

Ranchero Rebirth

Club member **John Fleury** has never shied away from an automotive opportunity. Having numerous specialty vehicles of his own, and an even larger collection of parts, **John** has a great home workshop and plenty of property to store all his finds and future projects.

A couple of years ago, a friend mentioned to **John** that he had found an interesting local project car listed for sale locally. **John** got on the blower and talked with the seller to get the particulars; and immediately bought the vehicle sight unseen, hauled it home, and stuffed it away in dry storage for future attention. Turns out the car had been stored and off road for the last 42 years.

The vehicle --- **one factory green 1967 Ford Ranchero** originally sporting a 289 cu. in. engine complete with an auto transmission and spinning only 67,000 miles on the odometer.

John is the fourth owner and although its actual lineage is a little hazy, a couple of owners back was someone in the **Oldfield family** who took it upon themselves to massage the drivetrain a little. As we know that family has a lot of history in the automotive field in greater Victoria. The owner yanked out the original engine along with the rest of the drivetrain and inserted a 428 cu. in. Super Cobra Jet power plant followed by a 4 speed manual and a Ford 9" positrac out of a Mustang donor car, just to make sure those rear wheels would really smoke.

As time permits, **John** has been slowly picking away at the old girl by totally stripping the vehicle down to its frame, rebuilding the engine, transmission, and the rear end so they are brand new and fresh. The body has been stripped to bare metal, with bodywork and paint by **Frank Auldy**. The interior is being restored to black with original period correct buckets and all new suspension has been installed with modifications to accept a four link and coilover setup in the rear.

By the time this **Raunchy Ranchero** is road ready and finished, it will be totally new or rebuilt from stem to stern. And the best part for local enthusiasts, **John** plans to offer it for sale at the end of this build. Another top quality **Fleury** build will be ready to hit the streets. If the offers don't match his number, this special vehicle will join his fleet of fine collectables.

Last word goes to **Bill Campbell** **Beware!!!**

There gonna be a new contender in town, for the biggest, badest, rubber peeling, wheel spinning, smoke show in the capital.

Pictures:

Pics 1 & 2 although not the original car in question, show it as it would have been when new.

Pics 3 thru 10 show the vehicle during the build

*** Pictures will be added as this build is completed ***