



# an extreme story

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Mustangs Northwest provides activities for just about anyone's interest in Mustangs and Cougars. There are the monthly meetings, judge shows, Ride N Drive, garage tours, parades and pony. You will notice a lot of these events involve actually driving your car. Most of the club members know I have a concours trailered 1965 Mustang GT 2+2 named "Ivy." She is an acknowledged trailer queen so she just sits in the garage under cover. I also have a 1971 Camaro, Z&8, but she would not be too welcome at Mustang events and she is still in the process of being restored. Now you understand my desire for a Mustang that I could actually drive in MNW events or on a daily basis just for fun.



Thus started my search for a Mustang that was somewhat unique and fun to drive. I have always liked the 2005-2007 Saleen Mustangs. Of course, the supercharged variety would provide that extra "un" in fun. I started a search about two years ago and would actively search the internet for listings. Being a CPA, she not only had to



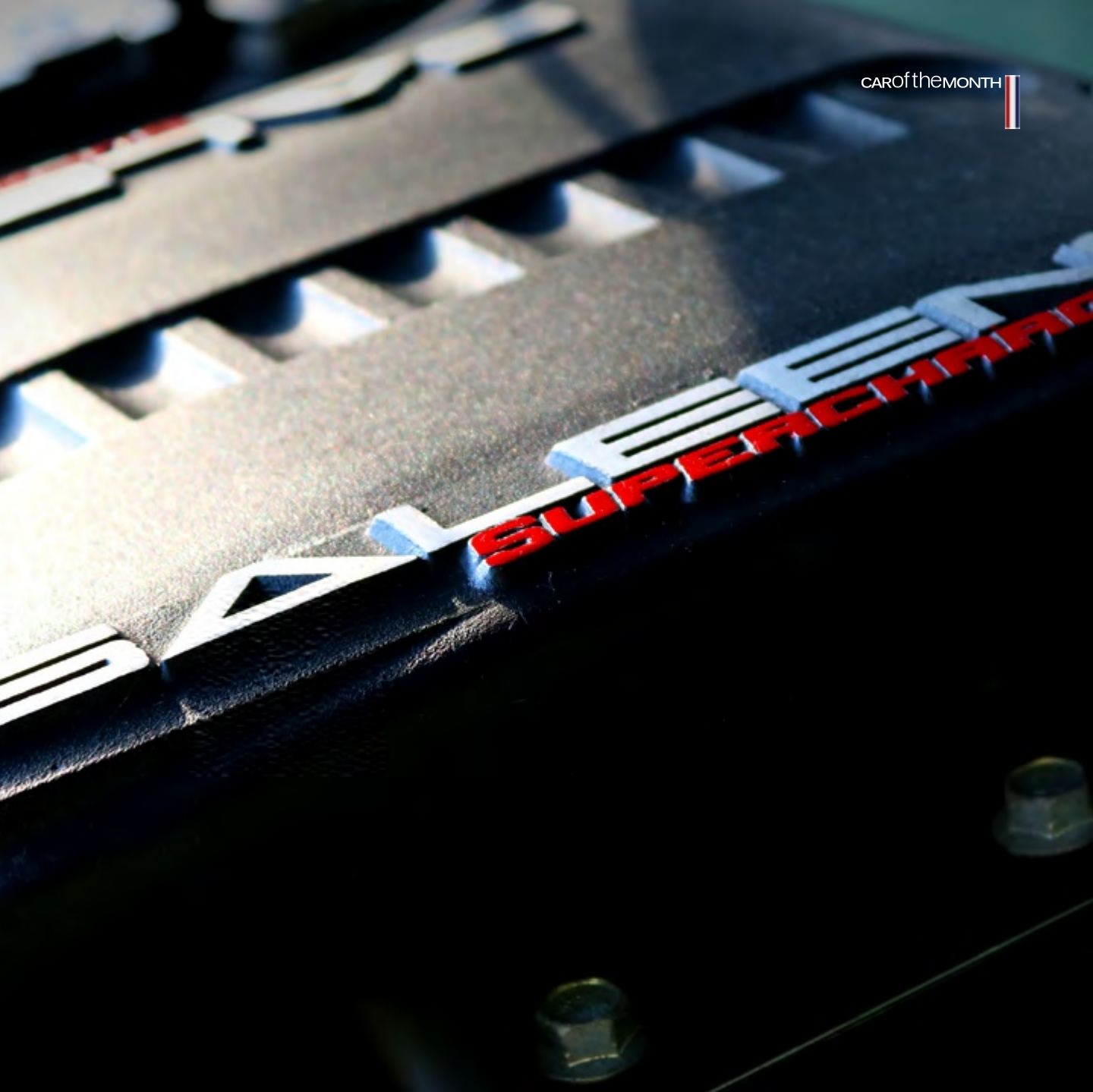


be in good condition but the price couldn't be too outlandish. I had already pushed the wife's envelope with two collector cars. So after a period of time, I had a good knowledge of the different models available and fair values.

Then it happened. A 2007 S281SC Extreme was for sale in Kentucky and they were asking \$36,000. This was anywhere from \$20,000 to \$39,000 less than all the other Extremes that were listed for sale. But was it a real Extreme? A quick call to the Hyundai dealership that had it listed

obtained the VIN and details about the car. Around 17,000 miles on the Odometer, five speed, burgundy color with black interior. A follow-up call to Saleen proved her to be the real deal. That very day I started crafting the email to the wife. Citing such factors as we had just bought her a new car, my existing car (a wonderful Camry) was getting up in years and would be a wonderful car to pass down to Noah, our 15 year old. And, this was a really good deal. The email was much more eloquent than I just wrote but the answer was very short, "No, you already have enough toys."





Well, two weeks of moping around the house did the trick. She finally said, "Well, if it means that much to you, and you think we can afford it, go ahead." Super! On the phone to Kentucky Hyundai dealership the next day.

Me, "Do you still have that Saleen for sale?"









Dealership lady, "Yes"

Me, "Wonderful, I would like to proceed with purchase."

Dealership lady, "That's great, by the way, we adjusted the price."

Me, "Whaaaaaaat?"

Dealership lady, "Yes, we did some research and discovered the car was worth more than we had originally asked. We are now asking \$65,000."

Two more weeks of moping around the house.

The search continued. Then in October, I found (insert name here) for sale in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Not an Extreme but real deal 2005 S281SC, A little overpriced for 38,000 miles but otherwise great shape and dig that crazy Legend Lime paintjob. After a bit of negotiation (did I mention I was a cheap accountant) the deal was struck and she would be shipped door to door in November. The only downside



was the trucking company damaged the side skirts and would not own up to it. New skirts have been purchased and she will be visiting the paint shop fairly soon. To date (insert name here) has logged over 3,000 miles, 102 of which were at the Ride N Drive putting her through her paces. She also attended the Griot's show, was a display car at the MNW 2017 banquet, and won Silver at the 2017 Spring Into Summer. At the peoples' choice show some guy stated she was a really nice clone because Saleen never painted them that color. I said "you see the guy in the baseball cap about 30 feet away? That's Steve Saleen, why don't you walk





over and ask him?" Well, for some reason he didn't do it.

So why "insert name here"? Because I still haven't thought of a good nickname for her. The wife's suggestion was "Noah's inheritance", but it doesn't seem to fit. Other suggestions include the "Green Hornet", "Limey", and "Avocado". So, keep coming with the suggestions!

In the meantime, see you on the road.

*Steve Bishop*





 CAR of the MONTH



an  
extreme  
story