



The South Valley Cheer Team struck a patriotic pose on Saturday morning.



Liz Payton (adult at far left) said the Lil Senoritas Drill Team has been performing at BMD at least since she performed in Cottage Grove over 30 years ago.

CG's ON PARADE!

Highlights from the Grand Miner's and Kiddie Parades

photos by Jon Stinnett



Above: As has seemingly become a Kiddie Parade tradition, the kids from Great Days Early Education Center lead the way on Friday morning.

Above right: Members of the Cottage Grove Riding Club march down Main Street.

Right: Sue Flint takes a bit of a joyride along with Barnabas at the Grand Miners Parade.



FLAG

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be seen on the backs of some fair-goers, who donned it as a sort of cape.

"Since they called for the ban on the flag, we've been selling it like crazy," Moody said. During the various events Moody attended with his wife in the last few years, he said the Gadsden or "Don't Tread on Me" flag has been the best seller until this summer, when the Confederate flag became far and away the hottest item. The going rate for a flag was about \$12, and Moody said the flag has accounted for about 90 percent of recent sales.

Which is not to say that everyone at Bohemia Mining Days appreciated the flag's inclusion in the festivities.

"I saw it and left," said Cottage Grove's Suzy Kanich. "It made me feel shocked and sad, and I didn't feel like being there after that."

Festival organizers said that other fair-goers expressed similar sentiments and that they fielded several complaints about the flag, and Moody himself said he received death threats this weekend regarding his decision to sell it.

"We're tired of people telling us what we can and can't do," his wife said. "They're calling it a hate flag, but the only people we're seeing hate from are the ones that don't like it."

Eric Johnson, president of BMD's Board of Directors, said

he approached Moody and politely asked him to take down the Confederate flag from his booth. Johnson said Moody politely declined. Johnson later outlined the Board's decision not to take action to remove the flag on a Cottage Grove-based group page on Facebook:

"By law, the booth owner has First-Amendment rights to fly the flag on public property," Johnson wrote. "BMD, regardless of personal opinion, did not want to take on any free speech lawsuit that might arise by making a decision to silence one person over another. We are all volunteers and do not have the time or the money to take on such a lawsuit."

Johnson suggested that those who do not like seeing the Confederate flag in public take it up with their elected representatives.

"...ask them to outlaw the flag as hate speech," he wrote. "That would allow us to take it down legally. Until that time, we are not going to infringe on anybody's rights. As a Board, we do not agree or disagree with the many and varied viewpoints of our patrons. We only strive to create a fun and FREE festival for the citizens of Cottage Grove."

Johnson said the BMD board will have a conversation in the near future about whether to invite vendors that sell the Confederate flag back to the festival or whether the Festival can refuse to do so.

ENGINES

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gines," he said. "You hear them humming along because they only fire when they need to. A lot of them were made to be pulled on carts with horses, and they were designed to do all the jobs that were formerly performed by horses — pumping water, crushing rock, etc."

Barrong said there was a lot of interest in the old machines at this year's festival, with young and old stopping by to take a

look and have a listen. And perhaps one or two visitors caught the affliction that Brown said he's lived with for some time.

"We have a sickness, an addiction to old iron," he said.

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6:00 - 8:30 pm

The Cruise is open to cars and motorcycles 1979 and older

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Downtown
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56 Pontiac 4:30 - 6 pm
Men From S.U.R.F. 8:30 - 10 pm

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