

OUR HORSE WAS NEVER REALLY A HORSE BUT NOW IT'S A PICK-UP

By Rich Rodriguez, Museum Assistant



Rich marks his first year with the museum in October. We asked him to share some of his personal experiences as a young local tribal member working in a tribal museum.

Working at the museum for the past year has been, and continues to be, one of the most enlightening experiences of my life. Although I am a Luiseño Indian from the La Jolla band of Indians, I take great pride in being a part of the Barona community. Thus far, one of the results is that I am identifying myself more with my culture, although Kumeyaay and Luiseño are a bit different. We are also neighbors and have a good deal of history in common with each other; for instance, the use of acorns and basketry, as well as the influence of the Spanish beginning a few hundred years ago. I have always known that I was Indian, but more and more I identify myself as a

California Indian, which wasn't always the case.

Our main responsibility at the Barona Cultural Center and Museum is to educate visitors about the cultures, traditions, and people of the Kumeyaay group, including time periods from thousands of years ago to today. We show the transformation from the past to this contemporary way of life. Visitors from all walks of life and ethnicities come into the museum on a weekly basis. Some want to be left alone and enjoy reading the displays for themselves; others may have questions and we address them as best we can. Then there are those few who walk in and say something similar to the following: "I didn't know there were still Indians out here" or "Why didn't I see any tee-pees?" Sometimes I feel like replying "How is your log cabin doing?" or "Is your horse tired from carrying the buggy all the way up Wildcat Canyon — should I fetch it some water?" However, I just smile and tell them about how the 'ewaa was the form of shelter found in this part of the county and that it hasn't been used as a house for a few hundred years. Sometimes I am in disbelief that there are still people who think Indians live in tee-pees, even in a modern society. Do they actually believe that there are people who still live as they did hundreds if not thousands of years ago? Did they miss the multi-million dollar structure on their way up here?

On weekdays you might find up to

three or more tours taking place for elementary schools with perhaps 60 children coming through the museum on a tour day. During these tours we are aware that most of these children have not been exposed to the Indian cultures of California. The majority of the time the only idea they have of an Indian is from what is seen on TV or in the movies. We talk openly about the stereotypes and ask some of the following questions: what do you think an Indian looks like and what do you think their houses were like? Most children say that Indians have very dark skin, and long black flowing hair, wear elaborate war bonnets with feathers, carry large spears, and usually ride horses. Many say they live in tee-pees or pueblos. After the tour, most will think differently.

The one thing that is surprising, and just downright sad, is that I also identified with that stereotype. As an urban Indian, I grew up in Pomona, California from birth to age 11, and then I moved to Chino, California. I did manage to spend time on my reservation during the summer with relatives for a few weeks. I always knew that my reservation in the San Diego area was a special place. Even then it was more than just a place to ride dirt bikes and shoot a B.B. gun. My preconceived notion of myself as an Indian changed when I began to realize that the cultures I was studying in school were not my own. This came to me when I moved

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

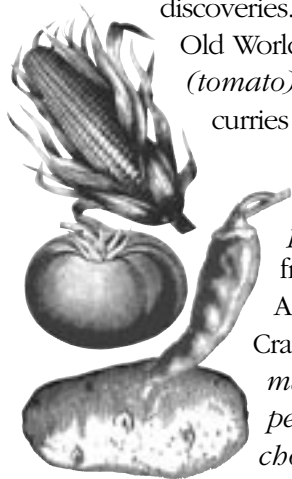
By Cheryl Hinton,
Museum Director/Curator



THANKSGIVING MEANS THANK YOU, NATIVE AMERICA!

We hope you are able to visit our Thanksgiving food table during the holiday season (after Thanksgiving). This small exhibit was created for the Barona Indian Charter School's

annual Thanksgiving lesson. The table holds only a portion of the foods the world enjoys today because of American Indian discoveries. Many are identified by the names of Old World countries: Italian spaghetti and pizza (*tomato*), the *peppers* and *spices* of East Indian



curries and Thai food, German *chocolate* cake, French *vanilla* ice cream, Irish *potatoes*, British fish and chips (fried *potatoes*), French roast *coffee*, French fries (*potato*.) So many include America's most favorite snack foods: Cracker Jacks (*popcorn*, *peanuts* and *maple syrup*), *corn* and *potato* chips, *pecans* and *cashews*, hot *cocoa*, *chocolate* treats. And what about the traditional American Thanksgiving Dinner?

Don't forget that turkey, potatoes, cornbread stuffing, wild rice, sweet potatoes, cranberries, succotash, corn on the cob, salad tomatoes, and of course, pumpkin pie... all are from Native America. This is the fourth annual Thanksgiving Celebration with the Barona Indian Charter School. Each year the students, teachers, parents, special guests and museum staff get together, discuss the Native American foods, and tell why they are thankful for their family, friends, school, and the reservation—then we feast!

Other Items:

I presented a paper on Tribal Museums for the Story Telling Session on October 11 at the California Indian Conference in Watsonville. The conference was hosted by Cabrillo College, UC Santa Cruz; CSU, Monterey Bay; the City of Watsonville and the Ohlone people. The Barona Tribe and Barona Museum were each supporters.

A follow-up from the last issue and my column on the late Florence Shippek: "The Autobiography of Delfina Cuero" is now available at the Barona Museum Gift shop along with "Pushed into the Rocks," a treatise on the legal problems and court battles of the San Diego Indians. We have also received a note from the Shippek family who so appreciate all the remembrances and donations sent in memory of their mother, Florence.

THE TRIBAL DIGITAL VILLAGE

The San Diego Tribal Representatives recently attended the second part of the Evaluation of the Hewlett-Packard Tribal Digital Village project. The TDV is looking for good stories of how the village has positively impacted tribal members' lives. Please send your information to Cheryl and she'll give you a wrap-up of the stories and the evaluation meeting next issue. The Barona Museum and School received a great deal of sophisticated HP equipment and many training sessions on using the technology for the network, language recordings, the print shop and other tools to help us preserve the past for the future.

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Teri Sloan, Barona Tribal member, conducts a class in making Shawii (acorn pudding) for Barona Band of Mission Indians month.



[l-r] Councilman Joe Welch, Vice-Chairman LaChappa, Councilman Thorpe Romero, and Museum Director Cheryl Hinton watch as Paipai Potter Daria Mariscal, pulls the students' pots out of the pit-firing during the Ancient Spirits Speak class on pottery.

RECENT DONATIONS, LOANS, GIFTS, AND ACQUISITIONS

LOANS:

The Fiftieth May Queen Anniversary

May Queen dresses on loan from Barona Tribal members: Cheyanne Yeats and family, and Raquel Carrillo; Crown bearer's dress on loan from Cheynoa Curo and family courtesy of Cherish LaChappa; Priest's Vestment & May crowns, pillow, and baskets on loan from the Barona Mission, courtesy of Ed Nolan.

GIFTS:

Arlette Poutous, Barona language class archives ca (1970s-80s)

John Mastronski, 5th grade class photo of Lindo Park School 1958 or 1959

Marty Hiles, 11 books on Native America and 1 photo disk of intern project

Rosemary Nelson, framed signatures of four Navajo Codetalkers, 18 books and pamphlets on American Indians

ACQUISITIONS:

For the Education Collection:

Purchased from San Jose de la Zorra, Baja California: a rabbit stick, (2) willow skirts, bow, quiver and arrows

For the Permanent Collection:

(3) copies: Songs of the Hoka by Preston Arrowweed, Quechan

Rawhide bullwhip by Odilon Canedo, Paipai

Contemporary seed jar with palm base made by Daria Mariscal, Paipai

Two pieces by Robert Freeman, Luiseno/Hunkpapa: Peon players (print); Peon 36/79 (etching)

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By Museum Committee Chairman,
Beaver Curo



The summer was a busy and interesting time for the Museum. Usually summer is a time for working on the collection and other administrative tasks, as well as entertaining summer visitors. This year, the Reservation celebrated the newly instituted Barona Band of Mission Indians Month and the museum had a significant increase in visitors in the month of August. The staff estimates that we had visitors in the hundreds, especially during the Barona Powwow and Fiesta weekend events and classes. And as the final stop on the casino's tour of the reservation, the museum was visited by several busloads of guests each week. Barona Creative Services produced many elegant supplements in the form of bookmarks, pins, a history brochure and mailers. And, tribal members speaking about the culture were featured in radio and TV broadcasts created by our new partner *KPBS*, who documented our classes and other events on video. We also partnered with the *San Diego Historical Society*. The 'Barona Indian Cowboys' exhibit traveled to their museum in Balboa Park, coming down after the California Indian Days Celebration in the park. This was our first traveling exhibit. The month concluded with our Third Annual Senior Luncheon; see our Senior news for a recap of that wonderful event.

The first annual Barona Band of Mission Indians Month featured the museum as we hosted a heavy schedule of *seventeen* different classes. We had our popular "Ancient Spirits Speak" summer classes again this year, with each one filled to capacity. The activities included Robert Freeman's Pottery Class and Firing, Robert Freeman's Fine Art Show (which continues through the Fall), Daleane Adams' Gourd Bowls, Pat Sloan's Indian Quilt Designs and Kids' Games. The Barona Band of Mission Indians Month classes included: Barona member Teri Sloan's Shawii class, and various classes taught by the CUNA group, including Josephina Ochurte, Teresa Flores, Gloria Casteneda, Daria Mariscal, with director

Mike Wilken. Museum staff Cheryl Hinton, Alexandra Harris, Diane Tells His Name and Rich Rodriguez assisted these teachers and taught the Kids' classes. We would like to thank our youth workers Heather Rodriguez and Laura Camarero for their help too.

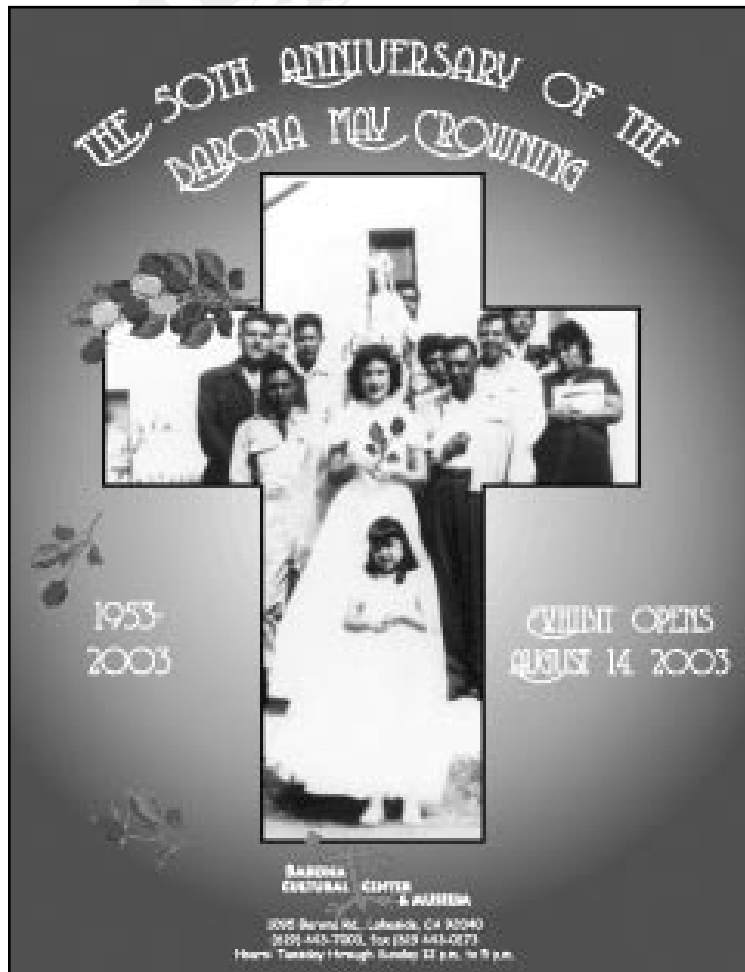
The children's classes included pottery, traditional games, rag doll and leather marble bag craft-making, learning about Indian Cowboys, and tortilla making. Each class was filled completely by both tribal members and children from the San Diego community. The Girl and Boy Scouts also had their own Saturday day camp here on the reservation, hosted by museum staff. In Sister Romero's story telling hour, she shared about her life as a Barona Tribal Member. The month drew to a close with Robert Freeman's pottery class firing their creations along with the CUNA class pots and the expert help of potter, Daria Mariscal. This was the second museum pit-firing on the reservation, and we spent a good deal of our time finding "authentic" Barona cowpies to use as fuel for the fire. Although several pots did not survive the firing, the majority of clay pieces made it. This class was so popular that the museum fielded phone calls for the next two weeks about when visitors might be able to enroll for the next one. Please look forward to an adult pottery class sometime in December during our Winter Ancient Spirits Speak classes.

In September, we managed to revamp the storage area and build more shelves and mounts for the collection with the excellent planning and design skills of all the museum staff. We also began a Collections Management assessment with the Conover Company, which includes our objects, photos and archives. Also in September, we formed a partnership with the Library of Congress. Our first seminar was on conducting oral histories including Veterans' stories. Several tribal members from Barona and other San Diego County reservations attended.

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THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAY CROWNING AT BARONA



This Museum exhibit commemorates the 50th anniversary of the May Crowning, an annual event held at the Barona Mission of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish. The May Crowning, which takes place on a Sunday in May, honors the Blessed Virgin Mary. By honoring her, the Crowning also honors her son, Jesus. In the Catholic faith, May is traditionally the month of Mary.

A young girl is chosen to be the May Queen by attendants

at the church. The qualifications to be nominated as May Queen are based on church and religious education attendance. Although in the early days of the Barona May Crowning, girls of high school age were chosen. Today the Queen is chosen from the 6th to 8th grade. The May Queen herself then chooses a Crown Bearer, who will carry the crown of flowers. The Crown Bearer is a younger girl or boy. The May Queen crowns the statue of Mary. The Virgin Mary is crowned with flowers because one of the stations of the rosary depicts Mary's coronation into heaven. Flowers are chosen not only for a celebration of spring, but just as Jesus was crowned with thorns, so is Mary, crowned with an aspect of nature. Unique to Barona, the Queen may wear traditional clothes of her tribe or may prefer to wear white, which is usually the case. Our thanks to Ed Nolan, Pastoral coordinator, and Barona elders: Sister Romero, Boxie Phoenix, and Josephine Whaley for a fascinating interview that provided detailed information for our exhibit (plus, it was fun to remember!). The Barona Mission is one of the few churches left who celebrate the May Crowning, and we hope that you will join us in celebrating the anniversary of this special event with a visit to the exhibit.

New Exhibit:

BARONA VETERANS: HE WHO FIGHTS WITH A FEATHER AND OTHER MEMORIALS

Our exhibit this year highlights **Barona Veterans: He Who Fights With A Feather and Other Memorials**. We will look at how memorials on the Barona reservation and in other places have included or specifically honored Native American Veterans. A recent honoring has been the renaming of Squaw Mountain in Arizona for **Lori Piestewa**, the Hopi woman who was killed in action during the Iraq War of 2003. We will also look at American Indian representation including Ira Hayes and the Iwo Jima Memorial statue, the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. We also honor our Barona Veterans this year with a newly redesigned Wall of Honor at this museum. We are grateful to the many Reservation Veterans and families who helped contribute to the exhibit.

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EDUCATION

UPCOMING LECTURE: Visiting Indian Photographer

For over sixty years, photographer Lee Marmon has been taking photographs of the people and landscapes of his native Laguna Pueblo near Albuquerque, New Mexico. His images have been published and collected worldwide, and he is presently celebrating the September publication of his new book by visiting us in late October 2003. Marmon will be presenting images and stories about his work as a Laguna photographer and a member of his community. We will be sending out detailed announcements as the event draws near. We hope you will join us in welcoming this pioneer of Native American photography to the Barona Cultural Center & Museum.

ANCIENT SPIRITS SPEAK: The Winter Break Classes

Winter break classes are scheduled at Barona Museum. There will be many Indian culture-oriented activities for kids at the Barona Museum. We will also offer classes for adults in pottery, basketry, and other interesting activities. Note that some classes are open to the public and others are reserved for Tribal members. There will be plenty of opportunities for everyone. If you are on the mailing list, look for your schedule of classes sometime in late November. Otherwise, please call the Museum to receive the program for Ancient Spirits Speak classes, (619) 443-7003 x 2.

Grossmont College Class on Southern California Culture offered at the Barona Reservation

We will be continuing our classes on the Reservation that will also be key to the future Tribal Gaming Degree. The 2004 Spring semester will feature a class on California Indian Cultures (CCS 133), 3 units, Wednesday evenings 6 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. at the Barona Museum. Please contact Cheryl or Alex and visit the the Grossmont College website for more information on class registration beginning December 2003.



Kevin and Brian O'Mahoney and Vanesa Reed (center) show their finished rawhide marble bags for the summertime Ancient Spirits Speak class on Children's Games on the 1932 Barona Reservation.

MUSEUM CALENDAR

SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CALL (619) 443-7003 EXT. 2

OCTOBER

Museum Committee meets on Thursday, October 2nd at 1 p.m.; Barona Tribal members are welcome to join the Museum Committee, please call us.

California Indian Conference in Watsonville, October 10 - 12

Western Museum Association meetings in Reno, October 18 - 23

'Lee Marmon, Laguna Photographer' lecture, date and time to be announced.

NOVEMBER

Museum Committee meets on Thursday November 6th at 1 p.m.

Veterans Exhibit, opens November 11th

Thanksgiving Celebration with Barona Indian Charter School

November 27 - 28 closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER

Museum committee meets on Thursday, December 4th at 1 p.m.

Ancient Spirits Speak: Holiday classes, call the museum for information.

The Artwork of Robert Freeman closes December 23rd. Paintings, etchings, sculpture and prints for sale in the museum gallery.

December 24 - 25 closed for Christmas Holiday

Registration begins at Grossmont College for California Indian Culture class at Barona Indian Reservation in the Museum on Wednesday nights 6:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m. Call the college to register.

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BARONA SENIOR NEWS



Musicians on stage: Museum Chairman Beaver Curo joins the Western Playboys for a song at the Third Annual Countywide Tribal Seniors' Luncheon.

THE 3RD ANNUAL SAN DIEGO TRIBAL SENIORS LUNCHEON

The third annual San Diego Tribal Seniors' Luncheon at the Events Center was held on August 27th. This event has been growing each year as we reach an increasing number of seniors from local reservations—over 200 attended. Our theme this year was “Remembering the Old-Time Fiestas.” We had strawberry pop and a huge family-style lunch with entertainment by Sam Necochea’s band, the *Western Playboys*. Featured guest vocalists and musicians included museum chairman and Barona Tribal Member Beaver Curo, his brother Pat Curo, and Pat’s daughter Mandy, who delighted us with a song that she wrote for her father. Sam dedicated the music to Charlie Curo. We once again had prizes for those reaching farthest in the golden years. There were six prizes given for attendees over ninety. We thank Chairman LaChappa for raising the flag and for his opening remarks. Most of our Tribal Council and the museum committee were in attendance. Many thanks go to Myrna DeSomber, Josephine Whaley, and Shirley Curo for their great planning. Thanks to Barona Valley Ranch Catering and Creative Design for their attentiveness to the details that made the food and décor so fun.

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!

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Museum Assistant Rich Rodriguez, Jr., his grandfather Henry Rodriguez, and his father Richard Rodriguez, Sr. in 1992. Photo courtesy of Quince Tree Photography.

back to my reservation and lived there with my Aunt Betty Jean while attending San Diego State University. Fortunately for me, my Grandpa Henry also lived with her. This is when I really started thinking of myself differently and making the transition to thinking of my Indian heritage. After countless informal talks with my grandfather over a few years time, it dawned on me I was Luiseño — not Sioux or Hopi.

For some reason most people link all Indian cultures together as one. I was shamefully doing the same. The Irish are probably more similar to the English than a Cahuilla is to a Seminole, yet we acknowledge the European cultures as different and distinct. At one time I collected pictures, postcards, t-shirts and magazines that had the typical Indian imagery, such as a great warrior’s stoic face along side a mountain with an eagle soaring overhead. It wasn’t until my late teens that I began to see my culture as something very different from what I once thought it represented. We never lived in tee-pees, never had drums, never danced around a fire saying “hi-ya-ya-yah hi-ya-ya-yah”, never had powwows, never called corn *maize*, never chased or hunted buffalo, never scalped anyone, and never had any massive Indian wars. I am still scratching the surface and trying to make sense of it all. But now, here at Barona Museum, I am gaining a lot more information every time I come to work. Today, I think a lot differently about who I am, where I came from, and where I want to go.

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Museum Committee 2003

Chairman Beaver Curo (Barona member), Shirley Curo,
Donna Romero Dilorio (Barona member), Myrna DeSomber,
Linda LaChappa (Barona member), Vicky Matheny (Barona member),
Josephine Romero (Barona member), Kelly Speer,
Josephine Whaley (Barona member), Toddy Yeats (Barona member)

Museum Director/Curator

Cheryl Hinton

Museum Assistant Curator

Alexandra Harris (Western Cherokee)

Museum Assistants

Myrna DeSomber Senior Events and Archivist
Diane Tells His Name (Lakota) Collections Manager
Richard Rodriguez (Luiseño) Museum assistant/Front Desk

Museum Volunteers and Interns

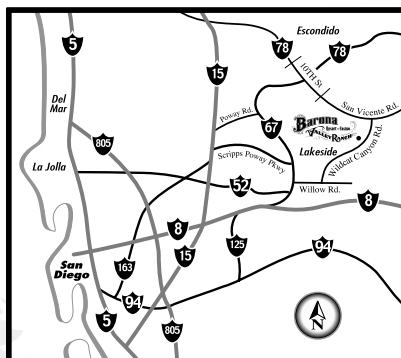
Beverly Means (Barona member)
Phyllis Van Wanseele (Barona member)
Pandora Paul

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



1095 Barona Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

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: Open Tuesday through Sunday: Noon to 5:00pm.
Call to schedule tours and research appointments.

Barona Cultural Center and Museum
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