

'IIPAY UUMALL

"the people write"

Fall 2008, Volume IX, Number 4 Newsletter of the Barona Cultural Center & Museum

NEW EXHIBIT: OPENING RECEPTION OCTOBER 10 BARONA ELDERS' TREE: THE FACES OF OUR HERITAGE

In family trees all over the world, families trace who they are and where they came from. Looking into the faces of these Barona Elders and Seniors, we see the past, present and future of our heritage. The strength and perseverance of our families is seen in these faces. These Barona elders held tight to the land and to the customs and traditions of our ancestors.

With this exhibit we commemorate 75 years since the move from our original reservation at Capitan Grande to Barona Indian Reservation in 1932. This important and transforming move was witnessed by our elders, Josephine Romero, Josephine Whaley, Ernie Magginni and Albert Phoenix as children. These portraits reflect the diverse lives among the Barona Tribal members - some are innovative and some traditional, and many incorporate both qualities. The common thread among all is an unwavering dedication to the continuity of family and preservation of this sovereign Tribe. The exhibit also includes several Tribal couples whose marriages have created a solid foundation for our community. The Barona Community Members who have married into our families, bring important contributions to our community heritage. Please join us October 10, 5:30- 7:30, for the exhibit opening. RSVP to the Museum, (619) 443-7003 x2

We would like to thank the Barona Circle of Elders who participated in this exhibit and granted permission to the talented Barona Tribal member Mandy Curo to create their portraits for the Barona Museum exhibit. We thank the following Barona Elders and Seniors for their participation: Josephine 'Sister' Romero, Josephine Whaley, Albert 'Boxie' Phoenix, Larry Banegas, Robert Banegas, Alan Banegas, Charles 'Beaver' Curo, Linda Curo, Pat Curo, Donna Romero DiIorio, Frank LaChappa, Clifford LaChappa, Stanley Maxcy, Caroline LaChappa Mendoza, Susan Curo Paridar, Montie Banegas Perez, Janice Curo Pinto, Edwin 'Thorpe' Romero, Charley Rodriguez, Shirley Curo Ruis, Elaine Curo Trujillo, Phyllis Brown VanWanseele,

Robbie Welch, Lynn 'Toddy' Brown Yeats. We also thank these Tribal spouses for their participation in this exhibit: Shirley Curo, Dana Curo, Bobbie Maxcy, Susie Rodriguez, Benny Romero, Sandra Romero, Craig VanWanseele, and Dan Yeats.



BARONA CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

**Barona Elders' Tree
Exhibit**
p.1

From the Director
p.2

Chairwoman's Corner
p.3

New Staff
p.3

The Barona Gathering
p.4/5

Barona Circle of Elders
p.6

Museum Calendar
p.7

**Directions and
Contact Information**
p.8



Youths participate in the three legged race at The Barona Gathering.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Museum Director/Chief Curator Cheryl Hinton



BARONA GATHERING 2008

Once again there was a memorable Gathering at Barona. [Please see the center photo essay by Tribal Member Photographer, Mandy Curo.] The Museum would especially like to thank and commend the 2008 Gathering Steering Committee for another successful event.

This year we had over 600 attending August 16-18. There was a great deal of activity on the Gathering Grounds. In the Ramada area we had food, raffle and Information booths, the dance grounds, and visiting under a large canopy. The Fiesta games were really popular with kids and adults, with great competitions for the watermelon eating and tug of war; there were long nights full of exciting Peon games. On the stage area, talented local musicians playing rock and roll, the blues, and country to an enthusiastic audience that extended into the fields on the backs of pickup trucks. We had two fields of Fastpitch players for the men's and women's softball tournaments, and there was a very successful Horseshoe Tournament with a big crowd cheering them on. Every section of the Gathering was hopping with families visiting, eating, and enjoying music and games. We were also honored by a visit from the Elders Group of Gila River in Arizona who stayed in our hotel and attended the Gathering.

As with any great event there are so many thank yous; we hope we don't leave anyone out! We appreciate the leadership on our Steering Committee of Vice Chairman Beaver Curo, Steve Banegas, Candy Christman and other past and present Museum Committee members: Caroline Mendoza, Robert Wallace, Brenda Ray, Vicky Matheny, Shirley Ruis. Several people contributed time and resources including Treasurer Amanda Banegas, Larry Banegas, Cookie and John Holsbo, Margie and Robert Cruz, Bobbie Turner and her sisters (Mary, Cookie, Margie, Roxanne) and family, Montie Perez, Melissa Means, Kyle Mendoza, Brian VanWanselee, Brandon Banegas, Carol Banegas, Beverly Means, and Daniel Murphy. It was an honor for me and Richard Rodriguez to assist Tribal members in coordinating the event. Thank you to all the food booth ramadas, including the Banegas Family with Bobbie Turner and her Sisters, Caroline Mendoza (the LaChappas) with Laura Workman, Bud, Danthia and Kyle Mendoza, Darla Romero and her family, and Brandon Banegas and family's Snow cone booth. Thanks also to Willie Cruz and his family for their booth at the Softball field.

We are so grateful to the Tribal members from all over the region for joining us; our appreciation to Vice-Chairman Beaver Curo for opening remarks and to John Christman (Viejas) singing at the welcoming. Thank you to the many traditional singers including Marlow Rose and Leroy Elliott, the dancers, and peon players and to the many family bands with stage organization by Larry Banegas who sang with his sons, Harold

Hill, Ken Frissell, Beaver Curo and the other community musicians. It was great to see families get up on the stage and take turns entertaining us. Thank you Robert Wallace for running a great Horseshoe Tournament with 41 teams competing all-day for the big prize money. Thanks to Melissa Means, Kyle Mendoza and Frank Phoenix for organizing the Softball Tournament. We also appreciate the efforts of Barona Recreation Department with Brian VanWanselee, Robert Grenfell, Mike McClain and the Barona Teens. Thanks to Candy Christman, Vicky Matheny-Kolb, Heather Rodriguez, Brenda Ray, Cheryl Olivas, and their families and the Museum staff and interns for assisting in the Information Booth. Thanks to Montie Perez, Beverly Means and the Museum staff for assisting in the Raffle booth and other areas. Many of us wish to thank our family members and friends for their assistance from gathering willow, to building the structures, to manning the booths and cleaning the grounds. Thank you to volunteer David Palacios for your assistance in so many areas. Please have a look at the photo essay by Mandy Curo (our official event photographer) for more Gathering memories. Mandy is producing a great book on the event. Please call the Museum for information. We thank all the unsung heroes too. See you next year!

DONATIONS TO THE GATHERING:

- Beverly Means to the Fastpitch Tournament meals and raffle prizes: \$1000
- Lakeside Equipment Rental, contacted by Tom Parli, who donated the use of two light poles.
- Larry Banegas who brought the stage from the Navy at a greatly reduced price and Semi driver Torrey Rust who donated the use of his truck and drove the stage in by arrangement of Curt Crook.
- Montie Perez's efforts in assembling the prizes and running the Raffle that resulted in over \$1500.00 to keep the event going.
- We thank Al Garcia, of the Barona Station, for his generous donation of water, soft drinks, and snacks for the Gathering Volunteers.

Thank You to our Generous Raffle Prize Donors: Barona Circle of Elders, Barona Tribal Council, Alan and Dayton Banegas, Liz Banegas, Carol Banegas, Candy Christman, Linda Curo, Jerrie Darby, Vicky Matheny-Kolb, Beverly Means, Cody Perez, Montie Perez, Clifford LaChappa, Bobby Pontecurvo, Brenda Ray, Kelly & Don Speers, Target (El Cajon and National City), Phyllis VanWanselee, Bobby Wallace, Walmart (National City), Toddy Yeats, and Barona Museum.

CHAIRWOMAN'S CORNER

By Museum Chairwoman Phyllis Van Wanseele

MY EYES HAVE OPENED TO A NEW WORLD



I am in my 6th decade of life. At this time in my life, it is fantastic to learn something new about the world; a world that holds native people from lands far beyond my reservation life - the reservation life of my youth and my upbringing.

Australia! I went to Australia in June of this year. I was expecting the same

travel stories of sights, people, and places that my other trips provided me, but what a revelation I found in the outback of Australia. I found that the story of Australian aborigines mirrored the history of my people. Maybe you know their story, but until I met Alec Ross (pictured with me) in Alice Springs, I was ignorant of their parallel history.

Alec is the son of a Scotsman and aboriginal woman. In the time that he was born, the aborigines did not accept children of mixed birth. Mothers who gave birth to these children often killed them or left them to die in the wilderness because their families would disown them and their child. In Alec's case, his mother lived in the bush but took him to a hospital because he was sickly. The hospital took him from his mother when he was four years old and placed him into a facility called, "The Bungalow". Alec never saw his mother again for the next forty-six years. The Bungalow was a home for part aboriginal children who were taken from their families because of the inevitable genocide. The children were taught English, farming for boys and cooking for the girls. They were taught to wear clothes and learned another culture. Does this sound familiar?

I've learned that this is a familiar theme throughout history. It happened to many native people so I listened to more stories and went to local Australian museums with a focus on learning more about the native people. I learned the English could not deal with the native people so they declared Australia, uninhabited. The native people were almost wiped out through disease, they were considered racially inferior and not citizens, they were encouraged to move to "settlements" far away from European communities, part aboriginal children were given up or taken away from their families to integrate into white society (later to be called, The Lost Generation), a Department of Aboriginal Affairs Office was created to deal with health and general welfare issues, in the 1980's they were given the right to vote, and today many face a life on government welfare, poverty, drugs and alcohol.

My native history echoes the experiences of the native people of Australia. They, too, are trying to preserve their culture, language and history, but the modern day influences of a computer paced world is just too fast. It's not all going to be saved. So, our work here at the Museum becomes more important to me as we record verbal histories, hold Traditional Gatherings, host language conferences and capture today for tomorrow. My eyes are no longer closed, they see with sadness the passing of what cannot be saved - time.

Welcome to NEW STAFF and Some Changes...



We would like to welcome John George (Chickasaw/ Filipino), our new Collections Manager. John comes to us with a background in collections and artifacts that began at the Smithsonian National Museum of the

American Indian and most recently with the Park Service at Chaco Canyon National Historic Park. He is a graduate of San Diego State University and is completing his Master's degree in Native American Art from University of New Mexico. We are very happy to have John on our team. His mount-making skills were already part of our museum practices. John gave a lesson on this Collections tool at a Smithsonian workshop held at Barona a few years ago. Diane Tells His Name will continue to focus her efforts on the Museum's library as our Librarian/Archivist. And, Diane will assist the Education Department as an educator through the library. Our administrative assistant, Marilyn Brown is changing jobs while still remaining with the Barona Family. We wish her the best as she takes on a role in the Purchasing Department.

Welcome to Danthia Mendoza



Danthia Little Raven Mendoza is the first Museum Tribal Intern, a newly created position. She is a Barona Tribal Member whose parents are Elmer Mendoza (Rincon) and Caroline LaChappa Mendoza (Barona). Danthia and her husband have two children and are expecting a third child. In her spare time Danthia likes to spend time with her friends and family. She is an avid softball player and also spends time getting involved with her community. Danthia is excited to be a part of the BCCM team. She is looking forward to gaining more knowledge about her culture and one day becoming a leader for her reservation.

THE BARONA GATHERING 2008



Despite the heat, there were plenty of youths eager to participate in the three-legged race.



A view of the Horse Shoe Tournament, where over 100 people participated or watched.



Vice Chairman Curo welcomes the visitors and guests in an opening speech given early on Friday evening.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE
WINNING TEAMS IN SOFTBALL,
HORSESHOES AND PEON!**



The infamous watermelon eating contest, evidence that even adults will get sticky for prize money.



Men's Tug-of-War, featuring modern Indian gladiators in a test of strength and stamina.



Donnie Magee pitching during Barona's Invitational Softball/Baseball Tournament.

Photo Credit: Mandy Curo, Tribal Member Photographer



Richard Rodriguez, George Zuniga and Amanda Banegas help build the ramadas after the willow gathering in Capitan Grande.



Brenda Ray (in back), Heather Rodriguez, and Vicky Kolb await to greet guests in the host booth.



Behind the scenes: inside of the Banegas family food ramada.



Caroline Mendoza visits outside her food ramada with other Gathering Committee members Brenda Ray and Candy Christman.



Women dance in accompaniment to Traditional Singers at Friday's opening.



Chairman Leroy Elliott (Manzanita) leads a group of singers one evening during the event.



Rock music was a part of the festivities where a number of Barona tribal and community members showcased their talent.

Kuhmii Tepchuurp

BARONA CIRCLE OF ELDERS

By Toddy Yeats, Seniors Committee Chairwoman

BARONA SENIORS CRUISE TO ALASKA

They call it the last frontier and they (whoever they are) were right. We saw so many eagles, salmon, bears, glaciers, mountains, trees, waterfalls with crystal clear skies. Remembering our visit with the local natives, relaxing on the cruise ship, playing bingo and spending time in the spa's hot benches were all great memories of our trip to Alaska. We are now looking forward to finding out where our seniors will travel in 2009.

8th annual Countywide Tribal Senior Luncheon

The 8th annual Countywide Tribal Senior Luncheon will take place on Thursday November 20th from 11:30 am-2pm at Barona Convention Center Stardome. This year's theme is Celebrating Our Circle of Elders. The music will be provided by musicians from the Barona Reservation. Seniors on our mailing list: please look for your invitations coming in late October. You must RSVP to be admitted to our event. We look forward to seeing you once again!



Barona Seniors in a group photo on their cruise to Alaska.

EDUCATIONAL CLASSES: ALL ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND TO TRIBAL MEMBERS

By Rich Rodriguez

Bow and Arrow Class with Stan Rodriguez (Rescheduled):

Join us for a full weekend, October 4th and 5th 2008 from 10am-4pm, of making traditional hunting tools. Stan Rodriguez (Santa Ysabel) will be teaching a course on bow and arrow making. Please note that this class does not include flint knapping (arrow point making with usually with rock or obsidian). We will be creating arrows with wooden points. You must attend both days. Due to the use of sharp tools, each participant must be 18 years or older. Children may watch as long as they do not interfere with participants. Lunch is included. Cost is \$25 per person (one time fee only). Barona Tribal Members free. Please RSVP by September 30th, 2008.

Tortilla Making with Caroline Mendoza:

Saturday November 22nd we will be holding a tortilla making class given by Caroline Mendoza. Just in time for Thanksgiving dinner. This class will take place from 10:00am and run approximately 90 minutes. Please show up on time. Cost is \$10.00. Barona Tribal Members free. Please RSVP by November 15th, 2008.

Holiday Kids Craft

(Youths Ages 7-12): On December 6th Barona Cultural Center and Museum will hold its annual Holiday Kids Craft class. Now is the chance to create a special decoration for your grandparent or your home this holiday season. but with a native twist. Class starts at 10am sharp and runs until 11:30am. Refreshments will be served. Ages 7-12 only. Cost is \$10. Barona Tribal Members free. Please RSVP by December 1st, 2008.

Due to the high interest in these classes we recommend that you call to RSVP ASAP! Any persons that show up on the day of class without a RSVP may be turned away.

Seniors: Please look for mailings as we schedule upcoming events and activities.

REMEMBER:

Barona Community members you are eligible for the senior events upon your 55th birthday. Please call to add your name to our mailing list!

CIRCLE OF ELDERS: PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS EXHIBIT

In the Legacy Case exhibit we will now feature the Circle of Elders Photography Class Exhibit with the artwork of seniors Linda Curo, John Holsbo, Sister Romero, Shirley Ruis, Bobbie Turner, and Toddy Yeats. The class was held in Winter 2008 with former Curator Alexandra Harris as instructor. Talent knows no age boundary! Look for it at the opening of the Barona Elders' Tree on October 10th.

MUSEUM CALENDAR

OCTOBER

October 1: Circle of Elders meeting

**October 1, 8, 22, 29:
Circle of Elders Flower Class**

**October 4th & 5th:
Bow and Arrow Class with Stan Rodriguez**

**October 10:
Opening of Barona Elders Tree Exhibit
5:30 to 7:30 pm**

October 14-18: Circle of Elders NY City trip

October 27: Museum Committee Meeting

NOVEMBER

November 5: Circle of Elders meeting

**November 9-14: Circle of Elders, Arizona Trip
to Grand Canyon, NASCAR, Sedona**

**November 20: Circle of Elders,
Countywide Senior Luncheon at
Barona Convention Center Stardome**

**November 22:
Tortilla Making with Caroline Mendoza**

November 24: Museum Committee Meeting

DECEMBER

December 3: Barona Circle of Elders meeting

**December 6: Circle of Elders, Theater Trip
to San Diego: The Color Purple**

**December 6:
Holiday Kids Craft with Museum Staff**

**December 22:
Museum Committee Meeting**

JANUARY

**January 7, 2009:
Circle of Elders Meeting, noon**

BARONA TO MUMBAI : FROM EAST INDIANS TO CALIFORNIA INDIANS

It took about a year to complete the circle but Barona Museum has received photos and several thank you cards from some



delightful young students in India. The Museum donated about 15 finger puppets and some literature on the Tribe to Class II in Mumbai (Bombay) India around Spring of 2007. The children were studying American Indians. The box of puppets and books took about 6 months to reach their destination. The children (ages 7 and 8) then made thank you cards. Their teacher Leonie LeMaistre has since moved back home to Scotland.

Director Cheryl Hinton and husband Jim went to the British Isles on vacation and met up with Ms. LeMaistre where photos of the class were delivered. Later in July, the children's letters were received in the mail. The beautifully illustrated cards included one child's thank you: "To Dear Friend. We loved your puppets. We are also Indian. We love you, from Class II." It is a small world. *Photo courtesy of Leonie LeMaistre, Mumbai School*

COLLECTIONS ACTIVITIES

Gifts

*One porcelain Indian statue
Gift of Louis Goldich*

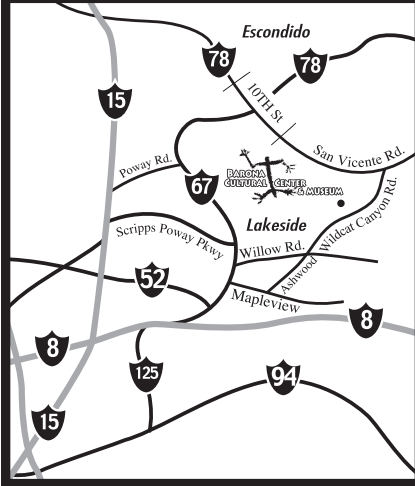
*Metates and Manos
Gift of JoAnne Massey*

Library Purchases and Gifts

*One Native Interest Book
Louis Goldich*

*15 Native Interest Books
Gift of Cheryl and Jim Hinton*

DIRECTIONS



Take Highway 8 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Maplevue, left onto Ashwood. Continue through the 4-way stop as Ashwood turns into Wildcat Canyon Road. Proceed six miles to the majestic Barona Valley. Continue on Barona Road (Wildcat Canyon) for another mile and the Museum is on the left.

Hours: Closed Monday

Open Tuesday through Sunday from Noon to 5:00pm

Call to schedule tours and research appointments.

Museum Committee 2008

Committee Chair Phyllis Van Wanseele (Barona), Candy Christman (Barona), Beaver Curo (Barona), Linda Curo (Barona), Shirley Curo, Donna Romero DiIorio (Barona), Myrna DeSomber, Caroline Mendoza (Barona), Brenda Ray (Barona), Josephine Romero (Barona), Kelly Speer, Bobby Wallace (Barona), Josephine Whaley (Barona), Toddy Yeats (Barona)

Director/Chief Curator

Cheryl Hinton

Museum Assistants

Diane Tells His Name (Lakota) Librarian/Educator, John George (Chickasaw/ Filipino) Collections Manager, Richard Rodriguez (Luiseño) Education Coordinator, Awujoola Robin Edmonds Gift Shop Coordinator, Danthia Mendoza Barona Tribal Community Intern

Museum Volunteers and Interns

Paul Jeffrey (Canadian Bilingual Institute, Bratislava, Slovakia), Beverly Means (Barona), David Palacios, Halona Sheldon (Maidu) CSU San Marcos, Laura Workman (Navajo)

Please direct any newsletter inquiries to the editor, Cheryl Hinton.

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Barona Cultural Center & Museum

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