

The Pony Express

MUSTANG CLUB OF TAMPA OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

Mustang of the Month:

Frank Morales' 1989 Saleen Mustang SSC



(Article by Melinda Morales) Frank Morales has always loved the Foxbody Mustang, and in particular the Saleen SSC. In fact, back in 1996 Frank owned another SSC. Along the way, Frank sold that SSC but always missed having a Foxbody in his stable. Then flash forward to July 2017 and one of Frank's visits back to California. An old friend of his was also an original SSC owner. He rarely took the Mustang out (the SSC only had 2,600 miles and everything on it was original, even the tires), so Frank asked him what was happening with it. As it happens, Frank's friend said he was thinking about selling it ... so a few quick transactions later, and SSC #23 has joined the Morales stable.

Introduced on April 17, 1989 (the 25th anniversary date of the Mustang), the SSC was a step up from the original Saleen Mustang. (Continued on page 16)

*When witches go riding, and black cats are seen,
The moon laughs and whispers, 'tis near Halloween!*



**MUSTANG
Club of Tampa**

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President's

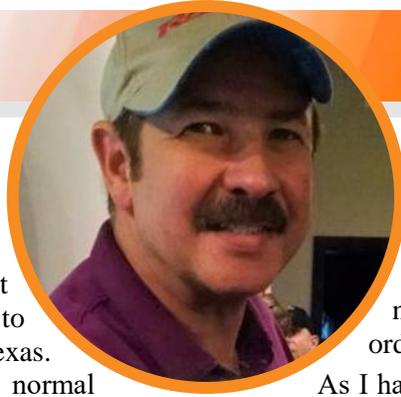
Message...

Hi friends and members of the Mustang Club of Tampa!

We've had a tough month with hurricanes and all! I know that many of you have had to deal with damage and/or lost power but I hope things are getting back to normal for everyone in Florida and Texas.

Unfortunately, things won't be back to normal for quite some time for those that are living in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Many of us in the club have family and friends in Puerto Rico and it has taken weeks to hear from them and find out how they fared through the last storm. In fact, I still haven't heard from some of my family members and the anxiety level is unreal. Therefore, a few of us recently got together to talk about how we might be able to help, and we came up with "Ponies for Puerto Rico" which is a drive to collect donations from September 30th through October 8th. This isn't an MCT, Wild Stallions, Pony-Up, or Suncoast effort (or any other club) because we didn't want it to be about the organizers. It's about the Mustang community in Tampa reaching out to help, as we often do so well. So far, we have been grateful for the response we have received from all the clubs, family, and friends. The Combat Veterans United of Tampa FL impressed us when they pulled up to Bill Currie Ford with three pickups loaded with water, canned goods and supplies. Their motto is "Together We Make a Difference." How appropriate, as I believe that together we can make a difference to help people in need. So, if you can donate to this drive, we would greatly appreciate it. And I want to extend my personal thanks to Jennifer Currie and Rob Henry at Bill Currie Ford for helping with this effort, and allowing us to use their showroom as our collection point. Bill Currie Ford is the best!

This coming Saturday, October 7th is the 8th Annual Nature Coast Mustang Club's "All Ford Powered Car & Truck Show" at Nick Nicholas Ford. We attended this event last year but, due to the Ponies for Puerto Rico drive at Bill Currie Ford, I will not be able to attend. I'm so appreciative that Harry DePeppe has volunteered to organize the annual cruise to the car show site. Talking about Harry DePeppe, last month Harry received a request from a local High School who's team and school nickname is "The Mustang" – the Home of the "Mustangs". Due to the hurricanes, this event has been rescheduled to Friday, October 13th. Therefore, Harry is looking for several volunteer drivers, along with their Mustangs, to help celebrate Mitchell Mustang Pride at the Homecoming Celebration at J. W. Mitchell High School. If interested, please contact Harry for additional information and to RSVP.



I again want to thank Lucy and Jim Carroll for doing the "Blue Light Special" at the Club meetings. Last month Lucy featured a new hat design to help promote MCT. She quickly sold out but she'll have more at our next meeting, or you can call her to place an order.

As I have mentioned in the past, I'm trying to have a Guest Speaker at all our monthly General Meetings. Last month we had Craig Ross, sharing his Vintage Racing experiences with his Boss 302. He showed us some actual racing films of him racing his Boss 302 in various vintage racing events. I want to thank Frank Cassota for making the arrangements. I'm looking for suggestions on future Guest Speakers, so if you have any connections or suggestions, please let me know.

As we head into the last quarter of the year, we have some upcoming events I'd like to focus on. The first event is our annual car show, the 36th Mustang, Shelby & Ford Roundup, at Bill Currie Ford on November 4th, 2017. Since this show is a week before Veterans Day, we have themed this year's show on celebrating Veterans. This year we will be supporting the Black Dagger Military Hunt Club, Inc. and Support the Troops. We are also getting a jump on the Christmas rush by collecting gifts for children, which will go to Toys for Tots. If you could help us make Christmas special for children in need, we would appreciate it.

Then on December 10th, 2017 we will have our annual MCT Christmas Party. This year's venue will be Bahama Breeze. We are excited about this new venue. If you haven't been to a Bahama Breeze, they have great food, and this location has a beautiful view of the bay. As a special treat, everyone that attends will receive a complimentary \$10 gift card for a future visit. So if you register for the Christmas Party at \$15 per person, and then you use your \$10 gift card at a later date, you are only out of pocket for \$5. I can't think of a better deal! So please get your registrations in early. A picture of the flier is contained in this newsletter and I will be sending the flier out shortly.

In closing, I want to thank the Members, Officers and Board of Directors that are stepping up and working hard to make MCT a successful club.

Best regards,

Frank Morales, MCT President
president@mustangcluboftampa.com



Up Front

Saleen builds a special Mustang to celebrate a championship win from 1987

(From the Internet) Saleen hasn't always been a manufacturer and tuner of high-performance cars.

Back in 1986, just three years after the company was founded, Saleen entered the SCCA/Escort Endurance Championship with a version of its Saleen Mustang prepped for motorsport duty. One year later, Saleen took home the series' Driver, Manufacturer, Team, and Tire titles.



Saleen is now celebrating the 30th anniversary of winning the series with a special version of its 302 Black Label Mustang. And it's once again partnered with the tire manufacture that helped secure the win all those years ago, General Tire.

General Tire supplied the special Mustang with its high-performance tires. The car also features a link with Saleen's historic race car designs. The white wheels and yellow, white and black graphics all hint at Saleen racers of the past.

The basis for the car is Ford's Mustang GT. Saleen has reworked the powertrain, though, adding a 3.2-liter supercharger and a host of other upgrades to liberate 730 horsepower. The car also benefits from Saleen's own suspension and exhaust designs plus a competition shifter.

Buyers will also be able to opt for a more extreme version of the car designed for track use. This one will pack 750 hp along with an upgraded cooling system, a stripped cabin, a roll cage, and harnesses.

Production started in September and just 30 examples will be built. The starting price is set at \$87,000.

The Mustang Ladies Corner

By Lupe Minute, Lifestyle Reporter

right place. "Mummy Fingers." You just take some hot dogs, wrap them in some shredded crescent rolls, bake them for 10-12 minutes, at 350 degrees, and then use mustard to make eyes. For special effect I like to bandage up my fingers so they look just like the "Mummy Fingers." Then when my Mustang Man asks about them I just say, "It's okay, bits of me here, bits of me there..." Makes him nervous. I love Halloween!



Want to make something "special" for your Mustang Man on Halloween? Well you've come to the



Welcome to Our Newest MCT Members...

Our total membership
is 147 families,
251 total members!

Andreh Alito	'65 & '16 Fastbacks
Chris & Lee Reynolds	'66 Fastback
Bob and Amy Slaney	'17 Coupe
James & Cherie Ventola	'11 GT Convertible
Josue & Tracy Cabrera	'69 Mach1
Phil Sillers & Lynda Warsaw	'12 Mustang Coupe
Rob & Diane Edwards	'07 Shelby & '99 35th Anniv. Mustang
Rick & Jeanne Hector	'94 SVT Cobra Pace Car

Steve & Lynn Travis	'65 Mustang Coupe
Jeff & Lolita Hoffman	'01 SVT Cobra
Christopher & Eileen Hicks	'17 Shelby GT350
Gaston Garces & Ashley Bass	'10 Mustang
Steven Beyer	'10 Mustang Conv.
John & Mary Butler	'96 GT Convertible
Brian & Michele Lumadue	'17 GT350 Shelby
Ron & Kim Cantrell	'17 Mustang Coupe
Art & Debbie Dahlbert	'17 GT Convertible



Welcome to our newest club members! We look forward to having you join us at our next club meeting or event!

For MCT Members Buy, Sell, Trade ... Here!

For Sale— Call Kevin Riley at 727-430-9545 for information on any of the below items:

*4 factory wheel covers for a 1966 Mustang. These are the factory wheel covers with accessory spinners. These are good driver quality. They are not the wire style covers. \$125.00 for all 4.

*I have an original spare tire from my one owner 1966 Mustang. This was the spare, and has never been mounted on a car. The tire is unused. The tire comes with a 4 lug steel wheel. Due to age, this is intended for display only. It is a 6.95 x 14 white side wall tire. \$50.00.

*I have approximately 20 years of Mustang Monthly magazines. They are in excellent condition. FREE but you must take them all.

*I also have approximately 20 years of Mustang Times magazines. This is the official magazine of the MCA. They are in excellent condition. FREE but you must take them all.

For Sale— MCT member Christopher Sloan has an AEM cold air intake for a 2015- 2017 Mustang EcoBoost for sale. He is asking \$150 o.b.o. These sell for

\$275 brand new. This setup was on his car for just under a year with approximately 8k miles on the item. All pieces still appear brand new and are still in the original box with the installation instructions. A picture of the intake on his car is shown here.



MCT members looking to Buy, Sell, or Trade can post items here. Our newsletter reaches all our members, sponsors and several other Mustang Clubs. E-mail your photo & info to:

newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com

Out & About

Ponies for Puerto Rico



Ponies for Puerto Rico

Share ... To Show We Care
September 30th, 2017 through October 8th 2017

We call on the Ford Mustang Community in Tampa, FL, along with our friends and families, to support our efforts to provide hurricane relief for Puerto Rico. Here is how you can make a difference:

Drop Off Location:

Items can be dropped off at Bill Currie Ford, located at 5815 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33614 between the hours of 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Mon-Sat) and 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Sun). We will be collecting items from September 30th, 2017 through October 8th 2017.

Items needed are:

Personal care items, toiletries, First Aid items, Canned Goods, Clothes, Kids Items, Pet Supplies, Cleaning Supplies, and Misc Supplies (batteries, flash lights, etc.).

We will be working with Homeland Intelligence Technologies, to get all items to Puerto Rico for those in immediate need. If you have questions, or if you need help with pickup of items, please contact one of the following coordinators of this effort:

Frank Morales, 714-349-1753
Ramon Papo Martinez, 813-468-3170
John Esposito, 727-385-4583

Thanks to Bill Currie Ford
for supporting this effort!



Thank You for Making a Difference.

On September 30th, 2017 several Mustang enthusiasts kicked off the “Ponies for Puerto Rico” drive to collect much needed emergency supplies for the people of Puerto Rico. Thanks to the support of Bill Currie Ford, they kicked off this event at the dealership, who graciously agreed to be the drop off point for a period of two weeks. The first day was a very successful start to what they hope will be a beneficial effort for people who are desperately in need right now. If you can help, please stop by Bill Currie Ford before October 8th with any donations you can make. Thank you! (pictures by Frank Morales and John Esposito).

Out & About

9/11 Tribute Car Show at Wiregrass

On October 1, 2017 many Mustang enthusiasts gathered for the 9/11 Tribute Car Show at Wiregrass. This is a car show that had been postponed due to Hurricane Irma. It was originally planned for September 10th and was a celebration of the first responders who lost their life on September 11, 2011. It was a nice day, a bit hot, but nice anyway. There was plenty of shopping, which gave some cool respite from the heat of the day, great eateries, and plenty of cars to enjoy. What more can you ask from a car show? *(pictures by Melinda Morales and John Esposito).*



Out & About

9/11 Tribute Car Show at Wiregrass (Cont'd)



(above) Frank Morales (below) a very happy Marilu



(above) Brandon Pacifica was happy with his award!



(above) Cesar Colon was happy with his award!

Have you Heard?

By Rumer Mills, Investigative Reporter

(Note: Last names of members are withheld to protect the innocent. – Rumer) So we're at a car show, trophies are being handed out, and your name doesn't get called for a "Best in Class" trophy. What do you do? If you are one of our Mustang Ladies (*Marilu*), you turn around and give your husband (*Papo*) a really bad time because it is *obviously* his fault that your beautiful Mustang wasn't presented at its finest. Then you are silenced by the sound of your name being called for a "Best of Show" trophy. And all is well again with husband and wife. Congratulations to Marilu!



(above) and Papo Martinez was happy with his award, but thrilled with Marilu's award!

Highlights

Pictures of the Month ...

I have two favorites this month.

(Top, Right) If you didn't know better, you might think this is a Halloween picture.

But those of you with a sharp eye will recognize MCT Bad Boy, Howie Taylor. No, he isn't playing. He is on the job.

Yes, he is part of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Pirate Crew ... and you think you have a tough job! All that singing, fist waving, and stomping around on a ship at a football game.

Yes, Howie is a man of many, many, many talents!

(Bottom, Right) This picture was taken at the Wiregrass Car Show.

I've titled it "Mustang meets Mustang."

I don't know what makes me laugh more, the thought of the horses saying, "Is that what I'm going to look like when I grow up?" or the Mustang saying, "Is that how I started?!"

And I don't know which is more shocked!



"A smile is an inexpensive way to change your looks for Halloween ..."
- Ada Sage, Staff Philosopher

Halloween Joke Corner:

- *Why wasn't there any food left after the monster party? Because everyone was a goblin!
 - *What does a skeleton order at a restaurant? Spare ribs.
 - *What was the witch's favorite subject in school? Spelling.
 - *What's the problem with twin witches? You never know which witch is which.
- What do ghosts serve for dessert? Ice Scream.



Highlights



Gillis Restorations builds every car as if it were Rusty's own. They are a one stop restoration shop. From rust repairs to turn key restorations, no job is too big or too small. Let's see what Rusty is up to this month ...

This month I thought I would show you a project we started working on that will probably take over a year to restore. It is a 1969 Grande that is owned by Kathy and Rick Meyers from Miami. Kathy's Dad bought it new for her when she was in high school in Miami, and it was her first car.



#1

Her dad also bought her a Camero and the sister drove the Mustang for awhile. Kathy liked the Mustang so Rick bought the car from her Dad when they got married and he drove the Camero. The Grande has always been in the family and she wants it restored.



#2

The problem is this poor Mustang has spent its whole life in Miami or Daytona Beach and the salt spray has taken it toll on the body as you can see in the photo. (See picture #1) When I opened the right door it dropped about an inch and this is what we found after removing the fender. I can't believe the door didn't fall off. (See picture #2) We realized there was too much damage to the inner structure so we found a parts car that looked to be in good shape. Ford did not prime the inner structure so we removed the outer sheet metal and will strip it down to bare metal and epoxy prime. (See picture #3) We also worked on Chad's 1966 Restomod Coupe and I finished spraying the clear. (See picture #4)



#3

Brian taped off the stripes on the rear bumper and I sprayed it black and after removing the tape cleared the rear bumper. (See picture #5)

(Rusty's story continues next month...)



The Parts Car



#5



#4



www.gillisrestorations.com
727-847-7973
Email: rusty@gillisrestorations.com

Highlights

The Road Ahead ...

A Very Mustang Christmas

*In celebration of the holiday season,
The Mustang Club of Tampa
cordially invites you to attend our
annual Christmas Party
On Sunday, December 10, 2017,
from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.*

*This year's party will be held at
Bahama Breeze, located at
3045 N. Rocky Point Dr. East
Tampa, FL 33607
Participants will receive
a complimentary \$10 Gift Card
From Bahama Breeze.*

*Our holiday party will include
Dinner and an optional
"Red Mustang"
Gift Exchange.*

*We ask that participants
bring the magic of
Christmas to a child
through your generous
donation of one
new, unwrapped
toy or gift.*

*From the
Mustang
Club
of Tampa*



*MCT Members can participate for only \$15.00 per person
(guests are \$25.00 per person). See Reverse side for
additional Information and Registration.*

Attention all MCT Members: It's time to mark your calendars for our annual club holiday party! Yes, December 10th, 2017, we will all turn into Santa's Elves as we party at Bahama Breeze. We ask that everyone bring an unwrapped gift which we will donate to children in need. We will have a great setting with ocean views, three great dinner choices, dessert, and a "Red Mustang" Gift Exchange! What is a "Red Mustang" Gift Exchange, you ask? Well, you'll have to flip your flier over for that explanation. So watch for this flier to be distributed soon, and then (in order to help with our planning) please get your registration in ASAP. Oh, and did I mention that all participants will receive a \$10 gift card for their next visit to Bahama Breeze?! You can't beat that!!

Features

Area Cruise-Ins

Events are subject to change so always check with organizers.

√ Every 1st Monday - Mustang Mondays, Biff Burger & Buffy's BBQ, 6 to 9:30pm. 3939 49th St N. St Petersburg. Info: 727-522-0088. Free event. December meet is Toy Drive, bring a toy! More info on MCT facebook page.

√ Every Tuesday Evening - WOW! 5:30-8:30pm. 10902 N. Dale Mabry, free, open-to-all, trophies, 50/50, music, Info: Jerry 813-780-1215.

√ Every Friday - Citrus Park DQ Grill & Chill 6-9pm 8410 Citrus Park Dr. Music, door prizes & 50/50. Free cone for the first 20 registered. Space limited to 45 cars. Info: Paul Figoni 813468-027

√ Every Friday - Pep Boys Speed Shop, 5-8pm 10124 N. Florida Ave, open-to-all, drivers receive a hot dog & soda, door prizes, 10% discount on

store purchases, DJ Ed Cullins. Info: Joe 813-933-2424.

√ 1st Saturday - Dairy Queen, Lutz, 6-8:30pm. 23671 FL-54, Lutz. All makes and models welcome. Food, ice cream, DJ music, raffles and face painting. Fun for whole family. Info: 813-949-8900, or email Dawn.c@inspiringservice.com.

√ 2nd Saturday - NorthPointe Village, 5-8pm. 16506 Pointe Village Dr, Lutz. Door prizes, oldies, music and 50/50. Info: Paul Figoni 813-468-0277

√ 2nd Saturday - Breakfast & Coffee at Insty Tune. 7am to 9am. 14783 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33618.

√ Last Saturday - Cars & Coffee at Streetside Classics. 9am-12. 4610 Pet Lane, Lutz, FL. 150+ classic cars on display under one roof.

Member Businesses and Services



Phil Collie
Internet Consultant
Lazydays, The RV Authority
Cell: 800-626-7800
pcollie@lazydays.com

John Underwood
Custom Cabinetry
U.S. Design & Mill, Inc.
Cell: 813-854-2321
USDM11@tampabay.rr.com

Jeremy & Jessica Cianfrocca
Auto Detailing
Tampa Wax Slingers
Ph: 813-409-2630
jcianfrocca@tampabay.rr.com

Fred Flesche
Indoor Gun Range/Sales
Shooting Sports Inc.
Ph: 813-933-3000
ffnc@aim.com

Rusty Gillis
Automotive Restoration
Gillis Performance Restorations
Ph: 727-847-7973
rusty@gillisrestorations.com

Glenn Bornemann
Auto Detailing Products
Garage One
Ph: 813-380-3773
mustang62401@gmail.com

Jose Chinchilla
Autobody & Collision
Full Metal Garage
Ph: 813-217-5364
fullmetalgarage.com

Members who would like to add your business or service, which may be of interest to other members, email your info to:
newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com

Mustang Club of America

Another great perk for Mustang Club of Tampa members, who also join the National Club

Mustang Club of America



MCA members can take advantage of
The Ford X-Plan

Purchase a Mustang with a deep pricing discount, the process is both simple & rewarding.

Don't forget to make the dealer aware of your MCT membership for a \$150 loyalty bonus to the Mustang Club of Tampa. See below for details.

<http://www.mustang.org/content.php/274-X-Plan-Pricing-for-MCA-Members>

Features

Car Shows & Other Events

Events are subject to change.
Always check with organizers.

* = Car Shows with Mustang classes.

Car Shows -

√ *October 7 — 8th Annual Nature Coast Mustangs All Ford Powered Car and Truck Show. Located at Nick Nicholas Ford. 2901 Hwy 44 West, Inverness, FL. Start time is 8am. Entry \$20/\$25. Contact: Perry at naturecoaststang@yahoo.com.

√ October 20-21, Lakeland Auto Show, located at the Lake Mirror Park, 10am—3pm. More than 750 cars, live entertainment, specialty vendors. For more information visit www.lakelandautoshow.com.

√ October 28—SWFL Fall Nationals Halloween Show. 8am—3pm. Admission \$10, Parking \$5. Kids Zone with bounce house, face painting, balloons, candy. For info go to www.roadhousepromotions.com.

√ *November 4—MCT's 36th Annual Mustang, Shelby & Ford Roundup, held at Bill Currie Ford. Show hours are 9am-4pm. Registration 9am-11am. Awards at 3:30pm. Entry is \$25/\$30. Flier will be available soon.

√ November 18—CS4C Poker Run and Cruise In. Save this date! This event is always a lot of fun and it supports charity. Flier available soon.

√ November 19—The Mustang Club of West Central Florida

hosts its 26th Annual Ponies under the Palms Mustang and Ford Show. 8am to 3pm. 8100 Lakewood Main St., Brandon, FL 34202.

√ January 13, 2008—Boggy Bottom Auto Show 2018. 10am to 2pm. 8407 Lupton Place, Plant City, FL 33567. \$25 / \$30. Open to all years, makes and models. This show is located in a beautiful country setting just south of Plant City. Over 20 vendors, 50/50 and more space for show vehicles. Breakfast served from 8-10:30am and a BBQ lunch buffet is served from 11:30am-2pm. Show car registration closes at 11am, then the professional judging starts. Registration includes 1 BBQ buffet wristbands and additional wristbands can be purchased the day of the show as well as ala carte grill items. Pre-registration is \$25 before December 31, day of show is \$30. Email: j c i a n - frocca@tampabay.rr.com.

Other Noteworthy Activities -

√ Oct 10 — MCT Board Meeting. Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10th at 6:45pm, in the room over the Bill Currie Ford showroom.

√ Oct 14 — MCT Judging Clinic will be held on Saturday, October 14th at 9:00am, in the room over the Bill Currie Ford showroom.

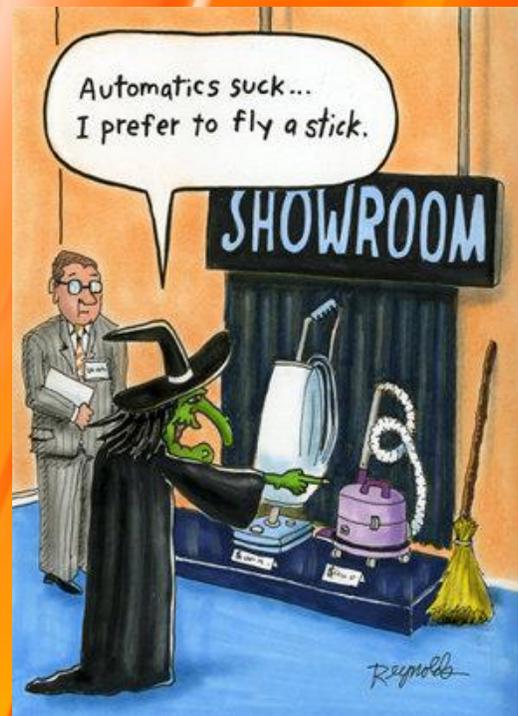
√ Sep 24 — MCT General Meeting. Our next club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24th at 6:45pm, in the room over the Bill Currie Ford showroom.

√ Dec 10—MCT's Annual Christmas Party. Mark your calendars. This years party will be held at Bahama Breeze. Fliers will be available soon.

(See MCT Website for fliers.)

The Rust Bucket...

by Rusty Sparks, Staff Mechanic



BILL CURRIE PERFORMANCE CENTER

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP
FOR ALL THINGS MUSTANG



BillCurrieFord.com
813-872-5555

5815 N. DALE MABRY HWY.,
TAMPA, FL 33614
(1 Mile North of the Stadium!)

SALES HOURS
Monday–Saturday
9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday
11:00am–5:00pm

PARTS + SERVICE
Monday–Friday
7:00am–6:00pm
Saturday
7:00am–5:00pm
Closed Sunday

Features

Bill Currie Ford Referral Program

\$\$\$\$ Benefits to Members of
Mustang Club of Tampa provided
by Bill Currie Ford!

Club members, and the club, have special Loyalty Privileges at Bill Currie Ford. Earn \$\$\$, receive discounts, and work with a dedicated team to assist you. Here is what we get in return:

** \$150 – Paid to the Club when a club member purchases a vehicle

** \$150 – Paid to any Member who refers a friend to purchase a vehicle

** 10% -- Discount for Parts and Service

A dedicated Mustang enthusiast at Bill Currie is assigned to assist you.

Dealership Contact for MCT Members:

Jim Carson, 813-872-5555, Ext. 1335

To receive these benefits always introduce yourself as a member of Mustang Club of Tampa and present your membership card. If there are any questions contact club President Joyce Bendishaw at <mailto:president@mustangcluboftampa.com> or Jim Carson at the phone number listed above. Please give Bill Currie a try, and refer your friends. Let us know if

If purchasing a vehicle - present the voucher below
with your membership card at the time of sale!

Mustang Club of Tampa Referral Program

In recognition of the partnership with Bill Currie Ford, Mustang Club members who purchase a vehicle from Bill Currie Ford will get \$150 donated back to the Mustang Club This Voucher MUST be shown at time of Sale along with Membership Card

Sales Team and Finance Team. - Please add this voucher to the deal packet

Accounts Payable,- Please make checks payable to the Mustang Club of Tampa. (please reference Club member/purchaser name for records)

Thank you !



Snapshots

(Continued from Page 1) It took the Mustang to a new plateau of street-legal performance with a Saleen-modified, EPA-approved 5.0-liter V-8 that complemented the company's well-tuned chassis mods. With 290-hp, it became the Mustang to obtain among Mustang enthusiasts. Only 161 Saleen SSC's we produced. Here are the stats behind the first-year Saleen Mustang SSC.

ENGINE: The SSC edition was furnished with the upgraded version of the 302. The 290-hp rating (and 325-lb.ft. of torque) was achieved by replacing the stock 60-mm throttle body with a 65-mm unit, modifications made to the upper intake manifold and lower intake manifold. To assist the engine's breathing, tubular steel headers were installed with a Walker Dynomax low-restriction dual-exhaust system. In addition, a "high-performance air filter," heavy-duty battery and cooling system were added. Several other personal touches set the Saleen-tuned electronic fuel-injected engine apart from Ford's base configuration, such as polished aluminum rocker covers, Champion spark-plug wires and H.O.T. plugs and a special SSC intake plenum cover plate. Combined, the upgrades were good to achieving a top speed of 149 MPH.

TRANSMISSION: Saleen Autosport provided its Mustang SSC with a performance version of the Borg-Warner T-5 unit, with five gears and a Hurst quick-ratio shifter. Hidden from view, but also part of the package, was a heavy-duty GT clutch and clutch disc.

CHASSIS: Saleen made extensive modifications to the suspension, beginning with Monroe Formula GP electronic cockpit-adjustable three-position shocks and struts--a revolutionary advance in adjust-on-the-fly suspension tuning. The SSC's brake system: a four-wheel disc setup with a five-lug pattern (Fox Mustangs normally used four) and specially grooved rotors based on Ford's factory SVO package. Fitted against the rotors were Saleen-designed SSC five-spoke alloy wheels, finished in Oxford White, measuring 16 x 8 inches, the front with meaty 5/50 Z-rated tires and 245/50s in the fronts, all supplied by General Tire.

This at a time when Mustang GTs had 15 x 7-inch wheels with 60-series tires. The SSC still has the original tires.

BODY & INTERIOR:

In typical Saleen fashion, the SSC was adorned with "aerodynamic wind tunnel tested" alterations. From front to rear, a new front air dam was installed, a pair of side skirts. Saleen's rear valance, a race-inspired rear spoiler, which had seen use on other Saleen Mustangs since the model's inception, added downforce and stability at speed. All 161 SSC editions were painted Oxford White featuring a gray band of trim along the beltline. Saleen SSC graphics were added to the forward edge of each door and, a Saleen graphic/tint band hugged the top edge of the front windshield. The interior was subjected to a diverse number of Saleen alterations, including a pair of FloFit adjustable front bucket seats. The rear seat was eliminated entirely. While this seems to follow in the tradition of competition-bred Mustangs like the original GT 350, in this case, the rear seat area was fitted with a sound enclosure featuring speakers, part of the 200-watt Pioneer sound system that included a CD player. There is also a tubular arrangement in the rear of the cabin that looks a lot like a roll bar setup, but Saleen considered it a four-point chassis support system, intended to add rigidity. Other touches included SSC the hand-tailored glove leather upholstery--in a gray/tricolor motif--fitted around the steering wheel, shift knob, on the seats and each of the door panels.

If that were not enough, Saleen also swapped out the standard Mustang speedometer for a gauge that registered an eye-grabbing 200 MPH, along with a Saleen-tagged electronic tachometer; auxiliary engine gauges were also present.



And coming Next Month ... I started this edition by telling you that the holiday season is upon us. Then I held a planning meeting with the Staff on the same subject. That was a real mistake. Now I have Rusty Sparks dressing up like a vampire and chasing the rest of the staff around the newsroom in a lousy rendition of "I want to drink your blood." Then Rumer Mills and Paige Turner are monopolizing the staff kitchen testing menus for Thanksgiving. Giving thanks has turned into a nasty competition that is giving me a headache. And now Lupe Minute and Sally Ride are fighting over who will get to go with Santa on his rounds this year! Sally thinks she has the advantage because she is the Traveling Reporter and she's driving Lupe ... well, loopy. And our Staff Philosopher, Ada Sage, is off in the corner mixing up her favorite New Years drinks for the staff to try. Like they need a cocktail to spin them up more. Speaking of New Years, can we just skip the holidays and go right to January?! I have a feeling that the annual staff reviews are not going to go well this year. Till next time...- Melinda, Editor