

SUMMER 2017









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Logging diZtance on the road



To say the Zed car season has started would be an understatement for me. I have already put on quite a few kilometres driving south of the border to attend two Zed car events and it feels like the middle of the season. True, I did fly to Austin Texas for ZCON but the time spent among the Zed enthusiasts and making new friends is what OZC is all about.

Attending Branson Z-Fest was a first for me this year, having changed my schedule and bypassing ZdayZ and the Tail Of The Dragon! However, our Zed car driving season here in Canada is now ramping up to speed with many fun events planned for this year. Even though I was away, many of you had attended our popular season opener Halton Hills Tour and the pictures ion this issue tell the story of what an exciting tour it has become.

Our Excom is working very diligently to come up with creative new events and plans to take OZC to the next level. Leading on that front is Diane Dale, who's instrumental in bringing back some racing events back to the club. Already our first track day was held at CTMP, hosted by Driveteq.ca and another one is scheduled later this summer at the CTMP DDT layout. Please check our schedule on the website which is regularly updated. We sure hope more of you will join the next track day.

We will be going back to the east this year for our annual wine tour, covering the beautiful Picton region and its great roads. I have just finished putting together the schedule for it and we have couple of new wineries to visit along with the usual ferry ride at Glenora.

Finally, plans for OZC's 23rd annual Z-Fest are under way and this year, we will be heading back to west, with the Hamilton Museum of Steam and Technology being the venue. We will have prizes and surprises for all who attend, so make sure you get your Zed ready for the show. Check the back page of this issue and pre-register and pay before July 16th to get a FREE OZC/Nissan branded picnic cooler bag. As usual, our monthly meetings will be at Watts Restaurant and the Old Marina Restaurant for the Western Chapter. Please come out and support these events and be part of our growing Zed community.

Personally, I finally have both my convertibles ready to tour and recently managed to acquire the second personalized plate to match my existing one. So I hope to meet many of you on the road and let's enjoy this summer exploring the twists and turns of the road with our beloved Zed cars!

Mauricio Gomez

PRESIDENT - Ontario Z-Car Owners Association

Being part of ZCON 2017

Editor / Notice

Rajinda Gunasena

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



The summer is finally here, albeit with some heavy April showers continuing on to the month of May! It did put a damper on our first tour, Halton Hills; however, it did not stop our enthusiastic bunch of Zed car guys re-scheduling it for another weekend and enjoying the twisty roads that start our season! I couldn't attend it, as well as most of the other events because my Zed is not ready and some home renovations took priority for once. So on the second attempt to kick off the Tour, the turn out was great as usual and Jason Okolisan has contributed his take and pics on the day as you'll read in this issue of Zedline. It was great to have Jason back in the swing of things as well!

The spring swap meet was a great success too, held at Whitehead Performance with a lot of Zed cars turning out. Howie Yoshida has submitted a wrap up of the day's activities in this issue too. Personally, for me, the highlight was the video racing game set up by Diane Dale, including the racing wheels and seat. It was something NEW at the event and many of us tried our hands at it and were surprised how hard it was to really get control of the car in a video game setting. Not so for Nigel White, who was cool as a cucumber and put the rest of us to shame with his video gaming skills! He proved that there's something to be said about not growing up!

Another new event was the season opening race of the Micra Cup racing series at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park. OZC was invited by Nissan Canada to be part of it and many of our Zed guys got to drive their cars on the track during a parade lap for free. As Howie reports in this issue, even the wet weather was not enough to keep our Zed cars away. Having driven hot laps around the CTMP track during last year

ZdaysZ has been an event I had really enjoyed during the last couple of years with Mauricio and Lou. However, it was decided after last year that we'd try another event held at the same time during the month of May. Even though Lou and myself couldn't attend, Mauricio drove by himself to Branson Missouri joined by Chris Karl in Cleveland. According to his write up in this issue, it's an event as good as ZdaysZ with event better roads to conquer! **Note to self...** got to get my car fixed by the end of the year at least!!

Finally, this year's ZCON was just concluded in Austin Texas, and OZC was well represented with a few guys driving the distance while many more flew there to attend. All the details and a day by day report of the drive to Austin by Eric Zondervan will be covered in the Fall issue of Zedline, so you'll have to wait for it. Although I was not there physically, I was glad that my work was there on display and for sale. After seeing all the creative work I did for ZCON Toronto last year, I was approached by the organizers and ZCCA to do the design work for their ZCON as well. Starting with revising their logo, I ended up designing the two main posters, sticker, dash plaque, welcome banner as well as the signing banner... all of which are shown above. My friends tell me that the organizers had appreciated my work a lot and I was mentioned a few times during the event! I was glad to have the OZC flag flying high and who knows this could be an ongoing this with next year's event to be held in Atlanta!



Frank Fiorillo
Matt Fritz
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Stephen Richards
Martyn Timmings
Kenroy Scafe
Ed Buck
Terry Peters
Lorna Peters

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





2017 SUMMER ISSUE

SPRING SWAP MEET 2017

Details of the event held at Whitehead Performance



HALTON HILLS TOUR

The season opener goes ahead inspite of bad weather



NISSAN MICRA CUP RACE DAY

Z Cars take lead the parade laps at the Canadian Tire Motorsport PArk



TRIP TO BRANSON Z-FEST

Mauricio's lone drive to Misouri for a second place finish



PLUNKET CAR SHOW

OZC attend the popular Classic Car show in the wesy





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Howie Yoshida

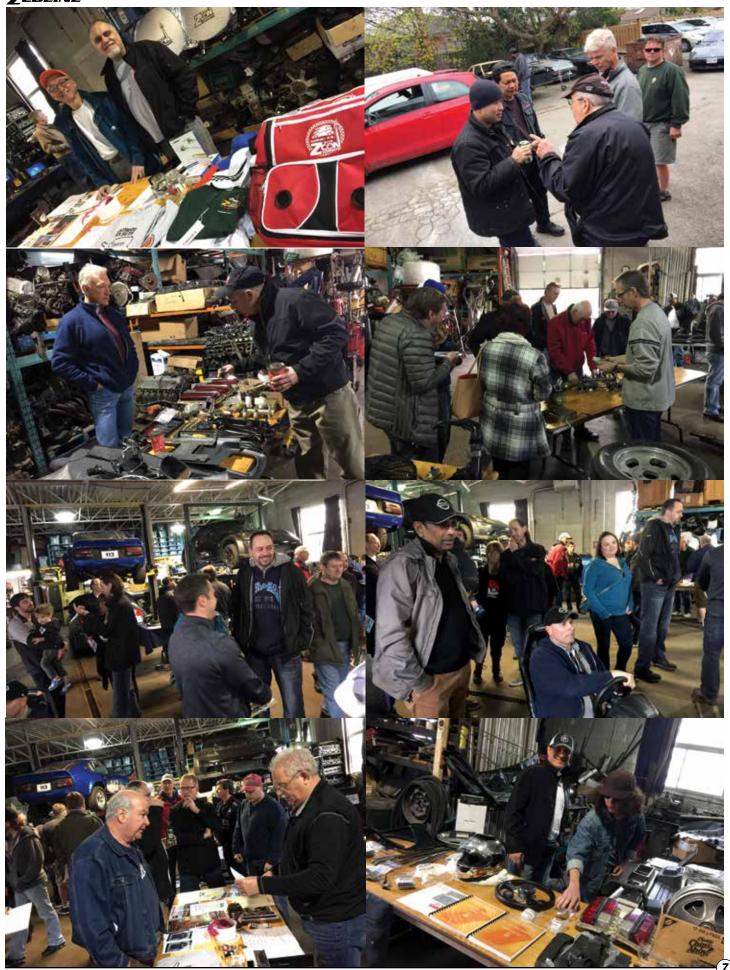
It's 2017 so the Spring Swap Meet this year was hosted by Whitehead Performance as they very eagerly decided to kick start the Ontario Z-Car calendar of events once again. We were greeted early in the morning by Greg Whitehead as we started to set up the club table for the day to do our business. Greg with lots of help from family and friends, in particular Cathy and Steve, began to set up the BBQ area at the back of the shop to feed the participants. Mike Hansen, the Shop Manager was there setting up the Whitehead Performance table to showcase their own custom-made parts and overflowing inventory of hard to find Zed related items. Mike's wife Danica was there too and was busy looking after their growing family of daughter Amelie and son Joules.

Despite selecting the last weekend of April for the event and hoping for warm sunny weather, it was a bit on the cool side but at least we didn't have to contend with any precipitation to dampen the attendance or turnout of the Zed car contingent. Inside the tables were quickly filled up by enthusiastic Sellers that made the effort to transport a whole bunch of car parts, rims, tires, body parts and hard to find accessories, to display and hopefully sell off to generate some cash to finance their own car projects.

OZC looks forward to the swap meet as it always generates a bunch of membership renewals and new sign-ups each year. It was no exception this time either as we ended up with 16 renewals and 4 newbies were welcomed to the club. Our Zedline Editor Rajinda Gunasena, was there too with copies of the Spring issue of Zedline, hot off the press and ready for distribution to all those members out that day. Merchandise Director Terry Weston was selling our club hats and golf shirts and even had a bunch of ZCON merchandise from our 2016 convention. Our Prez Mauricio was off attending a family wedding (in Switzerland?) so newly appointed Eastern VP Lou Pereira stepped up to

welcome everyone on behalf of the club. Our No. 1 club racer and Social Media Director Diane Dale added a new attraction this year as she brought her sim racer set up for those eager to drive on a number of world famous track layouts. It was a big hit, featuring a racing seat for the driver, steering wheel equipped with shift levers, stop & go control pedals and a TV screen to complete the driving experience.

The day ended up in the afternoon with the drawing of our 50/50 pot. The winning ticket belonged to Steve Stockill who ended up as a repeat winner going back a few years. We'll just sign off with a big thank you to the hard working staff of Whitehead Performance for putting on a great event and for their continuing support of OZC!



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Jason Okolisan

The annual Halton Hills Tour was a huge draw as always being the first cruise of the year; everyone is eager to get together for an afternoon of gallivanting through the rural countryside of Milton, Waterdown and Caledon. The tour was originally slated for May 7 but due to terrible weather was rescheduled for May 28 which turned out to be a much better day with sun, dry roads and 25 degree temperature. The weather was so nice that my left arm got sunburn from hanging out my window all afternoon.

Halton Hills is usually my tour to organize but I didn't have time this year so thankfully Wes took the lead and did a great job organizing such a big group. We had some 35 cars initially at the starting point - Montana's in Milton. We lost a handful of cars in the early going but when regrouped at the first stop in Campbellville, we had 20 cars for the photo shoot and then gained a few more later on who found us on route. In total, we had about 25 cars for the duration of the tour.

Unfortunately the Basecamp navigation files were not working proper on any of our Garmin devices, except Erle's who was in charge of keeping the group together from the back of the pack. Regardless, Wes and I got by with the old fashion Google map printed directions and our familiarity with the route.

The highlight of the day for me was leading the last leg of the tour from Spirit Tree Cidery through Belfountain and two runs along the famous Forks Of The Credit Road. For this last part I had Kim's cousin Paula with me who was excited to experience the thrill of a spirited drive. For those who kept up with me, we were all smiles at the end of the tour as it provided an exhilarating driving experience in perfect conditions.

The day ended with a small group of us having dinner and drinks at the Bushholme Pub in Erin, a nice way to wrap up the day reflecting on a glorious afternoon of Z-Car camaraderie.



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After Nissan Canada took on the role as the presenting sponsor for a very successful ZCON event last year, The Ontario Z-Car Owners Association (OZC) was looking forward to becoming involved with them again to promote our mutual love and enthusiasm for the Zed car.

It sure was a pleasant surprise when our Prez Mauricio, announced that OZC had been invited as guests of Nissan Canada, to attend the season opening race of the 2017 Nissan Micra Cup racing series. The Nissan Micra Cup race was part of the Victoria Day Speedfest Weekend at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park (CTMP), held on the May 19-21 weekend. Other featured races were the NASCAR Pinty's (stock car) Series, The Pirelli (GTS) World Challenge, The IMSA Ultra 94 Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Canada and The Canadian Touring Car Championship series.

For those of you not familiar with the Nissan Micra Cup, here's a bit of background information. With the support of Nissan Canada, it began in 2015 as an affordable racing series. They created an even playing field by placing the drivers in totally identical versions of the Nissan Micra. The cars are almost stock except for racing suspension, racing brake pads and safety equipment. Over a season of 12 races, all things being equal, the most skilled drivers would be expected to rise to the top and compete for the championship.

To host their guests, Nissan Canada erected a huge VIP hospitality tent for the weekend event, invited drivers of all generation Zed cars, paid their entrance fees and had them park around the tent in their Z Car Corral for a Show 'n Shine event. All registered Zed drivers on the Sunday were also treated to a fabulous

catered BBQ lunch and provided with the opportunity to participate in parade laps on the CTMP Grand Prix track. In keeping with the predominant weather conditions this year, rain was in the forecast and the Sunday Zed car turnout was less than expected but those that did show up, including yours truly, had a great time.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by Nissan Canada corporate staff who laid out the day's events, our scheduled time on the track and when the time arrived, got us organized, into our cars, out onto the track, through our parade lap and back into the Z Corral. The rain and the subsequent delays to the race schedule meant our time on the track was cut short to ensure the races were not held up by a bunch of guys driving around the track, waving to the crowd and showing off their Zed cars. Despite all that, it was quite an experience to be in the spotlight, however brief it was. Our lunch was really something as it was ready when we got back to the Z Corral and the rest of the day was spent wandering around the race track to check out a number of prime viewing spots to watch the ongoing races and then a walk around the paddocks, to see all the race cars being worked on and prepped for their respective races or just plain maintenance. Most impressive too were the trucks and trailers with their travelling garages, parts stores and car storage set ups. The rain became quite heavy during part of the Micra Cup race and the skills shown by the drivers in controlling their cars despite the wet track conditions was most impressive and highly entertaining at times, with the fish-tailing rear ends and even an unexpected 360 degree turnaround.

OZC sends a big Thank-You to Nissan Canada for hosting a fantastic weekend of racing and inviting us to experience it with them!



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Mauricio Gomez

This is the first time I went to Branson Z-Fest in Branson, Missouri and I had a blast. The drive was pretty long, 19 hours or so but it was well worth it. The people were awesome and the organizers did a great job and the location was amazing.

For those of you who have never been there, let me say that this area is a driver's paradise. Like ZdayZ, the roads and location are what make this bucket list driving event. The country roads, driving through some of the best roads in the US is truly an experience you will never forget. The organizers have a road tour called "The Dramamine Run" and this name fits the roads that you are on. You can literally make yourself sick with all the ups and downs, lefts and rights, bank turns and to top it all off, the scorching heat. This tour actually made me nauseous as I had to stop and drink some cold water and turn on the A/C, just to cool down, and I WAS DRIVING MY OWN CAR!!!!!! Needless to say, this is one amazing tour.

The car show is a typical one and like all other shows but the exception is that many of the proceeds go to give local children a lunch that they cannot afford. Michael (Pickle) Pinkard is a great person who wants to help his community, so every year he

puts on this show to just help the children in town. This year they managed to raise over \$1000 for the kids lunch program and it was one of his best years. OZC was present at the car show and I took home second place for 350Z convertibles. So I have a nice little trophy and good memories from this event.

Now the location of Branson, Missouri is truly amazing. They have a road that looks like a miniature Vegas strip, this is the W 76 Country Blvd, they have lots of live music, shows and big signs just like the Vegas strip. There is so much to do in this area that you will want to go out every night to make sure you don't miss anything. The food is amazing. We had typical country breakfasts and great big burgers for lunch followed by some nice BBQ for dinners.

The host hotel was the Honeysuckle Inn & Conference Centre, a very nice hotel with all the amenities, which we enjoyed and by Thursday night was full of Zed cars everywhere. I have already booked my room for Branson Z-Fest 2018 and if you are at all considering it, you should not hesitate to do so too.





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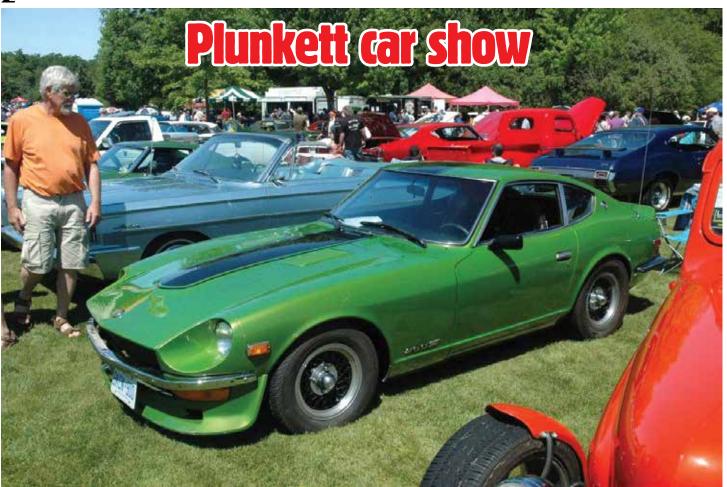
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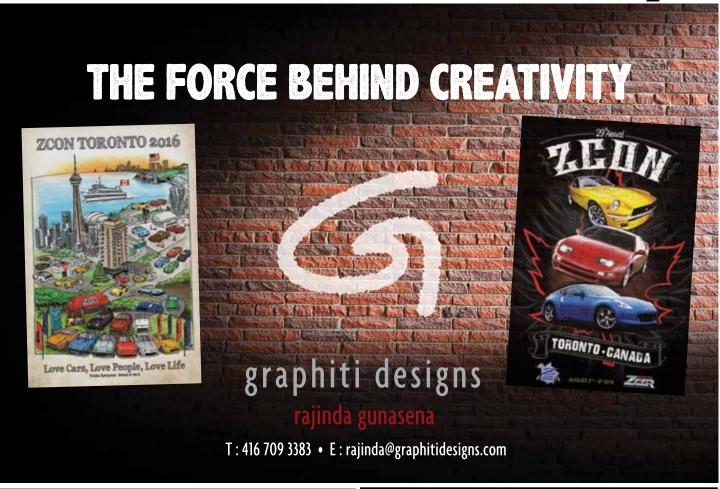




On a beautiful June 3rd morning, 25 Zeds complete with anxious drivers and passengers met up in a parking lot south of London to form a convoy and head over to the Plunkett car show. Everyone arrived on time and we departed at 7:30 a.m. for the Plunkett estate in an attempt to beat the traffic and the crowds entering the show. The Plunkett car show is Canada's largest outdoor car show! This year's show featured the 50th Anniversary of GM's Camaro, Firebird and the Mercury Cougar. It was really great to see so many of these marquis cars. The show also featured the Dukes of Hazard specialty cars and many unique vehicles of all generations, makes and models.

Having arrived early as we hoped and as a group en mass, we were able to park our group of Zeds together on Plunkett's gorgeous property. OZC proudly displayed our Datsun/Nissan heritage. To top it all off too, we drew a lot of interest from the attending public. Food truck options were fantastic for such a huge event and a variety of eats was enjoyed by all of us. It was a perfect day for a car show and a drive in a Zed.

Many thanks go out to all those who supported and attended this event.





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Pre-registration fee: OZC Members \$15 Non-members \$20 Registration Fee after the 16th or at the Event \$20 all pay

- Awards for all model categories
- 50/50 Cash Draw
- Free Door Prizes
- Food & Refreshments will be available
- DJ & Oldies Music
- OZC Club Merchandise







