SOUTHWEST INDIAN ART HIGHLIGHTS
NEW BARONA PARTNERSHIP:
FIRST ANNUAL USD AMERICAN INDIAN CELEBRATION

A very important part of the museum world and Native America is the world of American Indian art. The Museum kicks off its partnership with the University of San Diego with a new exhibit opening in early April here at the Barona Museum. We have been working closely with Anthropology Museum Director Dr. Alana Cordy-Collins on the event. The new exhibit is titled: Masterpieces from the May Collection. A portion of the original exhibit that was shown at the University is traveling to our Museum. We will have objects from the Southwest, including jewelry, pottery, and baskets from the David W. May Indian Artifacts Collection. The exhibit will be installed by USD museum studies students under the direction of Professor Tori Heflin. The May Collection is housed in the Anthropology Museum on the University of San Diego campus. This is our first traveling exhibition from another institution.

The exhibit also highlights a very important event in April: American Indian Celebration: A Festival & Marketplace. The participants include top Native American artists and performers from across the country. Barona Museum committee members Josephine Whaley and Cheryl Hinton are on the planning committee for USD's premier American Indian Celebration. Barona Tribal Member Ethan Banegas is the USD American Indian student representative. The celebration takes place April 18-21, at the new Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. The celebration's theme is Peace and Justice. There will be two days of lectures and workshops on April 18 & 19. Museum Director Cheryl Hinton will conduct a workshop on Southern California Indian Veterans with Leon Banegas, Tiny LaChappa, Kenny Mesa, and Max and Clarinne Mazzetti. We will then look forward to two days of American Indian artists’ demonstrations, artwork, music, storytelling and educational booths on April 20 & 21. The Museum will have an informational booth. Jamul elder Jane Dumas will bless the event and the Kumeyaay Youth Bird Singers from Campo (thanks to Councilman Steven Banegas and group leader Paul Cuero, Jr.) will open the celebration. USD considers it very appropriate that the Kumeyaay, the first nation of people in this area, open this event in their traditional territory. Visit http://www.sandiego.edu/indianfestival/ for more information or call Cheryl at the Museum.

FROM THE DIRECTOR
By Cheryl Hinton, Museum Director/Curator

We thank everyone who attended the Anniversary Celebration on January 25. About 200 people got the first look at the new "Bears!" exhibit. Our expansion turned out great, thanks to Bow & Arrow Construction and Atlas Fine Art Service – both Indian-owned businesses. Our new partnership in science education with the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center is really educational and fun. The Reuben H. Fleet staff are top-notch professionals and were a joy to work with on the project. We had a great time at their IMAX film opening and they expressed feeling very welcome at our Anniversary Opening. We appreciated the comments made at the opening by Dr. Jeff Kirsch, Fleet Executive Director, Chairman LaChappa and Beaver Curo, Museum Committee Chairman. I know some of you heard my Bear shamanism interview on the KPBS radio show, These Days with Tom Fudge on January 10. Thanks for visiting the Museum and letting me know you enjoyed it.

My apologies to Herman Osuna...In the Fall newsletter, I misidentified him as Henry Osuna in the Veterans Dinner Honor Guard! Herman is a well-respected elder in our community and we appreciate all he has done for us. We hope all the kids had fun during their Spring Break activities at the Museum. With the help of instructor Pat Sloan, we had a good group and lots of crafts and stories. The Museum and Barona School, including teacher, Amy No Ear, are currently very involved in the Indigenous Language and Culture group meeting monthly with the Tribal Digital Village/Hewlett-Packard Grant at Mission Trails. We hope to get some good ideas and help in preserving the 'ipay language. The TDV celebrated its first anniversary in March. Also in attendance were Tribal Council Members Melinda Rodriguez and Steven Banegas and Barona teacher Amy No Ear.
Barona Spirits Speak

Spring 2002, Vol. II, #2

Continuing Exhibits

BARONA WALL OF HONOR

In light of the tragedy in New York and Washington, D.C., this year’s exhibit has been very important. Please visit the Barona Veterans: Wall of Honor in our Timeline Room to recognize those who have served from Barona. We are grateful to the many Reservation Veterans and families who helped contribute to the exhibit.

“BEARS!”

BEAR TRADITIONS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

This exhibit, in partnership with the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, continues through June. Visit the dazzling bear fetishes and other precious artifacts, especially the California state prehistoric artifact (a flaked bear stone found in San Diego County). Plus, don’t miss the real Grizzly skull!

CHAIRMAN’S CORNER

By Beaver Curo, Museum Committee Chairman

In February, the Museum gave lectures for the Poway Historical Society’s annual meeting and the Colorado Desert Archaeological Society at the Anza-Borrego Desert Park Visitor’s Center. Our Saturday Educator’s Seminar on Southern California Indians was full to capacity on March 9. Teachers, educators, and college students met in the Museum’s new classroom. Everyone came out with a good exchange of knowledge. Our school tours and outreaches have been packed throughout the last three months.

The Museum is very proud to announce two important workshops that will take place here at the Community Center. During the week of April 1-5, we will host a Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian workshop on *Preservation and Collection Methods for Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers*. Tribal Museums from around the country will be attending. The Museum is honored to have been selected as the site for this conference. Then, on April 13, we will host the California State Parks and Recreation Department’s National Park Service workshop on *The Treatment of Artifacts with Poisons*. This is an important concern for tribal members who are repatriating objects and for tribal museum employees and volunteers who will care for these objects. We have been working closely with KCRC Chairman and Barona Councilman Steven Banegas. This workshop may still be open to interested people; call the Museum for details. The Smithsonian workshop is closed; participants have been selected.

The Senior Valentine’s Day Luncheon was delicious and great fun with the magician and many sweetheart photos to enjoy. Guests Max and Clarinne Mazzetti from Rincon presented the Museum with a wooden bear sculpture in honor of our “Bears!” exhibit. We had a great time whale watching with San Diego Harbor Excursions and the Steven Birch Aquarium on March 6. Our Barona school kids showed their science skills during the lecture on the bus and their great behavior on the boat made the Museum and the Seniors very proud. We observed five gray whales really close up!
BARONA SENIOR NEWS

Wasn’t Valentine’s Day elegant? How about “roughing it on the high seas” with whale watching? We have had some good events. We are scheduling our day trip to the Palm Springs Follies on May 17. Barona Senior Community members will be sent invitations in the mail, as usual. Also, we would like you to attend a casual summer lunch on June 19. See details below.

TRIBAL MEMBERS:
Our policy is that if the Seniors and their guests don’t fill the bus, you may attend. Call to be on our waiting list.

REMEMBER: Barona Community members are eligible for the Senior events at age 55. Please call to add your name to our mailing list!

Tuesday, April 9: Museum of Making Music, Lunch at Karl Strauss and Carlsbad Flower Fields. Open to all Tribal members. Prices are $35 for adults; $25 for children and free to Seniors. Leave Barona around 8:30 a.m., return at 4:15 p.m.

Friday, May 17: Palm Springs Follies (Tribal Community Seniors only.) Call for more information. A flyer will be sent to you.

Monday, June 10:
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center: “Bears!” Tribal members and Tribal Community Seniors trip to view film and visit science center. Call for details. A flyer will also be sent to you.

Wednesday, June 19: Senior Lunch: Summer-time Fun. Come enjoy a casual lunch. Please bring your vacation photos from past years and let’s give everyone some ideas on where to spend the summer! Come give your input on future trips and tours you’d like.

RECENT DONATIONS, GIFTS, LOANS AND ACQUISITIONS

Bear Sculpture (wood)
Gift of Max and Clarinne Mazzetti of Rincon

Metate and mano (stone)
Gift of Dorothy Stevens of La Mesa

Bear Dancer Gourd Vase
Commissioned by museum for “Bears!” Exhibit from Artist Daleane Adams, Jamul Indian Village

Volumes I & II Final Report CA-SDi-12,809
Gift of Charlotte McGowan

Loans to “Bears!” exhibit:
Replica of the California state prehistoric artifact bear crescentric, On loan from Hank and Karen Koerper of Orange, CA

Turquoise bear fetish on loan from the Anthropology Museum, USD

Grizzly skull on loan from the San Diego Natural History Museum

Jamul Indian Village Artist Daleane Dumas Adams and Elder Jane Dumas discuss the artwork with guests at the Second Anniversary Opening.
Some sources state that certain old people and shamans were allowed to eat the meat of sacred animals such as bear, owl, coyote, and eagle. According to Lowell Bean in Mukat’s People, it was felt that “Only they could dare to eat the flesh, because they had access to supernatural power...The hunters also feared that in killing these animals they might be killing a transformed...shaman” (1972: 63). During a hunt, the bear was warned to leave and given a reasonable time to do so.

Katherine Siva Saubel (age 81), a Cahuilla elder and Tribal Chair for Los Coyotes Reservation in San Diego, mentioned that many other Indian groups eat the bear as food. While visiting Chicago for an Indian conference, some people offered her bear meat at a celebration. She told them that she could not eat it, as the bear was her great-great-grandfather. Mrs. Saubel also remembers the stories of shamans who could change into bears. The last bear shaman she knew about was Casimiro Norte of Morongo Reservation near Banning, who died in 1915. According to Mrs. Saubel, Cahuilla women were never allowed to see the rituals of the bear shamans because “it was sacred, for the men only.” Her father, Juan C. Siva, told her that one of her great-great-grandfathers was a bear shaman. Her father also told her the following story about the great power and speed of a bear shaman:

A mountain Cahuilla father and his little son were walking a great distance in the mountains. The little boy began to get very tired, so the father told him to wait by the side of the road as he went into the bushes. He told the boy not to be frightened no matter what he saw. In a few minutes from out of the bushes came a bear. The bear lifted the boy up on his shoulders and walked the rest of the journey very fast. He stopped just outside the village. The bear went back into some bushes and out came the father. The father told the boy never to tell anyone what happened or the father would die. The boy waited many years until after his father had died to tell everyone the story.

Bear shamans are discussed in detail during a Palm Springs Desert Museum Video Interview (1991) with the late Saturnino Torres (then age 80) from Torres-Martinez Reservation near the Salton Sea. “My father [Frank Toro] was a witchman. He could turn into the bear. When we would try to follow him when he changed to the bear he would turn and slowly wag his head, no, and growl.” Mr. Torres emphasized that his father tried to keep the children away so he could not harm them in this state, and if one ignored the warning or followed the bear shaman, that person risked his life. He related the following story:

My father (he told us) he told this boy one time [who was going to hunt alone], “Somebody might be waiting for you…” The boy said, “No, I got my bow and arrow.” He said, “No, you have to have somebody with you.” [The boy] left, he walked up in the Mountains and he was looking around and he sees two bear tracks… But they’re not bears… “I’m going to kill them, if I catch them.” When he turned around he saw the bears were walking back to him. He said, “I’m going to kill you both, I got my bow and arrow.” The bears said, “No,” and they killed him right there. They hung his guts by the trees and rocks…One man who was related to the boy said that it was getting later and later. He said, “You boys ought to go check on that boy.”… They ran into that place where he wrestled the bears… and they look around where everything was hanging like that… You see there was a people who turned into bears… That’s why they [the elders] wouldn’t allow you to walk in the mountains alone… Nowadays you can go anywhere. They’re all gone like that.

Saturnino Torres explained that there were proper songs to direct hunters to their prey, and one must think in a positive way and be wary of dreams or bad feelings that will make the hunt a disaster. Thoughtless actions were not only bad behavior; they were dangerous. People who hunted alone or disregarded warnings about dangers wound up like the boy who was killed by the bear people.
Barona elder Albert “Boxie” Phoenix recalled Bear Valley Parkway in Escondido as the site where the largest-known grizzly bear in all of California was killed in the late 1860s. This is confirmed in the archives of the Escondido Historical Society. This giant grizzly, weighing about 2,200 pounds, was killed by a local Indian, known as Florencio. This was also reported to be the last Southern California grizzly (Haskell, 1953). In January, listeners called the KPBS radio show “These Days with Tom Fudge,” with reports of black bear sightings in San Diego, near Palomar Mountain and in the Cuyamacas. One caller stated that the forestry service counted around 20 bears in the county. It was difficult to get an official estimate.

Kumeyaay elder Jane Dumas of Jamul Indian Village Reservation recalls a bear ceremony she saw recently at the annual Grossmont College Powwow in La Mesa, California. “We want to promote our history and that we respected the bear. We had many important animals in our past history. We didn’t use to speak too much of these powerful animals, but today we need people to know the bear was here. They still do ceremonies to honor the bear in some areas. If all the Indians in the state would join together honoring the bear, it would be very powerful and healing.”

Angelo Lavato (Kupa/Pomo) of Pala Reservation and others have been participants in the Bear Ceremony at Grossmont College in recent years. Mr. Lavato stated that, “the Bear Ceremony is done all over the state and taken to places where it is needed...where people need healing.” The ceremony is done at night and isn’t usually taken out in the winter when the Bear is hibernating, unless there is a great need. The next all-night Bear Ceremony will be at Kupa Days on Pala Indian Reservation, May 3-5, 2002. There is no filming allowed. Mr. Lavato stated strongly that this is not a dance; it is a ceremony where people ask for healing and it is very spiritual.

And so, the Bear lives on in the hearts of Southern California Indians and Indians throughout the country. Those San Diego County Indian people remaining, who speak the language, who participate in the ceremonies, who sing the songs, hunt the trails, weave baskets, and prepare native foods and medicines are few but strong. This small community of Indian elders and leaders provide insight into an ancient and remarkable world, a rare experience for the patient and privileged listener.

My appreciation to Albert “Boxie” Phoenix, Jane Dumas, Daleane Adams, Angelo Lavato, Katherine Saubel, the late Saturnino Torres, Lowell Bean, Ken Hedges of San Diego Museum of Man, and Wendy Barker, Director of the Escondido Historical Society for their assistance in the research of this article. Excerpts are included from an article titled “Hunwe-kah-i-wi: The Cahuilla Bear Shaman” in American Desert Magazine, Volume 3, by Cheryl Jeffrey [Hinton] (1993) with permission of Publisher Joan Brooks. © All rights reserved, Cheryl Hinton.

References

Note: The people of San Diego County who are Yuman speakers have been known as Diegueno, ’Ipay, Tipay or Kumeyaay. These names have also had various spellings. The Cupeño people are also known as Kupa.
MUSEUM CALENDAR
Subject to change. Please call (619) 443-7003, x 2.

April

April 1-5:

April 9:
Museum of Making Music, Lunch at Karl Strauss and Carlsbad Flower Fields. Open to all Tribal members; prices are $35 for adults; $25 for children and free to Seniors. Leave Barona around 8:30 a.m., return at 4:15 p.m.

April 10:
New exhibit opens: Masterpieces from the May Collection. Call for details.

April 13:
California State Parks and Recreation Department’s National Park Service workshop on The Treatment of Artifacts with Poisons.

April 18-21:
American Indian Celebration:
A Festival & Marketplace at USD campus

April 20:
The Museum is at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center for Family Science Day, featuring Bears, Ocean Dwellers & Bird Songs.

May

May 1:
Museum committee meeting at 10:00 a.m.

May 17:
Palm Springs Follies (Tribal Community Seniors only.) Call for more information. A flyer will be sent to you.

June

June 5:
Museum committee meeting at 10:00 a.m.

June 7:
Coachella Valley Archaeological Society meeting and lecture in Palm Springs

June 10:
Visit to Ruben H. Fleet Science Center for viewing of “Bears!” film and lunch in the park. Open to all Tribal members. Call the Museum for details.

June 19:
Barona Community Senior Lunch at 12:00 p.m.: Summer-time fun.

RECENT DONATIONS, GIFTS, LOANS AND ACQUISITIONS

Bear Sculpture (wood)
Gift of Max and Clarinne Mazzetti of Rincon

Metate and mano (stone)
Gift of Dorothy Stevens of La Mesa

Bear Dancer Gourd Vase
Commissioned by museum for “Bears!” Exhibit from Artist Daleane Adams, Jamul Indian Village

Volumes I & II Final Report CA-SDi-12,809
Gift of Charlotte McGowan

Loans to “Bears!” exhibit:
Replica of the California state prehistoric artifact bear crescentric, On loan from Hank and Karen Koerper of Orange, CA
Turquoise bear fetish on loan from the Anthropology Museum, USD
Grizzly skull on loan from the San Diego Natural History Museum

Seniors enjoy the magician at the Valentine’s Luncheon: (clockwise) Sister Romero, Monty Stratton, Councilwoman Melinda Rodriguez, Linda and Chairman LaChappa, & Marie LaChappa.
GIFT SHOP NEWS

New in the giftshop are some beautiful new ‘Iipay Man logo t-shirts in great colors: dusty blue, sea green and tan – in all sizes while supplies last. Prices range from $8 to $16, depending on size. We also have great ‘Iipay Man logo tote bags in cream-colored canvas for $15. Our assortment of Southern California Indian history books and children’s books is also growing. From the American Indian College Fund, we carry beautiful note cards, calendars and address books. And, don’t forget we feature Jamul Indian Village gourd artist Daleane Adams – local Kumeyaay talent!

QUARTERLY QUESTION

In each quarterly newsletter, we present some research questions that test our readers. Please call or write the Museum Curator if you have an answer or even a small clue.

Does anyone have memories or photos of the Old Reservation at Capitan Grande?

THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE AND STAFF 2002

Charles “Beaver” Curo
Museum Committee Chairman

Shirley Curo

Myrna DeSomber

Linda LaChappa

Josephine Romero

Kelly Speer

Josephine Whaley

Donna Romero-DiIorio

Cheryl Hinton
Museum Director/Curator

Alexandra Harris (Western Cherokee)
Assistant Curator

MUSEUM ASSISTANTS:

Myrna DeSomber
Senior Events and Archivist

Anna Navarrete
Collections Management and Gift Shop Manager

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Bobby Curo

Beverly Means

Diane Tells-His-Name (Lakota), Palomar College

Phyllis Van Wanseele

Joe Yeats

Toddy Yeats

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

Take Highway 8 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Going north to Ramona/Lakeside, take a right on Willow Rd. (Circle K) and proceed to the intersection with Wildcat Canyon Rd. Take a left and go 6 miles to Barona Casino. Continue on Barona Rd. (Wildcat Canyon) for another mile and the Museum and Cultural Center are on the left.

HOURS

Closed Monday and Tuesday.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Call to schedule tours and research appointments.
Phone: (619) 443-7003 Ext. 2

BARONA CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

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