

# SALEEN-Natic!

Stuart Akers is the premier Saleen Mustang fan!



Stuart Akers has more than a passing interest in Saleen Mustangs. Shown are Stuart and friends at last year's Mustang Club of Indianapolis meet with just part of Akers's Saleen memorabilia collection.


His friends jokingly call him "Stuleen", and for a very good reason. Indianapolis, Indiana's Stuart Akers eats, breathes, and sleeps Saleen Mustangs. "I used to collect and restore classic Mustangs," says Stuart, "but ever since I got my first Saleen, I'm not interested in anything else!"

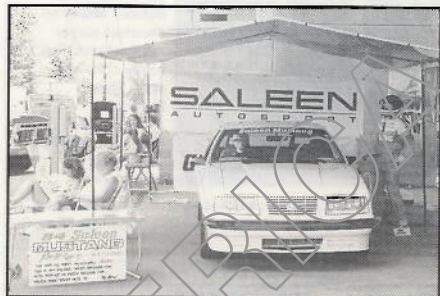
Akers's stable of Saleen Mustangs now numbers four, and Stu probably owns two of the rarest Saleen Mustangs in captivity. His first car was number 84-0032, originally owned by Robin Lee Saleen, Steve Saleen's sister. This car was originally purchased as a Mustang, and then loaned to Steve in order to develop the Saleen Mustang Program.

Akers recently acquired number 84-0051, a copper-colored Saleen Mustang, which is reportedly the second commercial Saleen produced, and the first customer car to be sold to the public. "This car was rumored to have been destroyed in a garage fire a few years ago, but I tracked down the owner in Walnut Creek, California, and found out that it was only a car-buretor-fire. We're currently restoring it back to original condition."

Akers's third Saleen, number 86-0088, is one of twelve 1986 Saleen Mustang convertibles, and one of two known to have rear wings. Furthermore, this is the very same car that *MI* tested brand new back in our Summer, 1987 issue! Finally, Akers has a really fine low mileage red, 1986 Saleen three-door number 86-0061. It's quite a nice collection.

But that's just barely scratching the surface. Akers has also purchased the proverbial "shirts" off Steve Saleen's back, including Steve's 1989 pit shirt, his 1989 Indianapolis 500 driver's suit, a 1987 Mustang "Championship Year" jacket, one of 12 1989 Saleen SSC jackets, Steve's 1990 Trans Am driver's suit, both of Steve's 1987 and 1989 Escort Endurance Series race helmets, and his 1984 General Tire race suit to mention just a few.

"Stuleen" and his rolling collection of Saleen paraphernalia are well known fixtures at most Midwest Mustang meets, along with most of the SOEC and Team Saleen gatherings. If you're ever in the mid-west you should catch Stu's "act." You'll flat be amazed! 



Akers's first Saleen is number 84-0032, originally purchased as a stock Mustang by Steve Saleen's sister Robin, and then developed into the very first Saleen Mustang. It's shown here at the 1992 MCA/Mustang Club of Indianapolis meet, held at the Indy 500 Speedway.



This is Steve's 1990 SCCA Trans Am Race suit and helmet.



Here's a shot of number 86-0088 parked in McMullen & Yee Publishing Company's old headquarters parking lot 'round about the time it was first tested by *MI*. Akers is the second owner of this car.



Here's one of Saleen's PPG Indy Car Series shirts, and in front is one of the Saleen Escort Series director's chairs used during 1987-89 Series.