

AT THE SIGN OF THE CAT

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High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon

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There is a new Cat club in town, and it is on the prowl, huntin' down new members. This Cat knows that there are plenty of classic Mercury Cougar owners in Oregon that need to be



The High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon has recently turned six months old and is growing as owners become aware of the club. As I continue to post on the HDCC Facebook Group by adding car show events, links to videos, cars for sale, news articles, and other fun Cougar items, the group has doubled in size in the last three months. While the headquarters for HDCC is located in Central Oregon, the members of this new club are scattered all over the map of Oregon . . . and beyond. We have even gone international, with our first out-of-country member, Constantine from Australia.

I work hard at attending local cars shows and bringing my 1970 houndstooth Cougar "Victoria" to be seen by all. I am happy to talk Mercury Cougars with anyone that approaches Victoria, and they are generally amazed at her original condition, including the houndstooth vinyl top (this really brings the fans in), and the houndstooth seats. They also love that the engine has never been modified and is very original. Most of the people I meet are either former Cougar owners, or had a good

tracked down. They may not know about this club yet, but they will as the word gets out. I have met plenty of people at car shows who tell me that they have a Cougar sitting in a garage, not being worked on. What's up with that? I try my best to encourage and support them to get that beast up and running so that it can live again. I tell them that it would be great to see their Cougar at any of the local car shows. Even better, I suggest that they join this new club and interact with other classic Cougar enthusiasts.



friend that owned one in their youth. The unfortunate thing that I find with these car shows is the absence of the Cougars. In the three shows I have attended this year, I found only one other Cougar. This beautiful 1967 Inverness Green XR-7 has been owned by Scott since he was in high school, so around 30 years or so. He has totally fixed up and powered up this Cougar so that he could spend many years racing this bad boy. It is a pretty awesome machine.



In the last month, I have attended Diego's Spring Fling Car Show in Redmond, the Trinity Lutheran Church & School Car Show in Bend, and the Battle Buddies Car Show in Bend. In the following months, I hope to run across some more classic Cougars at the Indian Head Casino Car Show in Warm Springs, the High Lakes Show & Shine in Prineville, the Elks Lodge Classic Car Show in Bend, Cruise to the Center of Oregon in Prineville, Flashback Cruise: Drake Park Show & Shine in Bend, the final Drifters Harvest Run in Redmond, and the Terrebonne Cruise-In. I left off the most important event in Oregon this year - the West Coast Classic Cougar Open House in Salem. Many of you are very familiar with Don Rush and WCCC, as you have purchased parts from him for your cars. This two-day classic Cougars only event promises to be something extraordinary and is something I have been looking forward to for a couple of years, since they did not have this event last year. I've already booked my Airbnb and am ready to go . . . right now! I cannot wait to hang out with only aficionados and owners of 1967 to 1973 Mercury Cougars.



I look forward to having the High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon continue to grow. As we add more members, I hope to have different chapters so members can get together and meet, attend car shows together, and just become great car friends. As it stands, we do not have any meetings planned because we all live too far apart. When you join, you receive a Welcome Letter, Membership Card, and a HDCC Window Cling, so everyone will know you are part of the club. And the cost of membership, well, it is free. No better price than that, is there? So, if you are an Oregonian and you own a classic 1967 -1973 Mercury Cougar and would like to join the HDCC, the Membership Application is on our website (not Facebook). I look forward to hearing from you soon and I will keep checking my email and snail

mail for your applications.

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