This summer Barona entered into a partnership with the Old Town Cultural/Historical Program through the San Diego City Schools. The Barona Museum was invited to offer input into the Native California classroom, one of five rooms at the Old Town School site that represent each era in San Diego history. All fourth graders in San Diego have an opportunity to attend this program. The Barona Valley Ranch Visual Design team and the Barona Museum assisted by installing a replica of a traditional ramada and a large wall mural in the newly built classroom. The mural installation, created by BVRRC artist Scott Swearingin, features a local Native village and landscape as it might have been before European contact in San Diego.

The classroom was unveiled this past October 10 to the students of San Diego during a celebration of local traditional food and games. Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa greeted the guests, and Elizabeth Matheny-Kolb, First Attendant to Miss Kumeyaay, and her mother Vicky were in attendance. Barona Tribal Member Bobbie Turner demonstrated how to make shawii, or acorn pudding, while her children Gunner and Gatlin showed the students how to play Peon. Barona Tribal Member and Assistant Director of Recreation Brian Van Wanseele and his mother Museum Committee Member Phyllis Van Wanseele read from My Ancestors’ Village, a children’s book about the local culture. Afterward, Brian taught the children how to play dice games and throw a rabbit stick. Museum staff orchestrated a Native food tasting as part of our “Thank You Native America!” program that coincides with Native American Heritage Month in November. Along with Native foods, the children were treated to Indian tacos for lunch. We had a wonderful time collaborating with the Old Town School, and hope that our relationship continues to grow in the future.
NEW AND CONTINUING EXHIBITS

"There’s No Place Like Home..."
Haáwka! My name is Mandy Curo Quintero, and I am a Tribal member of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. I’ve been given the great opportunity to have a gallery showing this upcoming spring, displaying a few of my images in the Barona Museum. Though the show will include photographs from the places I have been in the United States, it will mainly concentrate on the images I have collected through the years from Barona, my home. No matter how exciting the places I go by, I always return to Barona, and think that I have been blessed to have a place so beautiful, and filled with history, to come back to. There truly is “no place like home.” These particular photographs are very special to me. I consider this my way of expressing my gratitude to the Tribe for paying for my tuition to The Art Institute of Colorado, and encouraging education in general. I invite you to come and see it for yourself.

Ms. Curo Quintero’s exhibition will open on April 19, 2007

Ancient Spirits Speak Exhibit Extended in San Diego Airport!
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 de-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!

American Indian Identities: Literature, Art and Images
Much of what people believe about Indians comes from some very general stereotypes that have been around since Europeans came to the Americas. In this exhibit, we explore some of these images and identities. 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 spring of 2007.

EDUCATION

“Thank You Native America!”
By Richard Rodriguez, Education Coordinator

On November 14, the Museum staff put on our annual “Thank You Native America!” presentation for the students of the Barona Indian Charter School and for the Tribe’s Fall Feast on November 16. This annual program consists of a demonstration of foods that originated from the Americas and which were then introduced throughout the world after European contact. Students were given information about foods such as chocolate and corn, and were also given samples to munch on during the talk. Afterward, all attendees were invited to a big feast of Indian tacos and pumpkin pie. As our longest running program, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum has held this event annually with the Charter School since 1999.

Chairman’s Corner

By Museum Chairman Charles “Beaver” Curo

“A Farewell and a Welcome...”

I would like to announce my resignation as Museum Chairman. Museum Committee member Phyllis VanWanseele has been appointed to fill the Museum Chairperson position. Many thanks to Phyllis for graciously accepting this appointment to serve. We look forward to your leadership as the Museum continues its mission. I am not leaving the Museum, however, but will be serving in a different capacity. I am pleased to announce that I have been elected to the office of Vice-Chairman of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. In that capacity, I will become the Tribal Council Liaison for the Museum. I would like to thank Councilman Thorpe Romero who has served as the Museum-Council Liaison for the last few years. He has always been a good friend and counselor to us.

In my role as Museum Chairman, I have been privileged to serve for more than 7 years. The Museum opened in 2000 and previous to that I sat on the Museum Planning Committee giving direction for the actual building of the Museum and the interior of the Museum. It was also my responsibility to hire the initial staff, including our Museum Director/Curator. Since opening, our Museum has grown and become a nationally-recognized Tribal Museum. Our staff has been active in serving on national, state, Tribal, and local committees and presenting papers and programming from San Diego to Boston. I am very proud of the hard work that the all-volunteer Museum Committee has given, making this a top institution in the area. I would like to thank all present and past members of the Museum Committee for their able assistance. I look forward to working with the Council, with Museum Chairwoman Phyllis VanWanseele, the Museum Committee, and Staff to make the Barona Museum an even finer institution in the coming years.

STAFF HONORS

Congratulations to Education Coordinator Richard Rodriguez who was invited to serve on the 2007 Program Committee by the Western Museum Association for next year’s annual meeting in Oakland! Our staff members continue to be important representatives for the Barona Tribal culture to a national audience.

WINTER CLASSES

Traditional language, singing, and dance classes*
*Traditions classes are open to all Kumeyaay/Diegueño Tribal community members.

Peon classes will be held on January 9, 16, 23, and 30 at the Barona Mission Church club house. Students will learn how to play as well as learn the protocol to the game.

The traditional language classes are on hiatus until February. Please watch your mail for flyers announcing the new series of classes soon!
We created our cultural display entitled My Ancestors’ Village near the lily pond, a representation of a traditional village that the ancestors of the Barona people lived in long ago. The Village featured children’s activities, basketry, and pottery demonstrations by the Salazar family, Indian tacos and an educational booth presented by the Museum.

Many thanks go to Stan Rodriguez of Santa Ysabel who built the new additions to the display, which included two tule reed boats and an agave fishing net. Stan also instructed the Barona Teens on making an ’ewaa, or willow brush house. The Barona Teens also assisted Barona staff during the event with gourd and rock painting activities. December Nights marks our largest community outreach during the year, and we are pleased to be able to share the culture, traditions, and family fun with the people of San Diego.

This year, Barona marked our second year as the presenting sponsor for Balboa Park’s December Nights celebration.

Thanks to Stan Rodriguez, Richard Bugbee, and the Barona Recreation Department. Additional special appreciation goes to David and Karie from the San Diego Historical Society for their expertise in lily pond search and rescue.
From the Director
By Museum Director/curator Cheryl Hinton

Happy 75th Anniversary to the Barona Indian Reservation

The year 1932 was the beginning of a historic journey for the members of Capitan Grande. Seventy-five years ago, the Tribal members began a move from Capitan to make way for the El Capitan Reservoir. According to our research, the move started in late spring of 1932 and continued into 1934. The move was mandated by the Federal government to create a new water supply for San Diego. Under the able leadership of Chief Ramon Ames, the Tribal members looked for a new home and selected the Barona Ranch. On the 1933 roll are some of the family names included in the move: Ames, Banegas, Curo, Mesa, Quitac, LaChappa, and Rodriguez.

We will begin our celebration of the event this summer with the opening of our exhibit. In the meantime, we are continuing to conduct interviews with the Tribal Community (especially those over 50), bringing together our exhibit design, and planning our festivities for 2007 and 2008. If you have historic information on the move or about the Barona Indian Reservation, please contact us. We have heard so many powerful and interesting stories from Tribal members during the Barona History Interviews—from cherished family stories, dramatic life-changing events, to everyday happenings and important decisions made by the Tribe. Thank you to all who have come to the Museum to tell your story. We appreciate the work of our student interns in the transcription of these priceless documents: Jo Huval (USD), Paul Jeffrey (SJSU), and Phyllis Van Wanselee.

BARONA SENIORS
By Phyllis Van Wanselee

As the calendar year ends, I’m thinking about the loss of my father, Edward Brown, from Viejas. Because we are a community of families that know one another, we all share in the good times and share tears in time of grief. I experienced much love and strength from family, friends, and strangers back in April. Memories of my father were shared with me and my brothers and sister. My dad was the oldest living member of the Viejas tribe when he passed on April 30. He shared his memories with the Barona Museum on tape and contributed to the current language project and the Museum’s dictionary project. He was videotaped in Los Conojos telling his children of what life was like during his childhood and early manhood. He was the memory keeper for his family and tribe.

I never thought that one day I, too, would be the memory keeper for my family, but now that my dad is gone, I am the eldest female of my family. I hold the memories of how it was during my childhood and youth for my grandchildren. So, I would like to encourage those of you who have not given your gift of memories to the Barona Museum’s library of Barona Senior stories to contact Cheryl Hinton at 619-443-7003 to set up an appointment. We are our tribe; we are the Tipay.

In closing, I’d like to remind all Barona Seniors about our May 2007 trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the National Museum of the American Indian and on January 27, 2007 our bus trip to Los Angeles for the “Magnificent Homes of the Rich and Famous” tour. And, finally we have an official name for the Barona Seniors…Barona Kuhmii Tispahuarp, or Barona Circle of Elders.

Leon Banegas
Leonard Banegas, Sr.
Steven Banegas
Clifford LaChappa
Frank LaChappa
Evelyn Lloyd
Stanley Maxcy
Beverly Means
Caroline Mendoza
Albert Phoenix
Josephine Romero
Barbara Turner
Phyllis Van Wanselee
Edward Welch
Robert Welch, Sr.
Josefina Whaley

San Diego County
Tribal Senior Luncheon
By Diane Tells His Name

The 6th annual San Diego County Seniors Luncheon was a great success this year. Doors opened with Barona Museum Committee members greeting the arriving guests. With our Veterans as the focus, the American Indian Warrior Society proudly led the color guard in opening the event. Henry Mendibles and the Warriors then drummed several honor songs for our enjoyment. Each veteran attending was then honored with a bundle of sage.

We enjoyed several special moments in our program. Next year’s luncheon theme is a Native Dress fashion show. Museum Committee member Teddy Yeats modeled her Native California Dress and invited everyone to fill out a participation card. Those who filled out cards will be contacted next year to be in the show. Barona Tribal Member Pat Curo gave a blessing in Tipay as the delicious meal began. During lunch, Barona Tribal Member and West Point graduate Major Manuel Hernandez gave a talk about veteran service and spoke about his work with young people in passing on the knowledge about our veterans. Pat Curo sang a song he composed in honor of the Old Veterans Plaque first hung at the Barona Mission. The plaque was recently restored and is on display at the Barona Cultural Center and Museum. An honor gift of a special California Indian Doll was presented to our two eldest Barona Tribal members, Sister Romero and Josephine Whaley. Each has given seven years of dedicated service on our Museum Committee.

The event was highlighted once more with Sam Necoechea’s Western Playboys band. Several Seniors including Teddy Yeats, Max Mazzetti, Herman Osuna and Beverly Means showed off their dancing skills.

We wish to thank the prize sponsors including VCAT and the Speers for the two special $100 gift certificates; San Pasqual for the wonderful gift basket, Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa for a great gift basket; 3 gift baskets from Barona Seniors Committee, including prizes for the oldest Senior and the oldest Veteran attending. And the grand prize from the Barona Tribe was a deluxe Ranch Package that included a stay at Barona hotel, golf, and cash for meals. It was won by one of the Veterans from Pechanga. It was an appropriate ending to a beautiful event.

Editor’s Note: Diane Tells His Name, Museum Collections Manager(Lakota), made 30 California Indian dolls as the centerpieces for each table. The centerpiece was awarded to a lucky winner at each table.

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!

COLLECTIONS ACTIVITY

PURCHASES

Four dolls by artist Diane Tells His Name (Oglala Lakota): two dolls in Southern California traditional dress (one “Basketmaker” and one “Birdcrafter”), two centerpiece dolls commemorating the 2006 senior luncheon Purchased by the Museum, November 2006

DONATIONS

Large cookpot (olla), broken, partially reconstructed Gift of Larry Lauve

2 manos Gift of Banana Tribal Member Mike Morrison

Whiteboard easel Gift of Herman Osuna to our education department

LOANS

Peon set made by Bob Quitac On loan from Barona Tribal Member Robbie Welch
Take Highway 8 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.

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

Barona Cultural Center & Museum
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Phone (via Barona Tribal Office): 619-443-6612, Ext.219
email: info@baronamuseum.org • www.baronamuseum.org

Museum Committee 2007
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), Toddy Yeats (Barona member)

Museum Director/Chief Curator
Cheryl Hinton

Curator of Historic Media
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 (San Jose State), Jo Huval (University of San Diego), Emily Leiker (Yokuts - Grossmont College), Chief Jeff Roman and 16 students (Naval School of Health Sciences)

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