

# 'IIPAY UUMALL

"the people write"

Spring 2006, Volume VII, Issue 2      Newsletter of the Barona Cultural Center & Museum

## CHANGES AT THE MUSEUM

This January marked the Barona Museum's sixth anniversary, and our Museum is once again making changes. As you have already noticed, our newsletter has undergone a significant facelift since our last issue. Our sincere thanks to Pat Curo and Herman Osuna for our new title, 'Iipay Uumall, which means, 'the people write.' This new look reflects the Museum's goals of furthering cultural education, especially in our language-related efforts.

After months of searching, we have a new face at the front desk! Last November we hired a new Museum Assistant, Leah Nightwalker, who will be taking on the challenge of speaking with guests and assuming management of the gift shop.



*Leah Nightwalker, new Museum Assistant, will be managing the gift shop and speaking with guests.*

Our largest transformation has been the recent renovation of our office and collections storage space. We have been bursting at the seams for collections and archival storage, and have finally negotiated enough space by sacrificing our classroom. Not to worry; we are hoping to use space at the adjoining Barona Charter School for our future culture classes. In the meantime, our newly created library room has been working well for small classes and meetings.

In order to move the collections, we closed the Museum for a full week this February. Museum staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to carefully remove every item, performed cleaning where necessary, and reorganized and reinstalled the collection in its new home. We would like to thank our volunteers Paul Jeffrey, Leland Red Eagle, and Sara Smith who worked the long hours alongside our staff.



*Museum Intern Paul Jeffrey and Museum Assistant Leah Nightwalker carefully transport ceramics out of the old storage area.*



*Assistant Curator Alexandra Harris (l) and Collections Manager Diane Tells His Name discuss ceramics in the new Collections storage facility.*



### BARONA CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

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## NEW EXHIBIT: Barona Museum Exhibition at Lindbergh Field

### ***Ancient Spirits Speak: the Native People of San Diego County***

From April 5th until October 1st, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum will present the featured exhibit in the San Diego International Airport, Terminal 2. Early last year, the San Diego International Airport Authority awarded us the opportunity to present a display on the local indigenous culture and history at their venue. Since that time, our curatorial and design teams have been working hard on the eight exhibit cases, each representing a formative time in the Barona Ancestors' history. The displays include ancient treasures dating back thousands of years, old and modern ceramics, basketry, and stories and images of the modern Kumeyaay/Diegueño experience. Tribal members have generously loaned their own treasures for this display, including family cattle brands, photographs, game sets, and rattles. Many thanks to Barona tribal members Albert Phoenix, Councilmen Romero and Welch, Josephine Romero and family, Steven Banegas, Montie Perez, and Bobbie Turner for loaning their family treasures for the duration of this exhibit.

The San Diego Museum of Man has generously loaned five baskets for use in this exhibit. Thank you to Philip Hoog, Associate Curator, for his assistance. These baskets were chosen for their relationship to the Barona people. Some baskets are made by women from the Capitan Grande Reservation, while others are from the nearby Mesa Grande Reservation.

We hope that as you travel to and from San Diego that you will stop and view our exhibition. During exhibit development, we received assistance and support from the Barona Museum Committee, Tribal Council, tribal members, and many Kumeyaay/Diegueño tribal members outside of our reservation. Through this community involvement, we hope to convey the complexity and cohesion of both the ancient and contemporary Native life. Our appreciation to Exhibit Curator Alexandra Harris, Museum Director Cheryl Hinton, Director of Visual Design Ginger McLernon, Visual Design Decorator Lauren Sopata, Design Specialist Scott Swearingin for creating this exhibition, and Barona Tribal member and Visual Designer Montie Perez for her knowledge and assistance.



*Sketch of Barona Museum Airport Exhibit, Case 2.  
Art by Scott Swearingin, Design Specialist.*

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## ATTENTION TRIBAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Traditional Language, Singing and Dance Classes

Beginning Thursday, March 16, the Museum will begin hosting 'lipay aa language classes for all Kumeyaay/Diegueño tribal community members who wish to attend. This is a six-week course with classes held every Thursday until April 20th. CD's will be given out after the first class to use for study. Please call for information on continuing classes in late spring.

Our second series of classes are Traditional Singing and Dancing, held at the Barona Community Room every Tuesday evening from 6-8pm beginning April 4th. This series is held every Tuesday for six weeks, ending May 9th. These classes are open to any Kumeyaay/Diegueño tribal community members who wish to participate. Children under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

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# EDUCATION

## Yuman Language Conference

By Richard Rodriguez, Education Coordinator



March 10th – 12th I had the opportunity to attend the 5th annual Yuman Language Summit in Yuma, AZ. This year Larry Banegas, Pat Curo, Beverly Means, Jane Dumas, Herman Osuna, Adolf Thing, Myrna DeSomber, Arlette Poutous, Diane Tells His

Name, and myself were on a panel presenting the topic, “The Importance of Living Language; Community Motivation.” I had attended last year’s summit, and this year’s meeting held up to all my expectations. This summit is open to all people who are involved with keeping their language alive. The Yuman language family includes the tribes Cocopa, Quechan, Hualapai, Yavapai, and Kumeyaay/Diegueño (just to name a few). The days were filled with meetings and presentations on topics that ranged from peon games of the Yuman tribes to songs of the Yuman language speaking tribes, past and present, and how culture adds strength and character through pride in identity.

One of the highlights of the summit was the nightly event. Friday was cultural night during which every tribe present had the opportunity to share a few of their songs and dances. Afterwards there was a communal gathering of all singers and dancers. On Saturday, a dinner was given in recognition of the elders. During the dinner, some very important people were individually recognized by their tribe. There was a drawing for prizes, more songs were sung, and traditional games were played.

This was a great time to see old friends and make some new ones, learn about other tribes, and just have a good time, but there was one principle that set the mood for the event and that was Indian language preservation. The mission statement of the Yuman Language Summit is as follows:

*The Yuman Nations were one people at one time through the commonality of our language. Together we will restore and reclaim the language using culture, traditions, history, spirituality, songs, and stories. It is our inherent right and responsibility to encourage and motivate others to speak the language to promote culture and traditions. We will use our resources to develop programs and projects that will create and empower Yuman language speakers.*

At this time it is not known for sure where the summit will take place next year, but if you are interested in attending, I highly encourage it. It does not matter if you are fluent in your language or if you are just starting out. One thing is for sure, after the conference you will definitely be moved and motivated and perhaps one day instead of stating, “I am Indian,” you may state something like, “lipay inaj.”



*Yuman Language Summit panel: (top l-r) Herman Osuna, Pat Curo, Richard Rodriguez, Larry Banegas, Linguist Amy Miller. Bottom row: Beverly Means, Arlette Poutous, Myrna DeSomber, Adolf Thing, Jane Dumas.*

## Saying Goodbye to Our Intern

Museum Intern Brian Williams left us this February for his graduate studies in Maritime Archaeology at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia. While he was here, Brian transcribed hours of audiotapes and interviews for our Barona History Project archives. Thank you Brian and good luck!



*Museum Intern Brian Williams.*



# FROM THE DIRECTOR

## By Museum Director/Curator Cheryl Hinton



The Tribe and Museum Committee gave me a wonderful opportunity in January to deliver a paper on our Museum Educational Program at the Hawaii International Conference in the Arts and Humanities. Visiting the cultural and natural

sites of Oahu including the Bishop Museum and Pu'u O Mahuka Heiau State Monument (a religious shrine) was wonderful! While in Honolulu I presented the paper, *Teaching Challenging History: San Diego Tribal Children, A Report on Issues Related to Teaching*, a PowerPoint presentation, and poster session. Part of the PowerPoint presentation was a DVD excerpt of a play that I had written for the California State Curriculum SB 41 project, *The Story of 'Aahmaa: Now I am called Miguel*. This play was performed at the Viejas Summer Culture Camp and by the Barona Indian Charter School in 2005.

The primary missions of the Barona Tribal Museum are to educate San Diego children and to inform Barona's children about the Tribe's history. San Diego's teachers have been asking us for help in teaching some of the more difficult subjects of that history including the Mission era, the Gold Rush, Indian genocide, religious beliefs, and stereotypes. For the last six years, the Barona Museum has taught Barona children and other San Diego children about this history. In the paper I also discussed the creation of lesson plans along with other Indian educators in the state for SB 41. This bill requires the State Librarian to allocate grants to develop California Native American instructional resources for public schools. This collaboration with Viejas Education Center should enhance the curriculum for all students and teachers in the State of California.

The Museum curriculum uses several role-playing interactives including civics lessons with our Model Tribal Council, history lessons dealing with European Contact, and teaching the language with practice skits. In teaching difficult subjects, it was deemed that age-appropriate plays about what Indian children experienced during the periods of Indian genocide in the Spanish Contact and Post-Contact periods could be an important vehicle for empathy and understanding about all the players in these historic events. I created two plays in which students experience history through role-playing; one play concerns the boy 'Aahmaa and the mission, and the second deals with young Indians and the California Gold Rush.

The attendees also had an opportunity to see the many other lessons we teach on tribal life that are from a positive and enduring heritage.

At the conference, I had great opportunities to learn about other language, culture, and history programs of tribal peoples from all over the world. I sent Barona Museum t-shirts, memorabilia, and information home with tribal members from South Africa and with the Yavapai Young Ambassadors. Many university scholars and teachers from across the country expressed great interest in the Barona Museum educational programs, including the Mission-era play. It was gratifying to be able to start this dialogue with my colleagues. Some comments by these conference participants showed me that it is not only California schoolchildren who do not know about this challenging history, but very few scholars knew about these major statistics offered in my PowerPoint presentation:

*"At Spanish colonization that began with the first mission in San Diego in 1769, there was a population estimated at 300,000 California Indians. By 1821, the end of the Spanish period, that number was approximately 200,000. At the end of the Mexican period just before the United States acquired California, the loss was another 50,000 as the Gold Rush began. By the end of the 1850s and into the American period, there was an 80% loss and only 30,000 California Indians remained. These staggering numbers resulted in loss of life due to disease, enslavement, homicide, and starvation for California Indians from a population of 300,000 to 30,000 in less than 100 years." (Statistics taken from Hurtado 1988)*



Cheryl Hinton at the Hawaii International Conference in the Arts and Humanities, January 2006.  
Photo by Jim Hinton.



*Tipay aa language classes are attracting Tribal adults and kids alike.*

## BARONA SENIORS

### SENIOR ADVENTURES

By Phyllis Van Wanseele

Barona Seniors participated in a number of events this past month. One of the highlights was a trip to see Jay Leno at the Tonight Show, which was great fun! Senior events offered through the Museum also included the American Society on Aging 2006 Conference in Anaheim, and A Women's Symposium: Honoring American Indian Women of Distinction at the Mission Inn in Riverside. We are looking forward to a trip to the USS Midway Museum to celebrate Memorial Day in spring and a matinee show of the new musical, *Wicked*, in July.

**Seniors:** Please look for mailings as we reschedule 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!

## MUSEUM CALENDAR

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

### APRIL

**April 4, 11, 18, 25**

Traditional singing and dancing classes at the Barona Community Room (Tribal only)

**April 5**

Barona Museum exhibit opens at  
Lindbergh Field, Terminal 2:  
*Ancient Spirits Speak:*  
the Native People of San Diego County

**April 6, 13, 20**

'lipay aa language classes at  
the Barona Museum (Tribal only)

**April 14**

MUSEUM CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY

**April 16**

MUSEUM CLOSED FOR EASTER

**April 24**

Museum Committee meeting

**April 28 – May 2**

American Association of Museums  
annual meeting, Cheryl Hinton to speak

### MAY

**May 2, 9**

Traditional singing and dancing classes  
at the Barona Community Room (Tribal only)

**May 6, 7**

Cinco de Mayo Celebration in Old Town: Look  
for My Ancestors' Village with Barona Museum,  
Barona Teens Group, and Shumup Ko Hup.

**May 19**

Protecting Library Collections Emergency Preparedness  
Workshop, National University, San Diego

**May 22**

Museum Committee meeting

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## Chairman's Corner

*By Museum Chairman Charles "Beaver" Curo*



*Museum Chairman  
Charles "Beaver" Curo*

We have had some interesting classes in Traditional Culture being offered to tribal members beginning in the month of March and continuing through May. We are once more holding our traditional language classes for Barona and Tribal Community members. At this writing, our first meeting was very successful with 28 attendees, about half of them children. Thanks to Museum

Committee member Candy Christman, Pat Curo, and Herman Osuna, as well as Museum staff members Rich Rodriguez and Cheryl Hinton. Pat and Herman, assisted by Cheryl, created the first two language audio CDs for distribution to tribal members. Thanks to Paul Jeffrey, our graduate student intern, for his work editing and producing the CDs. The dance and singing classes were very popular last summer, and we look forward to the new series of classes. Those who met as the traditional culture subcommittee include Museum Committee members Candy Christman and Brenda Ray with Steven Banegas, Caroline Mendoza, and Vicky Matheny. Thanks to everyone who made the success of the new classes happen—in particular, Candy and Brenda!

### Barona Museum Library — A Charitable Gift!

When you visit the Museum next time, you will see that we have dedicated an entire room to our new research library. In this library, we also have the Tribal Digital Village Library computer station and the newly donated Southern California Chairman's TDV Video Conferencing Station. Now you can watch DVDs, hear CDs from the Museum's American Indian collection, and research using over 1000 books.

A few months back, Shirley and I donated about 40 books to the Museum — over the years, we have donated over 100 books from our personal library. Librarian Diane Tells His Name has asked me to put out the word to our supporters: Please donate your books on Native American subjects! As we look at April 15th and tax times, remember that your donations of artifacts, books, and monetary gifts may be tax deductible under our 501(c)3 non-profit status.

*[Please consult current IRS regulations.]*

## CONTINUING EXHIBITS

### 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 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 the fall of 2006.

### The Original Photo Collection:

This selection of images has been 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. 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. Please join us to celebrate a community history through images.

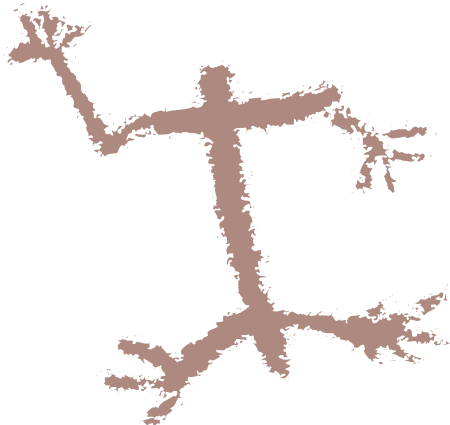


## Thank You Bobbie Turner Peon Quilt Donation

One of the highlights of our exhibit at Lindbergh Field will be a peon quilt made by Barona tribal member Barbara Turner. She made the quilt for use during peon games and generously donated it to the museum. We appreciate Ms. Turner's hard work, talent, and generosity in donating this quilt to us. Ms. Turner has also recently donated her time to teaching us how to make shawii (acorn pudding) at the Museum during our winter classes.



*Peon quilt made by Barona tribal member Barbara Turner.*



## MUSEUM CALENDAR

*...Continued from page 5*

**May 29**

**MUSEUM CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY.**  
**Memorial Day trip to the USS Midway for**  
**Barona Community Seniors**  
**[Tribal only: invitations will be mailed.]**

**JUNE**

**June date TBA: Pottery, Shawii, and other**  
**Ancient Spirits Speak classes. Open to all.**  
**Flyers will be mailed.**

**June 26**

**Museum Committee meeting**

## Collections Activity

### DONATIONS

**Tribal Digital Village Video Conferencing Unit**  
**Gift of Southern California Tribal Chairmen's**  
**Association**

### LOANS

**Leonora Banegas' Winnowing Basket Tray**  
**On loan from Cheryl Prieto**

**Branding Iron**

**On loan from Albert "Boxie" Phoenix**

**Branding Iron**

**On loan from Councilman Joe Welch**

**Branding Irons (4)**

**On loan from Sister Romero**  
**and Councilman Thorpe Romero**

**California Abalone Shell**

**On loan from Alexandra Harris**

**Pottery Anvil**

**On loan from Cheryl Hinton**

**Children's Lasso**

**On loan from Diane Tells His Name**

## Directions



Take Highway 8 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Maplevue, left on 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 2006

Candy Christman (Barona member) Chairman Beaver Curo (Barona member), Shirley Curo, Donna Romero Dilorio (Barona member), Caroline Mendoza (Barona member), Shirley Ruis (Barona member), Myrna DeSomber, Linda LaChappa (Barona member), Brenda Ray (Barona member), Josephine Romero (Barona member), Kelly Speer, Phyllis Van Wanseele (Barona member), Josephine Whaley (Barona member), Toddy 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 (Luiseño) – Education Coordinator  
Leah Nightwalker (Cheyenne) – Museum Assistant

## Museum Volunteers and Interns

Paul Jeffrey, Beverly Means (Barona member)  
Leland Red Eagle (Oglala Lakota/Assiniboine), Sarah Smith.

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

## Barona Cultural Center & Museum

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