

Nutz Letter

Fordnutz Cougar club is dedicated to the preservation of all Cougars and "Orphan" Ford and Mercury Vehicles

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IN THIS ISSUE

Feature Feline	Page 1
Intro, Top Cat, "Den", Kitty, Cougar Vice	Page 2
Secretary's Report, For Sale	Page 3
Coming Events, Club Merchandise	Page 4
Member Discount, Small Cats	Page 5
Detailing Series-Part 1	Page 6, 7 & 8
Please send your articles for the Nutz Letter C/O the club address.	

"G-ood Cat in the Badlands"



The Pinkertons' "new" 1968 Mercury Cougar XR-7-G pictured in the Badlands National Park in South Dakota.

Here is the story of how Jim and Elaine got their new XR-7-G from St. Louis to their home in Snohomish. Elaine and I flew to St. Louis, MO on Saturday, June 27th to pickup the car, and then drove that afternoon to Kansas City (110 F, and 100+% humidity), thank God for AC. We visited with Eric and Beth Peterson (GTE owners) in Kansas City, early on the 28th and then headed for Sioux Falls, SD.

The following day we went to Deadwood (final resting place of Wild Bill Hickok), then on to Mt. Rushmore, and finally to Rapid City, SD for the night. Next it was on to Billings, MT; then to Bozeman, MT and a trip to the Big Sky ski area (we were sizing it up for a future ski trip).

We took an entire day to cruise through Yellowstone National Park (a first visit for both of us), being fortunate enough to see elk, antelope, a moose, a bear, bison, a coyote, ducks, geese, heron, and a cut-throat trout, spending a second night in Bozeman, MT.

Next to the last day, we drove all the way to Ellensburg, WA, dodging a rare tornado, thunder, and hail, and cruised in to John Benoit's place in Edgewood, WA at about 11:00 AM on the Fourth of July. Our only mechanical problem along with way was the power brake booster, which gave up the ghost, causing me to have to block it off and drive with manual brakes for several days, hence to Benoit's for some TLC. All in all, a great little Cougar-cruising vacation.

Photos and story by Jim Pinkerton