“The Church Bells Rang Today”

By Phyllis Van Wansele, Museum Committee

On the Barona Indian Reservation, we have a beautiful Catholic Mission, Church of the Assumption, designed by a renowned architect, Irving Gill, built by tribal members, and dedicated in 1934. When it was originally built, the church had just one bell tower. The entrance was later changed and another bell tower was added to create symmetry. The bells have long ropes attached to them and when pulled, they call the people living in the Barona Valley to mass. It is also a tradition in the community to ring the bells when a death occurs. Today, I heard the bells.

Growing up, I was raised in a house next to the church. When I first heard the bells ring on a day other than Sunday, I asked my mother, “Why are the bells ringing when it’s not church time?” She told me that when the bell rings on a day other than Sunday, it meant that someone passed away and everyone in Barona knew that a family’s loved one was gone.

Our community lost many wonderful people over the past year. To me, it seemed the bells rang every month. As an adult, I still live in this valley and when I hear the bells ring it sends a chill through my body. Who is it? What happened? It begins a ceremony of saying goodbye. Everyone in the Community sets aside differences and pulls together to lend support and help to the family in need. There are tears and smiles as the loved one is remembered during the traditional clothes burning that occurs three days after the death. There are meals to prepare: dinner at the burning, breakfast for the grave diggers, and lunch for all those who attend the funeral services on the day of the burial. Everyone does as much as they can with love to help ease the burden of the family—cleaning the church, selecting the altar boys/girls, cooking the meals, building the box to hold the casket, planning the wake, arranging for Bird Singers and figuring out what day will the burial be held. (Continued on page 3)
Happy New Year!

Last year, we celebrated the Museum’s 10th Anniversary and the New Year brings much excitement as we embark upon our next decade. We are also taking important steps toward cultural preservation of tribal history and the Museum’s collections. Throughout the year, our collections storage will continue to improve with an IMLS grant that allows us to purchase new, state-of-the-art storage cabinets to replace our older shelving. We are excited to conduct research on the contemporary music scene here on the reservation. This research culminates in an exhibition opening in November for National Native American Heritage month, telling the story through interviews, recordings, and photographs of Barona’s talented musicians, singers and players, and their importance to celebrations and gatherings on the reservation.

Once again, the Barona Band of Mission Indians was a major sponsor for the Western Museums Association (WMA) Annual Meeting on behalf of Barona Museum. The meeting was held in October 2010 in the beautiful city of Portland, Oregon. Laurie Egan-Hedley and I attended the conference. We especially enjoyed the Native American luncheon with our colleagues from other Tribal museums. I presented on a double panel for the Cosmic Serpent Project as a founding fellow of that NSF grant program. My presentation described the appropriate use of Western science in the Tribal Museum and the Museum’s Tribal perspective on traditional knowledge. Others on the panel included Nancy Maryboy, co-founder of the Indigenous Education Institute; Laura Peticolas, Director of the U.C Berkeley Space Sciences Laboratory; and Vicki Coats of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. Although it was my final meeting as the WMA Vice President of Programs, I was asked to continue serving on the Board. Kippen de Alba Chu, Director of the Iolani Palace in Hawaii, is the new Vice President and will assist in bringing the 2011 conference to Hawaii. My last duty was to help the organization celebrate the 75th Anniversary of WMA along with former Executive Director Melissa Rosengard and Board Member Sarah Kennington who gave a great video retrospective of the years. The Board was especially proud to announce that the organization is doing fine and has recovered from last year’s financial challenges.

Farewell Anyewaay, Brenda Ray

We are sad to begin the New Year without our dear friend and beloved Barona Museum committee member, Brenda Ray, who passed away in September 2010. Brenda joined our Committee five years ago and her main focus was to provide traditional culture classes through the Museum for the children of the Barona Reservation. Her children, Ashley, Kailey, Adam, and James are frequent participants in the Museum’s programs. Brenda was also instrumental in the inauguration of the Traditional Gathering in 2007.

The Museum committee and Staff honor her memory with a framed photograph collage, which features Brenda participating in Museum events, in the Barona Museum Library. Our Committee will continue her legacy and contributions in preserving and sharing our culture with future generations.
New Exhibition Opens in November

Rock of Ages: Modern Music Traditions on the Barona Reservation

Some music is sacred and some is entertainment however, all types of music are important to culture. Music is very important to the Barona Tribe, as it was to their ancestors, also. Several classes and community nights at Barona Museum have featured traditional songs and dances in an effort to continue this critical foundation of culture. The old traditions are important to ancient practices but modern-day traditions are also important to our families and friends.

Contemporary music is a vital form of entertainment and commemoration at many Tribal social gatherings. There are numerous talented musicians related to the Capitan and Barona groups who sing and play in a variety of genres: Country Western, Mexican ballads, Rock & Roll, sacred hymns, and folk. Tribal members also played guitar and fiddle at the early fiestas. This practice continues today on the music stage at the Barona Gathering.

Barona Tribal members belong to bands, are featured singers, and participate in church choirs. Some have made records and CDs; some are professional musicians who are sought out for parties and big events; some play at home as a hobby; and some have lovingly given their musical talents to the community during times of sorrow, such as funerals, or during times of celebration, such as weddings. A love of music is certainly a Barona tradition.

Barona Museum is opening an exhibition about contemporary music on the reservation in November 2011. The Museum is also planning a “Barona Rez Jam” to be held at the opening of the exhibition. This will be a fun evening where families can come together and play music, dance, and enjoy each other’s musical talents. The Museum needs to hear from you—tell us about today’s music stories from Barona families. All musicians and singers of the Barona Community: let us know what instruments you or your family members play or are learning to play. Who are the songwriters, active performers, choir members at church or other groups? Who in your family is continuing the tradition of playing an instrument or singing? If you would like to share information about the musicians in your family, please contact Cheryl Hinton, Barona Museum’s Director and Chief Curator, at (619) 443-7003 x 219 or chinton@barona-nsn.gov.
In January 2010, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum, a tribally-owned and operated institution located on the Barona Indian Reservation, celebrated its 10th anniversary as a national leader in the Native American museum movement. Governed by the Barona Band of Mission Indians, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum is one of San Diego County’s first professionally-operated museums on an Indian reservation. In over ten years of operation, the primary focus of the Barona Cultural Center & Museum has been language preservation and cultural and traditional educational programming. Simultaneously, the Library and Museum collections of the Barona Cultural Center & Museum have become one of the largest tribal repositories of ancestral and contemporary southern and Baja California Native American history, art, and culture.

As part of a Five-Year Strategic Plan, the Museum is in the process of re-housing, moving, processing, digitizing, and making available the collections for research. The process began in 2009 with the customized re-housing of the archaeological and ethnographic collections. In 2010, the Museum developed a Collections Move Plan and began designing and refurbishing a building for the purpose of serving as a curation and research facility. In 2011, the Museum will be finished with the movement of collections and begin a 100% inventory to assure that all data management records are up to date and accurate. In 2012, the Museum staff plans to finish the difficult descriptive work and create finding aids to establish intellectual control of archival and museum records. Finally, in 2013, the Museum will begin to interview featured artists and/or descendants of artists and record cultural, biographical, and historical knowledge of archaeological, ethnographic, and historic collections.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. In support of the Museum’s Five-Year Strategic Plan, the IMLS awarded $50,000 for museum storage equipment through the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant. The grant will fund specialized equipment and supplies for the storage of both organic and inorganic collections. Proper storage of these materials will not only ensure preservation, but also ensure effective management of these resources. This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

To help preserve a part of Barona’s history, the Barona Cultural Center & Museum is about to embark on a digitization project for the entire media/audiosvisual archives collection in 2011. The Museum’s archives contain recordings of important events that have shaped Barona’s history and culture. Transcripts of old recordings simply do not capture the gestures and personality traits or the tones of voices of those who were recorded. If we only rely on transcripts, much information is lost. There is no substitute for the exceptional depth of information that audiovisual materials contain and these fragile collections must be digitized to be preserved.

The media archives collection consists of approximately 400 cassettes, 250 CDs, and 250 video cassettes. The media archive includes Barona community oral history interviews, the Barona Dictionary project, language class tapes, and radio and news spots. The shelf-life of many of these original media formats can be as little as ten or fifteen years depending upon storage and preservation measures. Digitizing the information will help the Museum increase the lives of these records so they will be available for years to come. Once the digitization project is complete, all of the media archives will be preserved in a digital format. This allows staff to easily access different media formats in one place, and helps to preserve irreplaceable information. This work was supported in part as a National Endowment for the Humanities “We the People” project in 2010.
RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Barona Cultural Center & Museum recently acquired the following items to add to the growing collections. If you are interested in donating to the collection, please contact Cheryl Hinton, Director/Chief Curator.

Gift of Louis Goldich

Gift of National Museum of the American Indian Education Department

Gift of Victoria Kolb

Gift of Roy D. Stull
Olla and Newspaper Article collected in 1967.

Gift of Barona Casino Marketing Department
Barona Powwow Programs and Posters.

Gift of Bonnie LaChappa

Gift of the Estate of Reverend Alan P. Beauregard, MS
Small Juncus Gift Basket with Crosses (Kumeyaay); Tawa Kachina by Bill Sewemaenewa (Hopi); Tawa Kachina by Murray Harvey (Hopi); and a Coiled Basket (Pima or Tohono O’odham).

Reverend Alan P. Beauregard, MS (b. 1947- d. 2007), was ordained to the priesthood May 10, 1975. From 1978 to 1996, Father Alan served as pastor to the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish serving the Barona, Sycuan, and Viejas Reservations. During his 25-year tenure at Barona, Father Alan believed in a Ministry of Presence. Brother Ed Nolan served alongside Father Alan and described how important it was to serve the community by being present at various social and religious functions. These functions included Bingo games, Summer Bible School, and the Blessing of the Animals before the Fiestas. Throughout his ministry, Father Alan stressed that “the door was always open” to the Barona community.
November is National Native American Heritage Month and is always a busy time of year at Barona Museum. The Education Department’s calendar is filled with tours, outreaches, and other community programs, and it is not uncommon for there to be multiple programs occurring on the same day. On one day in particular, the Museum was responsible for three programs within a ten hour time period. Although the day was long, it was also very rewarding to have the opportunity to educate many different people about Barona history and culture.

On the morning of November 16, my day started with an outreach program. This was an exciting group—US Customs Officers. As I entered the room where the presentation was going to be delivered, I was reminded that the people protecting our border have dangerous jobs. There was a group of about 25 people, most of whom had side arms and a few had sub-compact machine guns. This was most definitely not my usual group of 3rd graders! The group was very engaged, asked questions, and exchanged stories.

The second program of the day was a tour for San Diego State University Cross Cultural Studies students. About 25 students came up the hill to visit the Museum and learn about the history of Barona and its people. It is always a pleasure to present to college students. This group was filled with a number of bright minds; their questions were very thought-provoking and intelligent. The class was also invited to attend our next event for the evening: a Barona Community Class about Peon.

Peon is a traditional hand game that goes back thousands of years. A number of Barona Tribal Youth want to form teams and start playing in the tournaments that occur at traditional gatherings. Barona Recreation and Brian Van Wanseele coordinated with the Museum to make this class a success. The Museum is very fortunate to have people in the community who are willing to share and teach the culture. Fred Largo (Campo) was kind enough to help out and teach this traditional game to Barona Youth. The SDSU students were invited to have dinner and watch the class, extending their learning opportunity in their study of cultures. A few were invited to participate by holding up the blankets for the players.

November 16th was a very busy day, and was also very rewarding. The Education Department was able to offer programming that reached a number of different audiences, including federal agents, future leaders, and tribal youth. When this wonderfully busy day ended, it was hard to resist feeling a very high level of satisfaction and fulfillment.
Look at the beautiful dolls made by the students in Diane Tells His Name's doll-making class!

The children from the Barona Kids Program learned about the Candlelighting tradition at Barona and display their hand-made candles.

Instructor Eleanor Miller and Angelina Kolb show off the wreath they made for Candlelighting.

Museum Intern Lindsay Sullivan learns about caring for objects in the Preserving Your Heirlooms class.

Two members of Cub Scout Pack 692 decorate gourd ornaments in the Kids' Holiday Craft class.

Participants from Barona Museum's Ancient Spirits Speak Doll Making Class and Instructor Diane Tells His Name (far left) pose with their beautiful native dolls.
Did You Know?

By Laurie Egan-Hedley, Assistant Director/Curator

Curators are usually experts in their fields and love to drone on and on about the collections in their care using fancy words and phrases. One of our favorite terms is, “provenance.” The word is French in origin and means, “to come from.” In the museum world, the word refers to the origin or source of something, or its history of ownership. It is a curator’s duty to establish provenance; in other words, gather the information relating to the time, place, and creator of the piece—whether it be a work of art, a document, a fossil, a geologic specimen, or a cultural artifact. Establishing provenance is generally very difficult—tracing the whole history of an object to the present using comparative techniques, expert opinions, sometimes scientific testing, and copious documentation is time consuming and very rarely completed. This is why curators spend their lives doing research.

The term, “provenience” is a word used in the field of archaeology in a manner that is somewhat synonymous with the term, “provenance.” “Provenience” refers to the exact three-dimensional location of an artifact or feature within an archaeological site whereas “provenance” includes an artifact’s complete documented history. You can imagine a curator working in a museum with archaeological collections discussing with his or her colleagues both the provenience of an artifact as well as its provenance.

Sometimes…scratch that. Rarely, do artifacts enter the museum with a complete provenance from the donor. If this was the trend, curators would be out of work! However, what a pleasure it was to meet Roy Stull and receive his donation of a beautiful ceramic storage pot. Of the many other things I do as a curator, with this piece I can check “provenance” off my to-do list.

Before settling into retirement, Mr. Stull taught at El Capitan High School in Lakeside. Mr. Stull took on a tough assignment of his own in 1967. He and a group of other high school teachers supervised a weekend campout of about 65 ninth-grade boys in the Jacumba Mountains. These students were enrolled in a federally-funded program designed to motivate students who were performing below grade level in spite of their average or above-average intelligence. While on a hike, he and his group found a number of flaked-stone hand tools and pottery fragments. This find sparked a new-found hobby.

The very next weekend, Mr. Stull went spelunking in the same general area and found an intact ceramic storage jar on a shelf in a cave. He gently removed it and brought it home. (Keep in mind; this was before there were laws in place prohibiting the removal of artifacts.) Mr. Stull knew it had a connection to the local Native Americans as many of his students were Barona Tribal members. He treasured this piece of pottery for decades until bringing it to Barona Museum where he felt it belongs, to keep in perpetuity. What provenance!
ATTENTION TEACHERS, COMMUNITY EDUCATORS, AND PROGRAM COORDINATORS!

The Barona Cultural Center & Museum’s Tour and Outreach Program consists of exciting learning opportunities generously funded by the Barona Bands of Mission Indians. The Tour and Outreach Program is a gift to San Diego County—there is no cost to you. Call Education Coordinator, Rich Rodriguez, to schedule your tour or outreach at least 2 to 3 weeks in advance.

Private Tours
Take a 40-minute guided tour of the Museum and learn how the Barona Indians live today and how their ancestors lived in ancient times in San Diego County. Tours are geared to be age appropriate and are available for groups of all ages. Culture-based activities are also available upon request.

Outreaches
If your group cannot visit the Museum in person, the Museum can come to you! The Outreach Program is designed to engage people of all ages through lively discussion and hands-on experiences. Let us support your classroom curriculum in Native American studies and local San Diego County history.

Traditional Life Hands-On Kit
A professional outreach educator will visit your group or class with the Museum’s “Hands-On” kit. The kit includes artifacts, baskets, tools, and more. Although the main focus of this outreach is primarily Kumeyaay traditional life prior to Spanish contact, more recent history and lifestyle are also discussed. This option is a great curriculum supplement and works well with groups of up to 25 people. (Approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour).

Power Point Lecture of “Barona History”
The Museum’s Education Department created a “Barona History” Power Point presentation for groups of 50 people or more (but also works with fewer). The discussion contains a wide range of topics including: traditional life, the history of the Barona Reservation, and contemporary issues involving Southern California. This presentation is best if you have a “smart” classroom or boardroom with a computer and screen and is ideal for college classes, high school classes, teacher training workshops, and corporate events. (Approximately 1 hour).

New! FREE GUIDED TOURS OFFERED ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH!

Join Education Coordinator, Rich Rodriguez, for a free guided tour of the Barona Museum on the last Saturday of each month at 10am. Tours run approximately 30 minutes and are for all ages.

No need to call ahead or RSVP—just show up! Private tours are also available—for more information or to schedule a tour, please call the Museum: (619) 443-7003 Ext. 219. Otherwise, Museum admission is always free and your visit is self-guided.

San Diego Museum Month, presented by Macy’s, returns in February, 2011!

Pick up your FREE Museum Month Pass at any Macy’s store in San Diego County, Temecula, or Imperial Valley and enjoy half-off admission at 40 museums during February. Plus, one Pass is good for up to four half-off admissions so you can take family and friends and experience the rich cultural offerings at the best museums, historic sites, and educational institutions in San Diego County. For more information, visit www.sandiegomuseumcouncil.org.

Admission to Barona Museum is always free! Show your Museum Month Pass at the Barona Museum Store and receive a 15% discount on your purchases!
Look what’s new at the Museum Store!

By Robin Edmonds, Museum Store Coordinator

The Museum Store now features traditional handmade Mesquite cooking utensils, bean soup mixes, and other food- and cooking-related books. Stop by for some cooking inspiration!

Brand new to the Museum Store is a beautiful line of jewelry, Silver Seasons by Michael Michaud. His unique jewelry captures the beauty and exquisite detail of nature in metals, pearls, and stones. Nature’s delicate beauty is finely balanced with exceptional craftsmanship. You must see these pieces for yourself to appreciate how truly gorgeous they are. Barona Museum now carries the acorn, pine cone, and sage leaf designs. Other designs are available through special order.

From the Tribal Intern’s Desk

By Vicky Kolb, Tribal Intern

In August, Barona hosted its 4th Annual Traditional Gathering. This two-day event brings tribal families and friends together. In addition to the delicious food and fun games for all ages, the Gathering provides a time and space dedicated to the continuation of our ancient traditions: bird singing and dancing, and peon games.

Bird songs are a part of our Creation story. These songs have been passed down from our ancestors, and now, only a handful of men can sing them and know the meanings of the songs. It is important for the next generations to learn these songs. While the men sing, women dance and teach the younger girls the dance steps.

Another aspect of our culture that is practiced during the Gathering is playing peon. Peon is a very old gambling game that was, at one time, played only by men, while the women sang. Now, peon is played by men, women, and children in a tournament. It was heartwarming to see many generations around the fires carrying on the old ways. I am very proud to have been a part of the Gathering where I can help keep our ancient traditions alive. The Barona Gathering is vital to keeping our culture strong.

Black and white image of “Fiesta” oil on canvas painting by Robert Freeman (Luiseño/Hunkpapa Sioux).
As we begin a New Year, we remember those seniors who are no longer with us. We will always keep them in our prayers and remember their wonderful spirits. Keeping that in mind, it reminds us to count the blessings that are bestowed upon us each day and to live life to its fullest.

Our seniors were quite busy this fall and winter. We began with a trip to Vancouver, Oregon, and San Francisco. During this trip we were privileged to meet the Clatsop Indians of Oregon and see how they helped Lewis and Clark as they spent the winter in Astoria, Oregon during their discovery journey. The Clatsop were essential in the survival of the Lewis and Clark group. At the start of October the Circle of Elders sponsored an exciting Motorcycle Charity Ride benefiting the Barona Charter School’s science program. We had a fantastic turnout and a beautiful day to ride the back country of San Diego County. The riders enjoyed a lunch at the end of the ride and had chances to win some great raffle prizes. Christmastime found us busy again hosting our Annual Holiday Luncheon and providing food baskets for families in need in our area. The luncheon was a huge success with the largest turnout ever. Bobby Banegas’s band, Coyote, entertained the crowd as they ate and looked forward to winning fabulous raffle prizes. A great big THANK YOU to all the seniors of Barona who volunteered and provided the wonderful door prizes.

The new Circle of Elders Center is continuing to be a beehive of activity. We have craft classes, exercise classes, Wii fitness workouts, morning coffees, knitting instructions, sewing classes, lunches, meetings, computer learning skills workshops, movie-watching afternoons, etc. All Tribal Community seniors are always welcome and we love to hear new ideas for programs or activities. We look forward to what the New Year brings and the many new places to which we will travel. We continue to look for new ways to give back to our community and to provide a helping hand to our own seniors in need. God Bless you all.

The following classes are open to the public. Due to the popularity of these classes, please call the Museum at (619) 443-7003 Ext. 219. To reserve your spot, you must pre-pay for the class. Barona Tribal Members are free, but must RSVP ahead of time. Lunch will be provided in each class.

Frybread From Scratch
February 19, 2011 / 10am-12:30pm / Ages 16 and up
Fee: $25
Join Caroline Mendoza (Barona) at the Museum to learn how to make this scrumptious treat. This form of frybread became a staple of native diets when the federal government gave commodities to the people. The contents of these packages of food included the ingredients to prepare frybread. In this class you will learn step-by-step how to make your own frybread and then eat it with Indian taco fixin’s! RSVP by February 11, 2011.

Pine Needle Basket
March 12, 2011 / 10am-2pm / Ages 12 and up
Fee: $25
Yvonne LaChusa Trottier (Mesa Grande), traditional basket-maker, shows students of all experience levels how to make a basket with pine needles. Pine needles are an abundant resource found throughout traditional homelands in San Diego County. Join us for a traditional class with a modern design twist: baskets will be made with a stone center. RSVP by March 4, 2011.

Wechuw Wesaaw (Make and Eat)
April 9, 2011 / 10am-2pm / Ages 13 and up
Fee: $25
Stan Rodriguez (Santa Ysabel) teaches the class about how the Kumeyaay used locally-grown succulents for tools, clothing, and food. Students will make fiber into sandals or cordage for a net and dine on some traditional cuisine. RSVP by April 1, 2011.

Got Rabbits?
May 14, 2011 / 10am-2pm / Ages 18 and up
Fee: $25
Bunnies are cute and cuddly but rabbits were a very important resource in traditional times. Stan Rodriguez (Santa Ysabel) returns to Barona to teach about all the traditional uses of rabbits. Participants will create rabbit sticks, one of the traditional hunting weapons used by the Kumeyaay, and during this class, rabbit will be cooked by a community member for the participants to taste. Stan will also demonstrate how to make a rabbit skin blanket. Rest assured, no rabbits will be hunted in this class! RSVP by May 6, 2011.
Visit our new and improved website! www.baronamuseum.org