

**Volume XXX, March 2007**

**James Snyder, Editor**

## THE PRESIDENT SEZ

**Ty Ozgen  
President**



All right everyone. Now listen up. This particle article is more for the men in the club, especially the married ones. Now don't get me wrong... single guys as well as the women certainly can read this if you like but the message may not be as clear to you. I really mean no offense by what I am about to say so bear that in mind. Now, I have been married for over 6 years and yes they have been happy. Marriage is all about give and take, about compromising...about listening. I may not always be right but neither is my significant other. I remember way back when in my single days when I bought the house we currently live in, things may not have all been "up to date" as far as the house was concerned but it certainly was not outdated. Everything worked fine but I did do some minor painting as well as wallpaper removing etc. Life was good. When I got married, and my wife moved in, certainly I expected her to have her say in how things were arranged and decorated...like I said.... give and take, compromise etc. At first the things that I noticed was that things were not in their usual spot anymore. They were located in "different spots" now. Okay, I guess I can get used to their new location. I'm sure she had a logical reason for moving things around. No big deal.

Now I do value her opinion and certainly did not fuss too much about her desire to change a few more things through the years but this involved updating... otherwise known as spending money, which really means less money for the cars. So she, I mean we started with the kitchen with new floors, new cabinets and countertops, as well as new stainless steel appliances. Okay, it does look nice and pretty but the "old" kitchen was not too bad in my opinion. Then came the bathrooms with their remodeling down to the pretty little towels and all. Yep it looks nice also and I

## 2006 Windy City Z Club Officers

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do like the smell of the air fresheners she has throughout the house. It makes me feel all *warm and cozy*. The walls were pretty much all repainted in all the rooms so as to add contrast and warmth. Yes ma'am...fine and dandy. Looks real nice and perty. I couldn't wait to show it off.

A few months ago John Song and his family came over and it gave us a chance to display the changes. I was so proud of all the colors we had picked for the furniture etc.and eager to get John's opinion. (You know I'm joking right?) The girls went room by room to look around as John and I chatted. Yep..yesiree Bob. John and I did eventually get to the real room of the house (aka the garage) and something dawned on me... nothing really was updated in there. Essentially every part of the house has been worked on since we got married except for my room. So I said to myself: **WHAT ABOUT MY ROOM BABY?! WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME WE DID ANYTHING TO MY ROOM...THE GARAGE?**

Well, this gets me to my point. This is probably a familiar story in other households nationwide so I would like to give all of you an opportunity to see what you can do to make your "Dream Garage" a reality. I have set up a Tech Session for us at a store called "**The Garage Store & More**". This store has just about everything you can do to update your garage from the floor to the walls. This can make your garage something to be proud of. Just think of it...a place to treasure your Z. The date has been set for Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3 PM. They are located at 588 Route 59 in Naperville at the NaperWest Shopping Plaza. This plaza is across the street from Fox Valley Mall. It is south of New York

St/Aurora Ave and north of Ogden Ave (Rt. 34) behind Park National Bank (blue and white bank on the east side of the street). Their phone number is (630) 579-0300. Please let me know if you would like to attend (tmo212@aol.com) so I can give them a head count. Lets start dreaming.....

- Ty



**Jeff Pleiter**  
**V P Admin. & Membership**

The driving season is fast approaching.

For those of you who want to get a little more of a performance experience from your car, there are safe ways to explore the limits. After all, we don't want to see you wrapped around a telephone pole. There are organizations dedicated to teaching enthusiasts about performance driving, and providing a safe environment to do so. There are classes if you want to drive on a race track, or if you want to start in a parking lot for an autocross event. The 800 lb – gorilla in this area is the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA). A lesser known Midwest organization is the Midwest Council of Sports Car Clubs (MCSCC). There are a number of local clubs that are jointly the basis for this organization. These clubs host and sponsor drivers schools, low speed (Solo II) autocrosses, high speed (Solo I) autocrosses and wheel-to-wheel racing all under the sanctioning of the MCSCC.

If you have never done this before, but you have some interest in learning, a good starting point is the low speed autocross. Generally, this is a course set up in a parking lot using orange road cones. Similar cars are classed together and run individually and timed through the course of cones. It requires a lot of coordination and driving skill to string together a fast series of shifts and turns to make it through the course quickly, without knocking any of the cones out of position. Speeds are relatively low, but seem a whole lot faster. All that is required is a safe roadworthy car and a helmet. Skills learned are applicable to car control in emergency situations on the road, and would also serve you in good stead should you ever want to move up to the higher speed track events.

A number of the Z club members belong to Salt Creek Sports Car Club (SCSCC) which is a member club of MCSCC. If you are interested, feel free to contact me, or go to their website – [www.scsc.net](http://www.scsc.net) for

more information on the club and their events. You can come out and watch and ask questions if you want to know more. They are also happy to provide instruction for any newcomers. Most of the low speed autocrosses this year will be held in a parking lot at Maywood race track on North Avenue in the suburb of Maywood. This year's current schedule for the low speed autocrosses is as follows:

4/21/07	Maywood Park
5/27/07	Maywood Park
6/16/07	The Tire Rack (South Bend, Indiana)
<b>7/29/07</b>	<b>Maywood Park</b>
9/23/07	Maywood Park

We are planning on targeting the 7/29 date to be a Z Club event. More details on this are forthcoming.

For those interested in going straight to high speed performance driving, go to [www.mcsc.org](http://www.mcsc.org) for information on driver schools and track events.

It looks like the Great Lakes Regional Z Heritage Fest is going to be a great time and I am planning on attending with a number of other club people. Ty is organizing a caravan. If you ever wanted to do a weekend Z event, this is the one to do this year, so make your reservations now.

It's been a while since we welcomed new members in the newsletter. So make welcome:

Bill Palm	1974 260Z, 1977 280Z
Todd Elbrink	1990 Twin Turbo
Paul Onischuk	1981 280ZX turbo
	- now in classifieds ;-(
James McMahon	1972 240Z
Brian Pitstick	? 280ZX turbo
Todd Troutman	1973 240Z
Robert Obodzinski	1976 280Z
Robert Boklewski	1991 300ZX turbo
Ed Boklewski	1990 300ZX turbo
Tim Boklewski	1991 300ZX turbo
Jim Kroc	1990 300ZX turbo
Bill Graffy	2004 350Z

I apologize if I missed anyone. Hope to see you all at this year's events

Also, I would like to thank Bob Bennett of Bennett Coachworks for the continuing sponsorship of the club. Check out his new ad and see his website for some of his projects. Sounds like he had a couple of interesting projects recently, dropping a V-8 in one Z Car and a Rebello built motor in another.

- Jeff



**Bob Rosecrans**  
**Vice President for Activities**

We have a tech session scheduled for Saturday, March 24th from 1 to 3 pm that should be interesting. We're going to meet at The Garage Store & More which is located at 588 Rt. 59 in Naperville just across the street from Fox Valley Mall in the NaperWest Shopping Plaza. It is south of New York St/Aurora Ave and north of Ogden Ave (Rt 34) behind the Park National Bank (blue and white building on the east side of the street). (630) 579-0300. I know we all need help with our garages and this tech session should help.

Our next General Z Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 1st at 6:00 pm. Due to its popularity, we're going to meet again at Pompei Restaurant located in Oak Brook Terrace on 22nd Street.

If anyone is interested in attending the Purdue Car Show in West Lafayette, IN let me know. The show is scheduled for Saturday, April 21st.

On July 29<sup>th</sup> Lee Witkowski, WZCZ member and Chairman for Salt Creek Autocross is setting up a event for the Z'ers to challenge the Audis and BMWs to a shoot out on the track. Watch for details in upcoming newsletters.

Cruizin' Z Car Show date is set for August 11 at Volo Auto Museum. Stay tuned for details.

We are in the planning stages of a road trip to Madison, WI to check out the French Market on a Saturday morning.

I'm still looking for people interested in helping to set up activities for the upcoming season

**Z Ya, Bob**

**Lee Witkowski**  
**Guest column: *What to drive next.***

At one time I owned five Z-cars simultaneously. Naturally, I couldn't drive them all at once and in fact, my son and daughter drove two of them. I used to go the Z General Meetings and relished the "introductions" at the start. Each member stated their name and what car (or cars) they drove. I felt badly for those who proudly exclaimed that they owned three Z-cars. When it was my turn there were a few people who said "oh" or "ah" when I proudly listed my possessions. The three car people looked a little disappointed. Currently, I am custodian of three of our favorite Nissan model.

It's strange how some of us become attached to vehicles particularly if they are special. Z-cars are special. They give us good feelings when we drive them. They make us proud. When I drive my Z, I feel like I'm in the very best car on the road. No Mercedes or BMW is superior to my car. Those cars are mass-produced. My car is a classic. There is no feeling like it in the world. There are other satisfying feelings and some may be better than the "on the road in my Z" feeling. But there is none like it.

Last night I picked up an extra job. I hired on with a company to drive the cars from the floor of the Chicago Auto Show to the 31<sup>st</sup> Street parking lot. There, they would be driven into their transporters and taken wherever auto show cars go. Probably to some dealer who will put them on the market as part of a post auto show promotion. My excitement level was extremely high.

We arrived at the show at about 6:30 PM. Registration took place at a table in the concourse between the two great halls. At 7:00 we were allowed in to view the cars. My daughter and I anticipated that very few of today's drivers are able operate a manual transmission auto. We concluded that we would have an inside track on all the sports cars. We walked through the Porsche exhibit checking out the sticks that comes out of the consol. The prohibitively expensive cars were out of the question. But maybe, just maybe we would be rewarded with something special.

The South Hall was next. A trip to the Nissan display was mandatory. Having been there six days earlier, I knew what to expect. There were four 350Zs there. Two were roadsters and two were coupes. The brilliant red roadster at the front of the exhibit was a stick shift car. Yes! There is always hope.

At the Chrysler booth they had "interactive"



exhibits. If you stood in line long enough, you could experience the traction control available on their products. A slalom, braking and acceleration on ice were available to test this feature.

We wandered through the rest of the show until the appointed meeting time approached. The meeting place was behind the GMC truck display. It was there that we learned the dastardly truth about our upcoming assignments. The company we were working for had the contract to move only the GM and Hyundai autos. No Porsche of me. But maybe I could score a Corvette.

Once the vehicles were disconnected from their power cords and inverters (the batteries, of course would not stand up to ten days of “tire kickers” indiscriminately throwing switches), we began the big move. My first vehicle was a rather nondescript mid-sized sedan. I think it was a Malibu. We were warned that when the engine was started, all sorts of occurrences might take place. And they did. Windshield wipers began to move to and fro. Turn signals were flashing. But thanks to the “heads up” I was prepared. I turned off the errant accessories.

The trip to the parking lot was uneventful. We were gathered up by a mini van and taken back for another run. I was able to take four more vehicles off the show floor. Only one was a stick shift. It was an HHR. The others were a Saturn VUE, a Suburban and a cube van. Not exactly Corvettes. My daughter scored that little prize. While waiting for the mini van she actually apologized to me. Not to worry! I actually possessed a '66 Corvette before I was married. Since I was a little boy I wanted a Corvette so I bought one in 1972. After a year and several cramping episodes in my left leg I sold the 'Vette and bought my first Z-car. On July 14, 1973 I took possession of a dark blue coupe. The love affair was on!

So now, 35 years later I'm still in “love”. But what about the rest of the drivers out there on the American highway? I keep reading about how we are a society that is in love with the automobile. I don't think so. Based upon my “love” experience and the type of cars being produced by automakers this is not so. The American driver is in love with the convenience of the automobile, any automobile. The transition away from

private transportation to public transportation is truly possible if you simply substitute some other form of convenience for the automobile. It really doesn't matter what it is. Neighborhood clusters where work, school, shopping, etc. are within walking or bicycle distance might work. Personal People Movers are another possibility.

The automobile could be transformed from a necessity into a recreational item. With the depletion of our fossil fuel supplies and the need to reduce the combustion of that fuel into our atmosphere, we will need to rethink our transportation ethic. Personal cars will be for those who really love the driving experience not those who tolerate them to move them from one place to another. The Malibus and Suburbans will be a thing of the past. Z-cars will be free to rule the highways.

The automobile will be around for a long, long, time. It will not disappear in my lifetime. It will probably still be around when my children are collecting Social Security (I see the glass as half full, by the way). I hope the Z-car will remain in production even if it morphs into a hybrid or uses hydrogen power. If everybody is using hydrogen fuel, then gasoline may go out of production. Our beloved Zs will have to be converted or put on a shelf, but probably not in my lifetime. My son will probably inherit my lovely DatsunGTO. It will be his problem to find a way to make it actually operate. But isn't problem solving part of the fun of owning a classic?

- Lee

## Chicago Auto Show February 2007









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FOR SALE: 1986 300ZX, Turbo, A/T, T-Tops, 125K miles. Black Exterior, black leather interior. Body has some rust, engine & interior good. \$2000 or best offer. Please call Jackie 630-420-8229 after 6:30 p.m.

FOR SALE: 1985 300ZX non-turbo parts. Wheels and tires, dark red/burgundy interior panels, trim and seats. \$150 for everything. Also, 1986 300ZX non turbo car, 100,000 miles. Gray with black interior. Minor rust. Call for info. Bryan Clavey, 630-287-0175. Downers Grove.

\*contact [James@e-snyder.org](mailto:James@e-snyder.org) to update Z-Mart ads\*

## WINDY CITY Z CLUB SPONSORS

The 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, and the National Z Community.

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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.



## Windy City Z Events Calendar

March		
21 <sup>st</sup> , 1-3pm – Tech session	The Garage Store & More	588 Route 59, Naperville
April 1 <sup>st</sup> – Gen Mtg - 6pm	Pompei Restaurant	22 <sup>nd</sup> St. Oakbrook Terrace
21 <sup>st</sup> – Car show	Purdue, Lafayette IND	Bob Rosecrans
May – Gen. Mtg	TBA	
Spring Fling	TBA	
June – Gen Mtg	TBA	
Autobahn Track Day?	TBA	
July		
13-15 <sup>th</sup> - 8th Annual Heritagefest	Nashville, IN	<a href="http://www.indyzcar.com">www.indyzcar.com</a>
29 <sup>th</sup> – Autocross vs Audis/BMWs		Lee Witkowski
August		
11 <sup>th</sup> - Cruisin' Z Show	Volo Auto Museum	Bob Rosecrans
September		
Fall Fling	TBA	
Septemberfest/Octoberfest	TBA	
October - Gen Mtg	TBA	
National Z Convention	Daytona, Florida	
November - Gen Mtg	TBA	
Birthday Party	TBA	

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