Summer is always our most popular time for classes at the Museum. During the year, our Education Coordinator devotes his time to giving tours and outreach visits to the local schools, as well as to teaching at the neighboring Barona Indian Charter School. In summer, when most of the children in San Diego County are out of school, we are then able to offer more traditional culture classes.

This summer we again offered our most popular class, pottery-making with Robert Freeman (Luiseno/Hunkpapa Sioux). As usual, we had an enthusiastic turnout for both class sessions. A few weeks later, everyone reassembled for the successful pit-firing and Indian taco lunch that followed.

Another class always in demand by Tribal Members and public alike is our Shawii class taught by Barona Tribal Member Bobbie Turner. Ms. Turner prepared some acorns for the traditional shawii pudding ahead of time, while also placing students at different areas for the stages of preparation: shelling the nuts, grinding with a large meat grinder and a traditional grinding stone, washing the meal, and cooking. By the end of class, students tasted their work while feasting on Ms. Turner’s legendary stew and beans.

A new class featured this summer was the Barona Tribal Kids’ Photography class, taught by Curator Alexandra Harris. The objective of the two-session class was to teach children not only how to be comfortable with a camera, but also to notice the little details in their environment around them and, of course, to have fun! In the first class, the kids learned about light and composition. We trekked around the reservation, watching for hawks, spider webs, and other unique elements of our surroundings here. Those that attended were each sent home with a camera in order to take photos of friends, family, and whatever else is most important to them. The children ranged in age from six to eleven, and were all very enthusiastic shutterbugs! By the second class we had developed their film. Each student chose three of their favorites to be used in a special display in next year’s exhibit commemorating the 75th anniversary of the reservation.
Barona Community Center Constructs Dance House

On Saturday, September 2nd 2006, Barona hosted a Pow Wow Tournament along with Bird Singing and Dancing. About two weeks prior to the event, community members from Barona, as well as people from neighboring reservations, created a traditional dance house. About twelve people headlined the old Capitan Grande Reservation to gather willow using machetes and chainsaws. We spent a hot morning cutting and loading three trucks full of material. The dance house was 50 ft in diameter and roughly 8-10 ft high. Luckily, enough willow was gathered in one load that a second trip was not necessary. It took a few days total to measure the house, plant the poles, build the frame, and attach the willow. We are indebted to Barona Community member John Holswa, who was there from beginning to end, from providing tools and trucks to digging up the pit-bar-b-quet meal for the celebration.

Along with creating a community house for singing and dancing, food was another important aspect to this gathering. It is customary to not only create a place to gather, but also to offer a meal to those visiting as some had traveled a few hundred miles to attend. This was no easy task; Bernice Paire, Amanda Banegas, and a few other ladies spent hours making tortillas on-site during the hot Labor Day weather. Bobbie Turner also shared by bringing tons of food, including two pots of beans and delicious empanadas. These women and many other cooks had made more than enough to feed the nearly 100 people who participated in the event.

Chairman Leroy Elliot of Manzanita lead a blessing of the dance house before the singing and dancing began inside. When the blessing was complete, the dance house did not belong to Barona, it was now ownership of the community. A number of those that attended were Lipay and Tipay from the local reservations, but friends from Quecan, Catilla, and Luiseño tribes visited as well. Invited singers included Chairman Junior Cuero of Campo, Marlowe Rose (Quecan), Raymond Basquez (Pechanga), and Mike Morales (Torres-Martinez). Bird singers lined up and sang while the women danced, just like our Ancestors did for thousands of years. At dusk the fires were lit and the Pow Wow Tournament began, although singing and dancing continued inside the dance house well into the night. The tournament included categories for the men, women, and children. The games were set up around the perimeter of the dance house. At one point there were six games occurring at the same time. The pow wow itself went well into the early morning.

This event coincided with Barona’s 37th Annual Powwow, and its visitors and participants were invited to witness the traditional native culture from Southern California and its surrounding areas. This event would have not been possible if it wasn’t for a number of Tribal and Community members who helped. Barona plans to have another gathering, sometime in 2007, as a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the reservation.

Upcoming events for our Barona Seniors include our annual San Diego County Native community Senior Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2006, a planned trip to Washington DC to visit the National Museum of the American Indian in late spring 2007, and our participation in the 75th Anniversary of the Barona Indian Reservation, also in 2007. 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!
From the Director
By Museum Director/Curator Cheryl Hinton

A Summer’s Journey of Learning and Gathering

This summer I had the opportunity to take a course entitled, ‘Visual Art and the Law,’ with Continuing Legal Education International in Santa Fe. Yes, I can imagine for many who are not the ‘legal eagle’ types that this course might sound tedious—even if it is held in scenic Santa Fe. Just the opposite; I thoroughly enjoyed learning about the world of art and the way it is protected. Topics included issues of vital importance to artists, collectors, curators, and museums, including laws for internet sites, original works of fine art, the unique status of American Indian art, copyrights, estate-planning, as well as gifts and donations.

With my husband Jim, I traveled to and from the conference location making my usual visits to tribal museums, reservations, and other related museums to keep abreast of what is happening around this part of the country. On the way to Santa Fe, we visited the Northern Arizona Museum in Flagstaff (located at the northern extent of the Pai people’s territory) and near Albuquerque, toured Sky City at Acoma Pueblo. Its elegant tribal museum has an exhibit of hundreds of delicate Acoma pots. (The Barona Museum owns one piece in our comparative collection from my last trip to the Southwest).

While in Santa Fe, I was invited to tour the innovative Institute of American Indian Art (IAIA) campus, the only institution in the country dedicated to Native American art. Representatives hope to come to the reservation to give a presentation to our students. The IAIA Museum had a thought provoking exhibit, Relations, by past and present students and faculty. There was also a journey to Pecos Archaeological Site (during the famed annual Pecos Conference), a stop at Pojoaque Pueblo’s Poeh Tribal Museum, and a trip to Santa Fe’s Museum Hill, of course.

On the journey home, a climb to the spectacular mesa-top site of Chimney Rock in Colorado was extra-invigorating after dodging a late afternoon monsoon with impressive lightning over the Great House. We drove through the Navajo Reservation including Four Corners, Canyon de Chelly, and then Hubbell Trading Post. (I found an amusing Navajo folk art piece, a cowboy riding a slunk, perfect for our Indian Identities exhibit.)

We ended the day at Hopi’s Second Mesa Hopi and added a bull roarer, a beaded necklace, a ceramic canteen and pipe to the Museum purchases. The objects and books collected will serve as a comparative reference in future exhibits.

On the final day home, we stopped at the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Tribal Museum in Parker, Arizona. The CRIT Museum offers an interesting history about how the Mohave, Chemehuevi, Navajo, and Hopi all came to share a reservation. I purchased a wonderful Mohave beaded cape and girl’s dress from their shop. The Barona Tribe has a number of connections with these other Utean speakers living on or near the Colorado River. I see many potential Tribal Member trips and partnerships with great colleagues I met during this scenic and memorable trip to gather new information for Barona Museum.

Elizabeth Matheny-Kolb, age 6, competed in the recent Little Miss Kumeyaay contest held at the Viejas Reservation and was given the title of “First Attendant” to Little Miss Kumeyaay. Contestants were required to answer simple questions and demonstrate knowledge of Ipiaay a, the language of the people. They also had to dance to four Bird Songs, and wore traditional ribbon dresses for the competition. Elizabeth’s mother, Barona Tribal Member Vicky Matheny commented, “She never would’ve had the opportunity to do it without the classes at the Museum.”

Elizabeth and her little sister Angelina attended the Barona Museum’s traditional dance and singing classes along with their mother this past spring and summer.

“The Play’s the Thing…”

The Museum recently received a call from Project HOOP at UCLA. Project HOOP is a national program created to advance Native theater through academic and artistic means. The organization had heard about the play, The Story of Ashma, Not a Man I am called Miguel, that Cheryl Hinton had written for the California State Curriculum SB 41 project. Since her schedule prevented her attending Project HOOP’s national conference at UCLA on August 23-24, Education Coordinator Rich Rodriguez presented in her stead. In addition to her paper entitled Teaching Challenging History: San Diego Tribal Children, A Report on Issues Related to Teaching, Rich gave a PowerPoint presentation and showed a DVD of the play when it was performed at the Viejas Summer Culture Camp in 2005. Rich has previously presented the play in conjunction with his lesson plan on the Mission Era for the Barona Indian Charter School. Project HOOP hopes to come to San Diego to assist in future productions of the play for reservations here.

Little Miss Kumeyaay:
Congratulations “First Attendant” Elizabeth Matheny-Kolb!

FALL/WINTER CLASSES
Beadwork classes: December 9 and 10, 2006, 12 to 2pm
Dec. 9: Leah Nightwalker (Cheyenne/Otoe-Missouria) will instruct students in making a set of jewelry, including bracelet, necklace, and a pair of earrings.
Dec. 10: Diane Tells His Name (Oglala Lakota) will instruct students in how to bead designs on a clothing item of choice. Students are required to bring their personal item of clothing with them to the class (t-shirt, hat, visor, etc.)
A $10 materials fee will be charged at the beginning of each class. Barona Tribal Members attend free. Tools and beads for these classes will be provided. Classes are open to the public, ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Snacks will be provided. Classes limit 12, so please RSVP by Friday, December 3.
We are currently scheduling more cultural education classes for mid-December. Our education staff will send out a flyer soon with details!

Traditional language, singing, and dance classes
The traditional language and singing classes are on hiatus for the next month or two. Please watch your mail for flyers announcing the new series of classes soon!

Volunteers and Interns Wanted!
We are currently recruiting volunteers and interns to assist us in research, transcription, and other Museum activities. We are most interested in currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate college students, especially those focusing on the fields of Anthropology, Archaeology, Linguistics, Library Science, and American Indian Studies. Please email or call the Museum if you are interested.

Goodbye & Good Luck! Sarah Smith, who has interned for us during the last year, recently left to begin her graduate study in Prehistoric Archaeology at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.
Chairman’s Corner
By Museum Chairman Charles “Beaver” Curo

We are History in the Making

In their daily lives, many people do not realize that history is being made in this moment. We hope you will continue to donate or loan pictures, videos, recordings, old documents, and anything of value to help us tell the story of Barona Reservation. As the Museum prepares for the Barona Reservation’s 75th anniversary, we have collected many great stories from Tribal Members and the public. It has been gratifying to get so many positive responses from Tribal Community members. So far we have good representations from most of the families on the Reservation in the interviews. We don’t want to miss out on any great stories that your family has to offer. We hope to have many more stories and recollections in the upcoming months! It is important for us to know how the Reservation has grown and thrived through all eras. To help the Museum build a complete history of Barona, we need not just what happened 30, 50, or 100 years ago. We also need what happened earlier this year, or last year. As the Museum Chairman, I feel strongly about keeping even the current history up to date. Fifty years from now we will present a good picture of events during our lifetime and even better, I hope we are doing a service for the future. The Museum is now in the process of piecing together the events for the history of the last hundred years. If we do it correctly now, future historians and curators will not have to struggle to understand us. Moreover, the Tribe can tell the story exactly as they wish to be represented in the future…. in our own words, we can establish the history of how we stayed together to have the strong, thriving community of today.

We don’t want to leave your story out, so please contact the Museum. If you have questions about how the interviews are put together, call Cheryl Hinton, who is currently conducting them.

NEW AND CONTINUING EXHIBITS

Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino’s Sage Restaurant
Aside from our longstanding cultural display in the hotel concierge lounge, we are currently loaning a few treasures from our collection to be displayed in the newly refurbished Sage restaurant when it opens in September 2006. Barona Tribal Members Josephine Whaley and Josephine "Sister" Romero have generously loaned their family baskets. In addition, we loaned baskets and pottery from our museum collections. These treasures can be seen on display at Sage for the next three months.

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 statements 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 children 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 early 2007.

Ancient Spirits Speak Exhibit Extended in San Diego Airport!
In an exciting turn of events, the San Diego International Airport Authority has requested that we continue our exhibition in Terminal 2 West until March—a additional six months. We have been overjoyed to have the San Diego International Airport host our exhibit since April. We have received feedback from Tribal Members and the general public around the nation who have seen the exhibit while traveling through. After un-installing the exhibit in late March, most of the display will return to the Museum for presentation to the public through the fall. We hope to travel a specially prepared portion of this exhibit to other museums, libraries, universities, and other venues that show an interest. Please contact us if you would like this display in your institution!
Take Highway 8 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Maplevlew, 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.

**Museum Committee 2006**
Candy Christman (Barona member), Chairman Beaver Curo (Barona member), Shirley Curo, Donna Romero DiIorio (Barona member), Myrna DeSomber, Linda LaChappa (Barona member), Brenda Ray (Barona member), Josephine Romero (Barona member), Kelly Speer, Phyllis VanWanseele (Barona member), Josephine Whaley (Barona member), Todd Yeats (Barona member)

**Museum Director/Curator**
Cheryl Hinton

**Historic Media Curator**
Alexandra Harris (Western Cherokee)

**Museum Assistants**
Diane Tells His Name (Lakota) Collections Manager
Richard Rodriguez (Luiseño) Education Coordinator
Leah Nightwalker (Cheyenne/Otoe-Missouria) Giftshop Coordinator

**Museum Volunteers and Interns**
Paul Jeffrey, Emily Leiker (Yokuts), Danika Nightwalker (Cheyenne/Otoe-Missouria), Joe Yeats (Barona member)

Please direct any newsletter inquiries to the editor, Alexandra Harris.