiancé Delena, at some events toward the end of the summer, in my black Z31. We've both had a lot of fun, during the activities we attended and getting to know all of you. We can't wait to start the next season in the club.



My family has always been a fan of Z cars since they first came out. I grew up at the time when the Z31 had come out and tried to convince my parents to get one, without any success. In 1989 they got the 240sx and by high school this was my first car. I had a blast with it for several years before the notorious frame rot hit and I had to part ways with it. My goal was to obtain a Z car and it took a few years until mine came along. The car had come from Florida and spent the last 16 years parked and rotting in the sun. It had low miles and it was mechanically solid despite the faded paint and damaged interior. Little by little over the years I did what I could to restore and improve it. With the help of Z people along the way, I was able to obtain parts cars to convert it to a turbo, with a manual transmission, from a naturally aspirated automatic. Was able to replace most of the interior and paint it myself. While I had many friends across the nation through other various groups, I didn't have anyone local and that's when I came across the Windy City Z Club.

Upcoming events for the year will start with the President's Club Dinner January 29th, at the D.O.C.

Wine Bar in Lombard. An evite will be forthcoming.

We'll have tickets for the Chicago Auto Show on February 13th. If anyone wants to do a weekend visit to the show, we could arrange that as well. I'll look for deals on that.

We are finalizing a new location for monthly meetings so watch out for that.

Aside from that, I'm very excited to be in this position and can't wait to get things going. If you have any ideas or advice for a newcomer like myself, you can always reach me at upriseinc@gmail.com or 630-818-6136.

~ KC

Glenn Johnson, Member's Column

Our trip to ZCON 2016 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Tracy and I left a few days early, to take in some sites of the city before the main events began on Tuesday, Aug 2nd. My 370Z was all set for the trip with upgraded brake rotors and pads, in anticipation of the HPDE track event at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park. We drove through rain the entire trip. My Z's rear tires, with 25,000 miles, were worn enough to feel the grooves on a few rough roads through Michigan. Brakes were in this year's budget, with new tires planned for the spring. We spent Monday at Niagara Falls, on the Canadian side. What a beautiful site. We left at 9:00 AM for the 2-hour drive in traffic not returning to the hotel until well past 9:00 PM that evening. I would recommend the trip to anyone, as we did the "Journey behind the Falls" to really experience one of the 7 wonders of the world up close and proper.

Tuesday morning, I was up early for the Suds and Shine; washing the Z as if it did not see enough water, with all the rain we drove through. There was no Cherry showing through my paint, just BLACK! Once clean, I took care of tech to be sure the Z was set for the track. Registration was

smooth with lots of goodies in your bag and plenty of raffles and giveaways. The opening reception was well thought out and informative, as we gathered as a club and filled a table of 10. Afterwards, the Texas Chili party was huge, with cases of empty margarita bottles floating around the 3 room suite with a balcony for all to enjoy (Chili you know!).

We had great weather for the Judged car show the next morning as many were out early shiny their Z's for all to see. The hotel was very accommodating from the beginning to the end. They had some covered parking available all week long, including a cleared out parking area, in the front for the Z show. Check the web site for all the pictures of each event.

It was warm, but nothing like Memphis last year. Plenty of restaurants with-in walking distance from the hotel, which was really nice. Everywhere you would go there would be Z people. We'd wave and smile and always had something in common to talk about with all the Z's running around. Jumping on the A/C coach buses down to the lake, for the cruise in the evening was a nice break. Everyone had a great time once aboard with a nice 3-hour cruise around Toronto Island watching the planes landing on the small runway right over the boat. Very entertaining and the carved roast beef with gray was excellent.

The track! What a track it is. 3.7 km of uphill and downhill, with blind curves and long straights. My top speed of 123mph was just shy of 200km! Everyone was grouped where they felt comfortable and had a nice time. The Ontario Z'ed club even had an instruction class that took place in the morning. Those I spoke to who attended thought it was well worth the time. I know from experience the only thing better than track time is knowing where to be when on the track. I'd like to thank Warren from the Z Club of Texas, for being my instructor for the earlier laps. I found myself sitting next to a guy like me, in a 350HP 370Z doing 123mph down the back straight, and he was the one telling me not to brake until the bridge, YIKES! He does drive a GTR. Not sure how fast he was going and I don't think I want to know.

At lunch many Z's showed, for a few parade laps and the picture of everyone on the

track. As we all headed back to the hotel around 5:00pm, I was with our member Tom Keene, from Indiana, and we stopped for some gas. I had heard some noise, from under the rear of my Z, thinking I had picked up some loose rubber back at the track. I climbed under and saw something shiny. The rubber was from my rear tires and it wasn't looking so good for the trip back to the hotel, let alone Chicago! Canadian Tire here we come. Lucky I had some Canadian paper money, from when I was a kid and lived here. I was able to put .45 cents worth towards a new set of rear Bridgestone Potenza RE050A tires. I won't tell you how much a rear set was in Canadian currency but it was worth it for the time I had on the track and hey, 25,000 miles isn't sooooo bad for a Z, right? Now that I look at eBay I should have sold my Canadian paper money there, it would have been worth 10x what I was given as store credit. A big thanks to Tom and Sharen for chauffeuring me back to the hotel, as the tires would take a day to install. I was able to get the stock tires, as my fronts are still in good shape. Don't ask me why!

Unfortunately, by the time I returned, I was unable to attend the ZCCA meeting that night, but was able to make the bus downtown to the Distillery District, for some good beer with Fish and Chips. Since my Z was in the shop on Friday, I missed the autocross (could have broken in the new tires).

My daughter Elizabeth was able to join us for a few days, as she was in Montreal for business. Tracy and I used the public transportation to downtown Toronto, for the day. After picking up some hot coffee at Tim Horton's we boarded the bus just in front of the hotel and almost gave everyone, on the bus, a hot shower with our coffee. I'm used to being strapped in to my seat before going anywhere and here all three of us had just climbed aboard the bus and off it goes with us barely hanging on for dear life, with the hot coffees in one hand and the bus strap in the other. The subway wasn't much better, as Tracy was taught how the stand and keep your balance, as we flew down the rails. Coming back at 5:00pm, on a Friday, was like the videos you see on YouTube in China. Everyone is pushed on the subway, by the guards, because there is no room! It was an

experience we will not forget but did manage to get back to the hotel safe and sound, with stories to tell.

I made it back in time for the Q&A with Steve Millen, Randy Rodriguez, and Toshio Yamashita. No talk of the new Z but some great stories for 2 hours. I just bought a new Snell 2015 helmet for the event and had Steve be the first to sign it, as did Randy.

Once again the next morning my buddy Tom gave me a ride to pick up my Z with the new tires and back for a quick wash. We were then off to the people's choice car show about 20 minutes away. They keep you as busy as you want to be at these events. Some folks are just there for the show or people and others for everything. Thanks to Tom, we had Randy who designed the 370Z come over to our cars and sign some of the interior panels. I had him sign my visor while taking a picture for authenticity. Ask to take a look next time we meet up. He was a really nice guy and spoke to us one on one, for a while. Ask any question (other than about the new Z) and he was happy to answer. The closing banquet was nice, as they gave away the people's choice awards earlier in the day and the raffles were already posted so more time for speeches, thank-yous, and Judged Z awards.

It was a great time and everyone made it home safe. The drive home stayed dry but I was ready for anything with my new tires. The Ontario Z Car Owners Association did a great job with everything. They deserve a big round of applause as there is so much to prepare for and it all happens so fast with so many enthusiasts!

Austin, TX is the place to be next year, June 20th-24th 2017. Mad Mike claims he's ready for retirement next year and I don't want to miss that as he's from Texas. I have a story about Mike I might just have to share at that event, and CJ Pleiter can back me up. I would highly recommend trying to get out there and enjoy all the other Z people and activities they have planned. I have not driven on Harris Hill Raceway but think I might have that chance next year in Austin. I hear we will be visiting Circuits of the Americas, as well. Keep an eye on the website as well as Facebook for upcoming events and updated info on next year's

ZCON! As I said earlier, lots and lots of pictures on the website for all to enjoy. Z ya all at an upcoming event.

~ Glenn

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We welcome your photos, articles or Nissan news of interest! Please send them by the 10th, of the month, to wczc.news@gmail.com. When submitting photos, please indicate the event, the day, and the photographer.

Editor's Note:

Please note the new e-mail address for newsletter submissions: wczc.news@gmail.com. As Jeff noted, in his column, I intend to change the format in the coming months, to make it more online friendly and more graphic. I also intend to add a member of the month feature, with a little info about the member and their car(s), including photos. Happy Holidays – see you next year.

~ ~ ~



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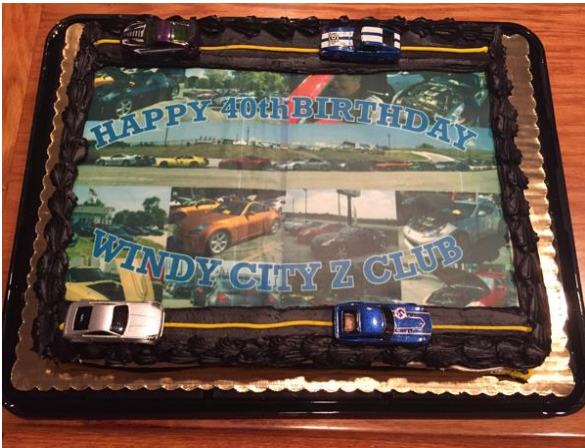
If you have any Z related inquiries or items for sale, please send them to wczc.news@gmail.com

Windy City Z 2017 Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact & other info
1/29/17	TBD	President's Dinner	DOC Wine Bar,	Jeff Pleiter
2/13/17	TBD	Chicago Auto Show	McCormick Place	
3/12/17		WCZC General Meeting	TBD	
March		Chrome and Coffee	Iron Gate Motor Condo	
6/20 –		Z-Con	Austin, TX	
TBD		Spring Fling	TBD	
TBD		Midwest Z Heritage	TBD	
TBD		Joint Event with St. Louis	TBD	
7/20-7/23		Vintage Races	Road America	

Watch for E-vites, as event details are finalized.

Windy City Z Club Birthday Party Photos (Jeff and Glenn)





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 Sue Chan, Membership - 630-379-6917
 Jim Koolish, Newsletter - 847-269-3175
 Glenn Johnson, Webmaster - 630-363-2081
 Bill Bragg, Treasurer - 414-697-1779

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____, 20____

Name _____ Dual Member's Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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 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

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- 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 contact 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 four to six weeks

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Optional back logo



Front logo included



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	M		\$30.75		
	L		\$30.75		
	XL		\$30.75		
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