Saying Goodbye to Our Anyewaay [Friend]: Margaret Langdon

Recently, we lost a great friend to the San Diego and Southwestern Indian tribes. Linguist Dr. Margaret Langdon dedicated her life’s work to record the languages of this region with Tribal elders. Her Kumeyaay/Diegueño contributions include: the Barona Dictionary first edition and the second edition in progress, the Mesa Grande Dictionary, and many other papers. The elders included Leonora Banegas, Dora Curo, Charles Magginni, Isabel Magee, Christina Hutcheson, and Ted Couro. Margaret was assisted by Barona Community members Arlette Poutous and Myrna DeSomber. She left many excellent students to continue her work including Leanne Hinton, Amy Miller, Pamela Munro, and Paula Meyer.

Barona was honored to host a memorial luncheon for Margaret and her family with the assistance of Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa. Councilman Thorpe Romero greeted the guests, and was joined by elders Sister Romero and Josephine Whaley. Also in attendance from the Dictionary Project were Arlette Poutous, Myrna DeSomber, Larry Banegas, and Amy Miller. At the memorial, we heard eulogies from Leanne Hinton, Steve Elster, Cheryl Hinton, Loni Langdon, and Pam Munro. Numerous guests in the audience, including many Yuman speakers from Tribes across the Southwest, came to the podium to speak about Margaret’s significance in their lives. At the request of the family, Louis Guassac, Stan Rodriguez, Larry Banegas, and Roy Cook honored Margaret’s memory with four bird songs to end the ceremony.

Also in memory of Margaret, the Museum mounted a small exhibition in November and December of the Ted Couro paintings donated to the Barona Museum collection in the summer of 2005 by Margaret Langdon and her daughter Loni. Mr. Couro was Loni’s Nino (Godfather). These paintings hung in the Langdon home until the time of their donation.
What’s New at the Barona Museum?

Here at the Barona Museum, our focus has always been on education, first and foremost for our local tribal community and also for the general public. Often times, our outreach events, tours, and classes overshadow the other programs and activities that the Museum is involved with in the greater San Diego area and beyond. In recent months, our projects have emphasized the collection and celebration of our own Barona tribal history here on the reservation, and sharing our heritage with others.

My Ancestors’ Village featured at San Diego's December Nights Celebration

For the past 28 years, San Diego has held its annual holiday celebration, Balboa Park December Nights, formerly Christmas on the Prado, to celebrate the season with food, activities, and evenings of free museum entertainment at Balboa Park. This year, amidst the city’s financial crisis, the Barona Band of Mission Indians contributed $100,000 to ensure that the community event was able to continue. As a result, the Museum gained an opportunity to educate thousands of San Diego members by building My Ancestors’ Village, complete with a willow brush house, or ‘ewas (constructed by Abdi Salif), and ramadas, under which basketry and pottery demonstrations were held with gourd and rock painting activities for kids. Kumeyaay women from San Jose de la Zorra in Baja California demonstrated their basket making and pottery expertise. Barona Museum and Recreation staff, along with Barona tribal teens, assisted children in painting river stones and gourds throughout the event. This also provided an opportunity to feature our children’s book, My Ancestors’ Village, to the public. The author, Roberta Labastida, attended on Saturday to autograph copies for the public. Many thanks to Barona Valley Ranch Resort Community Relations Project Manager Dana Saso for her leadership in organizing this tremendous event.

...Continued from page 4

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To continue our celebration of our fifth year, we have expanded our permanent collection exhibition in late August to include selections from our original museum photo collection. Some images were donated by tribal members from their family collections. Others were acquired by tribal members at the National Archives in Laguna Niguel. Our images span over one hundred years and include images of the old reservation at Capitan Grande, as well as photos documenting the removal to and life at the Barona Indian Reservation. The selection of images in our new exhibition was chosen to represent all of the original families who traveled to the Barona Reservation from Capitan Grande in 1932, and begins our look back at the last 75 years of this reservation that will culminate in a celebratory exhibit in 2007. Please join us to celebrate a community history through images.

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GIFTS

Peon Quilt
Gift of Bobbie Turner, Barona tribal member

LOANS

Peon Game Set and Pieces
On loan from Bobbie Turner, Barona tribal member

Six Native American-style dolls
(including Identities exhibit)
On loan from Cheryl Hinton

Two Native American Barbie Dolls
(including Identities exhibit)
On loan from Alexandra Harris

Four Clay Figures, East German Book:
Blau-Grüne—Wohnhaus der Irokesen
(“Blue Bird, Adopted Son of the Iroquois"
one magnet, and one small totem pole
(including Identities exhibit)
On loan from Klaus and Susanne Mundt

Education

Ancient Spirits Speak Spring Classes

We are currently organizing spring culture classes at the Museum for both the San Diego tribal community and the general public. Watch your mailbox for details. Please call the Museum at (619) 443-7003 x2 or visit our website for more information regarding our ongoing programs.

Museum Calendar

Subject to change, please call 619-443-7003 ext. 2

January

January 1 & 2, 2006
Museum closed for New Year’s Day Holiday

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Museum committee meeting 9:30am

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February 6 to 10
Museum closed for storage renovation

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March 20
Museum committee meeting at 9:30am

March 18-12
Yuman Language Conference
**FROM THE DIRECTOR**

by Cheryl Hinton, Museum Director/Curator

**RESCUED HISTORY**

Since the summer of 2005, the Museum has been discussing with representatives of the San Vicente Reservoir the move of an important cluster of boulders. These boulders include an important aspect of Kumeyaay/Diego de la Hoya ancestral history, a fertility rock. The building of a new pumping station at the dam was about to destroy the large fertility rock. Fertility rocks are seen all over Southern California and perhaps the world. The decision in mitigation was to move the rock to a nearby reservation. In cooperation with Steven Banegas, KCRC Chairman, the Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee, and the Barona Tribal Council, the Museum helped to facilitate the move to Barona. After examining the cluster with KCRC members and Museum committee members Candy Christian and Brenda Ray, we determined that two rocks and one grinding stone rock should be moved. After a very tense morning working with several pieces of heavy equipment, the boulders were carefully extracted and transported several yards across a field to the flatbed. After loading, the rocks began their six-mile journey winding up Wildcat Canyon Road to the Barona Reservation. This delicate task was accomplished in October. The move to Barona was in concert with the cultural resource management firm EDAW, and Cultural Resource Specialist Carrie Gregory. The rocks will eventually become part of an interpretive site for Museum education programs.

**CHAIRMAN’S CORNER**

by Museum Committee Chairman, Charles “Beaver” Curo

**ARCHITECTS FERRIS JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES APPOINTED**

We are pleased to inform you that the Old Tribal House, or “Gill House,” is on its way to being restored. Ferris Johnson & Associates, Inc. has been selected to reconstruct the historic Irving Gill house here at Barona. The home was one of the first built on this reservation after the removal from Capitan Grande in 1932. Paul Johnson, the principal historic architect, and his firm will spend the initial phase gathering information about the house as we decide what era of the building’s history is most important to reconstruct. He has met on several occasions with Barona Tribal members, Council members, Museum committee and staff to begin discussions on this planning stage. We are also conducting interviews with tribal members who lived in the house, and gathering their stories for both architectural accuracy and the basis for the future exhibit and house tour. Physical restoration of the house should begin within the next year. We are looking forward to completing the project in time to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Barona Reservation in 2007. We will keep you posted on the progress. If any tribal members have photos of the old house or family stories they would like to add to our growing knowledge, please call the Museum to set up an interview with Director/ Curator Cheryl Hinton.
NEW EXHIBIT

AMERICAN INDIAN IDENTITIES: LITERATURE, ART, AND IMAGES

When we are very young, we have our first introduction to other people. What have books been saying and showing children about Indians? How much of it is good; what is negative? Much of what people believe about Indians comes from some very general stereotypes that have been around since Europeans came to the Americas. In our new exhibit, we explore some of these images and identities using the Museum’s library. How do these images affect us, from childhood to adulthood? We allow our visitors to question the influences in their own lives, and decide for themselves if these images are accurate representations of who Indians are. Our discussion of Indian Identities will continue until fall 2006.

CONTINUING EXHIBITS

The Barona Cultural Center and Museum Permanent Collection: Fifth Year Retrospective

The collection that began it all! The Museum is celebrating its Fifth Anniversary with the Re-Installation of the Permanent Exhibit. This collection was acquired for the Tribe through the generosity of Don Sper and Venture Catalyst, and became the foundation for the establishment of the Museum. Please join us in celebration of The Barona Cultural Center and Museum Permanent Collection: Fifth Year Retrospective.

Continued on page 7...

WESTERN MUSEUM ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING IN PASADENA

September 18 - October 2, 2005

BARONA SENIORS

Barona Museum 5th Annual Tribal Senior Luncheon

This year, we postponed our annual San Diego Tribal Senior Luncheon until November in order to celebrate and honor our Veterans. We were overwhelmed with responses to the luncheon invitation, even though our Museum phones were out of order! Almost 300 local tribal seniors attended the event, and we are proud to have so many new and returning guests. Local musicians Sam Necoechea and the Western Playboys were a hit as they returned for their third year in a row to entertain us as we raffled prizes to our visitors. Thanks to all who attended, and we hope to see you all at next year’s bash!

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

Rincon Christmas Party Trip

On Monday December 19, we transported our Barona seniors to the Rincon Senior Christmas luncheon that took place at Harrah’s Rincon Casino Pavilion.

Christmas parties on the reservations! With the Barona Seniors receiving so many Senior Christmas invitations, the Museum Committee elected to provide transportation for any Seniors (Tribal Members 55 years and older) to attend the Rincon Christmas Party on December 19th. Seniors were mailed the other invitations and an information flyer for the trip to Rincon. There were also several Barona Seniors who attended the Christmas Party on their own. Those of us who took the chartered bus had a great time charting and enjoying the ride.

The event had over 500 people in attendance, well over Rincon Seniors Club’s expectations. Additional seating needed to be set up in the foyer of the Pavilion Room at Harrah’s Casino. We enjoyed the company of other Tribal seniors and had a delicious buffet dinner of turkey, stuffing, potatoes, and plenty of desserts.

Barona Tribal Members who reach age 55, please contact us and we will add you on our Seniors Mailing list to be notified of Senior events throughout the year.

You can reach us at (619) 445-7003 ext.

REMEMBER

Barona Community members, you are eligible for senior events upon your 55+ birthday. Please call to add your name to our mailing list!
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Veterans attending the luncheon were honored with gifts of sage and abalone. Photo by Alexandra Harris

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WINTER MUSEUM ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING IN PASADENA

September 18 - October 2, 2005

Western museum professionals converge on the Los Angeles area for the Western Museum Association's Annual Meeting, September 18-22. More than 300 members will participate in a series of plenary sessions and focus group meetings, with topics ranging from cultural, historical, and social aspects of the West to museum management and collections management. The meeting will also host the annual Western Museum Association Awards ceremony.

The meeting will include a celebration of the Pacific Southwestern Association of Museums (PSWAM) and the Western Museums Association's (WMA) 90th anniversary. In addition, there will be an opportunity for members to network with other Western museums and professionals.

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Barona Museum Earns Prestigious IMLS Tribal Grant Award

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Ongoing Interviews for Barona History

We are in the process of interviewing Barona tribal and community members age 55 and above regarding their memories of growing up here on the reservation. The Museum staff has already recorded several seniors, but we are eager to have every family be represented for a full account of the history.

We currently have three interns working on transcribing interviews in the Museum’s collection, including dictionary and older tribal interviews recorded in previous years. These include Paul Jeffery, currently working on his Master’s Degree in Humanities at Penn State in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Brian Williams, who will be beginning his Master’s studies in Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia this February; and Sara Smith, an Anthropology senior at SDSU. Many thanks to these hardworking students, funded by our IMLS grant.

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Winter 2006, Vol. VI, #1

DIRECTIONS

Take Highway 67 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Mapletree, left on Ashwood. Continue through the 4-way stop at Ashwood into Wildcat Canyon Road. Proceed to the main entrance of Barona Valley. Continue on Barona Rd. (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.

Barona Cultural Center and Museum
1095 Barona Road, Lakeside, CA 92040
Phone: 619-443-7003, Ext. 2 • Fax: 619-443-0173
Phone Via Barona Tribal Office: 619-443-6612, Ext. 219
email: info@baronamuseum.org • www.baronamuseum.org

Museum Committee 2006
Candy Christian (Barona member)
Chairman Beaver Caco (Barona member), Shirley Caco,
Donna Romero Diforio (Barona member), Myrna DeSomber,
Linda LaChappa (Barona member), Brenda Ray (Barona member),
Josephine Romero (Barona member), Kelly Spece, Phyllis Van
Wansele (Barona member), Josephine Whaley (Barona member),
Todd Yeats (Barona member).

Museum Director/Curator
Cheryl Hinton

Museum Assistant Curator
Alexandra Harris (Western Cherokee)

Museum Assistants
Diane Tells His Name (Lakota) – Collections Manager
Richard Rodriguez (Iseetocht) – Education Coordinator
Leah Nightwalker (Chiyenne) – Museum Assistant

Museum Volunteers and Interns
Paul Jeffrey, Beverly Means (Barona member), Diana Ramos,
Sarah Smith, Brian Williams, Cheryanne Yeats (Barona member)
Please direct any newsletter inquiries to the editor, Alexandra Harris.

Saying Goodbye to Our Anyewaay [FRIEND]: Margaret Langdon

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