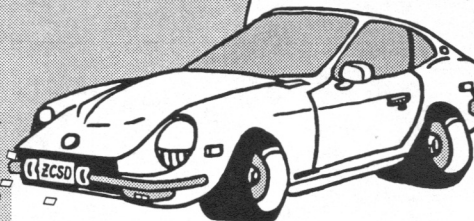


# The Z-Club of San Diego Newsletter



A MEMBER OF THE Z-CAR CLUB ASSOCIATION

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# HAPPY NEW MILLENNIUM

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						New Year's day 1
2	3	Club meeting at COCO's (7:00pm) 4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	Officer's meeting at COCO's (7:00pm) 13	14	Driving Event to Mesa Grande, Lake Henshaw 15
16	17	Martin Luther King's B-day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

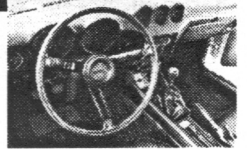
## UPCOMING:

**FEBRUARY 13** Annual wine country tour, bring your valentine for a romantic afternoon of wine tasting.



## From the Steering Column

by Dennis Darnall  
President



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

I hope you had a nice Christmas. Did Santa leave you any Z related toys this year? I was hoping for a stroker motor for my 280Z, maybe next year.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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zcarben@juno.com

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apeterson@digirad.com

**Webmeister**  
DARREN KIRKPATRICK  
(619) 486-4812  
dpk@home.com

### NOTICES

Established in 1991, the Z CLUB OF SAN DIEGO is a group of Datsun/Nissan Z enthusiasts dedicated to the NISSAN marque. As a charter member of the National Z Car Club Association it's sole purpose is to promote interest in Zs through social activities, touring outings, and charitable events.

Persons interested in upholding the same ideals toward Zs are encouraged to join the Z CLUB OF SAN DIEGO. Annual Dues for new and continuing members is \$30, \$15 for associate members. Full members receive ZCSD membership discounts at participating dealers of parts and/or service, participate in monthly club events, and receive the ZCSD monthly newsletter. Associate members only receive the ZCSD monthly newsletter.

Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00pm and are located at COCO's Restaurant, 5550 Lake Murray Blvd, La Mesa unless otherwise posted. See map on page 3. Come early to see other member's Zs and socialize.

Club event ideas and advertising submissions are welcome. Items to be placed in the classified section of the ZCSD newsletter are listed at no charge and run for three months unless canceled or renewed. Submissions should be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send submissions to:

Z Club of San Diego  
7473 El Cajon Blvd  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
ZCSD Hot Line: (619) 589-0975  
Club e-mail: zcsd@geocities.com  
www.geocities.com/MotorCity/6113/

### Club Statistics

Z type	# in club	percent
Active members:	117	
240Z	51	36%
260Z	4	3%
280Z	22	15%
280ZX	23	16%
Z31	17	12%
Z32	24	17%
GTO conversions	2	1%

We had the elections for club officers and I would like to welcome

***I was hoping for a stroker motor for my 280Z, maybe next year.***

two new faces to the board of officers. Mic Halbert has been elected to the position of Club Secretary and Darren Kirkpatrick will be the new webmeister for the club web site. Check the meeting minutes on page 3 for the complete list of club officers for the year 2000.

We are putting together the events for the year at the next couple of board meetings. If there are any events that you think would be a lot of fun please let me know. We get very little input from the membership so if you make a suggestion there is a good chance it will become an event. A couple of ideas we have so far are a drive to Amigo Raceway in the Polamar mountains to play with shifter karts and moving the club picnic to the beginning of summer when its not so hot. We might also go back to the Bernardino Winery for a picnic again.

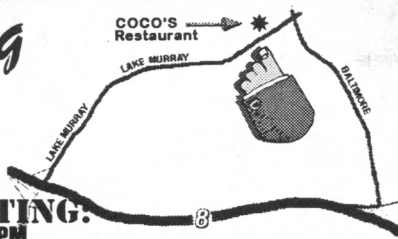
We had our event participation drawing at the Christmas Party and Billy Cast was the lucky winner of a \$100 gift certificate from Discount Tires. The board has decided to have another event participation contest this year with 2 prizes and the same event participation rules as last year. I think it has helped get more club members out to enjoy our events.

Zee Ya at our first Y2K meeting

*Dennis*



# Meeting Map



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**January 4 @ 7:00 PM**  
**@ COCO'S Restaurant**  
**5550 Lake Murray Blvd, La Mesa.**

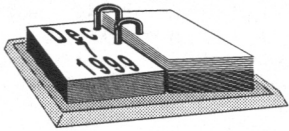
## Welcome New Members

Alan & Valerie Gieseke  
 Dick & Carol Bradford  
 Jasen Webb  
 Wess Willoughby & Emily Coronos  
 Benice & Jennifer Wright



Welcome and thank you for joining the most active Z-club in Southern California

## Meeting Minutes



*by Gary Cawthon,  
 Secretary*

December's meeting at Coco's was called to order at 7:25pm by Dennis. The opening question for the introduction was, "What do you want to find under the Z-tree?"

The year 2000 Z convention in Las Vegas was previewed, followed by the nomination of club officers for next year. They are as follows:

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President:              | Dennis Darnall                |
| Vice president:         | Michael Libonate              |
| Treasurer:              | Ed Peterson                   |
| Secretary:              | Mick Halbert                  |
| Newsletter Editor:      | Ed Peterson                   |
| Membership Coordinator: | Evan Chabot                   |
| Events Coordinator:     | Clif Yaussi and Philip Childs |
| Members at Large:       | Ben Pila and Mike Lee         |
| Autocross Coordinator:  | Al Peterson                   |
| Webmeister:             | Darren Kirkpatrick            |

All Candidates were voted in by unanimous assent.

Al Peterson talked about the November Holtville car clinic. The 2000 convention was further discussed. Topics included track time, indoor car show (air conditioned), golf, etc.

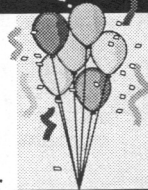
November's casino run was summarized by Cliff. The board will discuss the timing of events, i.e. time of day at a given location.

December's event, the Christmas party at Mexican Villiage in Coronado was mentioned. The recipient of the club's toy donation was determined by Rob Calderhead to be the Tijuana Street Children's Ministry. Directions were given and rules for the gift exchange were clarified. Awards for event participation are to be drawn at the party, with the first prize being a \$100 gift certificate to Discount tire. Afterwards, either the Hotel Del's Christmas decorations or the boat parade of lights are possible activities.

Events for next year were discussed, including a desert drive with Mesa Grande lunch. The new Z was talked about, with such features as a 3.3L 222HP V6 and 2400 pound weight being definite maybe's.

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Prizes: A CB radio: | Robert Gonzales |
| \$20:               | Kevin Ham       |
| \$10:               | Mick Halbert    |
| Mechanic's gloves:  | Philip Childs   |
| Tokiko hat:         | Brian Kibildis  |

## We have January Birthdays



- |                       |                     |             |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Gerald Hines          | Fred & Betty Jordan | John Harris |
| David Billings        | Michiyo Kirkpatrick |             |
| Charolette Hunsberger | Betty Sherman       |             |
| Beverley Powers       | Dean & Kathy Tilton |             |
| Diane Graham          | Benice Wright       |             |
| Samboone Segamphan    | Duane Heller        |             |

## January's Z'tailed Events

Check the HotLine for updated information (619) 589-0975

### January 15 Run to Mesa Grande

This will be a Saturday drive on scenic byways taking us over Highland Valley Rd. thru Ramona, past Dudley's Bakery and to the beautiful Mesa Grande Rd. and its vistas of Lake Henshaw. We'll stop for lunch at Hideout Saloon & Steak House, and then spend some time at Dudley's and head for home via Julian or more directly back to the west.

- 9:30 AM Depart Coco's La Mesa
- 9:45 AM Depart Carol Canyon S/E corner and I-15
- 10:15AM Depart TEXACO GAS STATION N/W CORNER OF VIA RANCHO PARKWAY. This is a new meeting spot with better access back onto I-15 and a run south to Palmerado Rd and then Hidden Valley Rd.

**FEBRUARY 13** Annual wine country tour, bring your valentine for a romantic afternoon of wine tasting.

**MARCH 11** Palm Springs run and B-B-Que with Group Z

**APRIL** Tech session, and on the 29-30th MOTORSPORT AUTO CAR SHOW.

**MAY** Club picnic Rancho Bernardo Winery (tentative)

**JUNE 26-30** NATIONAL Z CAR CONVENTION IN LAS VEGAS

## DECEMBER TO REMEMBER

We want to thank all of those club members who participated in our annual toy drive, and for the fun gifts that were exchanged at the club's party on Sunday December 12. Mike and Gloria Libonate, Philip and Barbara Childs, Alan and Susan Andrews, Mic Halbert, Al and Roberta Urias, Aki Yamaura, John and Shelly Regan, Dennis and Carol Darnall, Mike and Sandy Lee, Evan and Debbie Chabot, Darren Kirkpatrick, Bill Black, Lenny and Sheri Arnoth, Clif and Marcia Yaussi, Dave and Yvonne Platt, Lance and Barbara Wills and Amy, Billy and Judy Cast, and Rob Calderhead with his guests and the leaders of the Tijuana group too which we gave our toys, Giarmo and Estella Alverado.

I think everyone had a great time, the food was fine, the atmosphere warm and the gift exchange a big success. After the dinner concluded we were treated to the boat parade of lights in San Diego Bay. Some of us then headed down to the Hotel Del Coronado to view it's famous indoor tree and marvel at the fairyland atmosphere of its 50,000 lights adorning the outside. The big winner of the year end event participation prize (a \$100 gift certificate to Discount Tires) was Billy Cast, who by the way, was present at almost every event this year, but not all of them on the day the club was there!! Thank you to all who came and made each event a fun and memorable one.



# Tech Article

by Larry Carley  
*Five Review, December 1996*



It's been awhile since we've covered an exhaust topic in this column, so let's look at the one item that's the most profitable to replace: the catalytic converter.

Every vehicle built for the past 20 years has one. Original equipment catalytic converters are designed to last the "life" of the vehicle. But many converters never go the distance for a variety of reasons. Some succumb to rust and corrosion. Others are "road kill" victims, damaged by pot holes or other objects. The most common causes of failure, though, are ignition or mechanical problems that cause the converter to overheat.

Converters are essentially afterburners that reburn carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons with additional oxygen from an air pump or aspirator valve. Three-way converters also break down oxides of nitrogen (NOX) into nitrogen and oxygen. All this produces a lot of extra heat in the exhaust, which the converter can handle as long as there are "normal" amounts of these pollutants in the exhaust. But when too much unburned fuel enters the exhaust because of a misfiring spark plug, overly rich fuel mixture, a leaky exhaust valve or head gasket, the converter's operating temperature can soar causing the converter's innards to melt resulting in a partial or complete blockage.

Converters can also fail because of contamination. As a converter ages, the catalyst gets "tired" because of a gradual accumulation of contaminants on its surface. The process can be accelerated by the accumulation of phosphorus deposits from oil burning (worn valve seals, guides and/or rings), or silicone deposits from internal coolant leaks (cracked head or block, or a leaky head gasket). As the contaminants build up, HC, CO and NOX emissions begin to rise. On a late model, well-tuned engine with a properly functioning converter, HC and CO emissions should be nearly zero. So if there's a jump in emissions, it usually means its time to replace the converter.

There's no way to rejuvenate a dead converter, so replacement is the only repair option. Up to model year 1995, converters were covered by a 5 year/50,000 mile federal emissions warranty (7 years or 70,000 miles in California). In 1995, the warranty jumped to 8 years and 80,000 miles.

The EPA's rules for replacement are quite strict: you can't replace a converter until it is out of warranty and a legitimate need for replacement has been established and documented (such as a blockage, failure of an emissions test, or to replace a converter that someone removed). You must also obtain the customer's authorization for repairs in writing, keep the paperwork for six months and the old converter for 15 days. The replacement converter must be the same type as the original and installed in the same location.

How do you know if a converter needs to be replaced? An emissions test will tell you if the converter is doing anything or not. Low intake vacuum readings are a symptom of excessive backpressure which may be due to a plugged converter. A complete blockage will prevent the engine from running after it starts.

A "thunk" test on the outside of the converter with a soft rubber mallet will tell you if the catalyst inside is loose. Older GM pellet style "bedpan" converters should rattle, but monolithic converters should not. If you suspect a blockage, disconnect or remove the converter and look inside with a trouble light. If you can't see through the honeycomb, the converter is obstructed and needs to be replaced.

If you're replacing a plugged converter, it's important to remember it failed because of overheating. Replacing the converter will eliminate the restriction, but the new converter will likely suffer the same fate unless you identify and repair the problem that caused the converter to overheat in the first place. Look for things like fouled spark plugs, bad plug wires, a cylinder with low or no compression, or a computerized feedback system that stays in open loop all the time.

The oxygen sensor may need also need to be replaced. To do its job efficiently, the converter needs an air/fuel mixture that is constantly flip-flopping back and forth from rich to lean. If the O2 sensor is sluggish or dead, the fuel feedback loop will either flip-flop too slowly or remain rich all the time. Either way it will increase CO emissions and converter temperature.

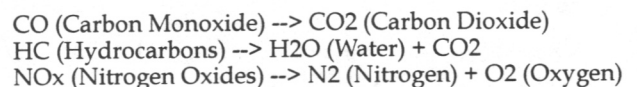
A bad coolant sensor that always indicates a cold engine (or an open coolant sensor circuit) will also keep the fuel system in open loop, which means a steady diet of excess fuel and poor converter performance. A thermostat that's stuck open or is too cold for the application can also cause the same sort of problem.

It's also important to check out the air pump (or aspirator valve) and related plumbing since these components provide fresh air for the converter to reburn the pollutants in the exhaust. If the air pump isn't working, or the air isn't getting to the converter in the right amounts at the right time due to a bad diverter valve or damaged or leaky plumbing, it can reduce the converter's operating efficiency significantly.

## Background Information

### What is a Catalytic Converter?

A catalytic converter is a device which cleans up the exhaust gases of a vehicle. The catalyst does this by enabling certain chemical reactions to occur under the conditions within the vehicle's exhaust system. Vehicle catalysts convert poisonous gases into harmless ones by the reactions below:



The catalyst promotes the above reactions, which in the case of the first two involve the addition of oxygen (Oxidation), and in the case of the third reaction involves the removal/release of oxygen (Reduction). The active components of exhaust gas cleansing catalysts are usually Platinum and Rhodium, although sometimes Palladium is used instead of, or in conjunction with, Platinum.

### How Long Have Catalytic Converters Been Used In The UK?

Some manufacturers began fitting 'cats' as early as 1989, although they were not compulsory on new cars until 1st January 1993. This compulsory fitment was backed up by a new, more stringent, MOT emissions test applicable to all cars registered on or after 1st August 1992, and fitted with a cat.

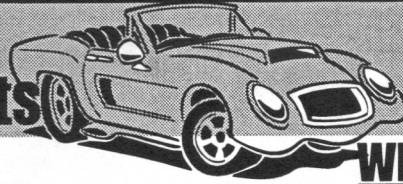
In theory a catalytic converter will last indefinitely - however...

*continued on page 7*





# Local & Regional automotive related events



## When

## What

## Where

Feb 2-6	San Diego International Auto Show	San Diego Convention Center
Feb 6, Mar 19, Apr 23, May 21	Stadium Auto Swap	San Diego Qualcomm Stadium
April 28-30	Z-Car West Coast Nationals	Motorsport Auto, Orange CA

## Autocross Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sponsoring Club</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sponsoring Club</u>
Sunday, Jan 2	Qualcomm West Lot Contact: Ted Kuyper @ 619-579-8640 mail entry & \$25.00 to:	SDAD SDAD Practice 1820 LaVala Lane El Cajon, CA 92021	Saturday, Jan. 15	Qualcomm West Lot	SDAD
			Saturday, Mar. 11	Qualcomm West Lot	tentative
			Sunday, Mar. 26	Qualcomm Southeast Lot	SDAD
			Saturday, May 6	Qualcomm Southeast Lot	TART

## 1999 Event Recap

### January

#### Super Speedway Movie Event

Our first club event of '99 was to the I-MAX theatre in Balboa Park where SPEED was showing.

#### Holtville Track Day

The January 23, 1999, Holtville track event was a blast!

### February

#### Sweetheart Winery Tour

Sunday February 14 found 32 Z car enthusiasts cruising the wine country in north San Diego County.

#### Z CARS ENGULF AQUANGA

The wide spot in the road known as Aquanga will never see the likes of it again. The Z Club of San Diego and Group Z of Orange & L.A. counties used it as a meeting point for our run to the Palm Springs Air Museum.

### March

#### Desert Flower & Tour Run

The Z club returned to the desert this month for the annual tour of desert flowers, grapefruit and this time the desert view tower in Jacumba.

### April

#### Motorsport Auto West Coast Nationals

The car show was a blast! There were more cars than last year and I believe the count was over 450 Z's.

### May

#### Mt. Palomar Run

The 16 heavenly Z cars were the talk of the mountain as the Z Club of San Diego made it's annual pilgrimage to the famed observatory.

### June

#### Dyno Day at Group 5 Motorsports

Well, for those of you who missed the ZCSD dyno day, here's a recap. June 19 was an exciting day for all that attended. Everyone was curious what kind of power was gained by modifications to their cars or how a 180,000-mile motor compares to a new one.

Tech Session #1: Valve Adjustment

### July

All Datsun Meet at Mt. Shasta CA

#### Fast Food Rally

The Fast Food Rally took place Sunday July 18 with 10 cars participating in the 3 1/2 hour 112 mile event.

### August

#### Z Club Does Balboa Park

The club's annual summer picnic was held August 8th in the Morley Field area of Balboa Park.

#### Tech Session #2: Brakes

August 14th found the Z Club making it's way through the peaceful east county town of Jamul to join host Al Peterson for a tech session on brakes at his well equipped garage.

### September

#### Capistrano/Ortega Highway Run

We had a great turnout for this event with 16 Z cars on the road to Temecula.

### October

#### 7th Annual Classic Datsun Car Show

This year's show was great, more Datsuns than last year. There was a 1999 Skyline on display and everything from a Nissan Patrol to a 59 4-dr sedan.

#### Vintage Sports Car Races

The club bridged the gap to the past on Sunday October 24th when 16 Z cars took the Coronado Bridge to the vintage sports car races at North Island Naval Air Station.

### November

#### Casino Run

Sunday November 14th saw the return of the Z CLUBS CASINO RUN.

### December

Holtville raceway car control clinic and laps.

XMAS Party and Toy Drive



# Member Profile

by Ben Pila, Member@Large

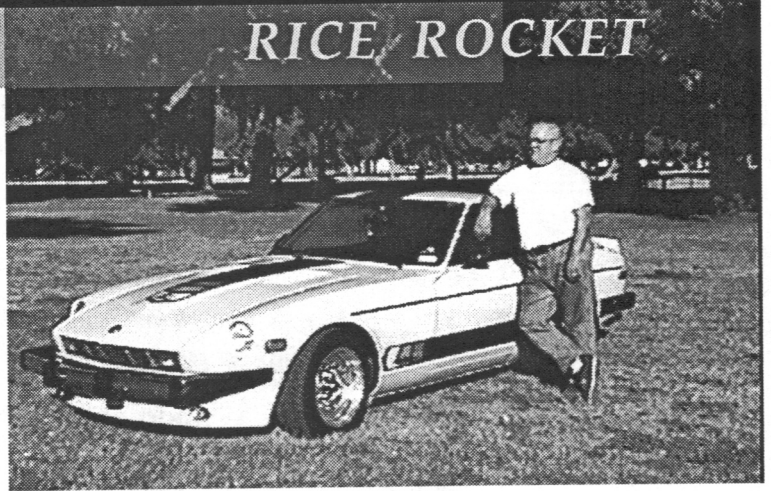
David Platt joined the Z club of San Diego after receiving a mailer that was sent by Z-Whizz during a mass mailing to all Z owners in San Diego back in 1991. Dave is one of the original members as shown by his member number (19). Dave has lived in San Diego since 1953 (he is 53 years old,) and is employed as a High Voltage Electrician. Dave was originally from Utica, NY. Dave is married to Yvonne Platt (who served previously as membership coordinator for the Z Club).. Dave and Yvonne have between them, two daughters, one son, three step-daughters, and one step-son and a dog named "Bandit". Dave's hobbies are Z cars and the Z club of San Diego.

Dave joined the Z Club of San Diego to meet other people, learn about Z cars and to enjoy them with others. Dave is attracted to Zs because of their looks and styling, handling and the overall enjoyment of driving them. Dave loves all the Z Club events with favorites being car shows and touring. Dave has had two Zs, a 1973 240Z which was stolen in 1988 and his present 1977 280Z which he bought in 1988.

Dave's 1977 280Z, which is a show winner and has many trophies to show for it, is actually a special edition with it's rare Sunburst Yellow "Zap Z" décor package. This package was only used on a limited number of

1977s and features the yellow paint color with black, red and orange striped graphics running down the middle and sides of the body. Rear window louvers and different mirrors were also part of the "Zap Z" décor package. Under the hood of Dave's Z, is a

## RICE ROCKET



relatively stock L28 fuel injected engine with a "K&N" high flow air intake filter and a larger exhaust system. The wheels on Dave's Z are "Prime" 15" x7" polished two piece aluminum and have Bridgestone 195/60/15 tires on them. Dave's Z also features upgraded suspension with "Tokico" strut inserts, "Suspension Techniques" performance coil springs, "Sport Tech" sway bars, "MSA" front and rear strut tower braces and polyurethane front bushings. Dave added a front "BRE" style air dam and a rear "duck tail" spoiler on the hatch. The interior features a "Sony" AM/FM cassette player with a 10 disc CD changer, "Alpine" power amp and 6 speakers. Dave also installed an "Audio-Vox" security system, cruise control and factory power mirrors off a 280ZX to finish off his award winning Z.

If you see Dave's Z at an upcoming car show, you might see him with another trophy.

Good Job Dave!





MOTORSPORT  
AUTO

presents

# Z-CAR WEST COAST NATIONALS

April 28-30  
Orange, California

## Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH

Welcome Party hosted by Motorsport Auto @ 7:00pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH

Autocross Driving School @ 8:00am

Z-Car Banquet @ 7:00pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH

Z-Car Exhibition @ 8:00am

**SPECIAL PRICING THRU  
JANUARY 15TH**

## REGISTRATION FORM

Return by April 15th

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

WELCOME PARTY, FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH \$9.95 Per Person  
Name(s) Of People Attending \_\_\_\_\_

AUTOCROSS DRIVING SCHOOL, SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH  
\$32.00 Per Driver  
Drivers Name(s) And Year/Model of Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_

Z-CAR BANQUET, SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH \$29.95 Per Person  
Name(s) Of People Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Z-CAR EXHIBITION, SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH (Vehicle Registration)  
\$9.95 Per Vehicle, \$19.95 With Event T-Shirt  
Year \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_  
(Coupe/2+2, Turbo/Non-Turbo) (Turbo/Non-Turbo)

### PAYMENT

Check  
 Visa  
 Mastercard  
 American Express  
 Discover  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Anaheim Ramada will serve as our event headquarters. A special rate of \$65.00+tax, per night is available.

MAIL REGISTRATION TO  
Motorsport Auto  
1139 W. Collins Ave.  
Orange, CA 92867

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Tel 714.639.2620  
Fax 714.639.7460

E-MAIL US AT  
motorsport@worldnet.att.net  
www.zcarparts.com

## REGISTER NOW! 5th ANNUAL NATIONAL Z-CAR EVENT

Motorsport Is Proud  
To Host This 3-Day  
Z-car Celebration  
April 28-30, 2000.

Last Year, More Than  
450 Zs and ZXs  
Were On Hand.

With The Activities  
We've Planned,  
This Year's Show  
Will Be Even Bigger!

Get ready for the 5th annual Z-Car West Coast Nationals, April 28th, 29th, and 30th. The Z-Car Exhibition has been expanded, featuring more vendors and hourly technical seminars. The Autocross Driving School has a new course, with more spots available. And the Z-Car Banquet, with its new venue, will be the largest Z party ever. For information, call, fax, or e-mail us today.

**HOTEL SPECIAL** - The Anaheim Ramada will once again serve as the official hotel of the Z-Car West Coast Nationals. A special rate of \$65 is yours if you identify yourself as a member of the Motorsport Group. Reservations can be made directly by calling (714)978-8088.

**AIRLINE RESERVATIONS MADE EASY** - If you can't bring your Z, but want to join the crowd, we can help. Beachside Travel will find you the best airfare without all the hassles of calling around. Contact Nancy Smith at (562)795-5545, or by fax (562)795-5548.

**ATTENTION Z CLUBS** - We will have special display areas for your members. Please contact us for further information.

**PRE-REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 1ST** COMPLETE DETAILS ABOUT THE Z-CAR WEST COAST NATIONALS WILL BE LISTED IN OUR NEXT FLYER, AND ON OUR WEB SITE ([www.zcarparts.com](http://www.zcarparts.com)).

## Weekend Schedule - April 28th - 30th

**Friday, April 28, 2000 - Kick-Off Party**  
To welcome all our friends and participants to the Z-Car West Coast Nationals, Motorsport will host a kick-off party at a location close to the official hotel site. Meet and greet fellow Z enthusiasts from all over the US and Canada. NOTE: No Host Bar.

**Saturday, April 29, 2000 - Autocross**  
For experts and beginners alike. This professionally run event features SCCA instructors (male & female) teaching the basics of autocrossing in a safe, open environment. You'll get all of the runs you can handle! Details will follow in your registration confirmation package.

**Saturday, April 30, 2000 - Z-Car Dinner**  
We've staked out a unique venue close to the exhibition for our Saturday night dinner. A special guest speaker and live entertainment will highlight the evening.

**Sunday, April 30, 2000 - Z-Car Exhibition**  
The World's Largest Z-only Show! Open to all Z's and ZX's from restored show car to racers to daily drivers. Vendor seminars will provide the latest technical information on the best Z related products and accessories. The people's choice awards will be presented to class winner and overall favorite Z-car. Hourly drawings for great prizes will be held throughout the day.

## Tech Article

## Catalytic Converters

continued from page 4

In practice catalysts have to be replaced as a result of:

### Physical damage:

At the centre of most catalytic converters is a ceramic core, which can become very brittle. Any sudden mechanical shock may crack the converter core - after which it will rapidly disintegrate. Incorrect functioning of other engine management systems: A faulty fuel injection or ignition system may give rise to excess unburned fuel in the exhaust system. This will ignite on contact with the hot catalyst and destroy the reactive surface. In extreme cases, the ceramic core may even melt thus restricting gas flow. This can also happen if the car is ever 'bump-started'. Often failures are only detected during routine servicing or when the vehicle is MOT tested. However a catalyst which has

become blocked, due to cracking, meltdown, or obstruction with engine debris, may be hard to detect. Warning signs include poor performance and increased fuel consumption - which may justify replacement of the cat even if the vehicle is still meeting the necessary emission standards.

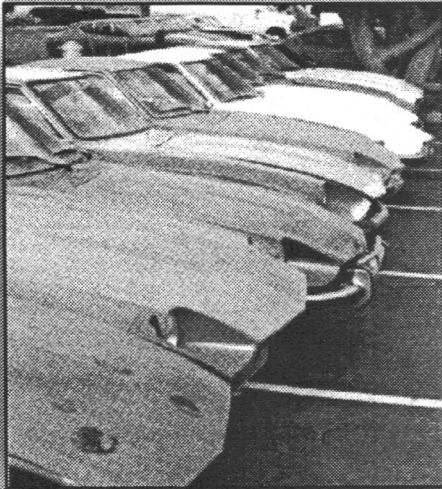
### Looking After Your Cat

To maximise the lifespan of your catalytic converter you should:  
Never use leaded petrol or fuel additives containing lead.  
Have your car properly serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.  
Never bump-start your car (use of jump-leads is acceptable).  
Avoid bumping the exhaust on rough ground, kerbs etc. The cat may even be damaged if you reverse into a wall and the shock is transmitted through the exhaust system.  
Investigate and correct any rough running of your car without delay.

It is however inevitable that failures will occur over time. ■



# Classified Section



Advertising automotive related items free for Z-Club members, spouses, significant others, friends, neighbors and casual acquaintances. To place an ad or cancel an ad, call Ed at (619) 553-6625 I'll run your ad for three months unless you tell me to cancel.

## CLUB STUFF

ZCSD Shirts (T)	\$12-14
ZCSD Hats	\$10
ZCSD Event door signs	\$15/pr
ZCSD window stickers	\$1 ea.
ZCSD Hat/lapel pins	\$1 for 2

## AUTOS

**1971 240Z**, 5spd, (8/70 manuf) 10K miles on rebuilt to end, rebuilt front end, lowered 1-1/2", low miles on tires, runs - project car. Best offer. Call Dave at (619) 691-1422 (11/99)

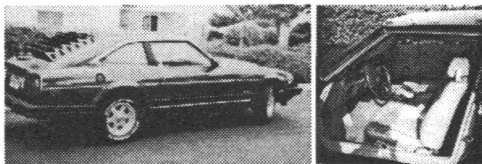
**1972 240Z, 5spd, RESTORED**, meticulously maintained, all records and detailed history, Alum mag wheels, new door/window rubber, new seats, new upholstery, new headliner, new carpet, new tires, new brake system, new radiator. Includes numerous extra parts and accessories - Flowmaster muffler, Bra, factory shop manual, spare starter, etc. Professionally appraised and documented at \$8,500. \$7,900 must sell. Call Mark at (858) 277-6171. (12/99)

**1973 240Z**, 4spd, runs good, good interior, perfect for restoration. \$1,200. Call Glen at (619) 295-1859. (12/99)

**1979 280ZX 2+2**, 5spd, 174K miles, original owner, all original, always garaged, excellent condition. Will email photo \$3,750. Call Robert at (760) 439-3487. (12/99)

**1982 280ZX**, auto, 123K miles, excellent condition, AC not functioning. \$5,000. Call Rachel (909) 676-8890. (10/99)

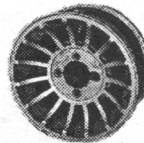
**1982 280ZX 2+2**, auto, AC, PW, All Original creampuff!!, one owner, driven once a week for 17 years. 15K miles, garaged since new. Brown interior w/beige leather. Absolutely perfect! \$12,000 OBO. Call Marsha at (949) 496-4525 (Dana Point). (12/99)



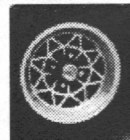
**1986 300ZX Parts Car**, 200K miles. Parting out or \$1,250 for all. Call Michael (619) 275-6521. (10/99)

## PARTS

**Parting out 240Z**, many parts available. Call Al (619) 287-4222 (1/00)



**5 Western Hurricane wheels** (finned cast aluminum,) 14"x5.5". These wheels are not bent or damaged and just need a little cleaning. Fits 1970-83 Zs and other Datsun 4x 4 1/4 wheels. \$75 for all. Call Ben Pila @ (619) 462-8651 or e-mail me @ ben@jimwolftechnology.com(11/99)



**14 X 6 Appliance Dia Mag wheels** - set of 4 with 215/60R14 tires w/80% tread. \$225/offer. Call Lance at (858) 566 2936 after 6:00 PM. (12/99)

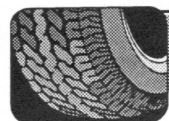


**Genuine Nissan factory mags 14 X 5** - set of four with caps, no tires. \$400 firm. Call Lance at (858) 566 2936 after 6:00 PM. (12/99)



**83 280ZX Turbo Wheels For Sale**  
4 - 83 280ZX Turbo 15X6 Swastika wheels, good condition, center caps included, \$250. Call Philip at (619) 695 1594. (12/99)

**1972 SU carburetors (2)** including baffle pipe, air cleaner and linkage. Needs gaskets. \$50 for all. Call Terry at (619) 896-1911. (1/00)



## TECH TIP

### HOW OLD ARE THOSE TIRES?

by Dennis Darnall, President  
Do you know how old those tires on your Z are? If you purchased them then you know when they were put on the car. What about those used tires you picked up or the tires that were on the car when you purchased it. According to tire expert you shouldn't buy "new"

tires if it was manufactured more than 2 years ago. Rubber degrades over time and if it was exposed to heat or sunlight it may not be the best deal for you.

You can determine the tire's date of manufacture by the Department of Transportation serial number that is on every tire. Here is an example of a DOT serial number: DOT M3TA C66X 228. The date code is the last 3 digits. The date code of 228 indicates that this tire was manufactured in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of 1998. I was surprised at how old some of my tires are, I guess that's why the sidewalls are starting to crack.





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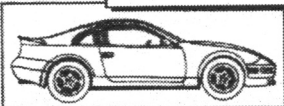
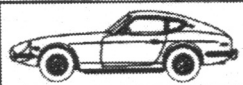
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Make checks payable to **Z Club of San Diego**

Website form: [www.geocities.com/MotorCity/6113/](http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/6113/)

**For more detailed form and membership badge, send this form to  
Evan Chabot, 9934 San Juan Street, #4, Spring Valley, CA 91977**



**Z Club of San Diego**



CHARTER MEMBER

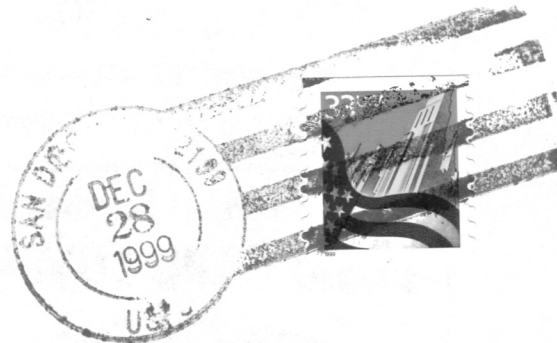
The Z Club of San Diego is dedicated to the enjoyment and preservation of Datsun/Nissan Z-cars. If you own a Z-Car or want to own one you **need the Z-Club and the Z-Club needs you!!!**

Call our information line at (619) 589-0975 to get information about upcoming events and meeting times, or to leave a message for the Club President.

- **Learn more about your Z-Car** from other enthusiasts and automotive professionals.
- **Save money** by taking advantage of Z-Club member discounts on parts and services.
- **Club Newsletter** once a month keeps you advised of planned events, what happened at the monthly meeting, service and safety tips.
- **Monthly Meeting** lets you guide the club's direction for events and business. Speakers share knowledge on subjects ranging from detailing to theft prevention to performance improvement.
- **Events** as varied as enjoying a day at the races to picnics to wine tasting.

Dues are: New membership is prorated(\$30 or less) **\$30** for a renewal. \*\$15 Associate (Newsletter only)

**The Z-Club of San Diego  
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|||||  
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