

# *The Z Experience*

*November/December 2002*

*Presented by Triad Z*



Photograph from a Datsun brochure c. 1974

## **In This Issue:**

**Roger Schlobin's Turbo Z Project  
2003 9<sup>th</sup> Triad NC Z Show Teaser  
Vintage and 350Z Race Reports**

**Z Clubs' News, Upcoming Events, Triad Z Store and More**

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### On the Cover:

*"Protection and pizzazz. The functional beauty of these deep chromed bumper guards team with the energy-absorbing bumpers for maximum protection from parking lot dings and scratches." And who has not seen an early Z with a hurt nose? From a dealer brochure for the 240Z and 260Z. The license reads "Datsun. From Nissan with Pride"*

## Upcoming Events

### Annual Tech for Driver's Schools

The Z Shop, Greensboro (ad page 4)

**January 18, 2003.** Cost is a few dollars for the expense of the stickers. Log books and permanent number requests available for \$5. Annual tech, as the name implies, is good for ALL 2003 events. The sticker from last year is no longer valid. **Reminders:**

- 1) Check date on harnesses, helmets
- 2) Drill 3/16 inch inspection holes on new Time Trial cars inspected for 2003
- 3) Bring a copy of the Tech Form
- 4) Entry forms and checks will be accepted during tech days

### Triad Z Club Meetings 7:00 PM.

Logan's Roadhouse (p. 3) or: [Link to meeting info and Logan's](#)

**January 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 18<sup>th</sup>**

### Tech Session at Brinsfield's,

**Jan. 28, 2003.** Dale Brinsfield will host an informal Q&A session. If you have any questions that you would like answered by a professional, this will be the perfect time. We will begin at 6:30pm. See ad page 8 for address, etc.

**Driving School at VIR Feb. 15-16, 2003.** Alton, VA. Full course. See [www.trianglezclub.com](http://www.trianglezclub.com) or e-mail Stacy at [trackevents@cox.net](mailto:trackevents@cox.net) for details.

### Dyno Day, Motorsports Connection, February 22, 2003.

Winston Salem, NC. We have 16 spots available for the day between 9 & 5. The cost is \$60/run or two runs for \$90. There is a \$5 discount for Z Club members. Since we have to purchase the time in advance, you MUST pay before February 1st. You can send a check for the appropriate amount to:  
Triad Z Dyno Day  
c/o Blake Frazier  
3A River Oaks Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27409

**Driving School at VIR April 12-13, 2003.** Alton, VA. Full course. See [www.trianglezclub.com](http://www.trianglezclub.com) or e-mail Stacy at [trackevents@cox.net](mailto:trackevents@cox.net) for details.

### Appalachian Moonshine Run Rally April 12, 2003. Elkin, NC.

Similar to the 2002 Run, we will meet in Elkin on Saturday morning, have lunch, and then traverse the foothills of the Appalachians along with an assortment of British, American, Italian, Japanese and other automobiles. Those who went in 2002 have been waiting anxiously for another go at the course, so don't miss it!

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual NC Z Car Show May 24-25, 2003.** See page 9. This one is going to be huge! More details to follow. Put it on your 2003 calendar. **TZC**

## Looking Back & Ahead

Trevor Bladon ([DrT240Z@earthlink.net](mailto:DrT240Z@earthlink.net))

I sit here at the keyboard on Christmas Eve, pounding away, cutting and pasting another issue of The Z Experience. Trying (in vain it seems) to catch up. I had started this edition a few weeks ago and planned to get ahead of schedule, until we got lambasted with 3/4" of ice and lost power for 5 days. Then it was catch up (and clean up) for some time.

Blake and I have spoken in some depth about the newsletter and whether we should continue now that the web site is up and ticking along merrily. We have not been able to get much feedback from readers, but we both feel that The Z Experience has a place in 2003 and I

shall do my best to make it better and timely. I guess that brings me to a resolution of sorts for 2003 (something I am usually loath to do). I will try to stop asking for contributions from members of Triad Z and other Clubs and instead will concentrate on doing what I can to gather ideas or write more articles myself, cox Blake, Dave or others and just make it work. Roger Schlobin has written an excellent short story on his Z experiences and his lovely 280Z. He has more prose ready to print. Hopefully Marty Howard can come out of retirement and write more thoughtful articles while in the dark corner of his garage.

Looking back on 2002 I have many pleasant memories. In no particular order (except the first):

- My lovely and patient wife Carol, who has tolerated my Datsun silliness for over 19 years. She allowed me to over-extend our finances to get a 2-door 510, (something I have wanted for 30 years...Pete Brock's fault).
- Our terrific sponsors. None better!
- The Scarab articles by my brother Bruce here and in Sport Z (and our weekend in LA at Motorsport Auto!).
- The Moonshine Run, where Keith Bailey showed me what a 510 can do in the NC mountains (woohoo!).
- The friendships I have formed at every Z / Datsun event. New friends like "Mad" Mike and Katie Taylor, Bob Bell, Art Singer & Dave Bexfield.
- Watching Alan Giles, Bob Middleton and others circling VIR in October at Warp Factor 10. Awesome!
- Working with Blake Frazier, Dave Newell, Alan Giles and Tom Crise at Triad Z. What a great group.
- Carol's 2002 Altima 3.5 SE (R R R)

I am running short on space. 2003 promises to be even better than this year. More events. More friends. And the "new" 510 gets on the road, with a 2.2-liter stroker, 280ZX brakes, new interior, Z-rated Sumitomo... can't wait! Hope the New Year brings **you** happiness, new Z friends and prosperity. Signing off 'til next year!  
**TZC**



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## Z Club News by Region Triad Z (Greensboro)



[www.TriadZClub.com](http://www.TriadZClub.com)

Blake Frazier  
3A River Oaks Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27409  
336-854-0391  
[bfrazier@triad.rr.com](mailto:bfrazier@triad.rr.com)

### Officers:

[Blake Frazier](#) - President and Treasurer  
[Trevor Bladon](#) - VP & TZE Editor  
[David Newell](#) - Secretary & Event Coordinator

Our Christmas party was unavoidably cancelled due to the huge ice storm that struck the Triad. With power outages and slick roads, there was no choice.

Our December meetings are historically small. We were laughing about last year, when we think there were only 4 people. This year, we did a bit better! These 14 people braved a cold wintry night:

Keith "510" Bailey, Trevor Bladon, Bonnie Crise, Blake Frazier, Alan Giles, Brandon Hampton, John Harding, Ed Lawless, David Newell, Donna Newell, Clive Scott, Roddy Sugg, Mark Ulrich, Ruth Williams.

Our server was Megan. We began by watching a video of the 2001 Nismo Festival at Fuji. Nissan rented out the track one day and showed off all types of machinery, including lots of Skylines, the IMSA GTP and LeMans cars, Steve Millen's GTS car, John Morton's BRE 510 and many others. We then watched a 7-minute video about Victory Junction, our charity for the Memorial Day auction.

Items of discussion during our meeting included:

- Sport Z has expressed interest in attending our Memorial Day event.
- Tragically, Milton Miller, one of our members unexpectedly passed away this month.
- Our new affiliate program. Visit [www.triadzclub.com](http://www.triadzclub.com), then go to

Eastwood, eBay etc., make your purchases & Triad Z earns some money. **At no cost to you!**

- Our newsletter, what our members like about it, whether we should make changes or continue to publish.
- Nismo posters are now for sale (see this issue; will be on website soon).
- We are planning to help the Triangle Z Club with their February Track event at VIR. Plans are still in the works, but we are thinking of supplying lunch or assisting with the tech inspections.
- "2% over invoice" certificates from High Point Nissan are enclosed with this newsletter. As a member of Triad Z, buy a new car from High Point Nissan and get a terrific deal.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!



**1300 Bridford Parkway, Greensboro**  
**Meeting location for the Triad Z Club**  
**Third Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM**

### Emerald City Z Club (Greenville)

Roger C. Schlobin  
708 Bremerton Drive  
Greenville, NC 27858-6505  
252-215-0308  
[dragon@greenvillenc.com](mailto:dragon@greenvillenc.com)

### ***Celebrating the Heritage of the Datsun/Nissan Z, Roadster, & 510***

I'm not even going to attempt to say who attended & who didn't. As Alan pointed out, we may have started to outgrow our site. There were a pile of folk. AND as you can see from the treasury report below, they were generous!

- As soon as Sue Farmer sends me the address, I'll send a thank you note & \$50 check to the Winterville Kiwanis.
- Calendar: We have decided to do a Club calendar at about \$16 each. Everyone should send a 5x7 or 8x10 car picture to Sue Farmer as soon as possible. I will get on the net &

get us everyone's events throughout the world to put on it.

- Christmas Party: Emerald City Z held its first annual Christmas party at Roger's house on Saturday, December 7th, from 3 to 8 p.m. This took the place of our regular 12/10 meeting.
- Welcome to New Member Rick Odom of Rocky Mount. If Curtis Vines continues to recruit so well, he may wind up as MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR!
- Roger S distributed new windshield/handout cards to recruit new members & put under windshield washers.
- It was a wild night for money. Eric Atkinson, our Gear coordinator, gave the club \$40 for what he'd sold at the Swap Meet. Jay Miller gave the proceeds from his remaining calendars to the club. Curtis Vines wouldn't take his change. Rick Odom gave his \$20 for membership. The Club paid Eric (-\$10) for a shirt to take to the Cape Fear Z Event (see below). I think we added \$105. Our treasury is now \$299.03. Before we spend too much, we need to remember that, if Eric hadn't kicked in \$100, we would have been in the red for our Show. However, we might consider another parts' cd at \$42.98. If we do this, I think we should ask which one the members want next: 79-83, 84-89, or 90-96?
- Special gift presentation were made to Sue Farmer, Roger Williams, and Curtis Vines for their Wonderful contributions to the Swap Meet and Recruitment.

Best, Roger

### Carolina Z Club (Charlotte)



[www.carolinazclub.com](http://www.carolinazclub.com)

Ron Harrison  
806 Costner Street  
Lowell, NC 28098  
(704) 824-8162

[rharrison555@cs.com](mailto:rharrison555@cs.com)

## The Z Experience

The Carolina Z Club met at the Lone Star Steakhouse on Monday night December 2. Those in attendance were: Ron & Josh Harrison, Mike & Mike Jr. Twitty, Jim Bralley, David Eudy, Shelley Benton, Ken Bolick and joining the club was Benny Neely from Charlotte with his 1990 Z. Visiting the club for the first time since being at the Z Jam was Robert Rizzo in his '94. Because of a brief shower, we decided to forego the trip to McAdenville, so we ate.

Membership fees are due in January. You may either send them to Ron Harrison (address above) or bring them to the meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks to Carolina Z Club. Individual \$25. Family \$30.

Mike T. talked with the new GM at Independence Nissan about doing a show for the intro of the topless 350Z coming in the spring. We also may have a show and shine at Independence when the construction is finished and they have an open house. More info will be coming as to exact dates.

We would also like to thank David Eudy (and girlfriend Carol) for hosting the wonderful BBQ outing at his home. The meal was great, the fellowship greater and the hospitality superior. Dave has a great place to get out of the city and enjoy the countryside. He also has a nice garage to work on cars. We toured the garage to get a look of Dave's projects. Thanks Dave.

A motion by David Eudy and seconded by Jim Bralley will allow the President to extend the election situation until the Jan 2003 meeting. Ron Harrison & Mike Twitty will be addressing the Club with important info next month.

We adjourned the meeting for the parking lot to look at the ZZZZ's.

Next meeting date January 6<sup>th</sup> Lone Star at Sharon Amity & Albemarle.

Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS & a Happy New Year

## Triangle Z Club (Raleigh-Durham)



[www.trianglezclub.com](http://www.trianglezclub.com)

Jerry Colburn  
79 Hobson Lane  
Smithfield NC 27577  
(H) 919-938-2252  
(W) 919-905-3439

[icolburn@nortelnetworks.com](mailto:icolburn@nortelnetworks.com)

### Officers:

Marty Howard - President  
Jerry Colburn - Membership Director  
Stacy King - Track Events  
Jerry Colburn - Treasurer

### Meeting **\*\*New Date & Location\*\***

**First Thursday of the month:**

Chico's Mexican Restaurant, Cary NC  
Preston Walk,  
1077 Darrington Drive,  
Corner of Cary Parkway and James  
Jackson Ave. Cary, NC 27513  
919-469-8433

No Club news reported.

## Cape Fear Z Club (Wilmington)

[www.capefearzclub.com](http://www.capefearzclub.com)

Neal Leeper  
5013 Out Island Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
910-794-1430

[neal@leeper.com](mailto:neal@leeper.com)

No Club news reported.

## Blue Ridge Z Club (Asheville)

Dan Thorpe  
26 Harris Road  
Fairview, NC 28730  
828-628-2813

[260z@bellsouth.net](mailto:260z@bellsouth.net)

No club news to report.

# CapriFlavors

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This column hopes to feature unusual, weird, wonderful, and strange Z stories each month. Please send stories in Word or Rich Text Format (RTF) to Roger Schlobin at dragon@greenvillenc.com. All stories will be subject to editing by *The Z Experience* staff. Please indicate if you'd like to see final copy before publication.

## SHE WILL LIVE AGAIN!

by Roger C. Schlobin

The saga of my 1977 280Z is hard to believe. When I was planning for my retirement in January of 2000 and happily anticipating leaving the ice and snow of Northwest Indiana for the sunny climes of Greenville, North Carolina, I thought that the dream of a ground-up restoration of my original, beloved 280Z – bought new – was dead (HLS30-405670). Even though I'd only driven her for the first five years in the salt and slush, the deed was done. My restorer looked underneath and pronounced, "Find a new shell!"

However, through the help of the Z list server and Carl Beck, I found the same car I'd bought in 1977 for sale in Anderson, South Carolina (HLS30-412310). She was identical, even the same color (301), except she had a 4-speed instead of a 5. She had been bought new in Chicago within months and fifty miles of my original purchase. Better yet, she had been on blocks since 1978 and had only 15,000 original miles on the odometer. Sadly, it was November of 1999, and my retirement stash wouldn't be available until 2000. The day looked dark. However, the sellers, Karen and Dan Bloomberg, were great and took a deposit after Carl found someone from the same small South Carolina town to inspect her.



Son Jacob climbs on the bumper of Roger's first Z love, while the new object of the author's affection sits serenely in the background (ed.)

Shortly after my arrival in Greenville and amid the ice aftermath of the great Raleigh snowstorm, I tried to drive the new girl back from South Carolina. Time had taken its toll: rotten fuel lines and bad gas clogged the injectors. It took nine hours at 5 mph on the dark interstate amid the blaring semi horns and ice to bring her home. I had held the steering wheel so tightly in my left hand that it was weeks before the pins and needles went away.

So the old Z was sadly dismantled for her parts, 5-speed transmission, and modified engine. Roger Williams, who gave the old Z her funeral drive, remarked, "Get many tickets with this." However, the old girl will live again. A Cartech turbocharger has been added to her now-gold engine and soon the old girl will come back to life in the new body with the 5 speed and a brand new emblem, compliments of Jay Miller and some cash. The turbo project has demanded a rebuild, visits to machinists, and frequent parts scavenging. After all, it's the original Cartech system that was offered as an aftermarket bolt-on in the late 70's. Right now, the new girl has 26,000 miles and NISMO headlight covers. She is a frequent winner in class at Z events, especially in stock, and for her beauty.

Please note that I have always owned female cars; I've never gotten along well with male ones. You're surprised that cars have gender? That's why you have to be careful what you park next to in malls. Some cars are promiscuous and have the morals of alley cats. After all, that's where Yugos come from. TZC



*Dr. Roger C. Schlobin is the President and one of the founders of the Emerald City Z Club. He's currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of English at East Carolina University and is Professor Emeritus of English of Purdue University. He is a scholar of literature of the fantastic and a well-published writer of fiction and scholarship.*

## Racing News



### Savannah Race Results

Jim Myers December 16, 2002

We just got back from the VDCA 'National Championship' Races at Roebing Road Raceway...

The 'orange crate' (Datsun 510, ed.) came through with a narrow victory during a highly contested race weekend, that saw a wide variety of weather (ranging from VERY wet on Friday morning, to warm & sunny Friday afternoon, to cloudy windy & cold all day Saturday, to sunny & mild on Sunday)...

After missing morning practice on Friday morning, we decided to enter a five (5) team (max 10 cars/18,000cc per team) race Friday afternoon to get a little extra track time...Any and ALL types of cars were eligible to enter...We were 'dogged' the entire eight laps by a pesky Formula Vee driven by Mike Jackson (event chairman). But he never got by us (snicker). The race winners included a trio of immaculately prepared pre-war F1 racers (a 1929 Bugatti, 1932 Maserati 8C and 1932 Alfa-Romeo 8C Monza). Needless to say, there was NO rhyme or reason as to the winners, but they really did look good...

Saturday saw VERY blustery weather conditions, with my crew (Sharon) spending as much time as possible in the trailer in front of the LP gas heater (aren't you glad I brought it along this time, hon). We qualified 7th overall, 1st in BSedan. The start of the 8-lap qualifying race was about as hair-raising as I have had since my F440 days...The Lotus S7, that I was racing into turn 1 on the start, lost its crank pulley upon entering the braking zone. I only saw something dark and spinning bounce out from under the nose of his car INTO our right side windshield (which not only shattered both panes of safety glass, but my nerves ALSO). It took me until sometime during lap 2 to realize that I was in the middle of a race and I had to make the best of the situation (AND it didn't hurt that I passed the Lotus during that 2nd lap). We finished the race, in good form, still

qualified 1st for the feature race on Sunday. A quick trip to Pooler would find us with a roll of clear packaging tape to cover the huge spider web.

Sunday morning brought a 38 degree chill, for which I opted to forego the warm-up session (Sharon gave me a big hug for this decision). Since our race was scheduled for 3pm, I had a decent amount of time to pack the trailer for the trip back to NC.

As Sunday lunch came, I saw car after car being loaded up for the drive back home. And, at one point, I wondered how many cars would be left for our race. A TR4 loaded with a broken LR hub/axle. The Penske/Donahue Trans-Am Camaro(s) on their way back to sick family members in Alabama...The '69 Hull-Dobbs Ford Torino sidelined with no tires.

By race time, only six of the 18 cars in the group made the grid. On the pole, the ever-potent Elva Courier of Alex Quattlebaum, followed by a '70 Boss 302 Mustang, a Porsche 914-6, our Datsun 510, Dana Loomis' Alfa GTV 2000 and a Lotus 7 Mk2 (NOT the crank pulley slinger). After a very clean start, everyone settled into a rhythm for the 10-lap race. Up until about lap 5 or 6, we thought everything was going quite well. Then the 3-year-old 'vintage tires just gave up (the fact was that the abrasive track surface at Roebing Road Raceway had abraded about all it could off of the tread). So there we were, in a struggle to keep the 'dime' from pushing right off the carousel and turn 9. And, of course, Dana's Alfa was now nipping at our rear bumper. He would get a run on us off of turn 9 and almost pull alongside down the front straight. I had been soft pedaling the brakes into turn 1 all weekend, just in case I needed to pull off the late brake thing. And for the last 2 laps, I had to make the car almost twice as wide as it actually is and use most all of the traction left in the tires under braking into turn 1. Well, IT WORKED...Dana and I had one of (if not) the best races of the weekend. Nose-to-tail for 5 laps...No more than 5 car-lengths separation for 5 laps...We congratulated each other for having driven our hearts out and having SO MUCH fun...

This was another race for the war stories of the future... **TZC**

## World's First 350Z Race Car?



Before the Bathurst 24 Hour 2002

As reported by the Australian 300ZX Club (see link next page), the first 350Z to turn a lap in anger on the racetrack might well have been the one driven by Nathan Pilkington, Elton Goonan, Ian Mitchell and Mark Williamson in the 2002 Bathurst 24 hour. They had one of only two 350Zs in the country and prepared it quickly for the race, with few spares available from Nissan. With a brand-new car, they qualified a respectable 23<sup>rd</sup>.



The Start!

Unfortunately, after 20 minutes and 3 gained positions, a Pirelli on the right front blew out at 170mph. Limping back to the pits it was replaced with minimal damage to the RF "wing". Restarting 5 laps down in 30<sup>th</sup> place, they went back to work and gained a few laps back before... a Pirelli on the same corner blew! This time it took a large expensive piece of right fender and wiring harness out, just before the first night shift. Quick repairs were made and, for safety reasons, the team switched to Michelins!



What 2 blown Pirellis do to a Z at 170 MPH

Learning the 350Z's new handling traits at night was not optimal but the intrepid lads from Down Under worked their way

up to 14<sup>th</sup> place by the time the sun reappeared. The supply of new Michelins exhausted, they switched to Dunlops! Further progress saw them make their way to 10<sup>th</sup> overall with 2 hours to go. And then it happened... The team was planning to conserve the hardware on the run to the checkers and in their words:

*"It was decided that we would conserve the car and tyres, as they were becoming worse with each lap, and to try to ensure a finish. With this in mind, Elton backed off the lap times.*

Unfortunately, as Goonan was exiting the Cutting with 90 minutes to go and headed towards Reed Park, he was passed by the class leading BMW M3, which forced him wide. With the car now out on the marbles and the remnants left from nearly 23 hours of racing. From this point on the Kiwi was pretty much a passenger as the car went into a slide. Elton managed to collect the first of two slides but the third and final slide was too much and as the car crested the rise and

*entered Reed Park the back of the car came round for the final time. With the back of the car just grazing the wall, the front took all of the impact cracking the lower section of the upright at the point where the steering arm attaches."*

So close to a top-ten finish. Not to be.



Does not look right. Upright is behind tyre!

Congratulations to the team for a hard-fought (and historic run). The first race for a 350Z?

For an interview with the team and a full race report go to the link below. They have a really nice web site. There are many photos of the race car in the garage and on the track. **TZC**

<http://www.aus300zclub.com/events/bathurst/summary.htm>



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## Another Great weekend at Wilmington

Prose David Newell, Photos Neal Leeper

The traditional end of summer 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cape Fear Z Blast was held in Wilmington on the last weekend of October. As usual, the show was a great success with over 30 cars in attendance and three 350Zs. All 3 were silver and they were certainly the center of attention.



The weekend started off Friday night at the Blue Water cafe on the water. There were over 20 people eating and talking over old times. This year the show was held at Wilmington Nissan and they had 3 local radio remotes. Neal Leeper has taken over the running of the club with Nate Navas' assistance and the transition was flawless. The day started with the threat of rain, but we never actually got wet (the Z gods were with us all day).

The dealership, in addition to the radio spots and trophies, had pizzas delivered for lunch.



The Triad Z club was well represented. Dave and Donna Newell had Tweety out and took second in the 280Z category, Jim Thornbro had his red 260Z and took first place in the category. Clive brought his blue 280ZX and won best of show and best exterior. Blake also attended but drove down with Jim Leutgens from Nashville in his 280Z stroker.



After the awards were presented, we once again had a caravan to South Port and took the ferry across to Fort Fisher. This is always the highlight of the weekend, seeing all those cars on the ferry. This year we had so many we had to wait for a second ferry to get them all on. Once on the other side we drove to a great little Mexican restaurant (El Zarape) and had a nice meal with a great group of people.



Dave and Blake presented the plans for the Memorial Day weekend and 2005 ZCCA National Convention and were given a lot of positive feedback and verbal support for both.

As is always the case the weekend came to an end far too quickly. This is always a wonderful event and everyone should try to make next year's show to end the summer right. **TZC**

## Mark your Calendars - MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2003

### **The 2003 9th Annual Triad Z Club event just got better. It is now an entire weekend !**

This is not just a car show; it is an entire weekend of activities, ending with a charity auction banquet for the Victory Junction Gang Camp. This is the North Carolina organization run by and Kyle and Patty Petty, in association with Paul Newman's Hole in The Wall Gang Camps. These camps give serious and terminally ill kids a chance to enjoy camp like other children.

There should be a few 350Zs at the dealership to drool over. The weekend will begin on Saturday morning at **High Point Nissan**; we will gather there at 9:30 for an informal gathering of people and cars, a tour, other fun and as the staging point for the start of the poker run to Old Salem. "Rumor has it that there might be a "stage two" challenging fun run for more adventurous drivers that do not want to stop at Old Salem." Around 12:30 we are going to roll out of High Point Nissan and will spend the next couple of hours on some fun back roads heading to Old Salem in Winston. If you choose not to continue on the fun run, you will get to spend a few hours exploring the Old Salem Village - if you have never been there it is quite a lovely area to explore, with historic shops and bakeries, etc.

Late in the afternoon, we will be gathering back at our host hotel (The Embassy Suites) at Hwy 68 and I-40. If you are staying there, you can enjoy Happy Hour from 6pm to 8 pm, with free drinks included in the price of the room. Everyone will be on their own Saturday night to explore the many restaurants and nightlife of Greensboro. This will be a great time to socialize and enjoy a relaxed time with new and old Z friends.

Sunday you will awaken to a "cooked to order" breakfast at the Embassy Suites. Unlike most car shows, you will have time to enjoy the morning. The Car Show will run from 11:00 to 4:00 at Country Park in Greensboro. This is a great place for the whole family. There is a very nice lake with boat and canoe rentals, a science center with a nice zoo, and trails for a gentle hike. It is right next to Guilford Battleground Park. We are expecting several other clubs (Miata, Mini, etc.) to join us at the park. As in other years, awards will be presented for each generation of Z-car (and other Datsuns/Nissans). The Fitzzy Award will also be presented.

At 7:30pm we will move into the Banquet Room at the Embassy Suites and have a great dinner buffet and a cash bar. Somewhere around 9:00pm we will start our very first charity auction for Victory Junction Gang Camp. We are expecting a great turnout and some really cool and special items on the auction block. All of the proceeds of the auction will go to Victory Junction Camp, so bring your wallets.

The entire cost of the event (all Saturday and Sunday events) for **any Z Club member** that registers before March 1<sup>st</sup> will be **ONLY \$60.00**. This bargain includes the dinner buffet and banquet and charity auction. Additional guest will be charged \$30.00 for the dinner buffet. Registration after March 1<sup>st</sup> will be \$75.00, so register early. If you do register early and need to cancel you will receive a 50% refund if cancellation is before May 1<sup>st</sup>. The other half is for the commitment we have to the Hotel banquet.

Embassy Suites has given us their corporate rate of only \$99.00 per night. These are two-room suites with a king size bed and a queen pull-out sleeper. There are TV's in each of the two rooms, as well as a refrigerator and microwave. It is possible to share a room with someone and share the cost. We are going to set aside a place on our web page so you can post a desire for a roommate. The rate of \$99.00 includes the room: the two hour Happy Hour sessions from 6 to 8 with beer, wine and mixed drinks. Also there is a "cooked to order" breakfast included in the mornings. The hotel has blocked off a group of rooms, but reservations will need to be made early. There is also an indoor pool and restaurant.

There will be more info on our web page in the next few weeks and in the next issue of the newsletter. **TZC**

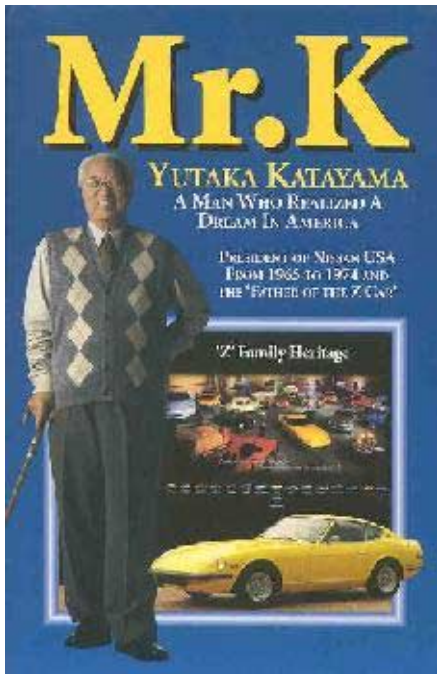
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- Scarab: The Original 350Z
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## Coming Soon to a Newsletter Near You:

Barring any more natural disasters befalling the lovely Piedmont Triad in the near future, The January/February Issue of The Z Experience should find its way to your doorstep by the end of January. We will return with Classifieds, The Adventures of Datman, a Sponsor Profile, the vintage races at VIR in October and much more. In the meantime, enjoy your Z or other Nissan and dream of completing those winter projects. I will.

One last thing... please watch for more news on our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual NC Z Show on the website and in these pages. Representatives of Triad Z will be going to Z Club meetings in NC in the New Year to bring news of the charity auction for The Victory Junction Camp and the other exciting and fun events in the Triad on Memorial Day Weekend. Sign up early – don't miss out on the limited spaces!

## **Wishing y'all a Happy and Prosperous 2003!**

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