



Apologies

Well, it has been a long time since the HDCC has done something. For this, I must apologize. Ever since I was elected to the Cougar Club of America Board, and then also became their webmaster, my spare time has been cut short dramatically. Then, my Google email no longer worked in Outlook anymore, and I just now was able to figure out how to create a group email in a new email client. So, now I can finally email all of you again in mass.

COVID-19

Well, COVID-19 sure was a nasty piece of work. March 2020 was rolling right along and I was looking forward to doing another 18 or so car shows that year and then . . . BAM! Everything ground to a screeching halt. No car shows in 2020. 2021 was almost as bad. I finally attended a 2022 car show in April this year right here in Central Oregon. Then, I went to both the Cascade Cougar Club Prowl in Tacoma, WA and the Mercury Stray Cats Cougar Club of America Western Regional Event in Oakley, CA a couple of weeks ago. Both were great shows with each having around 50 or so Cougars. I look forward to more all Cougar shows.



For a slideshow of each car show, click on a link below:

- 2022 Cascade Cougar Club Prowl
- 2022 CCOA Mercury Stray Cats Western Regional Event

Vice-President

Attending both of the car shows this summer has made me really want to get the HDCC rolling like it has never done before. I do understand that it is tough to do when I am in Central Oregon and a lot of you are over the mountains in the valley. What I would love to happen is for someone to step up and become the VP of the club, someone that lives in the valley and can coordinate some gatherings over there. I am not talking about setting up a car show, but more like coordinating a gathering, whether it be attending a car show as a group or a meet-up at a local restaurant. This is someone that

would work with me to get this club really going. So, if you are interested, please give me a holler. It won't take much of your time and it would be awesome to have some Cougar gatherings in Oregon.

Ambush

Next year, I would like to have the first annual HDCC Car Show here at my house in Redmond, Oregon. I was thinking about late June or early July, so it isn't too hot, hopefully. I am calling the HDCC Ambush. This is not something I have ever done before, so it will be a learning experience for me.



Website and Name of Club

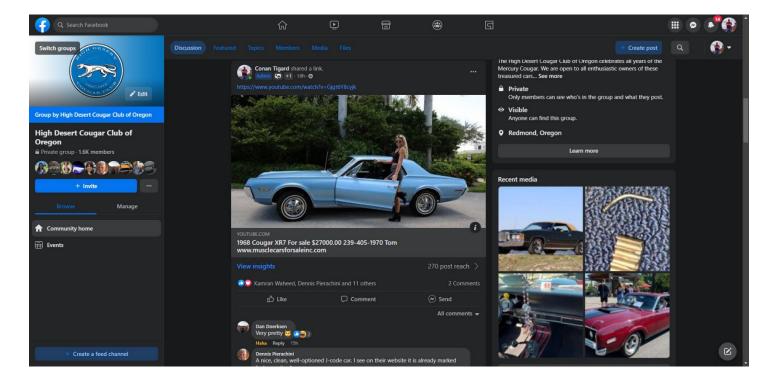
I recently rebuilt the HDCC website, but lost the originally URL. I went with http://oregoncougarclub.com/. So, the URL is really Oregon Cougar Club. I wanted your opinion on this. Should we change the name of the club to match the URL? When I originally came up with High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon, I had not envisioned it covering all of Oregon, and beyond? So, what do you all think about this? Would Oregon Cougar Club be a better name than High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon? Also, if you haven't checked out the website, please do so. Any constructive criticism would be greatly appreciated.

Facebook Group

I am active every day on the High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon Facebook Group. The group has approximately 1,600 members. Obviously, they are not all in the actual car club, but that is fine. If you haven't joined, please do so. You don't have to comment or make any new posts. I would love it if you did, but that is up to you.

Every day, just about, I share Cougars that are for sale and the latest YouTube videos about Cougars. In doing this, I have heard from new Cougar owners that they found their car in this group when I shared a listing. How cool is that?

You can visit the group here: High Desert Cougar Club of Oregon | Facebook.



1999 Mercury Cougar V6

As for me, until about three months ago, I had three Cougars. About a year ago, I sold my 1999 Mustang, after one winter with a rear-wheel drive in the snow, and purchased a New Edge 1999 Mercury Cougar V6, which I named Ashy Slashy. The car was in nearly perfect condition. The leather seats didn't have any tears, the knobs didn't show any wear, and the car looks practically brand new in the interior. The outside was Ash Gold and the plastic headlights were as clear as the day it rolled off the manufacturing line. The only real issues were doors dings. It was a blast to drive and I drove it back and forth to work every day.



Then, one day, after leaving Sisters, a deer jumped across the highway and took out the left side of the car. I got many bids, and the repair shop hat worked for the insurance company did their best to try and get it repaired, but the cost was just too much for the car's worth. It ended up being totaled out.

Steve Brown, HDCC member #10, now has the car over in Salem. It is safe to say that he loves the car and is working on getting it all fixed up.

1979 Mercury Cougar XR-7

In November 2021, I drove over to Prineville to look at a 1979 Mercury Cougar XR-7 that was for sale with no intention of buying it. I just wanted to check one out, as I hadn't seen one on the road in decades. I met with the owner, Matt, and he told me that the only other person that was interested in the car wanted it for a destruction derby. Nope...I was not going to let that happen. So, I did buy it and it is a monster! It is so darned big. I had the radiator rebuilt, the brakes fixed (the right wheel locked up just barely touching the brakes), and it now has brand, spanking new mufflers and exhaust pipes (the old mufflers were actually blown out). I have brought the paint back to life and intend to take it to the Cascade Car Show on August 20, here in downtown Redmond, Oregon.



Cascade Car Show in Redmond, Oregon on August 20

If anyone wants to join mat the Cascade Car Show that would be awesome. I am helping park cars, so I would make sure to save any spots for someone who would like to join me. It doesn't matter what condition your car is in, it just needs to show up. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

If you want to register for the show, you can do it here: <u>2022 Cascade Car Show by Sounds Fast | Redmond, Oregon | Redmond Car Shows</u>

1970 Houndstooth Cougar

I still have Victoria, my 1970 Houndstooth Cougar. She is, and will always be, number one in my heart. BTW, I was at the Prowl and the original owner of 40 years showed up. It was awesome. She told me all kinds of things about my Cougar that I just didn't know. Everyone, meet the real Victoria.



Conclusion

Okay, that is it for now. I am going to try and do this every three months. I need help getting this club up and running so we can have gatherings and our first big all Cougar car show. Anyone that wants to get involved, please contact me any way you can. The more Cougar we have out there, the better. Bring 'em out and show them off.

Conan Tigard

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