

Nutz Letter

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

July/August 2000

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Volume 4, Issue 4

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Fordnutz is affiliated with the
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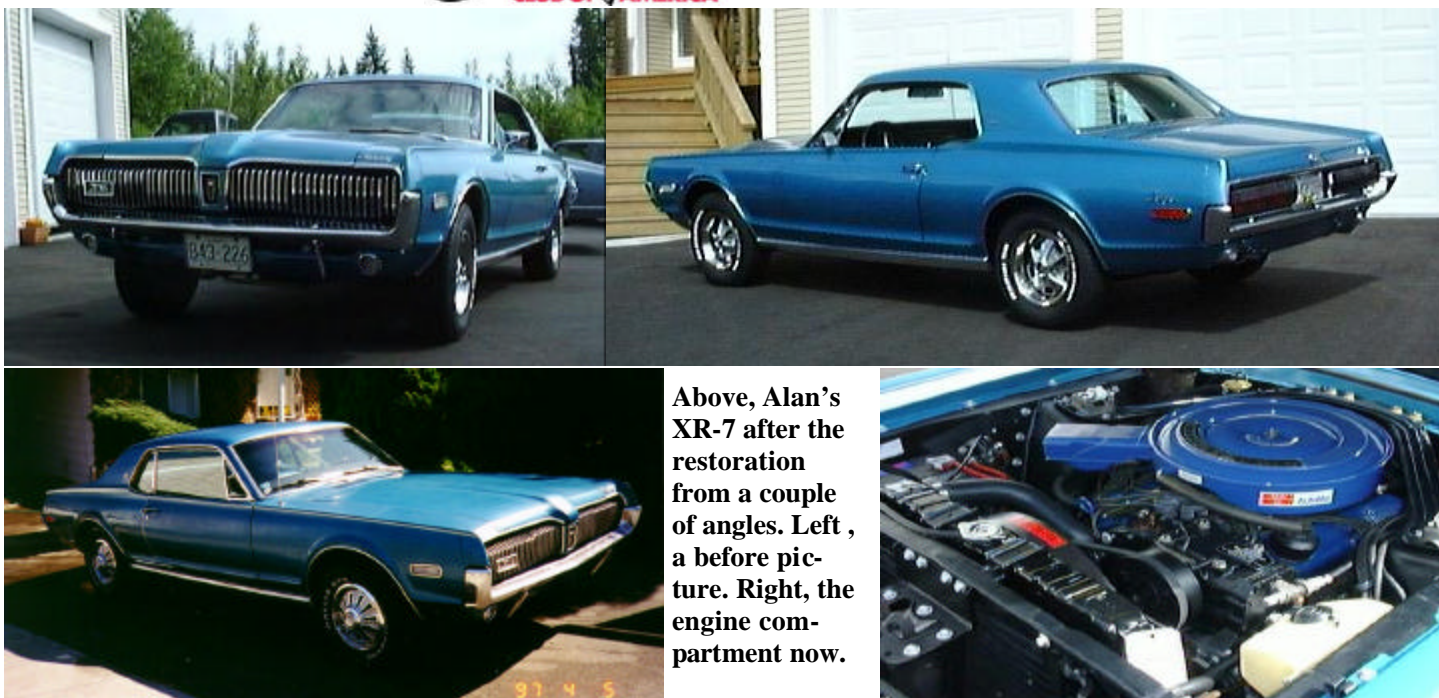


IN THIS ISSUE

Feature Feline	Page 1
Intro, Top Cat, Vice, "Den", Events	Page 2
Kitty, For Sale/Wanted, Secretary's report	Page 3
Member Discounts, Sec cont	Page 4
Two month Event Calendar	Page 5-6
Claw In/Show Down/Fun Run fliers	Page 7-8/9/10
CCOA West Y2K/Cascade Prowl 2000	Page 11-12/13-14
Internet year long	Event Calendar

Please send your articles for the Nutz Letter C/O the club address.
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15th, 2000

Alan's 68 XR-7-This one's a keeper



Above, Alan's XR-7 after the restoration from a couple of angles. Left, a before picture. Right, the engine compartment now.

Story by Alan Laary, photos by Scott Ferguson

The last year or so has been quite busy for Carolin and I. Our new house was finished at the end of October 99. We had about a one month break before the birth of our son, Jordan. All the while I was trying to find time to complete my 68 XR-7. For those, of you unfamiliar with this Cougar, I purchased it back in April of 97. It was a solid original rust free California car with 74,000 miles and every option except headrests, style steel wheels and speed control, for power it has the "J" code 302 4V. The previous owners must have stored the car in tight quarters because the driver side door had quite a few dings. She needed paint and a thorough detailing, my objective for this car was to make her into a clean driver. The motor ran fine so all I did was replace the Holley 600 CFM carb with an Autolite 4100 480 CFM carb and changed the points system to the Pertronix system, and detailed the engine compartment. Now she purred. The interior received a new dash pad and carpet and a thorough cleaning and detailing. After waiting a year my paint and body guy finally had an opening. He stripped it down to bare metal and we only found two rust holes, the size of a dime, by the rear wheel wells. After a month at the shop she was sporting a new coat of base/clear paint and looking good. Now for the part I enjoy, putting all those new shiny chrome bits and pieces on and standing back and taking in the view. The crowning touch, a new set of styled steel wheels and BF Goodrich tires. This one is a keeper.