



# SALEEN ALLEY



Saleen Owners and Enthusiasts Club Publication  
Visit Website at <http://www.saleenclub.net>

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## Road Trip To Saleen Show 2004

On a rainy Wednesday in September 2004, a group of travelers from Mustangs Northwest left Southcenter headed for sunny SOCal and a show at the Saleen plant. 2004 marked 20 years of production of Saleen vehicles and a group of us decided that made a darn good excuse for a "Road Trip". After a stop south of Portland to pick up a couple more cars, we were a traveling group of 10 cars and 16 humans with yours truly, Mother Goose, in the lead and Officer Couture in the role of "Tail End Charlie". In between the Explorer and the Lightning were ponies belonging to the Coutures, the Kolbs, the Rileys, the Bellingers, the Osterkamps, the Johnsons, and Misters Turnbough & Sage.

After an overnight in Red Bluff, CA, we were back on the road in bright sunshine. Our first stop on Thursday was a personal favor for me – we stopped for gas and breakfast at the Elk Grove exit south of Sacramento. My son Tim and grandson Roy met us there, and I got about 30 minutes of "grandma" time and a big hug from my son – made my day. So back on the road we went, and the bright sunshine rapidly turned into blazing heat with temperatures hovering near 100 as we made our way thru "scenic central California". The trip is just as boring when we've made it in April headed for Knotts Berry Farm, but at least then there is some color – in September it's just brown.

As we headed over the Grapevine and into

*(Continued on page 3)*



## Woodward Dream Cruise

**August 20, 2005**

Location: Woodward Avenue, north of Detroit Michigan, near Saleen Special Vehicles, Troy, Michigan.

Saleen Performance will again participate in this Michigan event that celebrates the automobile. Cruisers will take to the streets and cruise Woodward Avenue north of Detroit Michigan each evening during the Week of August 15 to 20. On August 20, the official event will close Woodward Avenue to regular traffic as cruisers cruise through several communities north of Detroit Michigan. To see more information about the event, visit the website.

<http://woodwarddreamcruise.com>

Tentative plans are for the Saleen truck to be set up at Papa Joe's Market, 34244 Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 (near 14-mile Road). Saleen owners will be invited for Saturday afternoon lunch. Parking will be provided in an adjacent lot.

Steve Saleen will spend time at Papa Joe's as well as the Saleen display that will be set up in Shain Park with the Ford Cruisin' Legends and at Saleen Special Vehicles (SSV) in Troy, Michigan. SSV is where the Ford GT is built for Ford and then sent to a Ford facility for the engine to be added. Tours of the SSV facility will be available. As the event draws closer, look for details on our SOEC website, <http://www.saleenclub.net> and look for an invitation in the mail or e-mail.

Saleen Owners and Enthusiasts Club  
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## 2005 Saleen Supercharged Mustang Power



## List Events of Interest

If any SOEC member is part of an event that SOEC members may want to attend, please notify our webmaster by e-mailing [wayne@saleenclub.net](mailto:wayne@saleenclub.net) to have the event listed on the SOEC website. If the timing coincides with the publication of **Saleen Alley**, the event will also be advertised in the newsletter.

## Articles Wanted ... NEEDED

If you would like to submit information or articles, e-mail [saleens351@comcast.net](mailto:saleens351@comcast.net)

## Photo Usage

Photos taken by the editor were taken while the cars were on display at public events or they were taken with the permission of the car owner. **Saleen Alley** is a non-commercial publication printed for the dissemination of information and for the enjoyment of the reader.

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the LA basin, we spotted a substantial plume of billowing smoke in front of us. About the time we figured out that it was a brush fire AND pretty close to the highway, Mr Turnbough came on the radio and announced that he "smelled gas". Fortunately, there was an exit less than a mile ahead of us - with the appropriate name of Smokey Bear - and we made it off safely. The leak in his fuel line was quickly repaired with the ever-present speed tape and quick-ties. Glenn did admonish his pony for being bad and threatened "no oats tonight" - but I'm pretty sure he was bluffing. After a group photo, we were back on the road and finished the run to the hotel in Irvine pretty much in record time.

Friday morning found folks going in all sorts of directions on a day set aside for rest and relaxation. Saleen had set an autocross course with cones in the parking lot of a nearby amusement park and both Ric Kolb and son Howard were registered to play. It amazes me how many turns they can cram into a very small space. I was a passenger when Howard made one of his 33 second runs, and I've got to tell you - I would have had trouble figuring out the course at a 3 minute pace.

We left those troops to go fast and 7 cars went off to get rid of two days of road grime. Liz had told us there was a place close to the plant that hand washed cars, but that if we wanted to go a bit further out, we could go where she took her car. That was enough of an endorsement for us - so off we went to the "Auto Spa". What a deal it turned out to be. The price to have your car hand washed, hand waxed, vacuumed, glass cleaned, and tires dressed was \$29.95. In an hour and a half, they had all seven cars looking mighty fine. They even took pictures of them for their office wall. Even Bart Johnson from Portland, who is about as picky about his car as they come, was a satisfied customer. Before the day was over, we had sent another half dozen folks to the same place.

Saturday was show day with about 130 assorted Saleens, Mustangs, and 1 Viper parked in groups around the plant. The plant was

open for touring so we got to drool over a red Ford GT, a silver Saleen Thunderbird, a Lizstick S7, and the other S7 and Mustangs that were on the production line. In groups of 5, we got about a 15 second peek at the '05 Saleen that was to be debuted at the Anaheim Auto Show on October 27, 2004. It is a beastly looking machine, but we only saw the front and side. Rumor had it that the rear end is really wild.

It was a fun day - let's see - I got to meet the gentleman who assembled my Explorer. Riley's got a new Speedlab Yellow coffee table and Steve, Liz, and sons Clint and Sean signed their car. We had a group photo taken with Steve and Liz and the Lizstick S7.

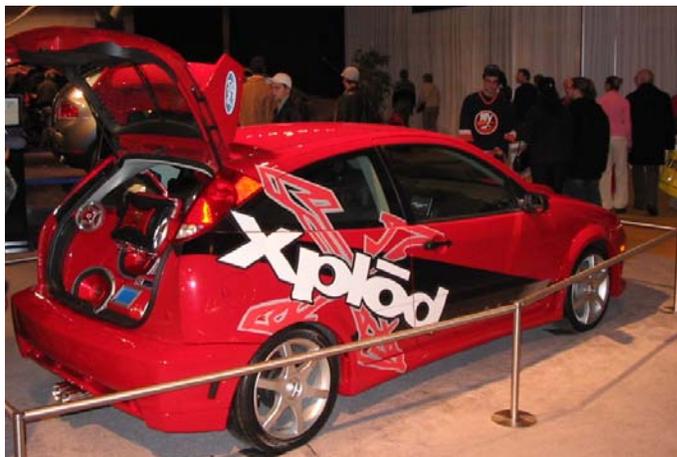
Vicki Couture fell in love with Steve's Speedlab Yellow '04 convertible which is number 04-001. Howard Kolb got a trophy for his driving skills at the autocross. Bellingers, Rileys, Vicki Couture, and Studly got trophies, and we sang Happy Birthday to Ned Bellinger at dinner. Yep, it was a pretty good day.

Those of you who know me know that I can't go south without a visit to Mickey. So, Sunday a bunch of did the Disney thing and then on Monday all of us (except Bart and Janice Johnson who had to head home alone after the show because Bart doesn't have a very understanding boss) headed to Universal Studios. Doing amusement parks after Labor Day is really a blast because there are very short lines and you pretty much walk onto rides. After a full day of rides, we had a group dinner at one of the many restaurants along the City Walk at Universal and toasted our trip.

Tuesday morning we packed up and headed north to Red Bluff with a stop in Corning at the Olive Pit. Granted, it took us about 3 hours to do the first 100 miles getting out of LA, but after that we made good time getting on up the road. One more day of travel and we were back into the rain and home. The last day of these trips is always a bit sad as the group gets smaller the closer we get to home. Cars drop off to visit kids or to hop in the car pool lane or to stop for food so they don't have to fight the traffic or just because they're home. On the brighter side - Knotts in '06 is on the schedule. If you've ever had a hankering to join us on one of these trips, start saving your quarters now.

# January 13, 2005 Ford & Saleen Display Montreal, Canada

This is the official link to the Ford of Canada site to showcase the Sony/Saleen Focus.  
<http://www.ford.ca/performanceunleashed/english/index.html>



## **“Oh, What a Night”**

**Thursday, January 18, 2005 Purchase of #152 '05 Black Saleen**

The name Glen Roberts is synonymous with Ford Motor Company. Glen has owned and/or restored numerous “special” Fords (Model A, '55 Thunderbird, '56 Ford “Big Window” Pick-up, '64 High Performance 289 Fairlane, '63-1/2 427 Galaxie, several '65 289 High Performance Mustangs, '66 Fairlane 427 Clone, '69 Cobra-Jet Fairlane, and a '70 Mach I Mustang), not to mention the “daily drivers.”

Glen's wife, Teri, wanted him to have a “new” car with all the amenities; however, Glen didn't feel the time was right, quite yet, until Ford came out with the '05 Mustang. He was in awe! They traveled all over Southern California checking out each and every color to see which they liked the best. Black was the decided color. For you see, from the beginning black, with blocked out grille, appeared to them to look like “Darth Vader.” That was it! They traveled back home and placed the first order for a GT in their small town – of course it was to be black, and fully loaded.

Weeks were turning into months, but no Mustang. Ford was having difficulty keeping up with the demand, and then, for some reason another GT order was put ahead of theirs to be built first. At this point, total discouragement set in.

In the meantime, the couple kept in touch with Galpin Ford in San Fernando Valley, AKA “the largest Ford dealer in the world” – the one dealer they found not charging over MSRP. The dealership kept in contact, but GT Mustangs were sold within hours after being delivered. You had to be there, first-come – first served!

It was Tuesday, January 18, 2005, and Glen was on the Internet, as he was EVERY night - on EVERY website having to do with the '05 Mustang. The next evening while Glen was in town, the phone rang – it was Galpin! You'll never guess - one Saleen in each color (black and silver) were due on the showroom floor the following day. Since they had already planned a trip south to help Grandma, they decided to stop by and take a chance at perhaps just getting a glimpse, in person, at their dream car. It was a miracle, but would they get there before someone else bought either car? Eager to at least give it a try, they left their home to make the 300-mile journey.

Upon their arrival - there it was – VADER! Surrounded by a velvet rope and quite the main attraction, the black Saleen was consumed by interested buyers. Glen and Teri dared not get near Vader in order to avoid showing their extreme interest in the car. They said, “Well, I guess we were about 5 minutes too late.” The salesman replied, “No, you were about 15 minutes too late.” In desperation, and knowing Glen was in complete and total shock seeing the Saleen, Teri suggested they ask what it would take to buy the car on the spot. The salesman said to give him a check, and he would see what he could do – no test drive, no sitting in the car, and taking it all in – no nothing! Then a call was made to “get the black Saleen out of the showroom NOW!” Hearts were beating out of control. Papers were signed and arrangements made. The anticipation was over – Vader was theirs! (They later learned that at least four other people were trying to buy Vader at the same time.)

Since their purchase, Glen and Teri have received nothing but SUPERIOR service from both Galpin and Saleen. They boast that Saleen and staff are truly a “class act.” They are still in awe over what an incredible joint effort was undertaken between Ford Motor Company and Steve Saleen and staff - AWESOME!

Just for the record, the personalized license plate for “Vader” was taken. The #152 '05 black Saleen displays the name “VAAADER.” Quite appropriate, don't you think?

Recently, VAAADER has taken on a new look and a definite “VAAADER” personality with the addition of a new Saleen “supercharger.”

The couple says that VAAADER is an awesome car and a “magnet” to people of all ages.

## “Puff Daddy” Meets Steve

The New York International Auto Show was held March 25 - April 3, 2005. On March 23, Sean "Puff Daddy" Combes had the opportunity to meet Steve Saleen at the Saleen exhibit (adjacent space occupied by Manhattan Motorcars - our S7 dealer in NYC). Also pictured is Miles Kovacs of DUB Magazine. Check out the photos!



## May 13-15, 2005 Mission: Mustang 2005 MCA National Show, Huntsville, Alabama

Photos below in left & right columns



## Satisfied Saleen Owner Reminds Us to Drive Sensibly

I bought S281/SC convertible #717 new in 2001, and I still have it. It's my daily driver! After I had purchased the car, I was surprised to hear about all the issues running on e-mail and chat sites. Fortunately, I already had the car as I may not have bought a Saleen if I had heard these reports. However, I saw first hand what some of the drivers were doing to these cars – after all, some owners seem to believe a Saleen needs to be driven, abusively!

In the 4 years that I have owned my 2001 Saleen, the only real issue that I have had with this car is it's driver – me. These cars are so well balanced and handle so well into turns that over those 4 years I became overly comfortable with the car's capabilities in all weather situations, especially rain. On a very heavy rain day, I turned into a slow rolling corner at fast speed (normal) and slipped into a telephone pole, damaging the front driver's side. On several occasions during the repair period, Saleen had parts out to us within days. Thank You, Saleen.

The car still looks good today, and it is performing greatly, as long as its driver performs well. I am very pleased with the reliability of this car and will definitely consider buying another. I'm so attached to this one though; maybe I'll wait for a 2007 E?

John Finco j-finco@ti.com

# Saleen Open House and Dinner Cruise Saturday, April 16 , 2005 20th Annual Fabulous Fords Forever Sunday, April 17, 2005

A big "THANK YOU" goes to everyone who participated in the Saleen Open House and dinner cruise on Saturday, April 16 and the Sunday, April 17 Fabulous Fords Forever Show at Knott's Berry Farm. Both activities turned out terrific. Steve led the pack in the S7. Ours was the only GT 40 in the show, and it was quite a hit!

Below and to the right are photos from the events.



## All-Ford Nationals, Carlisle, Pennsylvania June 3 - 5, 2005

This year's All Ford Nationals held at Carlisle, Pennsylvania attracted 13 Saleen Mustangs. Some of them were from Maine, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. All of the popular colors were represented.



8 Florida alligator - It's not alive, but it's real!

## Kansas City National MCA Show June 24 - 26, 2005

The "Comin' Alive in 2005" Mustang Club of America National Show was held in Overland Park, Kansas. The skies were clear, but that also means hot! The show field was lined with trees to provide precious shade. The sounds of Alabama, Jimmy Buffett, Mustang Sally, and other familiar music set the festive mood while awaiting the visit of the MCA judge.

Only three Saleens were present at the show. Two other local Saleens were spotted in the Spectator parking area. I again invite all Saleen owners to get involved and display your vehicles at the National MCA shows. Yes, it does take time to detail the car, but the detailing certainly prevents rust and maintains the value of your Saleen.

This show was special to you editor and her husband. We took a detour to Oklahoma on the way to this Kansas Show to pick up a new addition to our Mustang collection. This show was the first show for our newly acquired #91-01 Saleen Convertible. It is the 1991 Press Car that appeared in numerous magazine articles and publicity photos during the years 1991 - 1993. We are happy to be the new custodians of this piece of Saleen history. The car has over 76,000 miles and received a Gold Award in the Unrestored class.



**1991 - 01 Saleen Press Car**

**Pony Express Museum  
St. Joseph, Missouri**

## July 14 - 17, 2005: 25th Anniversary Northwest Mustangs Roundup

The 25th Anniversary Northwest Mustangs Roundup was held at the Bellevue Community College in Seattle, Washington. It included an All Ford Picnic, Ride-N-Drive, Pony Trails, and a Judged Car Show. Over 1200 people were in attendance. Check out the events page on the Saleen website.

[http://saleen.com/events\\_seattle.htm](http://saleen.com/events_seattle.htm)



## Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Race and Car Show Displays July 16 & 17, 2005

The Mustang was the Marque of the Year at the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. The local Pittsburgh Area Neighborhood Ford Shores helped sponsor the participation of the Mustangs in this charity event. Over 1500 cars were on display as vintage race cars competed on the street race course that wended through Pittsburgh Pennsylvania's Schenley Park. This race is the only competitive vintage race that is held on public streets.

Mustangs had special parking and were treated to a presentation by Hau Thai-Tang, Mustang Chief Engineer who is a graduate of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University. Preceding the Vintage Race Car Races on Sunday, approximately 100 Mustangs took a parade lap on the Schenley Park Race course.



## 2005 Show Schedule

**August 20, 2005:** Woodward Dream Cruise, Woodward Avenue, north of Detroit Michigan, near Saleen Special Vehicles, Troy, Michigan .

**September 10, 2005:** 2005 Saleen Show, at Saleen's Irvine, California headquarters.

### 2005 Saleen Show, Sept. 10

The 2005 Saleen show is set for Saturday, September 10. Held at Saleen's Irvine, California headquarters, this All-Ford show has proven to be a great time for all, with activities throughout the day. Entry forms were in the April newsletter and can be downloaded from the Saleen website.

<http://saleen.com/events.htm>

## 2005 Saleen Mustang



## MCA 2005 National Show Schedule



Check the MCA website for details  
<http://www.mustang.org>

**August 12-14, 2005:** The 2005 West Coast National, Lacey, Washington  
<http://www.mustangswest.com>.

**September 2-4, 2005**  
**2005 MCA Grand National Stampede**  
Youngstown, Ohio  
<http://www.mvmustangs.org>

## MCA 2006 National Show Schedule

(Partial Listing for 2006)

**July 14 - 16, 2006**  
**Sturbridge, Massachusetts**  
<http://mcne.com>

**August 11 - 13, 2006**  
**Erie, Pennsylvania**  
**2006 Flagship National Mustang Show**  
<http://www.lemoc.com/2006.htm>



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