

WCZC News

Newsletter of the Windy City Z Club

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Editor: Jim Koolish

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wczc.news@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

January 7th

General Meeting

February 11th

General Meeting

February 12th

Chicago Auto Show

See full schedule on page 4 for more details

The President Sez

Jeff Pleiter, President



I write this after Chicago just had our first wide-spread snow (and salting) of the winter. Like many us, I put my Z away for the winter. It is always a guessing game as to when to do this. For me, it generally falls between our annual WCZC Birthday Party and Thanksgiving weekend. Can we get one or two last drives in? The season is turning from Fall to Winter and you never know what weather it is going to bring. Will there be some nice crisp sunny weekends in the 50s and 60s, or will it be cold and could we get an early snow? Then there is all the fall cleanup that needs to be done - leaf raking, yard cleanup, etc..

I have access to the garage year-round, so theoretically I can take the cars out anytime I want. However; to put them away, I thoroughly clean them inside and out, top off the gas tank and put Stabil in the gas, hookup a Battery Tender maintainer, spread some scented dryer sheets in the car and engine compartment to keep the mice out, pump up the tires to about 40 psi or so to prevent flat spotting, and finally put on a car cover. So while this routine can be undone, it is just enough of a hassle to undo and then redo that once again, it makes it unlikely. (especially the tire inflating).

This year of course it got cold early in November. The few nice days were generally within the working week, and so this year the Zs were put away early in November. Despite some early December warmth, they will stay until the warmth returns in the Spring and the rains wash the salt away.

Season's Greetings to all our club members! Please take time to enjoy time with family and friends over the various holidays you and yours

Continued on page 2

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Prez at the annual dinner

Photo by Glenn J

Happy Holidays

Activities

Walt Kreitling, VP of Activities



Greetings fellow Z-ites. It's cold and we had some snow so I guess that means Winter is finally here. Of course that means that our prized automotive possessions will be tucked away until spring of 2018. For me personally, this has greater significance than previous winters because, as of November 4th, it becomes my responsibility to organize activities for the Club. I recall Jeff asked for a volunteer, at the WCZC Birthday Party, and I either stepped forward or everyone else stepped back but either way I look forward to organizing events for the coming year that the members will enjoy.

By way of introduction to any members that I have not yet met, my wife Mary and I have been members since 2013 and we have enjoyed the camaraderie, cars, and events. I have owned a 2013 370Z touring/sports coupe for over 5 years now and previously owned a 2009 370 and a 2004 350 before that. My first introduction to Z-cars was in late 1969 when a friend purchased a 1970 240Z which I found to be very impressive. At the time, I was into Muscle Cars (1966 Dodge Street Hemi) but have always enjoyed sports cars (and all other forms). I had no idea at the time that I would be driving a Z 38 years later. Actually my personal introduction to Nissan products was through Mary. She bought a 1997 Nissan Maxima, on which we ultimately put 154K trouble free miles. I remember at the time saying that I wished Nissan made a sport car as my then current car required significant maintenance and low and behold the 350Z was announced. I love it when a plan comes together!

Speaking of plans, there are a few already in process. The **January General Meeting** is scheduled for the 7th tentatively at **Manny's Ale House**, on St Charles Road in Elmhurst at 5:00pm. I have to finalize that and will send an Evite in the next few days. Typically, general meetings are held on the 1st Sunday of the month, but in February that is Super Bowl Sunday so out of deference to those members who also are football fans the **February General Meeting** will be on the 11th.

February is also **Chicago Auto Show** month and I have been assured that tickets will be available through the good offices of our President Emeritus Ty Ozgen and Continental Nissan. The routine should be the same. We will meet at Starbucks at 6:30pm and distribute tickets. An Evite will be sent out for this event as well. Tickets are limited so first come first served.

On a longer time frame the, **18th Annual Midwest Z Heritage Show** will be held on June 15th and 16th at the

Season's Lodge in Nashville, IN. You can check it out and even register on their website <http://midwestzheritage.com/>. The 2013 event was the first regional meeting I attended after joining the club and they put on a very pleasant show. Mark your calendars.

That's everything on the horizon at the moment. I look forward to seeing you all at the events in the coming year. I will do my very best to organize fun, entertaining and informative activities. We will do some of the things that have been done in the past and I want to investigate some new ideas. I am always open to suggestions from members, about activities that they may be interested in. If you have an idea, please tell me about it at the general meetings or just drop me an email (hierbinich@mchsi.com) and let's discuss it. But remember, the most important ingredient to a good WCZC party is all of you. If you don't come there is no party.

See you at the General meeting on Jan 7th. Stay warm and keep the shiny side up.

The President Sez

Continued from page 1

may celebrate during this season. We will return to our monthly WCZC meetings starting in January, the Chicago Auto Show will be in February, and we'll see what else we can come up with over the winter for social events and other activities.

Welcome Walt Kreitling as our 2018 V.P. of Activities. Walt has been an active member of our club and I am confident he will do a great job in 2018.

Keep an eye on our Website and Facebook page for other updates.

Z Tragedy

See Member column on page 3



Members of the Month

Richard and Sharon Schmidt, New Members

We are happy to be involved with the club although we are some distance from the Windy City. Our home is in Merrill, WI, which is located in about the center of the state. We were both born and raised in the Chicago suburbs (Melrose Park/Lombard) and have been Wisconsinites since 1969.

We have a fairly long history with Zs. Our first 300Z, a 1985 (2+2) was purchased in 1987. I passed this one on to my son with 145,000 miles on it and he drove it until about 225,000 and had to give up the ghost, as the body started failing. We bought our second 300 in about 1992 and drove it about a year until we needed a pickup. Not being able to stay away from Zs, we then bought a 280ZX. This is our most interesting story. It was a great car and all was well until it was totaled due to a deer collision. Most of the damage was sheet metal from front to rear. We bought it back from the insurance company and continued to drive it with all the dents. It was totaled again due to a woman running a stop sign. Again we bought it back with the idea of selling it off as a parts car, as it was mechanically perfect. A young man bought it, after signing a paper that promised he would not drive it in its current condition. (see photo on page 2) We never learned if it lived to have another day!

Our current 300Z is a 1984 Datsun/Nissan that we bought off a local lot. It sparked our interest because it only has 37,000 miles on it. I had to have the headliner replaced as the glue had come loose and it was hanging down. It runs perfectly but does have a few issues such as a non-functioning radio and the passenger door mirror has a cracked housing. This one way we hope the club can help us.

It is now safely tucked away until spring. Our long range plans include going cruising to different restaurants within a 50-mile radius of our hometown, hopefully many of the trips with the T tops out. We hope to make this a weekly ritual.

We have children living in the Chicago area and hope to be able to combine trips to visit and to join some club festivities. We are both retired, from our careers, but our second career involves owning and running an antique shop. Perhaps a good destination for a Z club road trip! Looking forward to meeting club members.



www.windycityzclub.com



WCZC 2018 Schedule of Events

For more information, contact Walt Kreitling, unless noted otherwise.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact and Details
January 7	5:00PM	Genreal Meeting	Manny's Ale House Elmhurst	Evite to follow
February 11	5:00PM	General Meeting	TBD	Evite to follow
February 12 (date to be confirmed)	6:30PM	Chicago Auto Show	McCormick Place Starbucks	Evite to follow
June 15–16		Midwest Z Heritage	Nashville, IN	Evite to follow Midwestzheritage.com



Store

Contact Jeff at villazx10@comcast.net to purchase

License Plate Frame

\$3 ea. or 2 for \$5



New WCZC shirts can be ordered directly from Cherokee Rose Embroidery. 630.941.3305. See the WCZC Website, for more information

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People - Annual Dinner

Photos by Jeff P.





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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.

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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 _____

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

I AM INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

- ☐ 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