

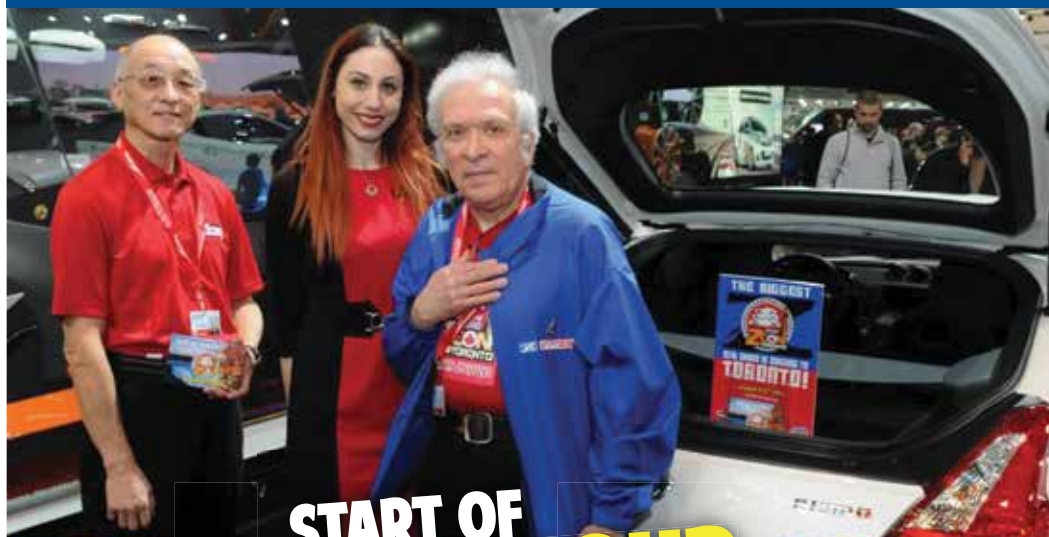
# ZEDLINE

SPRING 2016



A publication of  
**ONTARIO**  
**ZCR**  
OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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



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# An epic season upon us



*PreZ*

A couple of years ago around this time, I was writing about how we were coming out of a very serious winter. In fact, our resident artist and all around print media expert, Rajinda Gunasena, put together a spectacular hand drawn cover depicting our core members digging themselves out of a deep freeze for our spring 2014 issue. Despite the fact that we've just had an early April snowfall at the time of my writing this, this past winter has been non-existent for the most part. A real contrast compared to a couple of years ago. Hopefully this means that our members will have had plenty of opportunity to get a head start on their Z projects as they prep their cars for this summer's activities, because this summer is going to be the biggest in the Ontario Z Car club's history. Unless you've been living under a rock, or just joined the club, you are of course, all aware that 2016 is the year we host the week long Z Convention!

Hopefully you've all pre-booked your hotel rooms because the early-bird discounted rate of \$149.00 has come and gone. That rate is now up to \$159 until June 30. However, even that is a great deal, considering the room rate at the Holiday Inn Express in the tiny little town Kincardine, where I frequently stay while working at the Bruce Nuclear Plant, is \$150.00 per night. So, \$10 extra to stay at the beautiful Westin Prince Hotel in the GTA is a relative bargain. The early-bird registration rate for the convention itself is still available until April 30, so you definitely don't want to miss out on that. For those who

may not be aware, the Z Car Club of America is fronting the finances for hosting the convention, and because they are a US organization, we are operating in US dollars. However, with the state of the Canadian dollar, we've worked out a better deal on the exchange rate for Canadians, but that ends on April 30th, so don't miss out on an opportunity to save some money!

The convention countdown clock is ticking away, with only 3 months, 29 days, and 7 hours to go at the time of my writing this. The convention team is still working incredibly hard to ensure everything is in place for a successful and memorable week. Their efforts have been outstanding, and I'm very proud of all of them for their dedication and sacrifice. In the mean time, we haven't forgotten about our other club activities. There will still be club meetings, a swap meet, cruises, and then there's the various events held by other Z clubs across North America to attend. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank long time club supporter Brantford Nissan for hosting our swap meet this year. Brantford Nissan and Whitehead Performance have been instrumental in keeping this event going year after year. The swap meet will be our first opportunity to see some Z's out this year, providing the weather co-operates, followed by our May joint meeting. I can't wait for this epic season to start!

*Nigel White*

PRESIDENT - Ontario Z-Car Owners Association

### Executive Committee meeting at Nigel's place on January 31st





# Zpoofing a Hollywood star!

*Editor  
Note* **Z**

As I write this editorial, there is about 3 centimeters of snow on my driveway, and it's officially Spring! The old man winter was kind to us this year with the accumulation, but he simply refuses to go away, prolonging our misery of not being able to drive the Z! By the time you read this issue of Zedline, the annual Spring Swap Meet hosted by Rick Scott at Brantford Nissan will have taken place. Sure hope we had some Zeds there as Rick reported 6 foot snow banks around the parking lot. Great!

Hopefully this didn't discourage the huge turnout expected from the VQNorth group. For those who are not aware of this group, they are a group of young guys who mostly meet on social media and have Infinity G series cars and the newer Z cars with VQ series engines. Although not formerly incorporated as a club, the guys are extremely active. They have been part of Z-FEST for a few years now, and if their participation has taught us anything, it's that they come in large numbers. It didn't take long for them to organize meeting locations, a convoy and a lunch place, making our swap meet, their first event of the season. Oh to be young again and not have mortgage payments or kids in college!

Back to Z land and what's in this issue. We have a profile on Jason Okolisian, our former editor and current social media guy. He covers his fascination for cars from childhood, to his father's influence on selecting the Z as his baby. If you ever seen his 2 pristine Z32s, you know it's an article worth reading. There's also our 2017 Events Calendar with some tentatively scheduled events and road tours to be confirmed. With all the efforts put in to make ZCON a success, some events in the summer have been shifted around.

As noted in this issue, we have done our best to make sure Canadian participation for ZCON will be higher than previous conventions. After all, how often do we get to attend a ZCON in our own backyard? It may cost a bit for registration and event participation, but at least many of us do not have to worry about hotel reservations like our US friends, since we live here. For the out of towners, it might be worth checking with your long lost buddy or even a Z car club member

who could accommodate you for a few days. It will save you some change, which of course can go towards getting your Z ready for this big show!

One of the toughest things to do was to get the word out on ZCON. Thankfully Nissan Canada stepped up and offered us a space in their booth at this year's Auto Show, to promote ZCON. Howie has given a detailed account of his time spent at the Nissan display, talking to fellow car guys. Few of us are also heading south to the usual Z car meets and shows hoping to promote ZCON. Mauricio, Will, Lou and my self will be heading to Zdays again this year, and between the 300 odd turns on Tail of the Dragon, we will be doing our best to sign up some new Z blood. We are extremely thankful to Bryan Settle, who has offered us a spot to promote the event and included us as part of their event. Some of you who have not yet made that trip, I urge you to do so. It's a different experience from ZCON, but you will never forget the time you spend there, thanks to Bryan and his crew's organizational skills.

Finding sponsors is one thing, but getting the attention of a Hollywood actor of Fast & Furious fame seems nearly impossible. Ever since Sung Kang announced and premiered his build of a 240Z into a track car on Speed channel, I have been trying to have him come to our show. His car is named FuguZ, after a rare fish in Japan and it would be the perfect attraction at ZCON. We have been trying to get his attention through Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. We even sent some e-mails to people who might have some connection with him. To take advantage of this, on April 1st I created a "spoof" post, announcing his participation at ZCON. Lo & behold the social media went to over drive even fooling a few of our committee members. We definitely caused a stir. There seems to be a huge following and his participation means more attendees for ZCON. So let's hope this little ripple we started will lead to a huge wave to bring Sung Kang and his FuguZ to ZCON Toronto 2016!

*Rajinda Gunasena*

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

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# NewbieZ

Dylan Osterroth  
Liandro deLeon  
Dorian Bodan  
Seraph De Souza  
Ken Trepanier  
Reid Gardner  
Michael MacDonald  
Pooya Gharahgozli  
Parth Handa  
Ning Dong  
Kerry Johnston  
Robert Patton  
Alexandre Duguay  
Fred Dunstall  
Judith Davis

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 Chwatyk**  
Membership Director



# ContentZ

2016 SPRING ISSUE

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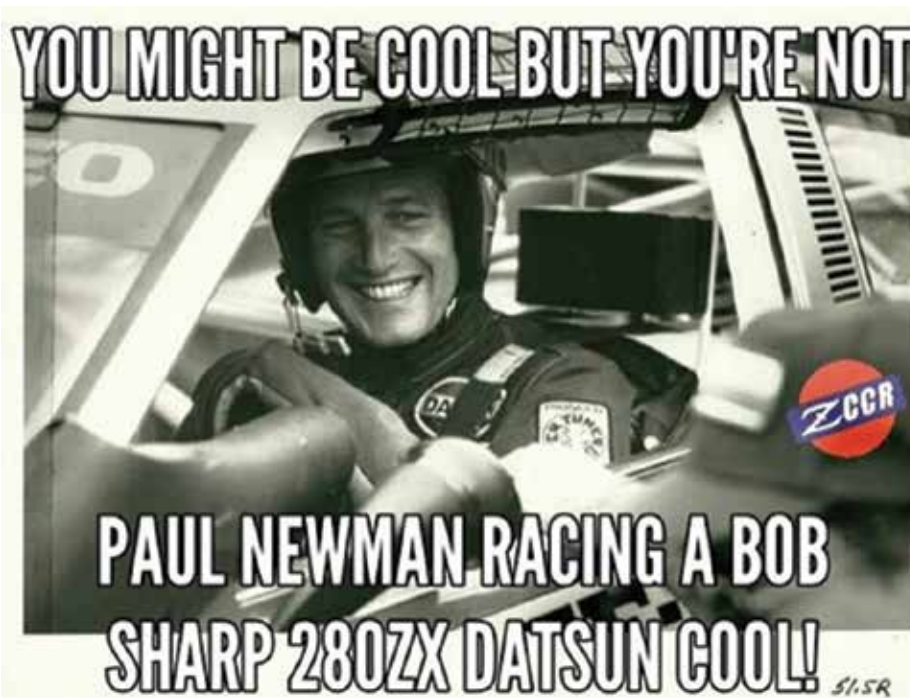
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### Contributors:

Nigel White • Howie Yoshida • Jason Okolisan • Rajinda Gunasena



Memes are the newest TREND to hit the social media platform recently. Here's one we found on the Facebook page of ZCCR, of Datsun and Mr. cool him self, Paul Newman!

"The Editor of Zedline and the Directors and Officers of the Ontario Z-Car Owners Association and the Ontario Z-Car Owners Association Inc. do not necessarily adopt to the views expressed in any letters to the Editor or articles published by our members. We intend to have the Zedline as an open forum available for members to express their views but retain the right to edit or not publish any letters which are deemed to be offensive, defamatory or slanderous. Further, with respect to any articles outlining mechanical modifications to any motor vehicle, the Editor, Directors and Officers, point out that said modifications need to be conducted under the supervision of a licensed mechanic in order to ensure owner and public safety."







# Promoting ZCON at the Canadian International Auto Show

*Howie Yoshida*

One of the biggest events in the auto industry has been the annual Canadian International Auto Show (CIAS) held in February at the Toronto Convention Centre. All the major auto manufacturers are in attendance to launch their new models and feature their concept cars which are always a big draw. CIAS pulls in a fantastic number of attendees due to the huge number of cars, trucks, SUVs and the like on display to give people a chance to sit in the cars to check them out and see what they have to offer first hand.

Since Ontario Z-Car is hosting the ZCCA convention this year from August 2 to 6, our ZCON chairs, Mauricio Gomez and Rajinda Gunasena approached Nissan Canada in an attempt to promote ZCON at CIAS. Among Nissan Canada's display cars this year were their new Nismo line up of a 370Z, Juke and of course a GTR. Thanks to the efforts of Mauricio and Raji, Nissan Canada agreed to let us promote the upcoming ZCCA convention in their display area. Raji

designed a stand up ZCON banner and a display case to distribute the ZCON postcards to the attendees. The banner was erected right beside the Nismo 370Z and the display case was placed in the hatch area to showcase the ZCON promotional material on hand. Nissan Canada gave us 5 full access passes for the entire duration of the show. A call for volunteers to work at the show on a shared basis resulted in Mauricio, Raji, Eric, Bob and myself working out a schedule to have someone from OZC at the show, part of every day. The show ran for 10 days over the long weekend in February including Valentine's Day so it resulted in multiple shifts for all of us working the event.

Nissan Canada had their own staff on hand to promote their new model line up and answer questions that anyone at the show directed their way. We were busy talking up ZCON with everyone interested in the 370Z and also any current Zed owners that noticed the ZCON materials. One of the Nissan reps, Aliyana

owned a 240SX and she was very knowledgeable in all the features of the Nismo 370Z. She spent a lot of her time fielding questions and promoting the 370Z. Hats off to her and her colleagues as it's no easy feat to be on your feet for over 8 hours on some days, smile, be pleasant and answer questions from all types of people. Even after working a shift, Mauricio took off and visited as many of the Vendors that he saw at the show to drop off ZCON materials and sponsor packages to see if they were interested in setting up a booth or display at ZCON.

At the end of the show, we must have passed out a whole bunch of ZCON postcards, talked up a lot of people to check out ZCON and hopefully recruited a few new members too. It wasn't the first and it sure won't be the last event that you'll see OZC at promoting ZCON this year so find out what it is all about by visiting the website [www.zcon.org](http://www.zcon.org) and register for the convention!





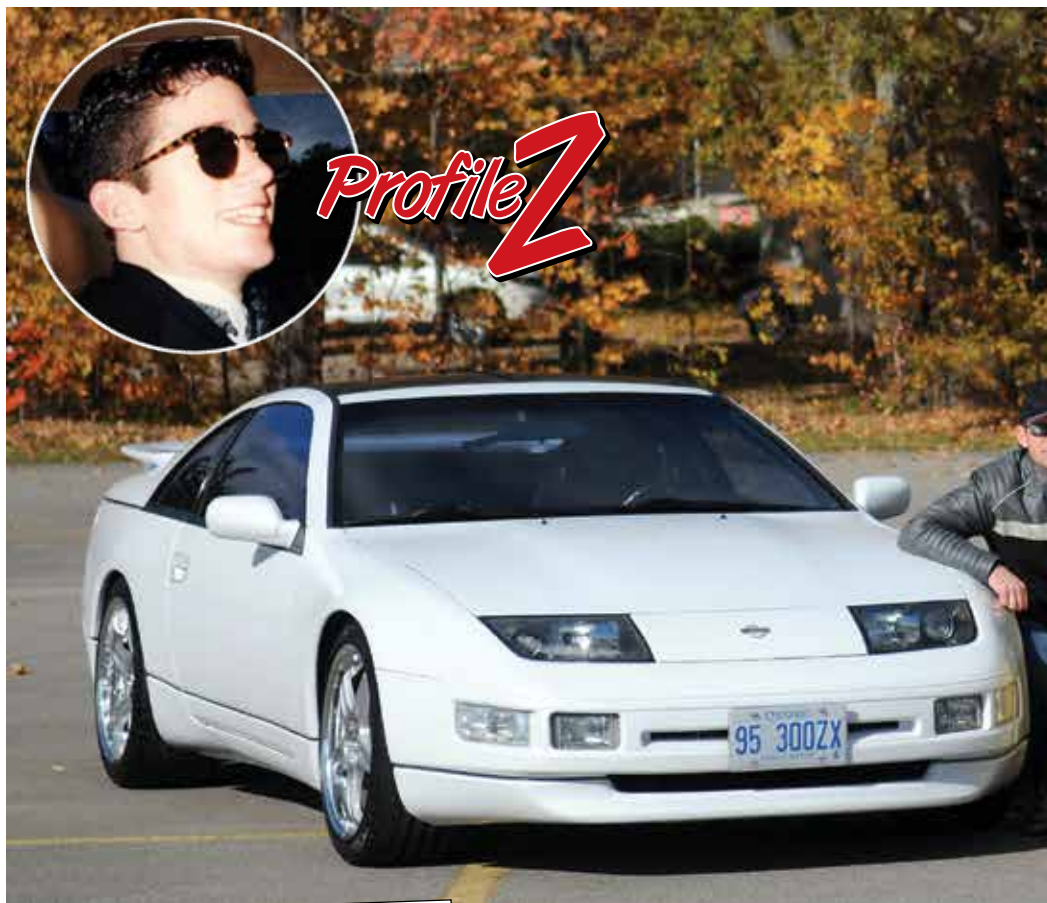


I grew up on a tobacco farm in Rodney Ontario, a small farming community southwest of London. The first vehicle I ever drove was one of our farm trucks; a Dodge Ram 1500, Chevrolet Silverado or Ford F-150, my Dad owned them all at one point. The domestic new auto dealers were the only ones in our area and if we wanted to buy a new import car, we had to go to the big city (London).

I drove the farm trucks when I was a kid, even though I was too short to reach the floor pedals, I sat on an older relatives' lap with the steering wheel in hand. I have so many fond memories of growing up on the farm including driving all of the tractors and other equipment, long before I had a drivers' licence. Living in a rural area without public transportation or taxi service, all the kids were eager to get their drivers' licence as soon as they turned 16 – and buy a car, whatever they could afford, just as a way to get around.

Most teens in my area would borrow their parents car but that wasn't good enough for me. I loved cars and as a kid, they were my favourite subject to draw. I dreamed of having a Lamborghini Countach and Ferrari Testarossa like the one in my Dad's favourite TV show Miami Vice. The coolest car my Dad ever had was a 1986 Pontiac Fiero. I was so proud to ride in it but unfortunately he got rid of the Fiero before I got to drive it.

I got my beginner drivers' licence on my sixteenth birthday in 1991 and full G licence as soon as I was



Jason's three cars, circa 1993: 1984 Nissan 300ZX Turbo (sports car), 1982 Honda Civic (bush car), 1983 Plymouth Reliant K (winter beater)



eligible - three months later. I took the driving test in my parents' 1990 Pontiac Grand Prix, a nice family car that they let me borrow when ever I wanted (within reason). Being a young "car guy" the family sedan wasn't what I really wanted to drive and I had been saving for years to get my own car – a sports car like Dad's Fiero.

When Dad was shopping for a sports car in 1986, he looked at the Nissan 300ZX and Mazda RX-7 but settled on the less costly Pontiac Fiero. The Fiero was a good looking car but had lots of mechanical problems so Dad got rid of it after a few years. I remember him saying he should have spent the extra money and got the car he really wanted – the 300ZX.

In 1992 after driving the family car for a year I was determined that it was time for me to have my own

wheels. I'd saved up a few thousand dollars from my summer job in tobacco harvest and asked Dad to help me buy a nice sports car. This quest turned into a wonderful bonding experience for the two of us. My favourite car at the time was the current Nissan 300ZX which was not realistic (starting at 40K) so Dad suggested looking for a used previous generation model; the one he wanted years ago.

We went to a car auction in London and saw three Nissan 300ZX's – a 1990 Twin Turbo, 1986 Turbo and 1984 non-turbo. 1990 was a current model and

## In pursuit of

went for a quite a bit. The two older 300's were in rough shape so we didn't bid on them. I remember wanting the 1990 Twin Turbo so much and begging Dad to bid on it. He told me to "be patient and one day I'll have that car."

After a few months of searching through the classified listings in Auto Trader Magazine (before the

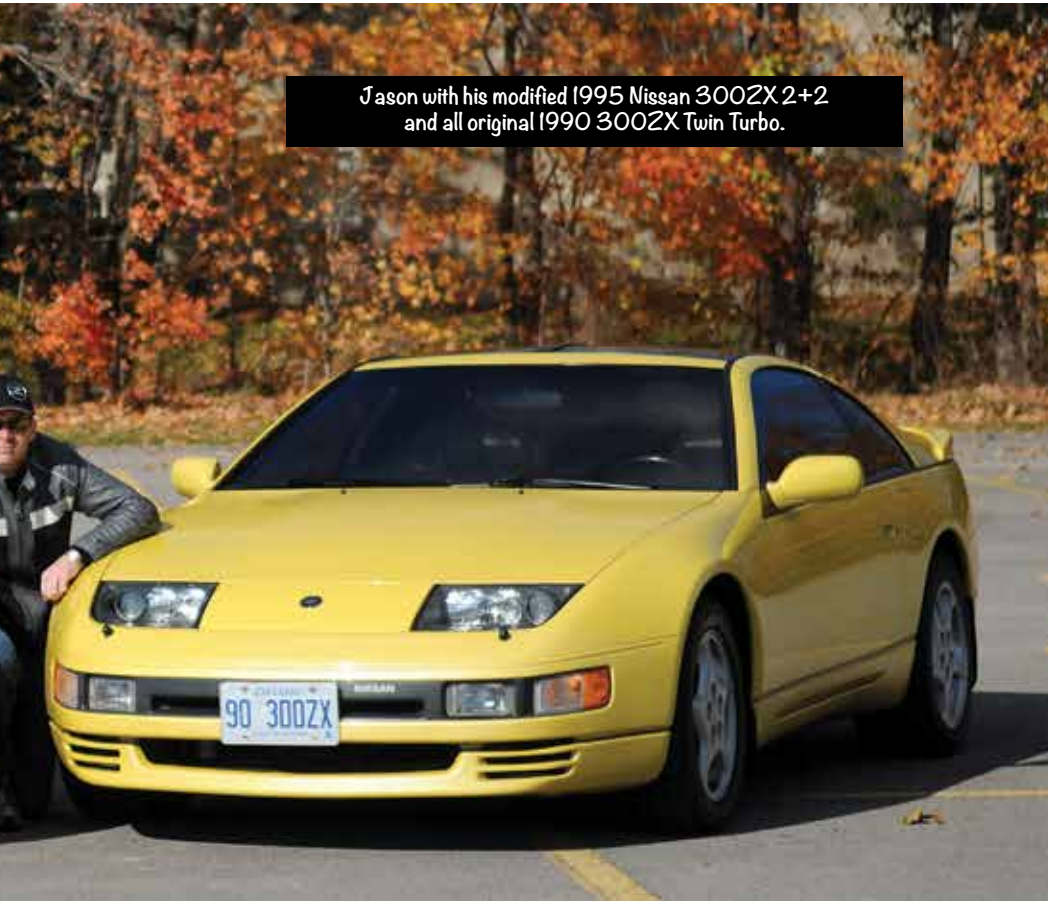


Originally British Racing Green, Jason had his 300ZX resorted and painted pearl white with gold accented wheels.

days of the internet) we found a 1984 Nissan 300ZX Turbo in fair condition with reasonable mileage. Dad and I made a special trip to Toronto to look at the Z. It was beautiful, British Racing Green with tan leather



Jason with his modified 1995 Nissan 300ZX 2+2 and all original 1990 300ZX Twin Turbo.



painted a brilliant pearl white and tinting the windows for sharp contrast. I also had the aluminum wheels refinished with gold accents.

After the paint job, the old ZX looked as good as new so I avoided driving it in bad weather. I bought a cheap "winter beater" – a 1983 Plymouth Reliant K car as to not subject my beautifully restored 300ZX to the harsh winter elements. At the same time I also had a 1982 Honda Civic that was my "bush car" for getting around the farm to my cabin in the woods. I was the only kid around with three cars, although the Civic wasn't licence for road use.

That 300ZX served me well at that point in my life and it wasn't until I graduated college in 1996 that I sold it in favour of a more practical car that I could drive year round. My next car was a 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme – a spacious comfortable coupe with a powerful V8. It was hard letting my 300ZX go but I promised myself that I would have a sports car again one day.

That day came in 2009 when I joined OZC and bought a 1995 Nissan 300ZX. I had a two-year-old daughter so I settled on the 2+2 model with a back seat (only available as non-turbo) to accommodate my young family. The 90s generation 300ZX (Z32) is a fantastic sports car that won many automotive awards in its time. While I was happy to finally have a sports car again, the particular model I always wanted was the illustrious Twin Turbo.

This past summer I set out in search of a clean, low mileage, all original 300ZX Twin Turbo. I was lucky to find one locally in the GTA. I'm now the proud owner

# f Perfection.

interior. Dad negotiated a good price and we brought it home that day. Dad drove the ZX with a temporary permit and I drove his Grand Prix.

The 1984 Nissan 300ZX Turbo was my pride and joy for the four years I owned it: 1992 – 1996. I was 17 years old and had the nicest car of any kid (or teacher) at my high school (West Elgin Secondary School). I have so many fond memories with that car; camping in Grand Bend, cruising along the Port Stanley beach boardwalk and styling at high school prom.

increased my social confidence and popularity with peers. I didn't have much going for me in high school. I was short, not athletic, socially awkward, but



of two legendary Nissan sports cars: an all original 1990 300ZX Twin Turbo and a tastefully modified 1995 300ZX 2+2 NA (naturally aspired), it's the best of both worlds.

When I think back to my

beloved first car, I think about what Dad said to me when we were shopping for it and how much I wanted the current 300ZX model. He said, "be patient and one day you'll have one." Dad was happy for me when I bought my 1995 300ZX in 2009. He especially liked the colour – pearl white like the previous one we restored together. Dad passed away in 2014 before I bought my "Yellow Pearlglow" Twin Turbo. I miss Dad and I miss my original 1984 300ZX but I know that he is right there with me whenever I take my sports cars out for a pleasure cruise in the countryside.

*Jason Okolisan*



Jason in a Nissan 300ZX Twin Turbo at the 1991 Detroit Auto Show.

One of Jason's many fond memories with his 300ZX was driving it to senior prom with his high school sweetheart Melissa.

the 300ZX made me a feel good. It helped me feel cool and accepted during those difficult teenage years.

This was also the car that started my passion for performance modification. I installed an Alpine CD player and better speakers

to replace the factory stereo. A performance muffler further improved the cars' sound and appearance. The most significant improvement was having the car

What stands out the most about my experience with owning such a nice car at a young age was how it

# Great news to all **CANADIANS** ready to be part of



## You can now pay the event & registration in **Canadian funds!**



This offer is only available to Canadian residents, and offered **ONLY** during the “early bird” registration period which ends on April 30th 2016.

Visit the [zcon.org](http://zcon.org) web site and click on the REGISTRATION page to view the NEW Canadian pricing next to the current US \$ amount.

### Take advantage of this immediately by following these simple steps.

- 1 Go to [zcon.org](http://zcon.org) and start the registration process, by creating a profile (if you are a previous ZCON attendee, you can use your existing login informatio

- 2 Enter your details, details of your car, the events you want to participate in. The pricing in the system is set up in US \$, which will NOT be the amount you will be paying. Finish this process up to “confirmation” as shown below

**DO NOT PAY** through the registration portal's PayPal system.

- 3 Instead please send an e-mail to [info@zcon.org](mailto:info@zcon.org) with your name and Attendee ID number from the registration process as shown below.

- 4 You will then receive an e-mail from us, with a total price for your registration in Canadian dollars, with links or methods to pay. Once we receive the funds, you will be marked in the registration site as a fully paid ZCON attendee.

Please note that this offer is **ONLY VALID** until April 30, 2016 when the **EARLY BIRD** registration period ends.

After this date, the **STANDARD PRICING** will be in effect in USD and CDN pricing will be based on the exchange rates at that time.







## APR

- April 6** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
**April 10** Swap Meet at Brantford Nissan, contact Rick Scott: Rick.S@brantfordnissan.ca  
**April 13** Western Chapter Meeting at Old Marina Restaurant, Puslinch, ON

## MAY

- May 4** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
**May 15** Joint E/W Meeting at Montana's in Milton, 11am. Halton Hills Tour departs at 1pm.  
 tour contact: Jason Okolisan: j\_okolisan@yahoo.ca  
**May 19-22** ZDayz at Tail of the Dragon, Fontana Hills, NC

## JUN

- June 1** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
**June 11** 2016 OZC Niagara Wine Tour Tour contact: mauricio@ontariozcar.com  
**June 8** Western Chapter Meeting at Old Marina Restaurant, Puslinch Lake.

## JUL

- July 6** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
 Toronto Distillery Tour departs after the meeting  
 tour contact Wes Hore: smurfzed32@hotmail.com  
**July 14** Western Chapter Meeting at Steve Plunkett's Fleetwood Farm, London ON  
**TBA** Kawartha Lakes Tour  
**July 7-9** Midwest Z Heritage in Lisle, IL Website: <http://www.midwestzheritage.com/>  
**July 9-10** ZCCR Motor Fest Weekend, Rochester, New York, contact John Taddonio, zcarnut@hotmail.com

## AUG

- Aug 2** ZCON Toronto 2016 - Opening Reception and Texas Chili Party  
**Aug 3** Judged Car Show, Dinner Cruise  
**Aug 4** Track day at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, Pub Night  
**Aug 5** AutoCross, Road Rallies  
**Aug 6** Z-Fest Car Show at Bruce's Mill, Stouffville Contact:  
 Mauricio Gomez – mauricio@ontariozcar.com  
 Closing Banquet  
**Aug 10** Western Chapter Meeting at Old Marina Restaurant, Puslinch Lake.



## SEP

- Sept 7** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
**Sept 10** Joint E/W Meeting at Dean Michael's Griddlehouse in Woodstock, 10am. Tour of SW Ontario 12pm.  
 tour contact Brian Gracie: bkgracie2@gmail.com  
**Sept 24/25** Calabogie Weekend Tour of the Ottawa Valley Region featuring magnificent secondary roads  
 contact Erle Strauss: estrauss3@rogers.com

## OCT

- Oct 5** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
**Oct 12** Western Chapter Meeting at Old Marina Restaurant, Puslinch, ON  
**TBA** Zpooky Tour - featuring our favourite roads around Bala and Gravenhurst  
 contact Eric Zondervan: zedfoot@rogers.com

## NOV

- Nov 2** Eastern Chapter Meeting at Watt's Restaurant, 30 Eglinton Square, Scarborough  
 Elections for 2017 Executive Committee  
**Nov 9** Western Chapter Meeting at Old Marina Restaurant, Puslinch, ON

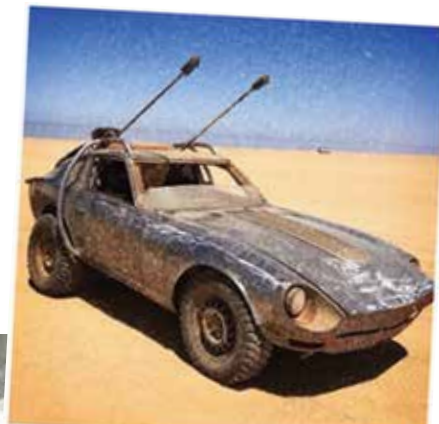
## DEC

- Dec 3** Year End Dinner & Social, venue to be determined  
**Dec 14** Western Chapter Meeting at East Side Mario's, Woodstock

\*\* Please note that some of the events are still in the planning stages so check ontariozcar.com to confirm dates and location.

# Show Ztoppers...

Hollywood has always had a love affair with cars. They chase them, crash them and even blow them up. Most of us are familiar with the famous models. James Bond's Aston Martin, Bandit's PONTIAC (FIREBIRD) TRANS AM, Marty McFly's DeLorean just to name a few. Then there are the TV versions; Dukes of Hazard's DODGE CHARGER, A-Team's GMC van and the list goes on and on. Most of the times these are product placements by car companies, mostly with American or European cars. Once in a while you see a car makes an appearance in these just because they are simply classics, and cannot be ignored. One such car is our beloved Z, which has recently started appearing in few of them.



How many of you noticed the heavily modded 240Z that was in the pack of future post apocalyptic cars chasing the truck carrying Tom Hardy and Charlize Theron, throughout the movie?



They even got one of them on title or logo sequences, as Marvel Studios does with theirs. Albeit the illustration of a 350Z only appears for just a second or two, and most of us will miss it even if we tried our hardest! But it did not escape the sharp eyes of Z car guys, who have managed to post a screen shot on social media.



Finally there are the Scorpions on TV, the newest series based on a group of geniuses who deals with impossible situations. The main character is based on an actual super genius named Walter O'Brien and for the TV series they gave him an old 240Z to drive around. It's safe to deduct that this makes all of us geniuses too, at least a cut above the rest!



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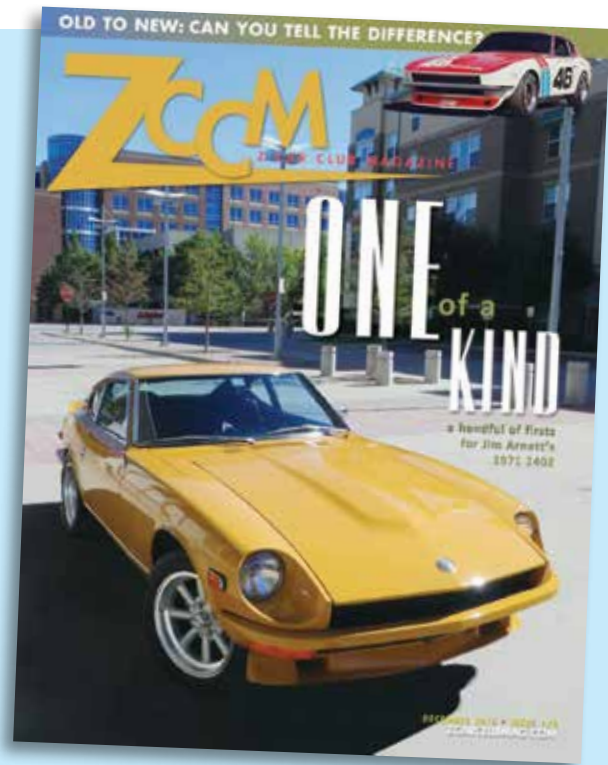


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The latest print issue of Z Car Club Magazine is out (1.12) and print issue 2.4 is just around the corner, due to be mailed out by mid May.

Check out the ZCON Toronto 2016 half page advert along with the editorial about the event. Many thanks to the publisher Art Zinger for making it happen and supporting ZCON yet again!

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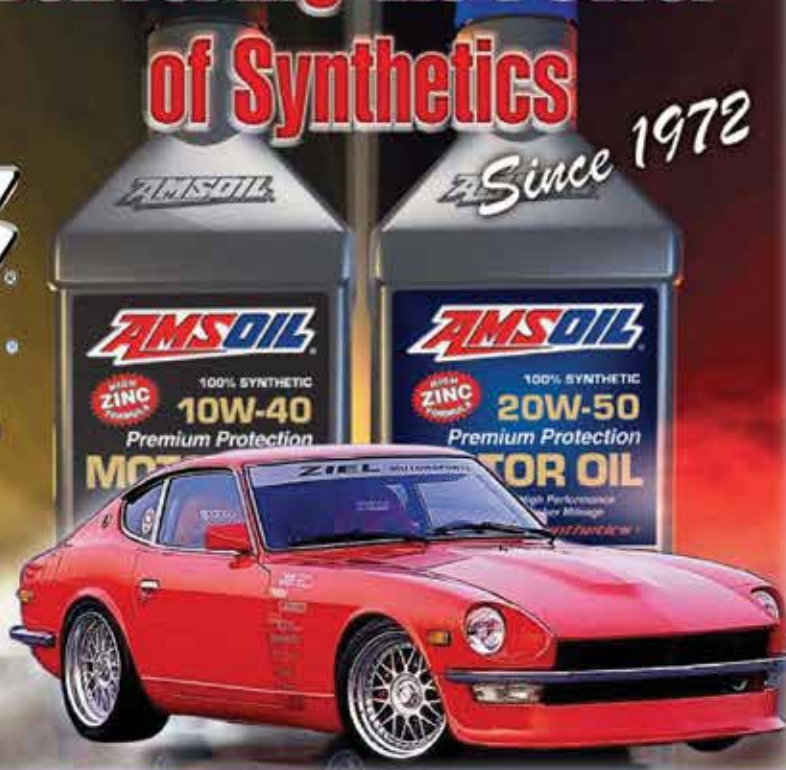
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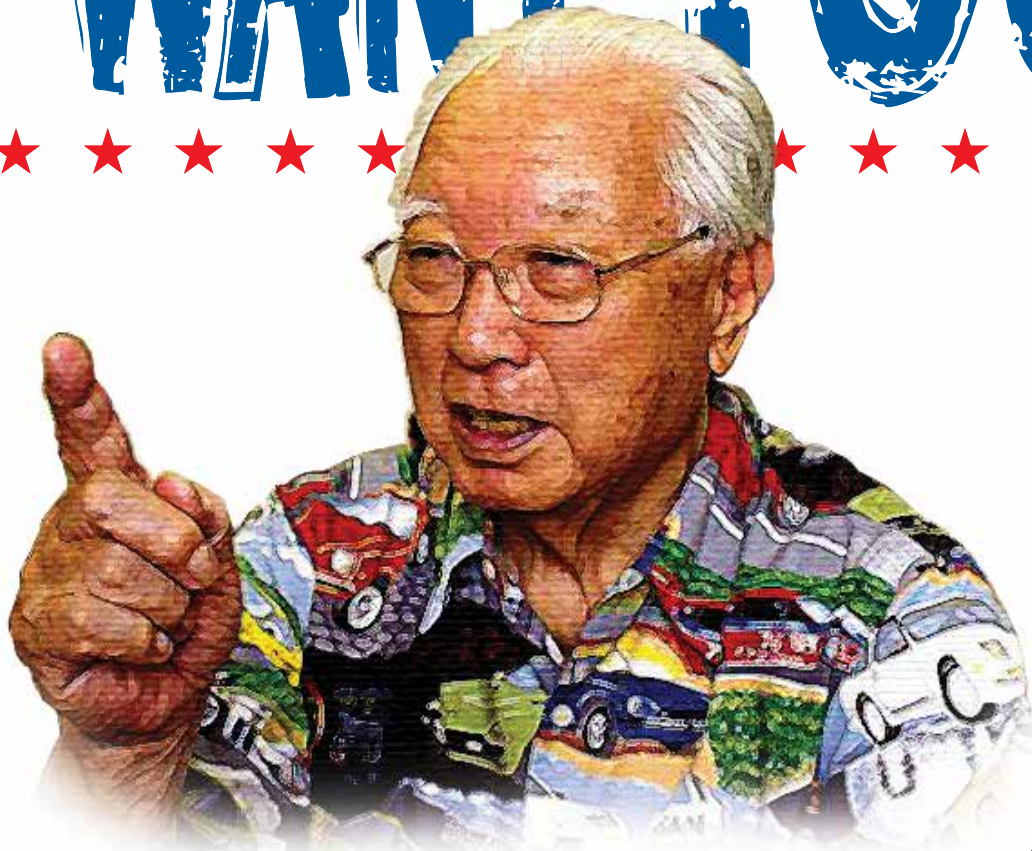
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