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At the Sign of the Cat

CLUB OF LAMERICA





ONAN TIGARD, the President of the High Desert Cougar Club (HDCC) of Oregon, is the most centrally located in the state, but not where most of the Oregon Cougar owners reside. He lives over the Cascade Mountain Range in the high desert of Central Oregon. On the other side of the mountains is the Willamette Valley where Portland, Salem, and Eugene are located. "The largest group of members in the HDCC is in the valley, not over here where I live. Therefore, it is difficult to gather everyone together for a meet-up, but that is what I tried to do this year." The club attended two different cars shows, one in the valley and one in Central Oregon. "After the car show in the high desert, everyone came over to my house for a barbecue."

August 8, 2019 - All Ford Picnic & Car Show

"I woke up early on Sunday morning and headed over the mountains before the sun even thought about waking up. Three hours after I started, I arrived at the truck stop a couple of miles away from Champeog State Park."He was joined shortly by Ben & Kathy Hasson and his white with purple and green flames 1969 Cougar XR-7 Convertible along with and two more first-generation Cougars. Ken Hogenkamp in his red 1967 Cougar GT joined

them at the park's gate. "Shortly after, we were joined by one more Cougar, bringing our total to six classic Mercury Cougars. Unfortunately, while Kyle Edberg was driving south from Washington, he started having technical difficulties with this 1967 Cougar, and he had to turn around and head home." The location of the show is underneath monstrous trees in a beautiful setting surrounded by hundreds of Fords, Mercury's, and Lincolns. "It was great hanging out with all of these Cougar-lovers, and it was nice getting to know some of the members of this Oregon Cougar club a little bit better."

August 16, 2019 - Terrebonne Cruz-In

"Having made plans to meet at the Redmond Home Depot before the show, so we could all enter together, I headed over there only to find that I was the last to arrive." Robert Cumming was already there with his Dark Aqua 1969 Cougar XR-7 Convertible along with Kirk & Sharron Moore with their white 1967 Cougar. They drove their classic cars over from Idaho to join me here in Central Oregon. I met them both the year before in California at the 2018 CCOA Western Regional Event in Oakley, so it was great to see them again, hang out, and get to know them better. None of us took home an award that day, but Kirk and Sharron did win a





huge Seattle Seahawks-themed basket filled with all kinds of goodies. It was monstrous!

After the car show, everyone came over to my new house, which is on 4½ acres out in the country, to hang out and have a nice barbeque on the back porch. My wife, Wanda Tigard, spent her day getting all of the food ready and making sure that the back porch was laid out nicely for our important guests. Ken and Ruth Hogenkamp also showed up at the car show and barbeque, but they were unable to bring their red 1967 Cougar GT. Everyone had a wonderful time."

Every year, the Terrebonne Cruz-In will be an annual Central Oregon meet-up followed by a barbecue at Conan Tigard's house. The more Cougars, the better. As for next year in the Willamette Valley, the plan is to meet at the 2020 West Coast Classic Cougar Open House just outside of Salem. "I hope to see all of you there for that awesome event."

