

Minnesota Street Rod Association holds Mankato car show and cruise

Spring Campout moves from Fairmont to Garden City

By Amanda Dyslin
Free Press Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — Leaving Garden City tonight, you won't be able to miss Marvin Fleming — or, at least, not his car — if you pass him on the road.

He'll be the guy at the head of a long line of stellar classic street rods, driving a cherished 1941 sunset orange Cadillac convertible.

Fleming of Garden City will lead tonight's short car cruise, part of the kickoff to the Minnesota Street Rod Association's Spring Campout, held for the first time at Shady Oaks Campground.

"(Fleming's Cadillac) is fabulous," said Myra Jongbloedt, organizer of the Garden City spring campout. "It's fun to get together and see other cars."

The association, with more than 10,000 members in the Midwest, is headquartered in the Twin Cities and holds campouts, picnics and cruises for its members throughout the year, Jongbloedt said. The largest event,

the Back to the '50s Weekend, is held annually in June at the state fairgrounds.

For several years the spring campout has been in Fairmont. But this year, the big camping and cruising weekend, expected to attract about

300 members, was moved to Garden City and Mankato.

The main cruise around Mankato will begin 1 p.m. Saturday at Buster's on Madison Avenue and winds around such streets as Thompson Ravine Road, Glenwood Avenue, Stoltzman Road, Lee Boulevard and Lookout Drive, eventually ending on Highway 169 back

to Garden City. (See map for full route.)

Jongbloedt plans to take part in the Saturday cruise. She has seven classic cars (designated as being made in 1964 or earlier), including three Studebakers and a Baracuda.

But Friday night is the best chance to have a look at Fleming's Cadillac. He lives just a mile and a half from the campgrounds and won't take part in many of the events this weekend.

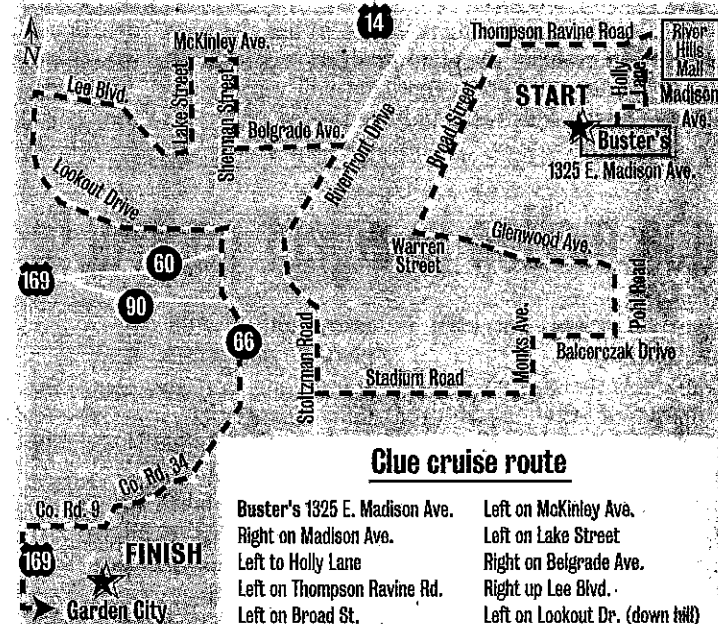
Fleming, a farmer, bought the car with little restoration completed in August 2001 at the Back to the '50s event.

"It had no upholstery (and) the fenders were flopping in the breeze," he said.

The subframe and rear axle had been replaced, but the car had no top and no paint. It took two winters and one summer of work to get the car to the condition it's in.

"I did everything other than upholstery, body work and paint (myself)," he said. "I knew it would be nice when it was done."

The Cadillac has a tan top and light tan upholstery, heated seats in the



Clue cruise route

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Buster's 1325 E. Madison Ave. | Left on McKinley Ave. |
| Right on Madison Ave. | Left on Lake Street |
| Left to Holly Lane | Right on Belgrade Ave. |
| Left on Thompson Ravine Rd. | Right up Lee Blvd. |
| Left on Broad St. | Left on Lookout Dr. (down hill) |
| Left to go up Warren St. | Left lane for left on #60 |
| V to left up Glenwood Ave. | to go south on #169 |
| Right on Pohl Rd. | Right on Park Lane |
| Right on Balcerozak Dr. | Left on Sibley |
| Left on Monks Ave. | Right on 7th St. (go one block) |
| Right on Stadium Rd. | Left on Carney Ave. to #66 |
| Right on Stoltzman Rd. | Right on Co. Rd. #34 |
| Right on Riverfront Dr. | Right on Co. Rd. #9 |
| Left over Veterans Memorial | Left on Hwy. #169 (Garden City) |
| Bridge onto Belgrade Ave. | Left on Co. Rd. #38 |
| in North Mankato | Left on Fairgrounds St. |
| Right on Sherman St. | in Garden City |

J. Malmanger

Please see CRUISE, Page B6

CRUISE: One car 'a long ways from original'

Continued from Page B1

front and back and power features, including windows and antenna. He rebuilt the radio, which looks original, but it's an AM/FM stereo and has a six-disc CD player.

"There are people who restore to original, (but) mine is a long ways from original," he said. "Pretty much everything is new or updated."

He wouldn't disclose what he paid for the car or how much money he put into restoring it, but he said it's probably worth more now than the total amount of money he's put into it.

Fleming plans to sell the car. But, in the meantime, he's enjoying driving it and bringing it to shows. He put about 9,000 miles on it so far.

"I probably won't do another one like this," he said. "I'll probably do something with a lot less bells and whistles as this, something a little plainer."

For a complete listing of the weekend's events, visit www.formerlycranes.com and click on "summer events" at the bottom of the page.

Syttende Mai Festival gets underway today

HANSKA — The 22nd annual Syttende Mai Festival will be held today through Sunday in Hanska.

The festival includes "An Evening with the Lawrence Welk Show, Hanska Style" event at 7 p.m. today and Sunday, and at 5:30 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The festival also includes a flea market, food stands, entertainment by the Hauth Family Band, a parade and a pancake breakfast.

For more information or tickets, call (507) 439-6401.

Lecture on oil supply, gas prices Tuesday

ST. PETER — Jeff Jeremiason, assistant professor of the environmental studies program at Gustavus Adolphus College, will present the lecture "Are we prepared for the peak in world oil supply?" at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Interpretive Center at Gustavus.

Jeremiason will discuss the recent increase in gasoline, diesel and natural gas prices and explain ways to conserve resources and use alternative energy sources.

The lecture costs \$5.

to provide studio space, gallery hanging space and classes for drawing, watercolor and acrylic artists.

For more information, call (507) 835-5990.

Victorian courtship topic of Sunday talk

MANKATO — The R.D. Hubbard House on Broad Street will host a "Sundays With the Hubbards" program series every Sunday throughout the summer.

The first program, "Victorian Courtship and Marriage," will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call (507) 345-5566.

Car show to be held Saturday at Buster's

MANKATO — The Minnesota Street Rod Association will hold a Show and Shine Car Show from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Buster's on Madison Avenue.

A parade from the hilltop, to North Mankato, to Rapidan and Garden City will follow the show.

The association also will hold other events Friday through Sunday at the Shady Oaks Campground in Garden City.