

BOHEMIA



NUCKET

Welcome to the Spirit of
BMD Celebration: A two-
day tribute celebrating
Bohemia Mining Days'
65th Anniversary

Photo Credit: Curtis Irish Collection Courtesy of Debra Monsive

The Rat Creek Cook House kept hungry miners well-fed so they could continue their laborious work. (Circa pre-1900). Cooks Pictured: Nona (VanSchoiack) Kelly, Nellie (Kerr) Pitcher and Maggie (Goff) Lockwood.

RETROSPECTIVE: PAST BMD ORGANIZERS STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE

By Cindy Weeldreyer
Festival Coordinator 2015-2021

The Bohemia Mining Days is Cottage Grove's most anticipated annual event for people of all ages. Generations have come and gone since it began in 1959. The tap root of many love stories began at BMD. It is the catalyst of bringing together generations



Ellen Hogue



Don Williams

of families and former classmates that intentionally plan reunions around the celebration.

This year marks the celebration's 65th anniversary – a feat that few communities anywhere can claim. These days, it is rare to have an all-volunteer community celebration survive this long. In fact, it has been around so long the State of Oregon now formally recognizes it as an Oregon Heritage Tradition.

Bohemia Mining Days owes its continued existence to passionate individuals who have dedicated their



Sharon Jean

See ORGANIZERS, page 19

SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION PARADE GRAND MARSHAL GRANT JOHNSON



George "Grant" Johnson

George "Grant" Johnson became a Grover in May 1948 when he was born in Butler's Maternity Home. His family moved to California in 1950 and lived there for six years before moving back to town.

He has participated in the Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club since 1964 and became a member in 1992. He is a member of the Elks Lodge, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and the Masonic Lodge. Grant is a 1967 graduate of Cottage Grove High School and volunteers for many local organizations. He is well-known for delivering promotional flyers for nonprofit groups.

He has attended every Bohemia Mining Days since it began in 1959 and, since 1964, he has helped served the

See PARADE, page 20



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We are excited and full of Joy to be able to be part of keeping the miracle and tradition of BMD blessing our children and older children (adults of all ages) . When we heard there was a dream to keep the BMD we knew where our heart was. It is with the kiddos and fun and miracle of BMD

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God Bless America!
God Bless Our Veterans!

S MICKEY PATTINGALE

We have had the honor of being the sponsor of the BMD Kiddie Parade for several years! Thank you!



YOU ARE INVITED TO BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO THE ANNUAL DOMENIA DAYS WOMEN'S BREAKFAST.

FROM COTTAGE GROVE DRIVE, SOUTHEAST TO CULP CREEK (PAST DORENA LAKE). THEN TAKE BRICE CREEK ROAD FROM DISTORT. THE MAP SHOWS THE FOREST DISTRICT ROAD MURDERS.

ENJOY A SCENIC SUNDAY DRIVE THROUGH THE HISTORIC MINING DISTRICT FOR A DELICIOUS HIGH-COUNTRY BREAKFAST OF HAM, EGGS AND FLAPJACKS!!!

WELCOME TO THE BOHEMIA NUGGET AND THE SPIRIT OF BMD

The Sentinel is proud to publish this special presentation of the Bohemia Nugget. Like Bohemia Johnson when he first found gold in these thar parts, we also believe Cottage Grove is a special place, in fact we believe Johnson found the mother lode right here off I-5.

Admittedly, this is my first time witnessing this celebration, but rest assured we’ve jumped into the muck to help spread the word about this celebration in its 65th year. The name of the event has changed a bit, but the vein of community spirit remains.

It’s a huge undertaking, it’s amazing what a few determined community members can do when we work together. Like mining, this event is the benefication of a tremendous amount of hard work, planning, marketing, setting up, cleaning up and most important, celebration of our rich heritage.

Inside you’ll find a variety of articles, historic photos, celebration details, an event map, and more, showcasing the Spirit of BMD.

The pages highlight our community’s historic past, with mining and timber development, and demonstrates the small-town pride and positive

atmosphere of Cottage Grove.

We want to thank the Spirit of BMD Committee members, our business and nonprofit sponsors, advertising partners and the community as a whole, for helping The Sentinel continue this special traditional presentation.

We encourage you to look through this special publication, attend the various Spirit of BMD events, and shop local.

Like Bohemia Johnson, the first timber fellers and first farmers to sow seeds here, we all have something in common, that’s our community spirit, and it’s what makes our town a great place. So welcome to the Spirit of BMD.

Joe Warren
Director of Publications
Country Media, Inc.

Jeremy C. Ruark
Editor

Cindy Weeldreyer
Reporter

Jody Craig
Graphic Designer

Misty Berg
Office Manager/AD Designer

SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION WELCOME MESSAGE FROM MAYOR CANDACE SOLESBEE

As a Cottage Grove kid, the highlight of my summer was Bohemia Mining Days! Today, 65 years from its creation, I still cherish those childhood memories.

This festival has always been a community labor of love and testament to our City’s rich heritage. When it was announced that the festival would be taking a one-year hiatus to re-boot and re-organize, the community was understandably disappointed. That’s when the Spirit of BMD (a smaller-

See **MAYOR**, page 20



Message from the Bohemia City Marshal, Kenneth Michael Roberts



I am honored to return as Bohemia City Marshal. Welcome to Cottage Grove to celebrate our history and tradition.

The “Spirit of BMD” is more than a festival – it’s the fabric and character of Cottage Grove. My deputies and I look forward to keeping you all safe.

We will see you in the park and the parade!

Long live Bohemia Mining Days!

The Marshal

2020 Fundraising for BMD 2021



SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION COORDINATOR WELCOME

Howdy, Citizens of Cottage Grove—now transformed into the fine folks of Bohemia City! Welcome to the Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days!

Our town has donned its Old West best, and we’re excited to celebrate our rich history with each and every one of you. For two days, you’ll be immersed in the gold rush era, with a lively parade, toe-tappin’ music, delicious food, and a vendor market that has something to delight everyone.

As you explore our bustling streets, keep an eye out for our local marshal and his deputies. They’ve got a knack for spotting mischief-makers and might just toss you into our Bohemia City Jail for a bit of fun. Don’t fret—it’s all in good spirit! Our jail is more entertaining than a rodeo clown, and you’ll be out before you can say “gold strike.” Plus, it’s the

perfect chance to snap a memorable photo to show off to your friends and family.

The Spirit of BMD is all about community, history, and good ol’ fashioned fun. So, dust off your cowboy boots, put on your finest Western attire, and dive into the festivities. Whether you’re panning for REAL gold, or simply soaking in the sights and sounds, we’re thrilled to have you here with us. Let’s make these days unforgettable and create memories that will outlast any miner’s tale.

Welcome to Bohemia City, partners! Let’s celebrate our heritage and enjoy every moment together!

Yeehaw!

*Matthew Hewlett
Spirit of BMD Coordinator*



SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION PRODUCTION TEAM

It takes a tremendous amount of commitment and hard work to keep this annual tradition going. On May 20, when the Bohemia Mining Days Board of Directors announced BMD 2024 was cancelled, the community-wide disappointment was audible. Doing 6+ months of planning in six weeks is a

monumental undertaking. Some event planners would even say a “miracle”. To go from zero to top speed in 10 days with no planning team or seed money was indeed pretty miraculous! The Production Team has worked overtime to provide this tribute event on the third weekend of July.

Celebration/Entertainment Coordinator

- Matthew Hewlett

Assistant Celebration Coordinator
Web Designer/ Security Coordinator

- Jeremy Ferguson

Administrative Coordinator

- Brandy Smith

Bohemia City Saloon Coordinator
BMD 2019 Planning “War Room”

- Stacy Solomon

Financial Coordinator

- Linda Oxley

Fundraising Coordinator/Publicity

- Cindy Weeldreyer

Logistics Coordinator

- Ken Lile

Parade Co-Coordinators

- Joellie Saunders, Drew Perini & Brandy Smith

Parking Coordinator

- Dylan Mann

Sanitation Coordinator

- Aaron Kitterman

Vendor Coordinator

- Cathy Simmons

Volunteer Coordinator

- Sylvia Kitterman

Celebration Advisors

- **Jake Boone** (BMD President 2011-14)
- **Sharon Jean** (Festival Coordinator 2001-09)

- **Karen Munsell** Helena Saloon Coordinator (2017-2022)
- **Jimmy Schaper** BHA President (BMD Board 2010-2021)
- **Don Williams** BMD President 1979-83 & 2021



BMD 2019 War Room

PARADES

The Spirit of BMD Celebration Parade steps off at 10 a.m. Saturday morning. Line-up is on South 10th Street between Monroe and Taylor Avenues. The route is South 10th to Main Street to Gateway Boulevard.

In recent years, Bohemia Mining Days has had three parades on the third weekend of July: Thursday's Bloomers Parade, Friday's Kiddie Parade and Saturday's Grand Miners Parade. Sadly, due to the cancellation of BMD 2024, there won't be a Bloomers Parade or Kiddie Parade this year.

Since 1959, except for the pandemic cancellation of BMD in 2020, the Grand Miners Parade has rolled through the streets of Cottage Grove! The route for many years began at South River Road and Harrison Avenue. It proceeded north to Main Street to Highway 99 then south back to Harrison Avenue.

In 1999, the route was changed because the celebration had to be held

downtown at the last minute. With Main Street unavailable, parade organizers had to change the traditional route, then, realized there were benefits to keep it.

It was easier to set up, manage traffic, and it passed in front of "Bohemia City". There were also concerns about the safety of spectators and parade participants with active traffic on Hwy. 99. Also, the old route was much longer for kids and animals.



Pictured left: The Cottage Grove Carousel entry in the 2017 Grand Miners Parade honored Clarence "The Waver" Kreamier.

Pictured left: Alexis Simpson, Marcia Allen and friend wait for the 2008 parade to begin.



1966 Kiddie Parade/Sentinel File Photo (Provided by/Courtesy of Casey Woodard)

THE SPIRIT OF BMD LIVES!

ON MAY 20, WHEN THE BOHEMIA MINING DAYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED BMD 2024 WAS CANCELLED, THE RESPONSE FROM THE COMMUNITY WAS AUDIBLE. DOING 6+ MONTHS OF PLANNING IN SIX WEEKS IS A MONUMENTAL UNDERTAKING. SOME EVENT PLANNERS WOULD EVEN SAY A "MIRACLE" TO GO FROM ZERO TO TOP SPEED IN 10 DAYS WITH NO PLANNING TEAM OR SEED MONEY WAS INDEED PRETTY MIRACULOUS.

THE SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION IS A REALITY BECAUSE PAST BMD PRODUCTION TEAM MEMBERS EASILY SLID BACK INTO THEIR FAMILIAR ROLES (JOINED BY NEW VOLUNTEERS) AND IMMEDIATELY DETERMINED WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE.

THEY ARE:

CELEBRATION & ENTERTAINMENT COORDINATOR
MATTHEW HEWLETT
ASST. COORDINATOR/WEB DESIGNER/SECURITY COORDINATOR
JEREMY FERGUSON
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
BRANDY SMITH
BOHEMIA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
JIMMY SCHAPER
BOHEMIA CITY SALOON COORDINATOR
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AARON KITTERMAN
VENDOR COORDINATOR
CATHY SIMMONS
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
SYLVIA KITTERMAN
ADVISORS:
DON WILLIAMS, JAKE BOONE, KAREN MUNSSELL,
JIMMY SCHAPER & SHARON JEAN

FINANCIALLY, THE BIGGEST HURDLES WERE CREATING A BARE BONES BUDGET THAT CAME TO \$39,000 AND TO FIND A FISCAL SPONSOR.

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**WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR THREE LARGEST DONORS THAT GAVE US SEED MONEY IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR SUCCESSFUL JUNE 5 TOWN HALL MEETING:
STARFIRE LUMBER, THE WOODARD FAMILY FOUNDATION & GARLAND BURBACK.**

KIDDIE PARADE HISTORY

From the event's inception in 1959, the Kiddie Parade has been greatly anticipated by local families that created delightful entries with kids and pets around each year's theme. Held in the Historic Downtown District,

each participant received a ribbon and an ice cream treat at the end. Due to a shortage of volunteers to staff a downtown parade, a downsized Kiddie Parade was held in Coiner Park for BMD 2022 & 2023.

BLOOMERS PARADE HISTORY

Introduced in 2007 to provide a more festive way to kick off the Thursday evening opening of Bohemia City. Women and girls sporting bloomers carried parasols and protest signs demanding women's right to vote and to celebrate the invention of pants for women.



SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION CULINARY OFFERINGS

COINER PARK

Bates Catering
BBQ

Home Skillet
American foods

Homemade Fried Bread
Elephant Ears, Funnel Cakes, Giant Curly Fries, Corn Dogs, Soda, Bottled Water

Paradise Shaved Ice
24 flavors shaved ice/topping/regular and sugar free.
Breakfast on the Mountain Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Rice Plate
Noodles, Rice, chicken, steamed bun, spring roll, Lemonade, water, Fruit

Stacy’s Bohemia City Saloon
Beer & Wine

OFF-SITE

BMD Chicken BBQ
Saturday, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m. (or until sold out)
Trinity Lutheran Church | Sixth & Quincy
Menu: ½ BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Buttered Roll, Cookies, Beverage
\$13 per plate \$10 (Chicken only) No Presales
Sponsored by Trinity Women in Mission
Proceeds support the Cottage Grove Carousel Project

60th Miners Breakfast on the Mountain
Sunday, 6 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bohemia Saddle Park | Bohemia Mining District
Directions: Take Row River Road east to Culp Creek, take Brice Creek Rd from Disston & follow signs
Menu: Two eggs cooked to order, all-you-can-eat-flapjacks, ham, orange juice and coffee
Prices: Adults: \$12 | Kids (3-12) \$9 | Two & younger eat free
Presented by the Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club celebrating this year’s Diamond Jubilee
Live Music provided by Perfect Flavor



A special Thank You to all of our patients.
We hope you all enjoy the
65th Bohemia Mining Day’s Festival!

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SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION ENTERTAINMENT

Voices of Cedar

Friday, 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

This group of Native American flute players offers traditional music and original songs played from the heart. Enjoy the sounds of music inspired by nature and played by flutes made of cedar.



Forest Mountain Lion

Friday, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Forest grew up in Cottage Grove and writes songs inspired by love for the land where he lives, faith in the power of people, and radical resistance to exploitative industrial systems. After years playing music in Los Angeles, Forest traded a studio full of gadgets for an acoustic guitar and an elk skin drum so he could play music outdoors in the mountains near



Eugene. He has recorded several albums of original music, available on all streaming platforms. An intimate but powerful folk rock experience, listeners are immersed in an original musical style. Lyrical stories blend themes of love, longing and friendship with messages of spiritual empowerment and the vision and strength to create a better world.

Singing Pastor Jeff & Friends

Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Singing Pastor Jeff is a beloved figure in both his community and church circles for over 25 years and former leader of the popular Calvary Creek band. Jeff's passion and his gift for performing secular music, as well as leading his congregation in song, have been evident since he came to Cottage Grove in 1999. Throughout his ministry, Jeff has emphasized the transformative power of music as a songwriter producing three albums in two years.



Band members: Jeff's friends include: Sam Fields (keyboards), Lance Quackenbush (bass), Brad Helsel (drums), and Lynell Thomas (vocals). And maybe some surprise guests!



The Winks

Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The Winks" is a Springfield band that leaves no musical stone unturned. Covering genres that range from rock, country, and blues, to pop, r&b and alternative, their music makes for one very interesting playlist. The band consists of members from two other local groups; "Rad Ranger" and "2106." "The Winks" has a little somethin' for everyone.

Band members: Travers Lang (vocals

and guitar), Peter Mandrillo (bass), John Chandler (guitar), Joshua Ireland (guitar), and Chris Gossett (drums)

Windy Ridge

Friday, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Windy Ridge has been a home-grown and much loved Cottage Grove band for more than three decades playing a little bit of everything: rock, blues, country and some originals. The band's appearance at the Spirit of BMD



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Celebration is a stop on its “Not Yet Dead” Tour.

Band members: Ken Bachelder (bass guitar, vocals), Brad Helsel (drums, vocals), Curt Munsell (vocals, harmonica, percussion, vocals), David Munsell (keyboards, guitar and vocals), and Joe Tennis (lead guitar, vocals).

One More Time
Marching Band

Saturday, 11:30 a.m.



The One More Time Marching Band (OMT) has been a Eugene-area institution since 1986. The band got its start playing in the Eugene Celebration parade, and parades have remained close to our hearts. But we’ve also come to love playing at concerts in the parks, at baseball games, and at all kinds of community celebrations.

David Lomond

Saturday, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.



David Lomond, Voice of The King, delivers thrilling excitement, mesmerizing glamour, and iconic star appeal with his five-star, award-winning

Elvis Show. Elvis fans celebrate him from Las Vegas to Branson, MO, and from Hawaii to the Pacific Northwest for his world-class singing and hilarious clean comedy. Come early for best seating and enjoy “Gospel Elvis”!

Apis Mellifera

Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Apis Mellifera is a whimsically macabre singer-songwriter, using lilting melodies and cheeky lyrics to capture the imagination and tug at heart strings. She has spent the past decade traveling the country, gathering soul-felt heartbreak and existential joy, so be prepared to listen deeply to her tales.

The Huckleberrys

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



The Huckleberrys play all over the Willamette Valley. For many years, Grovers Larry Barkemeyer and Jeff Boyle played together in country and blues bands. Colleen and Tom Ellis joined them in 2005 and The Huckleberrys came to be. Their name was inspired by “I’m your huckleberry” from Tombstone. In 2016, Jeff had to drop out and Nathan Smith became the bass player. Two years later, Nathan departed and Neil Isaacson became the new bass player. And on they go!

Band Members: Larry Barkemeyer (vocals / lead guitar), Colleen Ellis (vocals/ukulele/guitar), Neil Isaacson (vocals/bass), Tom Ellis (trashcan/assorted hoots-n-hollers), Luke Lillard (mandolin/guitar)

Special Guests: Tom Boyd (keyboard/squeeze box/trumpet), Charles Sales (harmonica)

The Regulars

Saturday, 7:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This Cottage Grove-based band is currently a staple at Coast Fork Brewing playing every first and third Sunday from 1-3pm. From Rock, Country, Original, Oldies AND Goodies, The Regulars always show up!



Band Members: Philadelphia Rick, Ryan Birdseye, Chuck Heritage, Connor Anderson and Tobi D’Amore.

Bradly Shepherd’s Perfect
Flavor

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Bradly is a native Grover who began playing music as a teen. In the last decade, he has become a sought after musician for many special occasions in Lane and Linn Counties. He is the house band for several local establishments. For the past eight years, he has provided live music at the legendary Miners’ Breakfast on the Mountain. He also offers individual instruction in guitar, bass, keyboard and sound production. He will be accompanied by special friends for his Spirit of BMD Celebration appearance.



Jungle Things Oregon

Saturday, Noon – 1 p.m.

Anna Provansal is the owner and director of Jungle Things Oregon in Roseburg. In 2020, she began her organization with two leopard geckos, then a bearded dragon – and it went



on from there. Today, there are more than 100 reptiles housed at the rescue. She wants to educate people on how to properly care for reptiles to cut down on the number of rescues they pick up. The number one goal of Jungle Things Oregon is to show people the reptiles are not as scary or as bad as some people think they are. Anna will entertain and educate the audience with a variety of reptiles.

Jay the Magician

Friday, 1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. | Saturday, 1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Jay is an award-winning master of sleight-of-hand and physical comedy who has performed professionally for more than 30 years. He is the recipient of a Dom Deluise Comedy Magic Award and the winner of the 2014 Portland Magic Convention. His original magic has been featured in Genii Magazine. He is known for delighting audiences of all ages through crowd participation and engaging the imagination. In addition to his two stage appearances you’ll find him strolling through the park doing close-up magic.



SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION

Sponsors

Heartfelt thanks to these generous sponsors that have made our celebration possible.

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- Mickey's Affordable Auto
- Northwest Community Credit Union
- Second Chance Recycling
- Shampoo Dolls
- Tom Ellis
- Virginia Sherwood
- Yoss Team Realty



The 2003 Bohemia Mining Days Nugget Girls
Isabella Garcia & Brianna Ireland



The Nugget Girl

This year we were not able to use Miss Bohemia Mining Days as our Nugget Girl because she was not selected until after the press deadline. Happily for us, however, in picking our own Nugget Girl we were fortunate to find 18-year-old Sharen Tobiasen.



VENDORS

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Beads, shawls, diamond art, &
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Soaps, bath and body products.

Anna’s Krunchie Kreationz/
Freeze Dried Candy

Around The Grove News/
Weekly Community Newsletter

BestMed Urgent & Primary
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Bohemia City Jail/Photo Booth

Bohemia Mine Owners
Association/Gold Panning

But Did You Dye/Tie Dye
Clothing

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Candice Westberg/Caricatures
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Cat Crazy Graphics/
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Cottage Grove 912 Project/
Information

Cottage Grove Ducks
Unimited/Gun Raffle &
Calendars

Cowcat Studios/Jewelry

Crystal Dreamz/Crystal
jewelry, mobiles, car hangers

Emerald City Wind Spinners/
Hanging stainless steel wind
spinners & spices

Good Games, Well Played/
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Jewelry

Helen’s Cotton Candy

Imbaya Arts/Hats, dresses,
tapestry, print t-shirts, jewelry

J & F Designs/ Hats, dresses,
tapestry, print t-shirts, jewelry

J D Fine Wood Works/ Coat
racks, serving trays, yard dice,
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Jehovah’s Witnesses/
Information

Jewelry by Jana/Jewelry

J P Jewelry/ Anklets, jewelry,
stuffed animals & hair wraps

Jungle things Oregon/Reptile
education & supplies

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Supplies/Bath & body items, hair
bows, jewelry, baked goods

Kitten KaZoedle/Hand-
crocheted geeky kitty mini
plushies and crochet kits

Layla H Art/Artwork

Lemati Lemonade/Lemonade
Sparkling Beverages

Lincoln Middle School - East
Coast Trip/Fundraising

Maranda’s Hometown
Candles/Bath & body items &
candles

McKenzie River Lifestyle/
Bags and laser engraved goods



ME_Makes/ Handmade
jewelry, leather goods, crochet,
horse tack

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Mojo’s Rainbow Emporium/
Handmade acrylic paintings

Morphed Creations/
Handmade artwork and crystals

Natives World/Clothing and
Jewelry

Nothing Bundt Cakes/Bundt
cakes in at least four flavors

Oregon Department of
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SPIRIT OF BMD CELEBRATION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Please bring lawn chairs and be generous in tipping the performers who are donating their time and talent for us this year

FRIDAY, JULY 19

Noon – 10 p.m.

Food, Live Music, Kid Zone, Bohemia City Saloon, Gold Panning, Antique Engines, & Vendors

9 a.m. – Noon

Celebration Setup/Coiner Park

Noon

Welcome by Celebration Coordinator Matthew Hewlett (aka The Jailer)

Noon

Kid Zone Opens

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Voices of Cedar (Native a.m.erican flutes)

1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Jay the Magician (Presented by Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel)

2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Forest Mountain Lion (progressive folk rock)

4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Pickleball Demonstration/Coiner Park Courts (all ages can learn to play)

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Singing Pastor Jeff & Friends (popular praise songs & originals)

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

The Winks (multi-genres)

7 p.m.

Kid Zone Closes

8:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Windy Ridge (rock, blues, country & originals)

9 p.m.

Cottage Grove Jogging Club presents the BMD Gold Rush 5K Twilight Run/Walk
Staging Area: Sixth & Washington

10:30 p.m.

Celebration Closes

SATURDAY, JULY 20

10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Food, Live Music, Kid Zone, Bohemia City Saloon, Gold Panning, Antique Engines, & Vendors

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The Grove Fest, Coast Fork Public Market, 926 E. Main St.

7 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Setup and Preparation

8 a.m.

Parade Line-Up

10 a.m.

Spirit of BMD Celebration Parade Route: South 10th St. to Main St. to Gateway Blvd.

11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

BMD Chicken BBQ (or until sold out)/Trinity Lutheran Church, Sixth & Quincy

11 a.m. – Noon

Pickleball Demonstration/Coiner Park Courts (all ages can learn to play)

11:30 a.m. – Noon

One More Time Marching Band (Americana)

Noon

Kid Zone Opens

Noon – 1 p.m.

Jungle Things Oregon (reptile show)

1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Beard and Mustache Contest - Matthew “The Jailer” Hewlett & Marshal Roberts

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Peace Pole Dedication Ceremony and Prayer Flag Making

1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Jay the Magician (Presented by Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel)

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

David Lomond (Gospel Elvis)

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Apis Mellifera (Singer/Songwriter)

5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

The Huckleberrys (Americana)

6:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Costume Contest - The Jailer and the Marshal Roberts

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

The Regulars (multi-genre)

7 p.m.

Kid Zone Closes

8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Bradly Shepherd’s Perfect Flavor (multi-genre cover songs)

10:30 p.m.

Celebration Closes

SUNDAY, JULY 21

6 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Prospectors & Gold Diggers Club’s 60th Annual Miners Breakfast on the Mountain
Bohemia Saddle Park, Bohemia Mining District

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The Grove Fest, Coast Fork Public Market, 926 E. Main St.



Ray Nelson overlooks the country that he says shouldn't have been named after Bohemia Johnson. — Sentinel photo

Ray Nelson: The “Father of BMD”

In 1960, Ray helped organize a booster club that became the Cottage Grove Prospectors. In addition to the summer celebration, The Club’s motto fueled efforts to preserve the Bohemia City ghost town in the Bohemia Mining District and to move the historic Dr.

Snapp House to its current location and rescue it from destruction in a “Burn to Learn” exercise. “Radio Ray” was a local businessman, mine owner, and one of Cottage Grove’s biggest boosters to create and sustain a celebration that honors our history.

BOHEMIA NUGGET SPECIAL THANKS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Alan Fish & Linda Diaz | • Jeremy Ruark |
| • Apis Mellifera | • Jeff Smith |
| • Best Little Printhouse | • Jim Settlemyer |
| • Bill Oxley | • Joe Warren |
| • Bill Simmons | • Joel Reiten |
| • Bill Whiteman | • Joyce Settlemyer |
| • Bohemia Mine Owners Association | • Jungle Things Oregon |
| • Bradly Shepherd | • KPNW Radio |
| • Brad Helsel | • KNND Radio |
| • Casey Woodard | • Mike Cummings |
| • Cameron Reiten | • Mindy Roberts |
| • City of Cottage Grove Staff | • Misty Berg |
| • Coast Fork Public Market | • One More Time Marching Band |
| • Cottage Grove Jogging Clue | • Perfect Flavor |
| • Cottage Grove Museum | • Prospectors & Gold Diggers Club |
| • Cottage Grove Historical Society | • Ralph Weeldreyer |
| • Dave Spriggs | • Roger Rue & Antique Engine Owners |
| • David Lomond | • Sharon Jean |
| • Debra Monsive | • Sharon Anseth |
| • Dirt Cheap Copies | • Stacy’s Covered Bridge Restaurant |
| • Don Williams | • Stacy Solomon |
| • Ellen Hogue | • Tabitha Cooper |
| • Emerald Valley Pickleball Club | • Terri Evans |
| • Event Volunteers | • The Huckleberrys |
| • Faye Stewart | • The Regulars |
| • Frank Perea | • The Winks |
| • Forest Mountain Lion | • Trinity Lutheran Church |
| • Helen Lile | • Unity Committee |
| • Jake Boone | • Windy Ridge |
| • Jay Frasier | |
| • Jeannie Handsaker | |



The Slabtown vs. Lemati Feud

The festival’s perennial “shoestring budget” took a hard hit in 2011 when rain washed out two days of revenue. The next year, brand new board member Jake Boone

had a brilliant idea for a creative and low-cost way to provide lots of family-friendly activities and the 19th century Slabtown vs. Lemati Feud was reborn in a fun way. He organized

lots of classic Americana games and created some mining-themed/ Old West-style contests that were very popular. Sadly, The Feud has not been revived since the pandemic.

BOHEMIA NUGGET HISTORY



Three newspapers have been published in Cottage Grove’s history: The Bohemia Nugget (1899-1907), The Leader (1907-1918) and the Cottage Grove Sentinel since 1918. The first edition of the Bohemia Nugget was January 20, 1899. The front page story was “Bohemia Nugget dedicated to Mining, Timber, and Agricultural well-being of the community, and strongly supports good government. In 1959, the Sentinel began printing an annual Bohemia Nugget insert, such as the reader is seeing today. The Sentinel has been the sole publisher of this annual report to the public and serves as the official guide for Bohemia Mining Days.



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KID ZONE

The Spirit of BMD Celebration Kid Zone area this year is a “mini-BMD” compared to past years. In the short time we had to plan this celebration we want to praise our Kid Zone Co- Coordinators Enya Combs and Tara Augustine for reaching out to the following organizations that are providing activities for children and families.

- 6th & Gibbs Church of Christ
- Cottage Grove Public Library
- Family Relief Nursery
- Girl Scouts
- Little Pioneer Preschool of Walker Church
- Scout Troops 140 and 4140
- South Valley Athletics
- The Arc Lane County



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IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW...

Information Booth

It is located inside the Main Street entrance and across from the Gazebo. Information Booth Coordinator Cindy Weeldreyer and her volunteers invite you to stop by for lost & found items, security issues, operational concerns, schedule changes, or just to say, “Howdy!” It is one of two designated “Safe Places” in Bohemia City to reunite children with their parents. The Main Stage Sound Booth is the other location.

Lost & Found

Bring all lost and found items to the Information Booth. Unclaimed items will be kept for 30 days then donated to charity or discarded.

Free Parking

On-street parking is available in the neighborhood surrounding Coiner Park. Please be respectful and don't block driveways. Parking is available on the Main Street side of the Safeway parking lot, and in the Bohemia Park lot. Handicapped parking is available in the Coiner Park basketball court parking lot. On Friday and Saturday between 1-7 p.m. the train stops at All-America City Square on the corner of Seventh and Main Streets. From there it is a short walk to the City-owned lots in the Downtown Historic District.



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SPECIAL EVENTS

Gold Panning
Friday, Noon – 9pm
& Saturday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. | South end of Coiner Park

The Bohemia Mine Owners Association (BMOA) members love to teach folks of all ages how to pan for real gold. This is a fee activity.

Antique Engines Display
Friday, Noon – 9pm
& Saturday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. | South end of Coiner Park

Showcases early gasoline/kerosene/fuel oil powered stationary engines that ran home appliances such as a washing machine, powered electric generators, belt driven mills and workshops.

Pickleball Demonstration
Friday, 4-5 p.m. & Saturday, 11 a.m. to Noon | Coiner Park Courts

Emerald Valley Pickleball Club members invite all ages to come by and learn to play America's fastest growing sport

BMD Gold Rush 5K Run/Walk
Friday, 8 p.m. | Start/

Finish: Washington Avenue (between 5th and 6th Street)

A twilight 5k run or walk through lovely Cottage Grove. It starts in the center of town and travels to Main Street and then River Road, along the Willamette Coast Fork River. Register at www.runCGRun or in person at South Valley Athletics, 700 E. Gibbs Ave. Youth (18 & younger) pay \$10 with tank top event shirt and \$5 without. The start and finish are located near places to find great food and drink to celebrate your run. Registration includes finish line snacks, drinks and random prize fun.

Peace Pole Dedication Ceremony & Peace Flag Making
Saturday, 1 p.m. | Coiner Park

Members of the Unity Committee invite the community to join them and dedicate the new peace pole near the Main Street entrance to Coiner Park. There will also be an opportunity to make a peace flag.

Miners Breakfast on the Mountain
Sunday, 6 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Bohemia Saddle Park | Bohemia Mining District

Celebrating its 60th anniversary, the

The Grove Fest
Saturday 10am-6pm & Sunday 10am-4pm | Coast Fork Public Market | 926 E. Main St.

“Celebrating us and what we bring to our tables.” Presented by Coast Fork Farm Stand & FoodSmiths. Be part of history in the making! First ever vendor, artisan and sellers event at the new Public Market! Features Music, Food and European shopping from booth to booth. Packing both the front and back of the venue with a true flea market-style variety. For more info: coastforkpublicmarket@gmail.com

Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club invite you to enjoy a scenic Sunday drive 40 miles SE of Cottage Grove into the heart of the Bohemia Mining District and experience a high country breakfast in a simulated mining camp. Menu: All-you-can-eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, orange juice and coffee. Cost: Adults \$12, Youth (6-12), \$9. Live music provided by Bradly Shepherd's Perfect Flavor. P&G merchandise is available for purchase.

Directions: Travel east on Row River Road to Disston and follow signs.



BMD 2012: Tony “Renegade” Bratton teaches kids how to pan for REAL gold.
(Photo courtesy of Greg Lee)

Trinity Lutheran Church BMD Chicken BBQ
Saturday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. (or until sold out) | Sixth & Quincy

In 1985, the first Annual Chicken BBQ was held in conjunction with Bohemia Mining Days. Over the years, tens of thousands of happy customers have been served and thousands of dollars raised for its Scholarship Fund and community needs. This year celebrates the 36th annual chicken BBQ. Menu: ½ BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Buttered Roll, Cookies and Beverage Cost: \$13.00 per plate \$10.00 (Chicken only) No Presales. Sponsored by Trinity Women in Mission. Proceeds benefit the Cottage Grove Carousel Project.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Name Change

In 1964, the annual Bohemia Days summer celebration was five-years-old when mayor-to-be Bill Whiteman moved to town. Wanting to become more active in his new community, he joined the Bohemia Mining Days Committee. He asked what “Bohemia Days” was about. When he was told it was about celebrating Cottage Grove’s mining history he suggested it be called Bohemia Mining Days to let folks know what to expect --and the name stuck.

National Fast Draw Competition

In 1976, Henry Isaacs, the Bohemia City Marshal and a national fast draw champion, arranged to have that year’s competition held during Bohemia Mining Days.

Grand Miners Parade

The record number of entries are: In 1970, with Jerry Lewis in the parade, there were 107 entries. In 1982, that record was broken and now stands at 125.

Oregon Heritage Tradition

In 2014, BMD became an Oregon Heritage Tradition. The prestigious designation recognizes events more than 50 years old that represent what it means to be an Oregonian. Designated events are unique locally, regionally, and statewide. In short, these events add to the livability and identity of the state and encourage tourism activity related to heritage resources.

Nonprofit of the Year

In 2019, the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce honored BMD’s 60th

Diamond Jubilee with this community award.

The Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club “invented” BMD!

Well kinda. In the 1930’s a mid-summer celebration called “Bohemia Days” was held for a few years and focused on early mining history. In 1955, a large, memorable community celebration of local history set the stage, four years later, to produce an elaborate Centennial Celebration commemorating Oregon statehood. Grovers had so much fun in 1959, the P&G Club was created to “Prospect better things for Cottage Grove” and that included producing an annual celebration. In 1964, the Club introduced the Miners’ Breakfast on the Mountain on the Sunday morning

of BMD weekend, and celebrates its Diamond Jubilee this year. Managing the logistics of two major events, happening 40 miles apart, on the same weekend, was not sustainable for Club members. They soon, quite happily, passed the planning torch to an enthusiastic community committee, led by the Jaycees, to manage the in-town festivities and continue to this day.



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ORGANIZERS

From Page 1

time, talent and resources to make it happen. There have been good years and not so good years. On at least three occasions, the organization was on life support, financially. Yet, there have always been heroes who stepped in to keep it going.

There are many names in the BMD Leadership Hall of Fame and three of them have provided a retrospective of their tenure at its helm.

Ellen Hogue: 1969-2001

For more than 30 years, Ellen and her husband, Gary, had leadership roles in producing the summer time tradition with their good friends Don and Jean Williams, Doyle and Doris Hicks, and Janetta Overholser.

Fundraising began months earlier and, to raise a bit more, they charged for parking. Ellen said Davis Amusements was really easy to work with and returned every year with a carnival that also helped pay the bills. When BMD moved from downtown to the former Chambers Mill site (now the subdivision near the fire station), the location required a good deal of site preparation the week before.

“My girls and I stayed on site at night and they really enjoyed and remember that time,” Ellen recalled. “The vendors were great and many came back year after year to support us. One vendor even made some of us a piece of jewelry that spelled out Bohemia Days.”

She noted the event attracted many people from out-of-town including a family from Hawaii that called every year to make sure it was still happening on the third weekend of July. One of her favorite aspects of BMD was the Saturday morning parade with strong community support that ensured there were plenty of floats and participants.

Long-time Bohemia City Marshal Henry Isaacs was a good friend of Ellen’s. She said he did everything he could to keep the event going. As Henry’s health declined, he gave his Marshal’s badge to Ellen to add to her extensive collection of BMD memorabilia. “I was so honored when he did that,” she said.

“I enjoyed being part of the celebration every year and watching everyone have

so much fun – especially the kids. I’m glad I was asked to be a part of BMD as I made a lot of new friends that I am still in contact with. Cottage Grove needs the Bohemia Days celebration as a draw for getting more people to come and visit our great town.”

Don Williams: 1979-1999 & 2020-21

Don and his wife, Jean, and their good friend, Janetta Overholser, enjoyed many adventures together and producing Bohemia Mining Days was an annual one. In 1979, Weyerhaeuser transferred him to Cottage Grove and one of his assignments was being the company’s community liaison. It was a phone call from the Chamber of Commerce manager that landed him on the committee to work with Ellen and rebuild the organization.

“We had \$81 in the bank to produce BMD in 1980,” Don said. “We had a tremendous amount of faith in our community’s support of our efforts that we signed contracts for security, insurance and toilets that amounted to \$3,600. We were able to pay all of our bills and had money left over to plan the next one.”

He said, historically, the City of Cottage Grove has been a tremendous help in providing in-kind services to support the festival. In 2011, it rained on Saturday and that caused a financial crisis. The City set up a win-win agreement that provided the financial capital needed to produce BMD 2012 and all of the repaid money was placed into a special account to improve the electrical service in Coiner Park.

Don and his wife, Jean, served as parade coordinators and traveled all over Oregon and Washington to community celebration parades and invited people to be in the BMD parade. In 1982, their efforts set a the record of parade entries at 125. One memorable group they recruited that year was the Seattle-based La Senoritas drill team. For decades, they returned for the Saturday parade and were hosted overnight by the South Lane School District at Bohemia School.

He noted throughout its history Bohemia Mining Days has had a wide variety of attractions: the Grand Miners and Kiddie parades, a Cottage Grove Lake boating regatta, the popular steam train ride up the Row River Valley, a half marathon, and art shows.

Don said BMD has always been a great

opportunity for organizations to hold fundraisers. The Presbyterian Church hosted the ice cream social and quilt show, Trinity Lutheran Church’s Chicken BBQ, and an Elks Club spaghetti feed that showed Buster Keaton’s silent film classic, The General.

In early March 2020, Festival Coordinator Cindy Weeldreyer sweet-talked him out of retirement to return as BMD President. Two weeks later, the pandemic started and cancelled that year’s event. Drawing upon the same faith in the community he had back in 1979, he confidently continued planning for BMD 2021 not knowing if the quarantine would be lifted by mid-July.

The decision was made in early May plan the event in the Historic Downtown District so there was more room to space out the vendors. He and Cindy worked together to introduce the popular Ore Cart Races and he helped Karen Munsell organize the “Food Feud” with local eateries.

“It’s a lot of work to put on BMD but it’s worth it when you’re approached by a young mother with a couple of kids saying how much she enjoyed BMD when she was young,” Don said. “Some people living elsewhere return home to participate in the celebration with their extended family or high school classmates. This is American history. We celebrate those who went before us and gave us something to nurture and keep alive through our work to keep the tradition going.”

“With BMD 2024 cancelled, this weekend we celebrate the “Spirit of BMD”. As we enjoy ourselves may we also reflect on the history of this great community celebration and why it needs to continue.”

Sharon Jean: 2000-2009 & 2012

Sharon led Bohemia Mining Days for nearly a decade. In her tenure, she stabilized the finances and created a professional administrative structure.

She said it was almost by accident she came to lead the organization. She volunteered, became a board member, then Vice President. BMD 1999 was an epic fail and the board was struggling with a debt, angry vendors and a confused public as to the future of the festival.

When the president resigned, Sharon stayed and became the President.

She said the learning curve was high and credits past involved community members and those who had managed the festival that slowly but surely began forward movement.

“The first wondrous thing that happened was the forgiving of the debt that the event was carrying, forgiven by a generous community member who loved this event and the community,” Sharon said. “I really fell in love with this community and its people through my work on this event. Everyone was involved in some aspect of it. From direct contact, to vending, being a sponsor or the annual event that the whole family attended. My heart warmed as the community began helping me plan and execute the festival that first year under my leadership.”

She said when a sponsor that wasn’t listed anywhere handed her a check, she realized how important this event was for the community.

“The first check I wrote went to a young boy who had won a festival event and was told he would win \$100, which he never received. His parents informed me about the oversight and I was so happy writing that check.”

She said her heart still warms at memories of the Bohemia City Marshal Henry Isaacs whom she worked with for seven years. He was in his late seventies when they met and would make weekly visits to her office to educate her on the history of the festival and how he thought it should be operated. He also dressed in full costume and when he retired he swore-in Mayor Gary Williams as the new Marshal and presented him his own badge.

“His love for BMD was immeasurable! His last day in Cottage Grove was opening day of BMD’s 50th Year in 2009). He asked his son to drive him down Main Street one last time before taking him to Eugene where he died a few days later.”

Sharon appreciates the efforts of the Spirit of BMD Celebration production team to create a tribute event to celebrate the festival’s 65th anniversary.

“This year’s event proves that Bohemia Mining Days doesn’t belong to any organization,” Sharon said. “It belongs to the people of Cottage Grove who are so passionate about it that I don’t believe it will ever die.”

MAYOR

From Page 4

scale production) was born.
A group of volunteers driven by the desire to entertain, connect, and bring Grovers together with happiness and goodwill. I want to personally thank the community members who have tirelessly volunteered long hours as a team, packing six months of planning into six weeks, for this celebration. You are evidence of the resiliency of our residents and what makes Cottage Grove so special to all who call it home.



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PARADE

From Page 1

Prospectors & Gold Diggers Miners Breakfast on the Mountain for all but one year, when he was recovering from hip surgery. He will proudly display his BMD button collection during his ride

down Main Street as this year's Grand Marshal.
He is familiar to parade-goers as the miner in his red long johns in the claw foot bathtub on the back of the Prospectors' float in the parade. When told he was selected to be the Grand Marshal his first thought was, "Who's gonna ride in the bathtub?"

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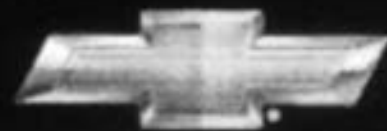
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THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS OF LANE COUNTY SOUTH LANE CLINIC IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE SPIRIT OF BOHEMIA MINING DAYS!



Coming this fall, Phase 1 of the South Lane Clinic in Cottage Grove will offer general primary care services, pediatric services, and preventative care.

To learn more about the Community Health Centers of Lane County South Lane Clinic and find out what will be offered in each phase of opening, please visit:

www.lanecountyor.gov/southlaneclinic

