Visit the Barona Museum Store!

Barona Museum Store always has unique gift ideas. Check out our new inventory as well as the wide array of fine basketry, pottery, and traditional tools, and our large selection of books. Visit today and take home that special, one-of-a-kind gift!

Barona Museum Store carries award-winning Kumeyaay basketmaker Eva Salazar’s miniature juncus baskets with bead and shell accents.

Beautiful traditionally-made pottery from Baja California; all shapes and sizes available.

“Creatures of the Desert World” springs to life with native animals from the California desert in this interactive pop-up children’s book from National Geographic. Many of the animals featured in this book can also be found in our selection of children’s finger puppets.

Visit the Barona Museum Store!

Online Catalogue

Featuring the Collection of

Coming Soon!

Ben L. Squier

Gifted to Barona by Don and Kelly Speer

Approximately 50 miles east of Barona Indian Reservation lays the dusty, rocky, winding road known as California State Route 2 (SR2). Better known as the Great Overland Stage Route of 1849, the road has had many lifetimes serving as a pathway between cultures, villages, and people. In the 1700s, portions of the trail were utilized by the Spanish under the governance of the Viceroyalty of New Spain. In the early 1800s, the trail served as a Mexican mail route that was known to plague wagon wheels and horse hooves. In the late 1800s, it was the most daunting portion of the trek across the country made by the Mormon Battalion. Additionally, in a publication from 1984 titled, Just before Sunset, Tom Lucas (Kwaaymii) discusses the area as consisting of established trails connecting permanent and temporary Kwaaymii and Kumeyaay settlements. The trade network consisted of permanent villages, winter camps, and gathering areas from the valleys of San Felipe, Mason, Vallecitos, and McCain, and the mountains of Coyote, Jacumba, and Inkopah.

In the early 1900s, Ben L. Squier, a San Diego police officer and avid collector of local Native American artifacts, began visiting the areas of Mason Valley, Vallecitos Valley, and McCain Valley. Traveling on a precursor dirt version of what is now California State Route 2, Squier and his partner C. Helm collected grinding stones, projectile points, doughnut stones, arrowshaft straighteners, cog stones and numerous other artifacts. Supplementing these archaeological excavations, Squier also purchased original artworks in the form of pottery bowls, jars, and plates. These original works featured unique design elements applied by Rosa Lopez. Often the pottery was signed “Nasp,” a corrupted English version of her Kumeyaay name, Owas Hilmaw. The collection amassed to over 3,000 objects and lay hidden in a basement until rediscovered in 1997.

In 1997, Don and Kelly Speer were instrumental in acquiring this collection for the future Barona Cultural Center & Museum. As a longtime friend and advisor to the Barona Tribe, Don Speer hoped to assist the Barona people in their dream of establishing a Tribal Museum. The Speer family hired archaeologist Richard Carrico to evaluate the collection. Carrico carefully inspected each item and described the collection as “priceless.” Seeking to purchase and donate the unique collection to Barona, the Speers asked Tribal Council including Chairman Clifford LaChappa, Vice Chairman Beaver Curo, Councilwoman Melinda Rodriguez, and Linda Curo to examine the collection. With Tribal Council approval, Squier’s collection was purchased, donated by the Speers, and became the founding collection for Barona Cultural Center & Museum. Used in education and included in exhibitions throughout the southern
New and Notable Acquisitions

Barona Museum recently acquired four baskets to add to the growing collection:

Gift of Myrna DeSomber
8 photographs featuring Barona Tribal Members from El Capitan High School Class of 1979.

Gift of Bonnie LaChappa (Barona)
1 VHS featuring Barona Little Hawks, KPBS performance, October 2003.

Gift of Diana Lindsay
1 DVD: “A Service Learning Inquiry: How Successful Are the Attempts to Remediate the Uranium-Contaminated Water on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations?”

Gift of Josephine Whaley (Barona)

Gift of Ah-Mut Pipa Foundation
1 booklet: Songs of the Colorado by Helena Quintana Arrow-weed.

Gift of O’Jay Vanegas
1 CD: “Generations: An Alutiiq Music Collection”.

Gift of Viejas Tribal Government Community and Public Relations
3 issues of The Kumeyaay Way

Gift of San Diego Gas & Electric
Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well. We are staying busy working on wonderful things to come that will surely be of interest to you.

In January we said goodbye to Robin Edmonds, who worked as the Museum Store Coordinator for seven years. Robin always had a friendly smile and she is missed. Robin relocated to Los Angeles and we wish her well in all her endeavors. Sarah Laws joined our staff in April as the Visitor Services Coordinator, and she brings with her extensive retail experience. She is new to the museum world but is quickly getting up to speed on museum store standards and how they differ from the regular retail world. She is also learning about Kumeyaay/Diegueño history and is becoming familiar with all of our programming. Please stop by and wish Sarah a warm welcome.

Because it is so important for us to stay on top of the latest trends in preservation technology, our Librarian and Archivist, Katy Duperry, attended the first annual Digital Initiatives Symposium held at the University of San Diego in April. The day-long symposium consisted of several panel discussions and presentations designed to facilitate discussions and create best practices for the care, preservation of, and access to digital archival materials.

Our educational goals also include providing volunteer and internships to positions to those who are interested in learning about museum work. Because we are a small staff, we are grateful for the help and the opportunity to share our knowledge with other budding professionals. Museum volunteer, Alyssa Canoff, assists the Collections staff with mount-making for the lithic collection and working on groundwater analyses and identifications. Intern Jay Hartnell scans and catalogs photographs for his Archive-based internship. The internship is his final requirement for a Master’s Degree in History from the University of California, Riverside.

Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections Cheryl Hinton and Collections Manager John George are undertaking an extensive research project with our founding collection, the Ben L. Squier assemblage that was given to the Barona Band of Mission Indians in 1997 for the Museum by Don and Kelly Speer. This collection has never been fully catalogued and therefore was not accessible by researchers for study. Cheryl and John are creating an online catalog of this collection that numbers over 3,000 pieces. It is a very exciting and progressive project. As a part of their research, Cheryl and John visited the San Diego Archaeological Center to meet with the experts in the field. Read more about their visit in this issue.

It is a wonderful thing to be able to call upon colleagues for assistance. Our Education team, Jennifer Stone and John George, learned from Dr. Paisley Cato and Jeanne Gregory from the San Diego Natural History Museum how to prepare proper herbarium sheets so that our recently-donated plant samples could be preserved according to best practices. This work was translated into this year’s Heritage Project with the Barona Indian Charter School and our first-ever online exhibition—please read more about this in this issue. Our team is reciprocally assisting SDNHM with their research for their upcoming exhibition, From Coast to Cactus.

Even though we are a small museum, we are able to reach far into our tribal and public communities in a variety of ways to fulfill our mission to educate. I invite you to visit us often and participate in our Ancient Spirits Speak classes. If you need help with a research project, call us! We are excited to share with the community.

*Iipay Uumall* - “The People Write”

Laurie Egan-Hedley
Director/Curator

In Memoriam

Jane Dumas
‘Treasured Elder, Teacher, and Friend’

Barona Museum and hundreds of the San Diego area are mourning the loss of our dear friend, consultant, teacher and elder, Jane Thing Dumas (June 25, 1924-May 3, 2014). Throughout her life she was recognized with numerous traditional, civic, and educational honors; her last honor awarded in November 2013: the Union Bank and KPBS Local Heroes. Jane continued working and sharing her cultural knowledge until she passed, just shy of her 90th birthday.

Since the Museum’s opening in 2000, Jane frequently assisted with educational programs and language preservation. She is appropriately featured in her basketry hat in Barona Museum’s interactive language exhibition representing the word, *uway* (healer). Jane and her late daughter, Daleane Adams, assisted in several classes on gourd art and the traditional uses of plants. A noted storyteller, Jane told the children stories at the Museum’s Culture Camp and donated a storyteller blanket to the Museum.

Proud of her concept for the creation of a Kumeyaay Nation flag, Jane donated photographs and archives regarding that project to the Museum. The Kumeyaay flag was flown at half-mast over Museum Trails Park in honor of her passing. Jane also asked Barona Museum to house her archives, gifting them in January 2014. Among the very few fluent, first-language speakers of *Eñuye de*, Jane, and her brother Adolph Thing, were primary consultants for the Barona Inter-Tribal Dictionary and contributed numerous words and phrases. Each continued to serve on the Barona Language Preservation Committee in 2014. There are hundreds of hours documenting their work in recordings held in our Archives. Their mother, Isabel Thing, and her sister, Delfina Cuero, were traditional healers with intricate knowledge of the medicinal properties of plants.

Jane is known for her generosity to all people in sharing this traditional knowledge and language. In her last days, she urged, “Share with everyone; love everyone—tell them plants are healing.” *Uway* (takes care, loves, cherishes or treasures) was one of the precious words shared by Jane Thing Dumas for the Barona Dictionary. *Uway* was Jane’s way—she cared for, treasured, and cherished Kumeyaay language, traditions, plants, and shared that love with everyone in her world.

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Date: Saturday, November 8th
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Current Exhibitions
Six ceramic vessels stored in a basement by Squier’s family are among those acquired for the Barona Museum Founding Collection by Don and Kelly Speer in 1997.

Doughnut stones are puzzling artifacts; their function is not definitively known. Some scholars guess them to be fish net weights, game pieces, or ceremonial stones. The San Diego archaeological Center research team proposes their functions as digging stick weights. These stones pictured, even collected by Squier in and around Vallecitos Valley.

Since 2008, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum and the Barona Indian Charter School have partnered each year to bring a unique series of culture classes to each grade level using museum collections as primary resources. This year, BICS’s seventh and eighth grade students participated in the annual Heritage Project. The Heritage Project was designed in 2010 to be an in-depth research project that draws on museum resources and all the experience the students have gained from culture classes in years prior. Previous examples of Heritage Projects include ancestral tool making, and cultivating and planting a Native Garden.

This year, the students learned about ethnohistory (the science of cultural plant use) and how to preserve and prepare herbarium specimens. Each student was assigned a plant specimen from the Museum’s collection to research. These samples were collected by Squier in and around Vallecitos Valley.

Museum staff, John George and Jennifer Stone, instructed the students in object handling and processing, and how to transfer the original samples to acid-free paper and make proper herbarium specimens. This process took time and required a delicate hand.

Seventh and eighth graders worked very hard on this project and did an amazing job! Many thanks to BICS Principal Parham, seventh and eighth grade teacher Kimberly Martinez, Pat Curo, and the Language Preservation Team. Barona Museum would also like to thank Jeannie Gregory and Dr. Paisley Cato from the San Diego Natural History Museum for their advice and assistance on this project.

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Discussing microscopic methods for groundstone analysis for San Diego area artifacts are, from left-to-right, San Diego Archaeological Center Research Director, Dr. Margie Burton; Barona Museum Collections Manager, John George; SEM/Collection Manager Dr. Adolfo Muniz; SEM/Lead Collections Technician and Librarian, Specialist, Suzanne Munoz; and Barona Museum Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections, Cheryl Hinton.

Seventh Grader Dahlia Suiter displays her completed plant sample.
Education at the Barona Cultural Center & Museum

Native Foods class attendee Dominga Studer takes her turn grinding manzanita berries in the traditional way.

Museum Educator O’Jay Vanegas explains pressure flaking to a group of eager participants during the Museum’s Arrow Making Class.

Ancient Spirits Speak participants Mark Soltis (left) and Dion King (right), work diligently on fletching their arrow shafts during the Museum’s Arrow Making Class held on March 1, 2014.

After harvesting yucca blossoms from a yucca stalk, Native Foods class attendees Zack Hishmeh (left) and Raelyn Sherer (right), pick through and separate the manzanita berries for making tea.

LeLanie Thompson (Barona), right, led a two-day sewing class in which Barona community members made beautiful ribbon skirts and shirts for this year’s fiesta season.

The Barona Community Center was a packed house as Michael Connelly Miskwish (Campo) presented insightful details on Kumeyaay Astronomy during his lecture on February 12, 2014.

Barona Tribal Member Beverly Means (right) prepares her ribbon shirt pattern to a beautiful piece of calico material.

The art of basketmaking requires time and patience. Barona Community Member Frances Banegas (left) and Marcia Bear (right) exemplify this tradition in true fashion during the Museum’s Juncus Basket making class held on May 3, 2014.

Eva Salazar’s (Kumeyaay) basket class participants finished their basket starts!

Native Foods Instructor Martha Rodriguez (San Jose de la Zorra) smiles for the camera as she supervises the leaching of the yucca blossoms.

Juncus Basket Instructor Eva Salazar (Kumeyaay) explains to her students the tedious task of splitting juncus reed and how to prepare it for weaving.

Barona Tribal Member Caroline Mendoza carefully pins her ribbon shirt pattern to a beautiful piece of calico material.
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This year, the students learned about ethnobotany (the science of cultural plant use) and how to preserve and prepare herbarium specimens. Each student was assigned a plant specimen from the Museum’s collection to research. These samples were collected on the Barona Reservation by Elizabeth Windsong from the late 1970s to the early 1980s. They were originally placed on index cards with tape and included some handwritten notes on traditional uses. The specimens had time to dry, strips of gummed linen were also used to strap the plant securely to the herbarium paper.

In April, staff visited the San Diego Archaeological Center (SDAC), and met with staff members Dr. Adolfo Muniz and Dr. Rachel McMichael. Dr. Muniz provided insight on unique items termed “doughnut stones” that are found archaeologically throughout southern California and that are also found within Squier’s collection. These have puzzled archaeologists for many years. SDAC is hypothesizing their use as digging stick weights based on similar stones being used by other cultures in Tanzania. In addition, Dr. Burton shared her techniques for using specialized microscopes for minute details in rock identification, use-wear patterns on stone artifacts, and analyzing the temper and material makeup of ceramics. Dr. Burton indicated that component analysis on ceramics reveals that each woman may have a personal recipe for making vessels. While each ceramic vessel is unique, researchers are now looking at the finishing of these vessels. It has been indicated by Tribal Members that the finishing touches of the rims functioned as tactile identifiers of the maker/owner of the vessel. Since we know the identity of the artist for some of the ceramic vessels in Squier’s collection, further research may help us in attributing more works of art to their creators and possibly aid us in identifying unknown artists.

The artifacts in Squier’s collection have had a long journey. Removed from their original human context, they have been transported over great distances and time spans. The collection has endured many transitions until finally returning home. It is the Museum’s mission to bring to light the importance of this collection and the fascinating history of Barona. Look for the Online Catalogue of this wonderful collection this fall on Barona Museum’s website: www.baronamuseum.org. Many thanks to Don and Kelly Speer for understanding the value of this collection and for having the foresight to procure it for the Tribe’s Museum.

The entire process was documented and all the information the students collected is now contained in Barona Museum’s first online exhibition. Each specimen has its own dedicated page with plant information, scientific name, traditional uses, and photographs of the entire collections care and mounting process. The students wrote their own descriptions for their assigned plant. Barona Museum staff consulted with Pat Curo (Barona) and the Language Preservation Team to see if any of the plants had names in the ‘Iipay language. Mr. Curo then made recordings of the words in ‘Iipay that are included as an audio component in the online exhibition.

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Museum staff, John George and Jennifer Stone, instructed the students in object handling and processing, and how to transfer the original samples to acid-free paper and make proper herbarium specimens. This process took time and required a delicate hand.

Students carefully removed their plants from the original acidic paper and attached them to the herbarium paper using neutral pH glue. Then, the information gathered by the students was made into labels. These labels, along with a 4” x 6” photograph of the living plant, were attached to the corners of the herbarium paper. A fragment envelope (for any pieces of the specimen that may come off) and the notes from the original index card were also attached. Finally, after the specimens had time to dry, strips of gummed linen were also used to strap the plant securely to the herbarium paper.

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Traditionally, the Kumeyaay/Diegueño ancestors made dolls from various materials like clay and corn husks for their children. They used seashells, small pieces of fur, and basket material to decorate their dolls. This doll-making class will teach participants how to make a cloth doll. RSVP by Friday, August 22nd.

Southern California Style Pottery Making
Instructor: Tony Soares
Date: Saturday, October 4th
Time: 10:30am-3:30pm
Ages: 16 and up
Fee: $25 Public/Free to Barona Tribal Members

Pottery is one of the oldest forms of utilitarian objects used by the Kumeyaay/Diegueño people and other indigenous groups for seed, water, and food storage. Tony Soares first became interested in clay as a young boy and his grandmother taught him the basics of pottery making. He soon learned how to process his own clay and perfect his pottery-making skills. Tony has assisted in reviving the nearly lost art of pottery construction. While he is not a part of any southern California Native group, he has taught his skills to Native groups in an effort to keep this tradition alive. In this class, Tony will instruct how to grind and process raw clay, shape and build a pot, and then fire the final piece. RSVP by Friday, September 19th.

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Learn about the history of the Barona People and their Reservation in this timeline exhibit. See how the people stayed together through difficult times and have persevered, keeping their culture and traditions alive for the generations to come.

New & Notable Until December 2014
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These beautiful Kumeyaay/Diegueño artifacts are on loan to Barona from the San Diego Museum of Man. They have rarely been seen and a majority of the objects have never been on exhibit before. Take this opportunity to see these lovely pieces, including rattlesnake baskets, an oil painting of Rosa Lopez, and a hopper mortar.

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Current Exhibitions

Sports: The Competitive Spirit at Barona Through 2014
This exhibition is a celebration of Native American athletes throughout history featuring memorabilia from Legends such as Jim Thorpe (Sac/Fox/Potawatomi), John Tortes “Chief” Meyers (Cahuilla), Notah Begay III (Navajo/San Felipe/Navajo), and many others. Over 200 Barona Tribal and community members are represented within this exhibition through photographs, memorabilia, and quotes. Some have gone on to Major League tryouts, and one, Matt LaChusa, was drafted by the San Diego Padres. With a love of sports, Barona Reservation honors that competitive Native American spirit.

‘Ekur 'emaayaayp Barona Reservation, A Story of 75 Years of Unity Permanent Exhibition
Learn about the history of the Barona People and their Reservation in this timeline exhibit. See how the people stayed together through difficult times and have persevered, keeping their culture and traditions alive for the generations to come.

New & Notable Until December 2014
This exhibition showcases a sample of the most recent donations to the Museum and some of our hidden treasures that have never had an opportunity to be on display. The Barona Cultural Center & Museum is thankful to the many donors who make us a growing and thriving collecting museum.

A Visit from Old Friends From the Vaults of the San Diego Museum of Man Through Fall 2014
These beautiful Kumeyaay/Diegueño artifacts are on loan to Barona from the San Diego Museum of Man. They have rarely been seen and a majority of the objects have never been on exhibit before. Take this opportunity to see these lovely pieces, including rattlesnake baskets, an oil painting of Rosa Lopez, and a hopper mortar.

Veterans’ Wall of Honor Permanent Exhibition
Recognizing the service and sacrifices made by Barona Veterans and local Community Veterans.
Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well. We are staying busy working on wonderful things to come that will surely be of interest to you.

In January we said goodbye to Robin Edmonds, who worked as the Museum Store Coordinator for seven years. Robin always had a friendly smile and she is missed. Robin relocated to Los Angeles and we wish her well in all her endeavors. Sarah Lawr joined our staff in April as the Visitor Services Coordinator, and she brings with her extensive retail experience. She is new to the museum world but is quickly getting up to speed on museum store standards and how they differ from the regular retail world. She is also learning about Kumeyaay/Diegueño history and is becoming familiar with all of our programming. Please stop by and wish Sarah a warm welcome.

Because it is so important for us to stay on top of the latest trends in preservation technology, our Librarian and Archivist, Katy Duperry, attended the first annual Digital Initiatives Symposium held at the University of San Diego in April. The day-long symposium consisted of several panel discussions and presentations designed to facilitate discussions and create best practices for the care, preservation of, and access to digital archival materials.

Our educational goals also include providing volunteer and internship positions to those who are interested in learning about museum work. Because we are a small staff, we are grateful for the help and the opportunity to share our knowledge with other budding professionals. Museum volunteer, Alyssa Canoff, assists the Collections staff with mount-making for the lithic collection and working on groundstone analyses and identifications. Intern Jay Hartrell scans and catalogs photographs for his Archive-based internship. The internship is his final requirement for a Master’s Degree in History from the University of California, Riverside.

Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections Cheryl Hinton and Collections Manager John George are undertaking an extensive research project with our founding collection, the Ben L. Squier assemblage that was given to the Barona Band of Mission Indians in 1997 for the Museum by Don and Kelly Speer. This collection has never been fully catalogued and therefore was not accessible by researchers for study. Cheryl and John are creating an online catalog of this collection that numbers over 3,000 pieces. It is a very exciting and progressive project. As a part of their research, Cheryl and John visited the San Diego Archaeological Center to meet with the experts in the field. Read more about their visit in this issue.

It is a wonderful thing to be able to call upon colleagues for assistance. Our Education team, Jennifer Stone and John George, learned from Dr. Paisley Cato and Jeannie Gregory from the San Diego Natural History Museum how to prepare our school Heritage Projects. This work was translated into this year’s Heritage Project with the Barona Indian Charter School and our first-ever online exhibition— please read more about this in this issue. Our team is reciprocally assisting SDNHM with their research for their upcoming exhibition, From Coast to Cactus.

Even though we are a small museum, we are able to reach far into our tribal and public communities in a variety of ways to fulfill our mission to educate. I invite you to visit us often and participate in our Ancient Spirits Speak classes. If you need help with a research project, call us! We are excited to share with the community.

Barona Museum and hundreds in the San Diego area are mourning the loss of our dear friend, consultant, teacher and elder, Jane Thing Dumas (June 25, 1924-May 3, 2014). Throughout her life she was recognized with numerous traditional, civic, and educational honors; her last honor awarded in November 2013: the Union Bank and KPBS Local Heroes by Union Bank and KPBS.

Since the Museum’s opening in 2000, Jane frequently assisted with educational programs and language preservation. She is appropriately featured in her basketry hat in Barona Museum’s interactive language exhibition representing the word, weman (healer). Jane and her late daughter, Daleane Adams, assisted in several classes on gourd art and the traditional uses of plants. A noted storyteller, Jane told the children stories at the Museum’s Culture Camp and donated a storyteller blanket to the Museum.

Proud of her concept for the creation of a Kumeyaay Nation flag, Jane donated photographs and archives regarding that project to the Museum. The Kumeyaay flag was flown at half-mast over Mission Trails Park in honor of her passing. Jane also asked Barona Museum to house her archives, gifting them in January 2014. Among the very few fluent, first-language speakers of Ejipuy-de, Jane, and her brother Adolph Thing, were primary consultants for the Barona Inter-Tribal Dictionary and contributed numerous words and phrases. Each continued to serve on the Barona Language Preservation Committee in 2014. There are hundreds of hours documenting their work in recordings held in our Archives. Their mother, Isabel Thing, and her sister, Delma Cuero, were traditional healers with intricate knowledge of the medicinal properties of plants.

Jane is known for her generosity to all people in sharing this traditional knowledge and language. In her last days, she urged, “Share with everyone; love everyone—tell them plants are healing.” Uuway (caring, takes care, loves, cherishes or treasures) was one of the precious words shared by Jane Thing Dumas for the Barona Dictionary. Uuway was Jane’s way—she cared for, treasured, and cherished Kumeyaay language, traditions, plants, and shared that love with everyone in her world.

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New and Notable Acquisitions

Barona Museum recently acquired four baskets to add to the growing collection:

- **Gift of Myrna DeSomber**
  - 8 photographs featuring Barona Tribal Members from El Capitan High School Class of 1979.

- **Gift of Bonnie LaChappa (Barona)**
  - 1 VHS featuring Barona Little Hawks, KPBS performance, October 2003.

- **Gift of Diana Lindsay**
  - 1 DVD: “A Service Learning Inquiry: How Successful Are the Attempts to Remediate the Uranium-Contaminated Water on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations?”

- **Gift of Josephine Whaley (Barona)**

- **Gift of Ah-Mut Pipa Foundation**
  - 1 booklet: *Songs of the Colorado* by Helena Quintana Arrow-weed.

- **Gift of O’Jay Vanegas**
  - 1 CD: “Generations: An Alutiiq Music Collection”.

- **Gift of Viejas Tribal Government Community and Public Relations**
  - 3 issues of *The Kumeyaay Way*.

- **Gift of San Diego Gas & Electric**

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**Museum Committee 2014**

**Co-Chairs:** Tribal Councilmember Bonnie LaChappa (Barona) and Candy Christman (Barona)

**Members:** Donna Romero Dilotio (Barona), Myrna DeSomber, Victoria Kolb (Barona), Carline Mendez (Barona), Danette Reed (Barona), Shirley Rus (Barona), Kelly Speer, Diane Tells His Name (Lakota), Hobby Wallace (Barona), Kevin Van Wanseele (Barona), Phyliss Van Wanseele (Barona), Teddy Yeats (Barona)

**Emeritus Members:** Josephine Romero (Barona), Josephine Whaley (Barona), Beaver Curo (Barona), Shirley Curo

Please direct any newsletter inquiries to the editor, Laurie Egan-Heedley.

**Museum Hours:**
- Tuesday - Friday, 12pm to 5pm
- Saturday, 10am to 4pm

**Research Center Hours:**
- Tuesday - Friday, 9am to 5pm

**Call to schedule tours and research appointments.**

(619) 443-7003 Ext. 219

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The Museum’s mission to educate is at the core of everything we do. Our Museum is a fixture here on the Reservation and plays a vital role in keeping our history and heritage alive. The need to educate our community about our history is paramount in their understanding of our goals as Tribal communities today. The Museum helps us with this.

Our free public outreach program is very successful, reaching thousands of San Diego County schoolchildren of all ages. Here at home, our students at the Barona Indian Charter School benefit from learning about our traditions and culture every year in Culture Classes. Read more about the seventh and eighth grade Heritage Project in this issue.

Museum programming includes language classes for tribal members to help keep our nearly-extinct native language, ‘Iipay Aa, spoken. Our Director, Laurie Egan-Heedley, teaches our Tribal Member preschoolers words in ‘Iipay Aa so that they can practice at home and speak our native language at home.

The Museum staff participates at our Annual Gathering teaching children traditional games while they experience traditional singing and dancing. Staff participates at our Annual Powwow in a similar way.

Every summer we host a three-day Culture Camp for Tribal youth. Working with tribal community members, the Museum staff prepares activities designed to teach our children our language, traditional skills such as pottery-making and basket-making, expose them to traditional games such as peon, and encourage them to participate in singing and dancing.

From information cards about merchandise in the Museum Store, to informative exhibitions about our heritage, to in-depth research in the collections department, to hands-on lessons with children—our Museum stands tall in its mission to educate and I’m proud of our Museum and its educational impact. We continue to look for ways to broaden this impact and I eagerly await the launch of our new online catalogue of our largest collection, the Ben L. Squier collection graciously donated by Don and Kelly Speer, this fall.

Bonnie LaChappa
Barona Tribal Councilwoman

A Message from Museum Committee Co-Chairwoman Bonnie LaChappa

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Bonnie LaChappa
Barona Tribal Councilwoman

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**DIRECTIONS**

Take Highway 8 or Highway 52 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Mapleview, 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.
Online Catalogue  
Featuring the Collection of 
Ben L. Squier

Approximately 50 miles east of Barona Indian Reservation lays the dusty, rocky, winding road known as California State Route 2 (SR2). Better known as the Great Overland Stage Route of 1849, the road has had many lifetimes serving as a pathway between cultures, villages, and people. In the 1700s, portions of the trail were utilized by the Spanish under the governance of the Viceroyalty of New Spain. In the early 1800s, the trail served as a Mexican mail route that was known to plague wagon wheels and horse hooves. In the late 1800s, it was the most daunting portion of the trek across the country made by the Mormon Battalion. Additionally, in a publication from 1984 titled, Just before Sunset, Tom Lucas (Kwaaymii) discusses the area as consisting of established trails connecting permanent and temporary Kwaaymii and Kumeyaay settlements. The trade network consisted of permanent villages, winter camps, and gathering areas from the valleys of San Felipe, Mason, Vallecitos, and McCain, and the mountains of Coyote, Jacumba, and Inkopah. In the early 1900s, Ben L. Squier, a San Diego police officer and avid collector of local Native American artifacts, began visiting the areas of Mason Valley, Vallecitos Valley, and McCain Valley. Traveling on a precursor dirt version of what is now California State Route 2, Squier and his partner C. Helm collected grinding stones, projectile points, doughnut stones, arrowshaft straighteners, cog stones and numerous other artifacts. Supplementing these archaeological excavations, Squier also purchased original artworks in the form of pottery bowls, jars, and plates. These original works featured unique design elements applied by Rosa Lopez. Often the pottery was signed “Waps,” a corrupted English version of her Kumeyaay name, Owsa Hilmawa. The collection amassed to over 3,000 objects and lay hidden in a basement until rediscovered in 1997. In 1997, Don and Kelly Speer were instrumental in acquiring this collection for the future Barona Cultural Center & Museum. As a longtime friend and advisor to the Barona Tribe, Don Speer hoped to assist the Barona people in their dream of establishing a Tribal Museum. The Speer family hired archaeologist Richard Carico to evaluate the collection. Carico carefully inspected each item and described the collection as “priceless.” Seeking to purchase and donate the unique collection to Barona, the Speers asked Tribal Council including Chairman Clifford LaChappa, Vice Chairman Beaver Curo, Councilwoman Melinda Rodriguez, and Linda Curo to examine the collection. With Tribal Council approval, Squier’s collection was purchased, donated by the Speers, and became the founding collection for Barona Cultural Center & Museum. Used in education and included in exhibitions throughout the southern