

# ZEDLINE

FALL 2015



A publication of  
**ONTARIO**  
**ZCAR**  
OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to the preservation & enjoyment of the Nissan/Datsun Z Car



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This year was not supposed to be a repeat of last year. Last year, I had offered to rewire the engine bay in JP Matte's Z, and then discovered my Z needed an engine rebuild. On top of that, my career was becoming particularly demanding. So, it was the end of September before my Z was on the road again, and I missed many OZC events as a consequence. But with it now running properly, I figured I'd make up for it in 2015, attending every cruise and car show that I could. My only plan for my Z was a custom A/C system install in JP's Z and mine in the spring, since we were both going to the convention in Memphis. After going to the Nashville convention in 2010, driving in a 40 year old car with vinyl seats and no A/C in 35+C temperatures and 100% humidity, I was not going to subject myself to that kind of misery again! Then I got word that I'd be out of town on business in May with lots of overtime required leading up to it, and the prospect of completing the A/C install on both our cars prior to the convention rapidly dwindled to nothing. Since mine required significantly more effort to complete, I decided to sideline my Z and focus on JP's.

It was a monumental effort. I spent I don't know how many hours with all 6'7" of me jammed upside down in JP's Z with my head under the dash, contorting my arms and body every way possible to get my hands up to where they needed to be to route the various hoses. Every part of my body ached. But I got the install completed one week prior to the convention. I'm really happy with the way it turned out. Half-assed, Mickey-Mouse jobs are not in my nature. It was with great satisfaction and relief when JP finally drove off with his Z. All that remained was to have the system charged. Sadly, I suspect something did not go quite right with that process. The day before departing for the convention, JP stopped by my place to give me the opportunity to experience the joys of driving in a Z with a cool, refreshing interior. But I couldn't help but notice that while idling in the driveway with the A/C on maximum, the compressor would start cycling on and off more and more rapidly, until it was approximately once per second. After

We were out of time by that point, and while the A/C might have functioned fine for the trip, it just wasn't worth the risk. JP resigned himself to taking his civilian vehicle to the convention. With mine already out of action for some time, my enthusiasm for the trip was already waning. With what little extra time I had, I looked in vain for another Z to buy just for the convention trip, but couldn't find anything that really appealed to me. In the end, I decided not to go at all, for which my employer was all too grateful for. But that was only mid July. What about the rest of the summer? That was eaten up by yet another business trip in August, meaning I missed Z-Fest too!

It's now late September, and I'm still no further ahead and now I have home renovations that need to be completed before the snow flies. It's frustrating to say the least. I've hardly had the chance to see any of my OZC friends this year and keep up with the goings on in the club. Fortunately, I have an outstanding executive to rely on to keep things moving forward in the club. I'm told our cruises have been a big hit as always, and Z-Fest was well attended. Progress on Z-Con 2016 is full steam ahead. So all in all, 2015 was a success, and there are still a few events to go. I'm already scheduled for business trips in February and April, but other than finishing my A/C, I have no other projects planned for my Z that could keep it sidelined for another year. I'm in serious withdrawal and can't imagine another year without it and all of the great OZC events that go with it.





# Spun in a web of fixes!

*Editor  
Note* **Z**

## Rajinda Gunasena

ZEDLINE EDITOR - 1990 300ZX Non-Turbo (CREATV)

The last few months have been very hectic for me. Ironically not due to the workload of my paying job but due to my obsession & passion to all things associated with Ontario Z-Car. The new web site was launched this summer but the Forum kept me awake late into the nights for a long time, trying to untangle a web of issues that had risen from our use of outdated software. We finally purchased an updated version, only to find that the hosting platform needed to be upgraded too. To resolve that, I had to get on the phone with our website tech guys on the west coast to sort out the hosting issues and to implement the Forum updates. We got the site moved to a new hosting platform and the Forum issues sorted out a few weeks later. If you are a frequent visitor to our Forums, you already know what happened, how some members felt about it and the rest of the story. As much as the majority appreciated the work we did, there were a few who just weren't happy. That's just life as I see it and with some people, accepting change takes time! The Forums literally stopped working at one point as I only found about it while I was in Memphis at this year's ZCON.

It was my very first time at ZCON and although I am the co-chair for ZCON 2016 in Toronto, I had not planned to be at Memphis due to several reasons associated with family and work. However, Mauricio along with the rest of the gang felt I deserved to be there for our bid proposal and presentation of the ZCON video, mainly due to my weeks of sleepless nights putting the work in on the video. They got me to fly out there and I have to say, it was a fantastic experience. The video was a huge hit with all the attendees, both at the business meeting and the closing banquet. It was nice to feel appreciated not just by your fellow club members but by many other convention goers who were thrilled to find out next year's destination was north of the border. Mad Mike's comment of not having ever seen such a great video presentation in all of his 28 years of ZCON experience in itself was enough for me.

Back in Canada, we immediately started working on our own Z-FEST event. With Nigel being tied up with his work, the rest of the Executive Committee stepped up, getting things organized within a few weeks. Woodbine Nissan was our Z-Fest host as well as providing us the use of their boardroom for our regular ZCON organizational meetings. We are so glad Joe Sousa is back at Woodbine Nissan as his support and commitment is so valuable to us. My main Z-Fest challenge was getting some new material produced, namely a 20 foot tent with new OZC branding. While we have never had a club tent before, Mauricio and I felt we needed one, especially when hosting a huge event like ZCON next year. Finally, thanks to Rick Scott at Brantford Nissan, Nissan Canada stepped up to cover the cost of the tent and some flags as well. Did the tent ever help, as Z-FEST turned out to be a scorcher of a day.



The real Z-Fest highlight of course was meeting the 370Z designer, Randy Rodriguez. Thanks to our host Woodbine Nissan, they flew Randy in, put him up in a hotel and provided a 370Z roadster for his use. Randy was a cool cat! I first corresponded with him about a month or two before Z-Fest when Mauricio and Joe were discussing his involvement with it. Randy had no qualms about coming in, signing autographs as well as taking part in the road tour. He was quite complimentary with the promo materials I did using his picture and when we finally met, he was friendlier than any one of us ever expected.

Being artists and designers, Randy and I hit it off really well, discussing similarities between our careers and battles we have had to work through with our respective clients. Even though he lives in California now, Randy is a proud Canadian with a Filipino heritage. He was just fantastic during the tour and the car show, accommodating all who wanted to chat with him and take pictures.

The most memorable moment with Randy happened the day before the car show, during the Saturday car tour. I was leading the second pack that included Randy and coming back from the Forks of the Credit, I noticed that 3 cars were missing from the convoy, including Randy & a couple of my non Z car friends, driving a Subaru & a Lotus Evora. I got my group to park and turned back to look for the missing cars, only to find that the lady driving the Subaru had spun out in front of the Lotus. She had some slight damage to her front under carriage, loosening it and it was dragging on the ground. So guess who was out there, kneeling down trying to fix it? None other than the world known designer of the 370Z, Mr. Randy Rodriguez. He didn't hesitate to stop and help. He was that cool and made all us Z guys proud!

## Mark Michael MacKew

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 Lucas Favreto  
 Victor Kotylak  
 Louie Panozzo  
 Jeff Melnyk  
 Brandon Burek  
 Tina-Marie Atlee  
 Jeffrey Armstrong  
 Nathan Canning  
 Reza Fathi  
 Jonathan Tremayne

On behalf of the Ontario Z-Car Owners Association, I'm pleased to welcome all our NEW members: I'd like to extend a cordial invitation to you to participate in club events, meetings, our website forum and the newsletter. Past members are also welcome to re-join OZC and be part of the largest, most exciting Z-Club in Canada!

*Bob Chwalyk*

Membership Director



# ContentZ

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### Contributors:

Nigel White • Howie Yoshida • Jason Okolisan • Rajinda Gunasena • Brian Gracie • Erle Strauss



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# Eric's Cottage Trip



**Tour Z**

## Erle Strauss

I met a number of members at the ONRoute, King City, on Hwy 400. By the time we all met at Eric's cottage there were approximately ten cars.

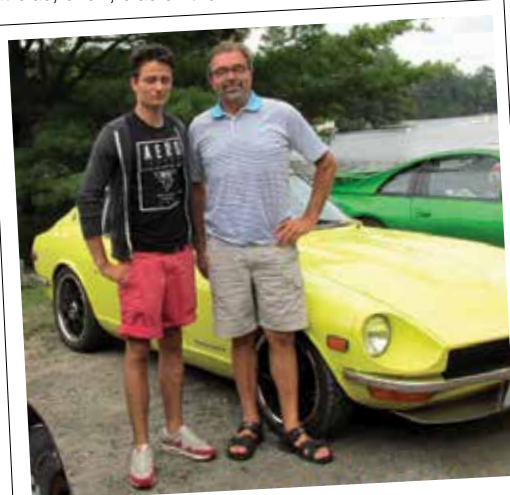
Ed Muth had come with a nephew from Germany to share one of our tours. Ed also performed a car appraisal for me of my newly done over Z32, now called "The Dragon Z" with it's new paint & new front with new logos.

Most of us brought food for a picnic lunch at Lock 42 of Trent Severn Waterway. We made a quick stop at Ciao, Chow, Ciao on the



From there I went on a "long tour" by myself to north of Bala. Others wanted to take a more scenic shorter tour led by Eric to The Big Chute to see the Marine Railway. This is a one of a kind sight where they take boats on a large barge on railway tracks. These tracks join one lake to another nearby lake.

We all had a "pot luck" dinner at Eric's cottage to finish the event. Lots of food & drink with lots of stories to tell. Eric's yard is on Bass Lake where we had a beautiful fire. Great venue with a great host, Eric.



way to the locks for gourmet takeout for those who hadn't brought their own lunch. Weather was dry & hot & at this location there was a great view of one of very many locks of this waterway system. After lunch we all drove to Bala, following the Trent Severn waterway, including Southwood Road, as always. An unusual treat was the swing bridge at Sparrow lake. In all the years we have been doing this tour the bridge was open, but this year we were just in time for a large cruiser to pass through so the bridge had to be swung open to let him through. The 10 minute delay was well worth it as we were all able to get out of our cars and watch the bridge swing open for him. We re grouped after a few stragglers took a wrong turn for a short photo op at Bala Falls.









# FALL

# SWAP MEET

**@ Brantford Nissan**

338 King George Road, Brantford, ON N3R 5M1

- **There is no charge to show parts for sale in the parking lot.**
- **OZC club merchandise will be on display!**
- **Z-FEST posters signed by Randy Rodriguez!**
- **Get exciting details about**  **AUGUST 2-6 2016**

**Sunday Oct 25, 2015**  
**9:30am - 2pm**

This casual social gathering is a chance for Zed owners to buy and sell used and new car parts. Most of the parts on display are from Nissan and Datsun Z cars but there are always other car parts for sale - most in good working condition.

You never know what treasure you will find so we encourage everyone to come check out the goods.

**Admission is free.**

**Display tables inside the shop are available to rent for \$10**

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Z-Fest 2015 was again planned as a two day event with a Saturday cruise and Sunday car show. The invigorating afternoon cruise featured fantastic driving roads such as Forks Of The Credit in Belfountain. The route was 156 KM and 3 hours driving time, all secondary paved "biker" roads, very windy with lots of elevation changes to provide driving excitement. On this particular day we had 20 cars on tour; 17 Nissan/Datsun Z cars, a Subaru WRX, Lotus Evora and Chevrolet Corvette.

There are many interesting places to stop in Halton Region including wineries, fruit farms, parks and historic sites. We had two points of interest on this particular day – Spirit Tree Estate Cidery on Boston Mills Road in

Caledon and Cheltenham Badlands site on Olde Base Line Road.

As a special treat on the Halton Hills cruise, Nissan 370Z designer Randy Rodriguez drove with our group. Randy drove a 2015 370Z Roadster on the tour and joined in the comradery that is the essence of OZC. A Canadian, Randy

grew up in Surrey, British Columbia and now works for Nissan Design America at the San Diego Studio. Randy sites designing the 370Z as his greatest professional accomplishment.

The Halton Hills Tour made for a fantastic day of driving, hot sunny weather, great cars and people plus having renowned automotive designer Randy Rodriguez driving with our group was a special experience. At the end of the cruise we had dinner and social time at Arizona's Grill to reflected on the day and share our excitement for the big Z-fest car show the next day.

*Jason Okolisan*



# Touring with a designer!









Z-Fest is an annual show and shine open to all Nissan, Datsun and Infiniti sport models. It's a leisurely day of admiring Japan's most popular sports car while enjoying DJ music, food, vendor displays, draws and prizes. This year's was blessed with sunshine and no sign of rain.

Thank you to Woodbine Nissan for hosting Z-Fest and our sponsors. We had a great turn out of Z-Cars plus Infiniti's and other Nissans making it a well-rounded show. Attendance was good despite the incredibly humid weather. The featured attraction was Randy Rodriguez signing autographs and posing for photos with our members' cars. A personal highlight for me was having Randy drive my 300ZX Twin Turbo to our din-

ner location and commenting that he really liked my car and was considering adding a Z32 to his personal collection.

Z-fest is about the celebration of the Z-Car and our club's camaraderie. The spirit of OZC was on proud display this year and will be further highlighted next year with Z Convention in lieu of Z-Fest in August 2016. Stay tuned for more details!

*Jason Okolisian*



## WINNERS

### S30 Stock

- 1st – Brian Gracie 1973 280Z green
- 2nd – Henry Fuchs 1971 240Z yellow

### S30 Modified

- 1st – Jas Bajwa 1973 240Z white
- 2nd – Quentin Yarie 1972 240Z orange

### S130 Stock

- 1st – Colin Campbell 1983 280ZX silver
- 2nd – Bill Husar 1979 280ZX orange

### S130 Modified

- 1st – Will Hayward 1981 280ZX black
- 2nd – not contested

### Z31 Stock

- 1st – Bob Burnham 1986 300ZX red
- 2nd – Harry Wells 1987 300ZX blue

### Z31 Modified

- 1st – Chuck Gould 1988 300ZX white
- 2nd – Jorge Silva 1988 300ZX red

### Z32 Stock

- 1st – Jorge Silva 1991 300ZX red
- 2nd – Joe Sousa 1993 300ZX pearl white

### Z32 Modified

- 1st – Mauricio Gomez 199? 300ZX red
- 2nd – Jehan Vasagam 1990 300ZX white

### Z33 Stock

- 1st – Martin Jarvis 2003 350Z blue
- 2nd – Roy Dailey 2004 350Z pearl white

### Z33 Modified

- 1st – Harry Wells 2004 350Z orange
- 2nd – Terry Weston 2003 350Z silver

### Z34 Stock

- 1st – Paulo Conceicao 2009 370Z yellow
- 2nd – Larry Naylor 2013 370Z white

### Z34 Modified

- 1st – Jason Gale 2009 370Z blue
- 2nd – Harry Wells 2011 370Z Nismo white

### Other Stock

- 1st – Josh Vijovic 2016 GTR white
- 2nd – Edmarc Arendoque 2014 GTR white

### Other Modified

- 1st – Glenn Walker 1971 510 orange
- 2nd – Zach D'Anna 1998 Skyline blue

### Infiniti All Models

- 1st – Mlike Relax 2004 G35
- 2nd – Jas Banwait 2004 G35 blue

### Award of Distinction

- Howard Martin 1984 300ZX silver









# New Castle Kawartha Lakes



*Erle Strauss*

*Tour Z*

I was a little concerned about this weekend as many of the regulars had other commitments on this holiday weekend. I will say that Facebook made a VERY large difference in the additional numbers. It was a pleasure seeing & meeting new people & a few said they would join OZC to be connected to many more Z owners. They wanted to share their stories & hear new stories. A few of the younger people wanted to make improvements to their Zs & through others made different connections.



The owners of Kawartha Country Wines, John & Trish, also donated 3 bottles of their wines to be auctioned off by OZC during our ZFest. Thank you to both of them. I wanted to give a special thank you to Vandra/Bill Husar. Hosting dinner at their cottage on Pigeon Lake was great as usual. A wonderful venue for food and socializing.

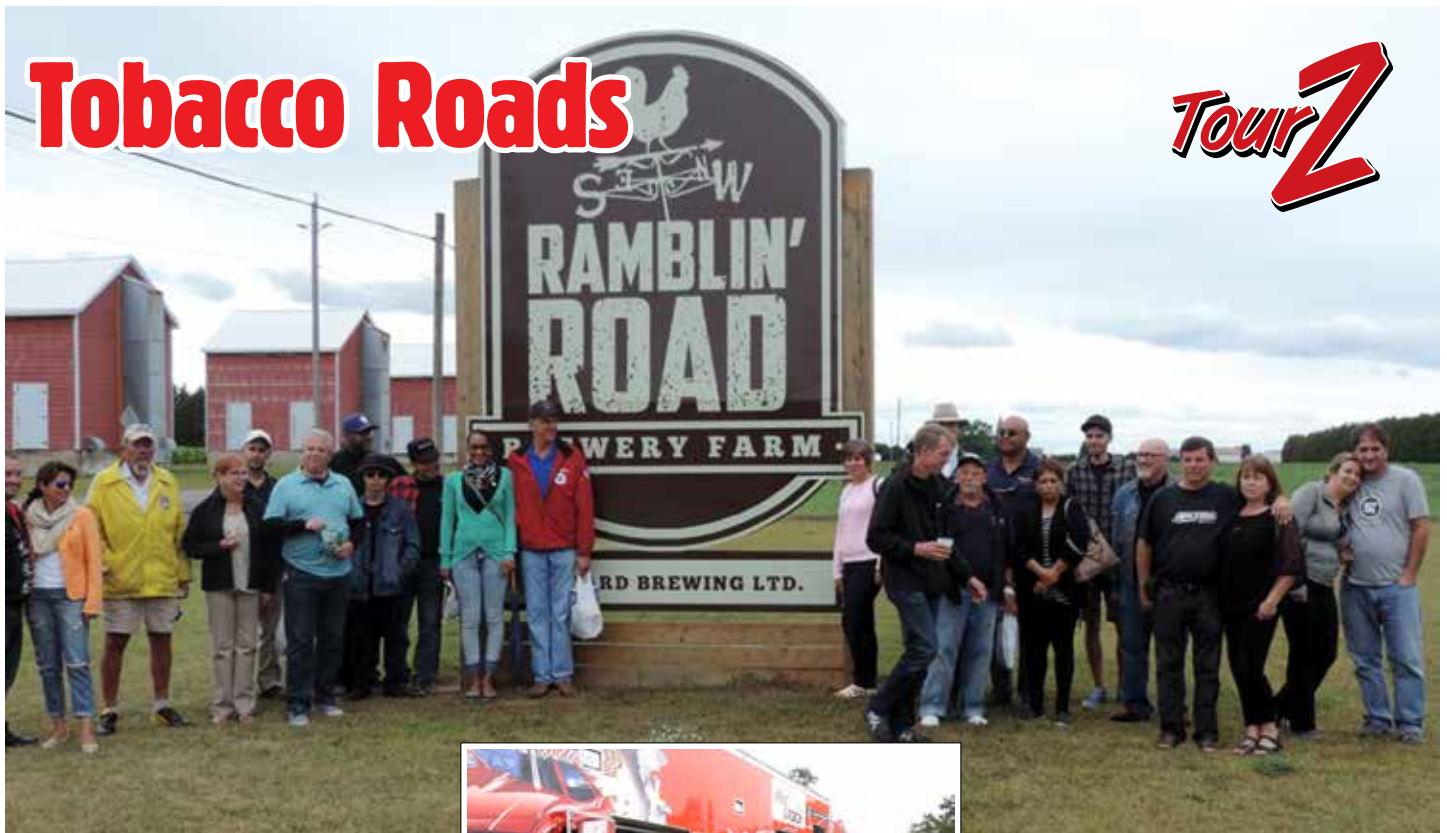
I can see that the Tour of Kawartha Lakes will be continuing for many years to come. Thank you to all who attended. I had a very nice day out with my Z & my Z friends.





# Tobacco Roads

# TourZ



## Brian Gracie

It is always very rewarding having planned a tour to pull into the starting point and see several Z cars already in the parking lot. That was exactly the case for this year's Tobacco Roads tour. Walking into Dean Michael's and seeing our reservation area full of our Z family of friends before Karen and I even arrived was such a special surprise.

After enjoying a great breakfast, especially the awesome bacon, we all gathered outside for a brief meeting. We also had a birthday girl with us and before departing all sang a birthday cheer to Sandra Weston on her special day.

Nineteen Zed's plus a Corvette and a Miata toured along many rural country roads. Our first stop had everyone's eyes just a beaming at the pro drag racing car and the personalized transport for hauling. Not to mention the other toys, ie: 2 Carol



Shelby stangs and more! Speaking to the driver who answered many of our questions about his special interest, doing a quarter mile drag race with 3 G's against his body, was overwhelming to all.

After that point winding through sandy tobacco and ginseng farmland, rain showers caught up to us but thankfully were short-lived. Our second stop at the only brewery farm in Ontario was enjoyed by all. Potato beer. Who would of thought, but all of their varieties were going down pretty smoothly. Their home-made potato chips hit the spot while we were enjoying an on site tour.

Heading back to the 401 we had about 5 cars leave us, but those who continued enjoyed great food, ( watching the Blue Jays too ) , and just a wonderful time at the gorgeous Innerkip Highlands Golf and Country Club.





# Memphis Heats up for ZCON 2015

It was an easy decision to make the trip down to Memphis for ZCON 2015 as OZC had put together a convention committee and a leadership team was in place to submit our proposal to host ZCON 2016. That show of enthusiasm plus the fact that the drive to Memphis wasn't that long meant we expected to have a good representation at the 2015 ZCCA annual convention. My convoy left early on Monday morning with Randall Maeda in his Z32, JP and Pat in their Mazda again as JP's 240Z developed some late problems with the air conditioning, and my S130. After an 11 hour day we stopped in Louisville Kentucky having done about 1000 km. We arrived on Tuesday after another 6 hours and 550 km and you could sure notice

Mauricio made his pitch and played our ZCON proposal video that Raji and Will put together and surprise surprise, ZCON 2016 was heading up north to Toronto!

Not having enough of the southern heat, I was back at track the next day, Thursday for the autocross event. Rather than laying out a traditional course in the parking lot/paddock area, we just used a part of the track again with a bunch of cones to slow us down and provide a few sideways detours, all in all it was a bit disappointing. There were about 15 cars out for the autocross but many didn't show up I'm sure due to the heat again. The afternoon featured

down on Beale. It was quite an impressive showing and there was no lack of interested onlookers walking about. Dinner that evening featured a buffet dinner as part of a riverboat cruise on the Mississippi. It was quite funny as we first approached this huge and impressive paddlewheel river boat expecting that was our ride, only to be directed past it to a much smaller, very crowded boat that hosted everyone.

Saturday was the People's Choice car show at some hard to find airport locale and oh yeah, the temperature was the same again, another scorcher day out in the sun and on the concrete. Needless to say, the heat drove the numbers down and by my count there were less than 100 cars out. After a brief showing and taking in all the Zeds, I headed back in the afternoon to get cleaned up for the closing banquet and awards presentation. Lasting impression of the banquet was the speed of the food service as we went through the full course dinner like nobody's business, it was over in a flash. OZC gathered in some awards as Mauricio, Erle, Brian and Bob won in various judged categories. Our ZCON video was then played for the audience and it really blew everyone away and hopefully it will result in a big showing for ZCON 2016 in Toronto.

In no great rush to depart for home early on Sunday, I joined Eric and Peter for breakfast and we left Memphis about 10:00 am. The return trip didn't end up well as I got separated from them in the afternoon so I continued back on my own, stopping in Columbus OH after an 11 hour day driving. I was back home late Monday evening after stopping to do some shopping at the Niagara Falls Outlet Mall in NY. Glad to hear that everyone made it back too, all safe with no incidents.



the rise in the outside temperature as we got closer to Memphis. After I registered, bought some ZCON swag at the Z Store and used the suds & shine facilities, I went through tech inspection for the track day. We all met up with the others at the welcome reception and the traditional Texas Chilli Party. The OZC contingent was at 18 which included 11 Zeds.

One of the ZCON highlights for me anyway is always the track day, this year, at Memphis International Raceway. Edmarc, Eric and I convoyed out early on Wednesday morning. The track layout is similar to Shannonville in that there is a long straightaway which doubles as a drag strip and the rest of the layout is like a road course with no elevation differences. The heat that day was a killer at over 100 degrees Fahrenheit! I had a great instructor to show me the racing lines and the braking zones which all made for a fantastic day. Thankfully despite the heat, mechanically our Zeds made it through the day although Eric sure felt the effects of the heat that day. Back at the hotel that evening, a number of us attended the ZCCA business meeting where

## Howie Yoshida

a drag strip runoff but I left at noon and set out on my own to find some southern BBQ, a must do thing for me. I followed my trusty Garmin which led me to Leonard's Pit BBQ, featured on Diners Drive-ins & Dives from the Food Network. Wow, the food was incredibly delicious and did I ever pig out! The evening event was a private screening of the soon-to-be-released documentary film, Winning which featured the racing career of Paul Newman. The theatre was sold out and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the flick.

Next up was Friday, the day of the judged car show down on Beale Street in the heart of the city. It was another unbelievably hot day with temperatures over 100 again but at least one could hide out in a restaurant and grab a cold one. We made a brief appearance to walk the street and take in all the Zeds lined up and



So there you have it, my ZCON week. Hopefully it was enough to get you all excited about coming out to ZCON 2016 right here in Toronto and participating in all the fabulous events the OZC ZCON committee is lining up. Please sign up to volunteer too at the convention because we are sure going to need a whole bunch of helpers.



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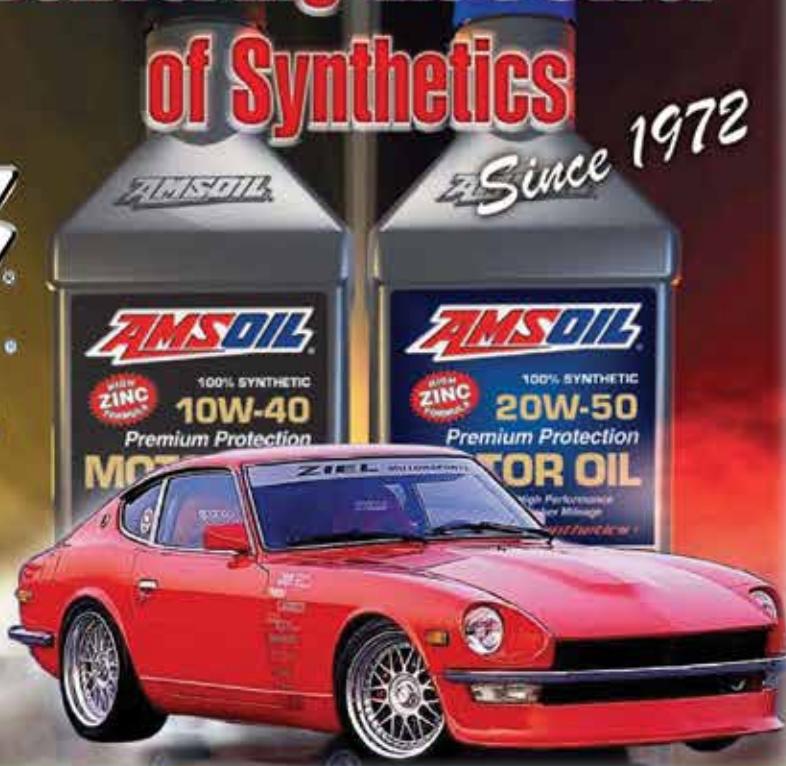
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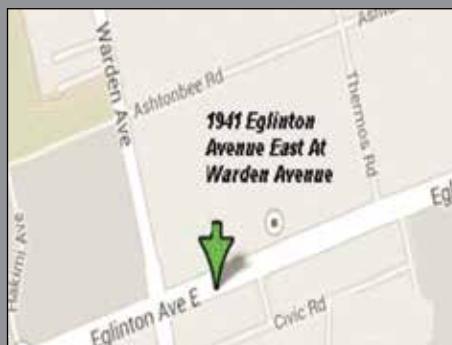


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