

# Perfect in

Perry Gonterman's 1995 SVT C



Text and Photos by Mary Jean Wesche

**P**erry Gonterman is a keeper of things he values. His 1995 Cobra was built on February 14, 1995 and he bought it on April 24, 1995, from Carriage Ford in Indiana. His is a pristine example of the last of the SN95 5.0L Cobras. With only 73 Cobra R's built in 1995, with a 5.6L, the following year Ford introduced the 4.6L engine.

When Perry bought his '95 Cobra, it had barely 50 miles on the odometer. He drove it occasionally and in the Fall, then placed it into storage with 2,847 miles clocked.

Perry kept the Cobra in storage until March 2004, when he prepared it for

the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mustang celebration in Nashville, Tennessee. That 180-mile drive each way was the longest drive he'd ever taken in the Cobra. He even admitted it was the only time in his possession that the car ever sat out overnight, as it was doubtful any hotel would have let him take the car inside.

During the rest of 2004, Perry drove the Cobra to local cruise-ins and enjoyed an occasional ride. However, in November 2004, he purchased a 2005 Mustang GT, and once again, the Cobra was "parked." By this time, it only had 3,375 miles on it. He kept it in storage until April 2007. Then he finally brought it out to get it ready to bring to the Mustangs Unbridled Show in Louisville, Kentucky. That's where we caught up with him to photograph his

pristine Cobra. At the Louisville show, the Cobra took a Gold in its first-ever judging. This time, he didn't have as far to drive, as Louisville is his home.

As you can see from the photos, many of the protective coverings are still in place on Perry's Cobra, including the steering wheel, the radio, and door handles, to name a few. Perry said there isn't much he can say about his Cobra, because as you can see, he's kept it original.

We ran into Perry again in Birmingham, Alabama, at both the MCA's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration and the Mustang 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. At that time, the Cobra had just under 4,000 miles.

Perry's first car was a 1973 Mustang Convertible, which he has owned since

# White Cobra Is Pristine



May of 1979. It's powered by a 351 Cleveland 2bbl, with Ram Air, tilt wheel, power windows, and air conditioning.

Perry is indeed a keeper of good things, his Stable consists of his 1973 Convertible, a 1973 Mach 1 (which we heard was under construction), a 1970 Mustang Grande', his 1995 Cobra, a 2003 Mustang GT, and his 2005 Mustang GT. Perry also doesn't have a fear of traveling to shows that are not in his locale. We've seen him at many MCA shows around the Country, and most recently met up with him at the Tasca Ford show in Rhode Island, and the Mustangs Unlimited show the next day in Manchester, Connecticut.

Perry is a quiet young gentleman, and obviously a true-blue Mustang man who is a keeper! **MT**



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## Perfect in White

