

# ‘IIPAY UUMALL

“the people write”

BARONA  
CULTURAL CENTER  
& MUSEUM

Winter 2014, Volume XV, Number I  
Newsletter of the Barona Cultural Center & Museum

## Coiled Juncus Baskets: *A Kumeyaay/Diegueño Cultural Tradition*

Coiled juncus baskets have been an integral part of traditional culture for Southern California Indians, including the Kumeyaay/Diegueño. Commonly used as utilitarian items, juncus baskets can be made in various shapes, sizes, and for different functions.

Traditionally, large and deep juncus baskets were used to collect items like acorns, honey-mesquite beans, and piñon nuts. These deeper baskets were also used to cook food. Traditionally, Kumeyaay/Diegueño people cooked acorn meal, or *shawii*, in the baskets by placing heated stones in the bottom, which would bring the *shawii* to a boil. Shallow and wide dish-shaped juncus baskets were used as collecting trays when women walked in tall, seed-bearing grass fields and swept seeds into them. These baskets would also be used as holding trays during food preparation and processing. Because of their frequent use, these dish-shaped baskets were more commonly made than other shapes. Flat, tray-shaped baskets were also used as a cooking surface when roasting seeds with heated stones.

In addition to being used for cooking and collecting, baskets were used as clothing and in recreational pursuits. Dish-shaped baskets were used as playing surfaces for traditional games like walnut dice and various stave games, while deeper, bowl shaped baskets were worn by women as hats. Basket hats protected women's foreheads from chafing by tumplines (straps) that supported net bags. Basket hats are often intricately decorated, and may have been a symbol of fashion in addition to functionality.

A typical coiled juncus basket is made of three different plant materials. The main outer weaved portion of the basket is made from a distinct wetland based perennial rush rod called *juncus effusus*, commonly known as juncus. The Kumeyaay/Diegueño seasonally harvested this plant for the sole purpose of making baskets. When freshly picked, the green juncus can be used immediately and manipulated easily to any form or fashion. When left out to dry, the main portion of the juncus becomes a tan-brown color, with a lower root surface area of golden brown mixed with orange. In Kumeyaay/Diegueño territory, the native juncus is a more vibrant yellow color and varieties in the San Diego mountain region are red. It is

these desired colors and sections that basket weavers use to create their design patterns for the exterior of the baskets.

Some juncus would be dyed a dark color for contrasting designs. This would be done using mud, or a solution made from acorn husks and oak bark. Another plant used to create contrasting designs is *rhus trilobata*, commonly known as sumac (Squaw Bush Sumac). Like juncus, the sumac is split vertically into three long strips and then thinned evenly to have consistent widths. This process gives a uniform aesthetic to the exterior of the basket. The third and most vital plant material used in making coiled juncus baskets is scientifically known as *muhlenbergia rigens*, or “deer grass.” The deer grass is used as the bundle or core of an individual basket layer.

Baskets are coiled in a clockwise direction and designs range from relatively simple geometric patterns to complex animal, plant, and celestial motifs. Baskets featuring star designs with four points were often used in ceremonies or for certain games. Rattlesnakes are a common basket design, and many theories exist as to why they are used in basket decoration. Snakes are seen as the messengers to heaven, and are often seen as coiling from the inner spiral of the basket to the outward rim, or from “Earth” to “heaven.” A Kumeyaay/Diegueño legend explains that rattlesnakes were woven into baskets to scare away mice and other rodents that might eat acorn flour. Other designs may have been chosen for aesthetic reasons, or for the ease of their weaving into the spiral shape.

The late 1700's brought the Spanish to southern California and led to the enslavement of American Indian groups, including the Kumeyaay/Diegueño. In the

attempt to “civilize” the indigenous population, Native culture and customs were quashed. However, California Indian basket making was one cultural element that was praised by the Spanish, and later, the Mexican conquerors. Because of this, traditional basket making was continued even after other Native traditions and crafts were forcibly stopped. The patronage of the non-Native Spanish, Mexicans, and even Americans, led to a greater diversity in basket sizes, shapes, and decorations. Baskets with lids, handles, and ring-raised bowls were made and sold post-European contact. Spanish and English words and letters became popular decorations, as did coats of arms and church motifs. The making and selling of baskets became a major means of economic support for southern California Indian families, and continues today.

Barona Cultural Center & Museum understands the importance of juncus baskets in both traditional and modern Kumeyaay/Diegueño culture, and has several in its collection for public and Tribal education and enjoyment. Please visit Barona Cultural Center & Museum before June to get a glimpse of some of these fantastic baskets in our New & Notable Exhibition!



New additions to the Museum's collection showcase a variety of different styles and designs.

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## Museum Committee 2014

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

Members: Donna Romero DiIorio (Barona), Myrna DeSomber, Victoria Kolb (Barona), Caroline Mendoza (Barona), Danette Reed (Barona), Shirley Ruis (Barona), Kelly Speer, Diane Tells His Name (Lakota), Bobby Wallace (Barona), Kevin Van Wanseele (Barona), Phyllis Van Wanseele (Barona), Toddy Yeats (Barona)

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

Please direct any newsletter inquiries to the editor, Katy Duperry

### 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.**



Take Highway 8 or Highway 52 from San Diego going east to Highway 67. Turn right onto Maplevue, 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.

## A Message from Museum Committee Co-Chairwoman Bonnie LaChappa



I have had an interesting first six months as Tribal Council Liaison and Committee Co-Chair for the Museum. So many worthwhile programs and meetings have taken place to help us continue to fulfill our mission. In June, we held our annual Culture Camp program for Tribal children. This three-day event teaches language, culture, and tradition in a fun and accessible way. It was a great success! Additionally, Barona Museum held several informative and well-attended classes for the public including basketry, gourd art, and bow making. We also received some wonderful additions to the Collection, including local basketry, and had over 35 loans for our new sports exhibition. I personally have given photographs, books, and other objects to the Collection in hopes of increasing an understanding of today's Tribal history for study by our grandchildren and future scholars.

In celebration of California Indian Day, September 28th 2013, the Museum opened its newest exhibition, *Sports: The Competitive Spirit at Barona*. The exhibition is amazing in its detail and information on local history from Little League, Pop Warner, Bobby Sox, Rez Ball, Inter Tribal Sports, high school sports, and even our local major league team, the Padres. The Tribal community kicked off the exhibit with an old-fashioned Field Day and a picnic barbeque—my family enjoyed cooking for the community. I also recall helping with the first Barona Field Day as a young woman in the 1980s; everyone had such a good time back then, that we wanted to repeat the event this year. As Tribal members explored the exhibit, it was fun to see everyone finding family members in the sports roster and on the walls. With many well-known Native American athletes and over 200 Tribal members' stories, the exhibition is very comprehensive and follows Native sports history through time.

Community is central to my personal and professional outreach. In my positions as Tribal Council member, Lakeside Chamber of Commerce member, Lakeside School Board member, and recently, in being honored to be the recipient of Lakeside's Citizen of the Year, it is my deep wish to continue to serve and preserve our community in Barona and Lakeside. The Barona Museum is another way in which we can further education and understanding about San Diego County and all of our people through time. I hope you will visit Barona Museum and be a part of this wonderful community spirit.

Bonnie LaChappa  
Barona Tribal Councilwoman



Lillie VanWanseele (left), and Rosie Peters (center) show off their ribbons with Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa (right) who placed third in the women's obstacle course.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2014

Best wishes for a happy and successful New Year! Barona Museum staff members are hard at work putting together a year's worth of exciting programming—we hope you'll take the opportunity to visit!

Drop by to see our newest exhibition, "Sports: The Competitive Spirit at Barona." This exhibition chronicles the history of Native American athletes and how the love of the game is passed down from generation to generation. Barona families participate in sports at all ages and levels—see how important sporting events are to the Barona community. Learn all about how Barona's own Matt LaChappa made it to the Big Leagues! See Native American golfing sensation, Notah Begay's Presidential Cup and ring. See a signed football by Native American legend, Jim Thorpe. We thank the community and generous lenders for their support of this exhibition. Join us for an evening lecture on Wednesday, February 12—Michael Connolly Miskwish (Campo) and Harry Cuero Jr. (Campo) will discuss Kumeyaay/Diegueño astronomy. Michael's book, Kumeyaay: A History Textbook Vol. 1 will be available for purchase that evening through the Museum Store.

We also have a loaded calendar full of classes open to the public. Our Ancient Spirits Speak series kicks off in February. Check the calendar on page nine, our website: [www.baronamuseum.org](http://www.baronamuseum.org), or call us at (619) 443-7003 ext. 219 for more information about these hands-on classes. Behind the scenes, work continues in the Research Center. Collections staff is busy cataloging collections, and making them available for research. Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections Cheryl Hinton found some interesting nuggets of information while researching at the Church Library on the Mormon Battalion in Salt Lake City; please see "Did You Know?" on page ten where she details some of her findings.

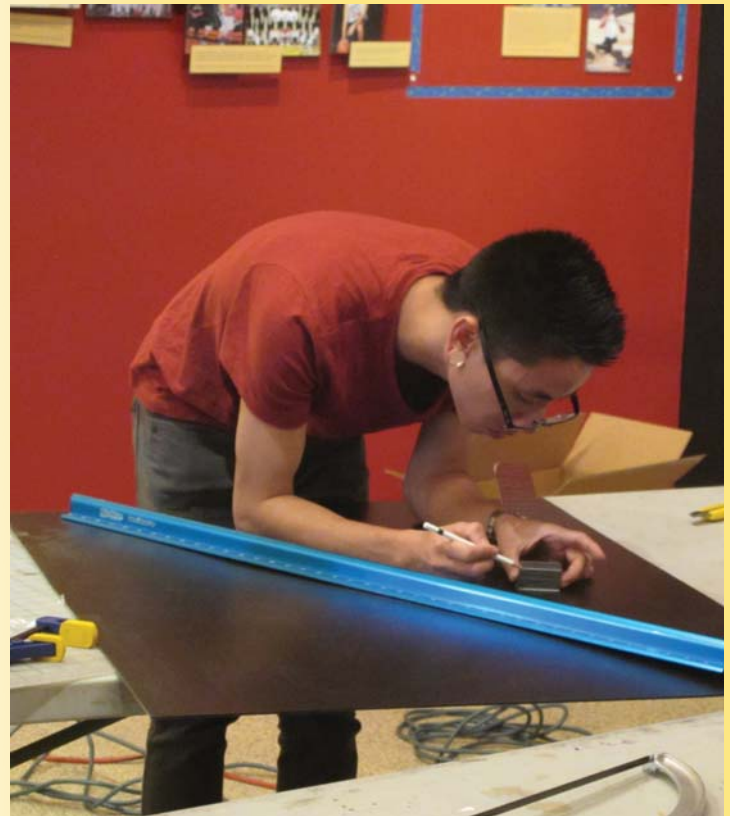
The Western Museums Association annual meeting was held in Salt Lake City last October. Cheryl moderated a session on emergency preparedness and how to protect the collection from disaster. Jennifer Stone, Museum Assistant, and I presented a workshop on "Selling Education through the Museum Store." It is important for us to keep learning and to share our knowledge with others; whether at a conference with our colleagues, or through a structured class, through exhibitions, or even through our merchandise in the Museum Store. Barona Museum continues to be a one-stop resource about Kumeyaay/Diegueño culture. It is in this way that we fulfill our mission. Come learn with us! I look forward to seeing you, soon!

Laurie Egan-Hedley  
Director/Curator



Museum Assistant Jennifer Stone (third from left) and Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections Cheryl Hinton (fifth from left) attend the opening reception for the Western Museums Association conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in October 2013.

Left to right: James Pepper Henry: Director of the Heard Museum, Laura Fry: Curator at the Tacoma Art Museum, Jennifer Stone: Museum Assistant at Barona Cultural Center & Museum, Rick West: Director at the Autry, Cheryl Hinton: Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections at Barona Cultural Center & Museum, and Bruce Eldredge: Director of the Buffalo Bill Museum.



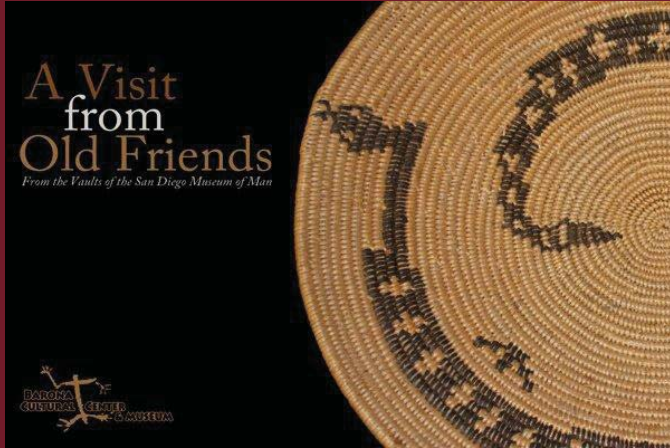
Museum intern Michael Wong helps prepare exhibition labels during the installation of Barona Cultural Center & Museum's new exhibition, *Sports: The Competitive Spirit at Barona*.

# Current Exhibitions

## *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 Museum from the San Diego Museum of Man. Most of the objects have never been on exhibit until now. Take this opportunity to see these lovely pieces, including rattlesnake baskets, an oil painting of Rosa Lopez, and a hopper mortar.

## *Sports:*

### *The Competitive Spirit at Barona*

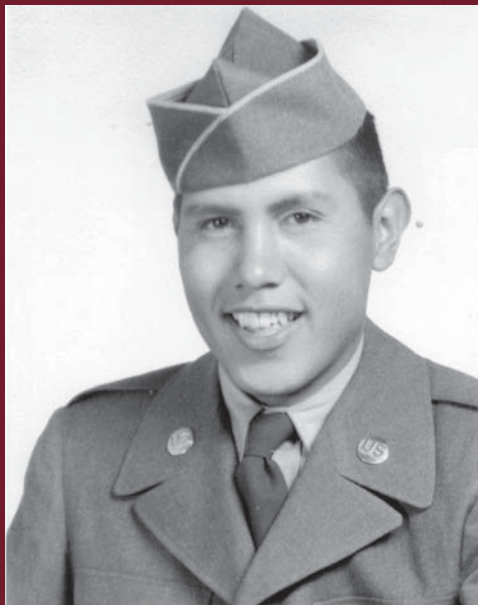
Opened September 28, 2013



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/Isleta) and many others. Over 200 Barona Tribal and Community members are represented within this exhibition through photographs, and memorabilia. Some have gone on to Major League tryouts, and one, Matt LaChappa, was drafted by the San Diego Padres. With a love of sports, Barona Reservation honors that competitive Native American spirit.

## *Veterans' Wall of Honor*

Permanent Exhibition



Recognize the service and sacrifices made by Barona Veterans and Local Community Veterans.

## *New & Notable*

January to June 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.

## *'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 exhibition. Examine how the People stayed together through difficult times and have persevered, keeping their culture and traditions alive for the generations to come.



# Sports Exhibition Opening... FIELD DAY!

The Museum opened its newest exhibition, *Sports: The Competitive Spirit at Barona* on September 28th in honor of California Indian Day, with a Barona community Field Day. The Field Day was held in conjunction with Barona Recreation Center. Barona families turned out to have fun competing in the various Field Day events. The winners were presented with ribbons for first, second, and third place. The barbeque lunch was prepared by Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa and her husband, David LaChappa. The Museum opened the exhibition to everyone after lunch and each person received their own commemorative pennant. Everyone enjoyed seeing their family members highlighted and looking for their own entries on the interactive Sports Roster digital kiosk.



Bobby Wallace III looks up his entry in the Barona Sports Roster kiosk with his father, Museum Committee member, Robert Wallace (holding his granddaughter) at the October 1st reception.



Grossmont High School alumni Ed Stalder, Mrs. Stalder, and Connie Baer, co-director of the Grossmont High School Museum, discuss the sports exhibition at the opening reception on October 1st.



The Men's 50 Yard Dash includes 1st place winner Stephen Florey, Martin Carreon (3rd place), and Museum Committee member and Gaming Commissioner Kevin VanWansele (2nd place).



The Cruz family takes away several ribbons including the youngest, Takota Smith (3rd in the 7 and Under 50 Yard Dash), Tristan (1st in the Women's Softball Throw) and Willie (1st in the Men's Horseshoe Toss).



Vice Chairman Harold Hill, Barona Tribal member Matt LaChappa, and co-curators Cheryl Hinton and Brian VanWansele at the opening reception on October 1st.



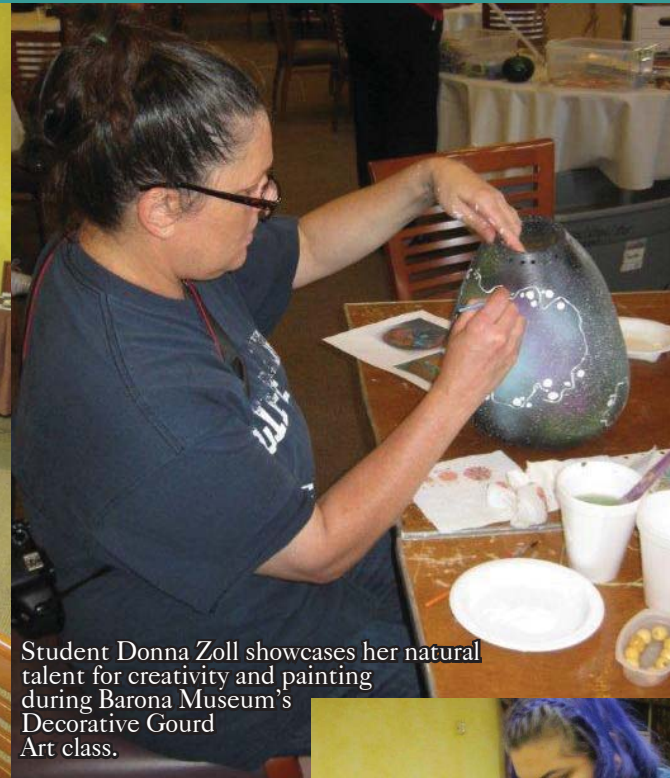
# Education at the Barona Cultural Center & Museum



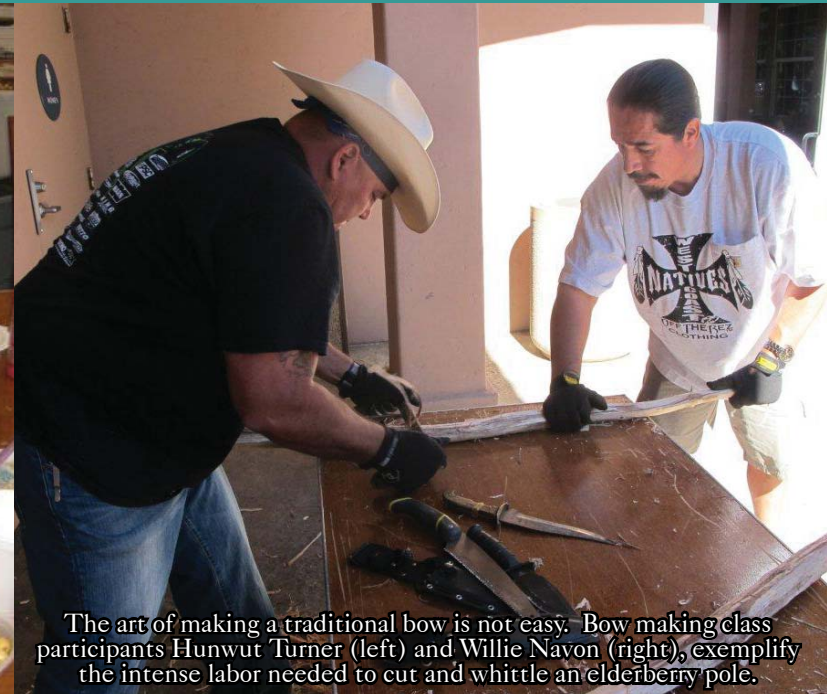
Leaching basket student Mary Lohr concentrates on her twining technique.



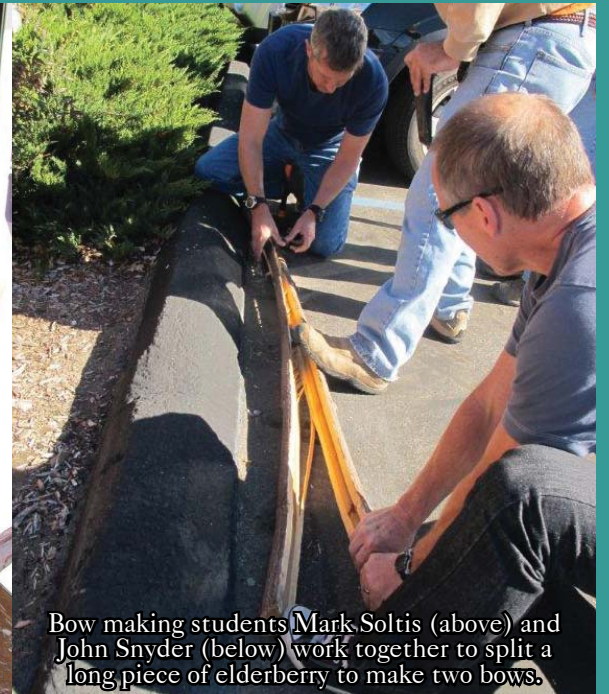
Beautiful wreaths crafted by Caroline Mendoza.



Student Donna Zoll showcases her natural talent for creativity and painting during Barona Museum's Decorative Gourd Art class.



The art of making a traditional bow is not easy. Bow making class participants Hunwut Turner (left) and Willie Nayon (right), exemplify the intense labor needed to cut and whittle an elderberry pole.



Bow making students Mark Soltis (above) and John Snyder (below) work together to split a long piece of elderberry to make two bows.



Gourds decorated by students in the Decorative Gourd Art class instructed by Museum Educator, O'Jay Vanegas.



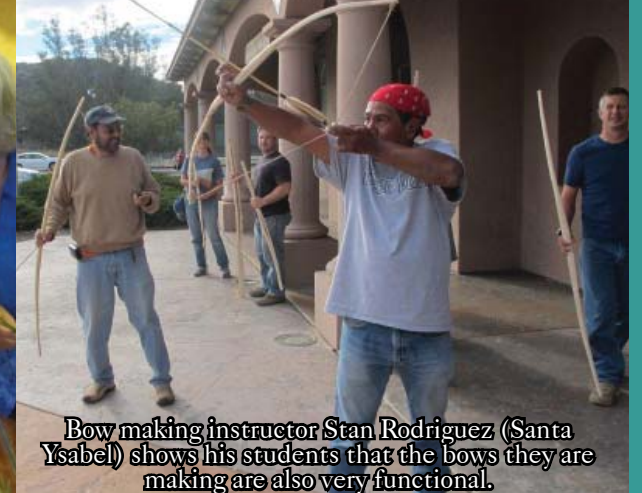
Barona Tribal member Kyle Mendoza takes time to create a beautiful wreath for the All Saints Day Candlelight vigil.



Krystal Teter takes extra time and care to decorate her wreath in preparation for All Saints Day.



Instructor Yvonne LaChusa Trottier (Mesa Grande) helps her students get started on their leaching baskets.



Bow making instructor Stan Rodriguez (Santa Ysabel) shows his students that the bows they are making are also very functional.



Barona Tribal member and Museum Committee member Toddy Yeats paints her beautiful gourd during the Museum's Decorative Gourd Art class.



Richard Egan works diligently on making yucca fiber twine for his fishing line during the Museum's Hook, Line and Fisher class.



Every summer, Barona Cultural Center & Museum has the honor of hosting the Young Native Scholars – a program developed by the Inter Tribal Youth organization. During their visit, Tribal youth partake in a hosted lunch provided by the Museum and role play in simulated Tribal Council exercises. These students are future Tribal leaders!



Native youth participants of the Young Native Scholars summer program role play as Tribal Council members during a simulated Tribal Council meeting.



# Culture Camp 2013...

## Sharing Cultural Heritage with Younger Generations

Barona Museum's 5th Annual Culture Camp was a great success! Over the course of three days, 67 Barona Tribal children and over 40 volunteers, parents and speakers participated in cultural activities. One of the missions of the Barona Museum is to preserve the traditional ways of the Kumeyaay/Diegueño "... so that future generations of Barona youth can grow in strength and knowledge, secure in the richness of their heritage." For three days this past July, we did just that!

This year, we began Camp with a visit to the Barona Government Building. The children were shown the General Council meeting room and met with Chairman LaChappa, Vice-Chairman Hill, and Councilwoman LaChappa. That afternoon, the kids learned about traditional Bird Singing and dancing from Bobby Wallace, Fred Largo, Daniel Murphy, and Brandie Alto.

Day two began with a history of the Barona Powwow and the Powwow tradition here on the Reservation from special guests, Councilwoman Glasco, Laurie Whitecloud, and Tribal elder Boxie Phoenix. The children got to see some of their peers demonstrate the different types of dancing seen at the Powwow. The kids then learned and played the traditional dice game Pshok. In the afternoon, we visited the Church grounds and were given a demonstration in deep pit barbeque and its history on the Reservation from Frank Phoenix. The kids then learned and played Peon with Willie Kolb and Clayton Cooke.

On our final day of Camp, the children made tortillas with Caroline Mendoza and Shirley Ruis. The meat from the deep pit barbeque was dug up and we all had an amazing lunch! We finished off the day playing 'Iipay Aa Language Bingo with Mandy Curo de Quintero.

The children had an amazing three days and learned about many ancient (and some more recent) traditions of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. The Barona Museum would like to thank all the Tribal and community members who presented and volunteered. We appreciate all who took time out of our schedules to be with us. Also a huge thank you to our advisory committee: Candy Christman, Vicky Kolb, Brian VanWansele, and Mandy Curo de Quintero.



Frank Phoenix and Clayton Cooke prepare meat for an old-fashioned pit barbecue.



Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa, Chairman Clifford LaChappa, and Vice Chairman Harold Hill take questions from Culture Camp participants.



Mandy Curo de Quintero teaches the children the 'Iipay Aa' language.



Barona Tribal children learn Bird Singing and Dancing.



# Ancient Spirits Speak

## Schedule of Classes

### Spring 2014

Join us for another exciting season of Ancient Spirits Speak classes! Due to the popularity of these classes, they fill up quickly. To guarantee your spot in the class, you must call the Museum and pre-pay for the class. Barona Tribal Members receive free registration but must RSVP ahead of time. All classes are open to the public and lunch is provided.



#### **Journeys to the Past**

Instructor: Jacque Nunez (Acjachemen)

Date: Saturday, February 1st

Time: 10:30am-3pm

Ages: 8 & Up \*Disclaimer: Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Fee: \$10 per person/Free to Barona Tribal Members

Jacque Nunez has made a successful career out of sharing her Acjachemen ancestors' stories. She prides herself on preserving and sharing her culture through the Native American tradition of storytelling. This passion resulted in Jacque receiving the State of California-Indian Education Educator of the Year Award in 2009. Come and hear delightful stories and songs of southern California Native Peoples. Jacque will also provide hands on activities for children as a part of her presentation.



#### **Flint Knapping & Arrow Making**

Instructor: Tony Soares

Date: Saturday, March 1st

Time: 10:30am-3pm

Ages: 16 & Up

Fee: \$25 Public/Free to Barona Tribal Members

Besides being an expert ceramicist, Tony Soares possesses a vast background in traditional survival skills. From bows and quivers to fire by friction, Tony has spent the majority of his life researching and experimenting in the traditional arts of southern California. Join Tony as he shares his knowledge in flint knapping and arrow making. Participants will be flint knapping and fletching arrows, so they are encouraged to wear proper clothing and to bring gloves and protective eye wear.



#### **Native Foods (Yucca Flowers)**

Instructor: Martha Rodriguez (San Jose de la Zorra)

Date: Saturday, April 5th

Time: 10:30am-3pm

Ages: 16 & Up

Fee: \$25 Public/Free to Barona Tribal Members

Spring has always been a significant and celebrated season for native foods. It is the time of year when seeds, berries, edible flowers and agave roots become abundant. Martha Rodriguez (San Jose de la Zorra) returns to our Ancient Spirits Speak schedule with an incredible Native foods workshop. Learn to leach and prepare yucca flowers, make manzanita berry tea, and cook honey-mesquite cakes.



#### **Basic Juncus Basket Making**

Instructor: Eva Salazar (Kumeyaay)

Date: Saturday, May 3rd

Time: 10:30am-3:30pm

Ages: 16 & up

Fee: \$25 Public

Free to Barona Tribal Members

Coiled juncus baskets were essential utilitarian tools for the Kumeyaay/Diegueño. Different shapes and sizes of juncus baskets were used to cook acorn meal, process various flours,

and collect and roast seeds. Juncus baskets were also woven to be worn as hats. Master basket weaver Eva Salazar (Kumeyaay) offers an introductory basket making class that will teach the basic principles of this fine art.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Barona Museum Lecture Series

Featured speakers: Michael Connolly Miskwish and Harry Cuero Jr.  
*Kumeyaay Astronomy*

Wednesday, February 12, 2014, 6pm-8pm

Light refreshments provided

Please join us in the Community Center for a presentation and discussion of Kumeyaay/Diegueño astronomy. The Kumeyaay/Diegueño people were extraordinary observers and cultivators of all things in nature. They utilized rock structures and constellations as tools to help manage land resources and to predict seasonal change. Mr. Connolly will share his research into the astronomy of the Kumeyaay/Diegueño people including the terms for celestial events, constellations, observatories, and practical uses. Mr. Cuero will share the songs associated with the constellation 'emuu (big horn sheep) and its importance to the spiritual beliefs and life lessons for Kumeyaay/Diegueño people.

**Space is limited! To reserve your spot or for more information, please call the Museum: (619) 443-7003 ext. 219**



# Did You Know?

Early in February 2013 while in Salt Lake City, Utah, I visited the Church Museum and the Church History Library. I was looking for records of the Mormon Battalion meeting the local Kumeyaay/Diegueño Indians on their trip from Iowa to San Diego in January of 1847. I found that the journals of nearly 80 soldiers out of the more than 500 volunteers are transcribed and available for public research.

Very few early records exist of the Barona ancestors who lived in the San Felipe Valley. Many Barona Tribal members trace their families to this group of Kumeyaay/Diegueño Indians. This valley lies below Julian to the east and just to the south of Borrego Springs, and includes an intersection often referred to as "Scissors Crossing." The main road that runs through the little settlement of Shelter Valley is called the "Great Southern Overland Trail of 1849." It travels through the Blair Valley and alongside the site where the Mormon Battalion crossed in 1847, coming to fight in the war against Mexico for California statehood. This rugged crossing through Box Canyon was cited as being the most difficult of the entire journey, including the disastrous Colorado River crossing and traversing the Colorado Desert.

Coming to the seemingly impassable, narrow Box Canyon, the soldiers forged through by burning slate rock and fragmenting it with axes to open a sheer, vertical passage. The road hewn into the rock allowed them to carry over their disassembled wagons and the few remaining animals into the valley above. Still eight miles from the San Felipe Creek, they camped without water, but at least had grass for their animals on the bitter cold night of January 19, 1847. By this time, the soldiers and animals were starving and exhausted. Much of their assistance came from the Indians living nearby.

A quote from one of the soldiers' journals from the Church History Library (Vol 22, Reel 7) relates the conditions on January 17, 1847 before coming to Box Canyon:

*"All of our government wagons had been abandoned at this time but five. During this day, the Indian magistrate (Alcalde) of the town of San Philipi, and a companion brought a letter to the Colonel from the Governor of San Diego, announcing the arrival of our men, who had been sent [ahead] for supplies...The Governor's messengers were nearly naked, and not unlike the Apaches in appearance."*

Soldier William Coray writes about the Native residents of San Felipe:

*"The Indians live along here in the mountains upon muskeete [mesquite] principally. They are called wild Indians; those nearer to the farms are Christianized by the Catholics; these never have been tamed."*

He later writes:

*"Three Indians brought letters to us from Gen. Montgomery who gave a statement of Kearney's battle at the Pueblo. Said they should receive us warmly and we should be welcome after our fatiguing march from the States."*

General Kearney wrote to Lt. Cooke who commanded the Battalion (March 1847):

*"Keep Warners well-guarded and the San Felipe and Desert... the friendship and goodwill of the Indians in that frontier can be easily secured and it should be done."*

At Warner's some in the Battalion were dispatched to the Temecula Massacre to assist the Luiseño in the burial of their dead after a large battle between them and a group of Californios with the Cahuilla.

As the Battalion made its way up through the San Felipe Valley into Warner's Ranch, there are wonderful descriptions of the Native Americans living in the area and the beautiful landscape of the Kumeyaay/Diegueño, Cahuilla, Luiseño, and Cupeño territories. The Battalion made its way through the mountains to

Mission San Luis Rey and then south into Old Town San Diego and the Mission San Diego de Alcalá. On this journey from Iowa through the Indian Country of the plains and the southwest and into San Diego, there are rare descriptions of Native life before California joined the Union. Several fascinating stories are told through the eyes of the Mormon soldiers.

Many thanks to the Church History Library and to the Mormon Battalion Historic Site in Old Town for their assistance with this research. Excerpt from Kearney taken from Army of Israel: Mormon Battalion Narratives Bigler and Bagley (eds) (2000:199). Excerpt from Tyler taken from Sgt. Daniel Tyler's book (1881) A Concise History of the Mormon Battalion in the Mexican War 1846-1847, courtesy of San Diego History Center.

Cheryl Hinton  
Director Emeritus/Curator of Collections



The view up the riverbed into Box Canyon on November 25, 2013. On January 19th, 1847, "As we traveled up the dry bed, the chasm became more contracted until we found ourselves in a passage at least a foot narrower than our wagons." On the right, above the riverbed is the road hewn into the rocky hillside by the Battalion, the first road into Southern California. About January 20th Tyler writes, "...we had an exceedingly rough, rocky, descending road to a little valley, then a good road to San Phillippi, a deserted Indian village, the inhabitants, probably, leaving on our approach" (Sgt. Daniel Tyler, 1881:248).



# New and Notable Acquisitions

Barona Cultural Center & Museum recently acquired the following items to add to the growing collection. If you are interested in donating to the collection, please call the Museum!

## **Gift of Bruce Curo (Barona)**

Quest Classic Series Bass Guitar signed and inscribed by members of the musical band ArrowHead.

## **Gift of Albert “Boxie” Phoenix (Barona)**

Two antique solid copper Indian Police badges.

## **Gift of James Curo (Barona)**

Drawing of Charley Curo (Barona) by Gene Quitac (Barona).

## **Gift of Henry “Hank” Koerper, PhD**

Two photographs of First Annual Rabbit Stick Contest at Malki Museum on October 25, 1997 featuring Veronica Duro, Raymond Magee, Sonny Salgado, Bull Nelson, Josh Hill, Ricky Torres, Adam Osuna, and Erwin Osuna; and a rabbit stick made by donor.

## **Gift of Bonnie LaChappa (Barona)**

Four framed photographs: Barona Tribal Councilmembers receiving a certificate at San Diego City Council; Headshot of Monty Hall signed with personal message “To Councilwoman Bonnie LaChappa All My Best Monty Hall”; Barona Band of Mission Indians donating \$1,000,000 to Sharp Grossmont Hospital; Harry Hertzberg Way Dedication; Two books and one booklet: The Journey of Grandeur, 1910 & 2006; Sycuan: Our People. Our Culture. Our History; (booklet) “Barona: A Tradition of Innovation”.

## **Gift of Norrie Robbins, PhD.**

Digital images: Digital images from the Barona Language Class on September 5, 2013.

## **Gift of Sunbelt Publications**

Two books: ilymash shemap: Ensueños de Niños and ilymash shemap: Children’s Daydreams. Written by Rhonda “Lisa” Welch-Scalco (Barona) based on work done with her grandfather Tom Hyde (Viejas) and illustrated by her niece, Vanessa Welch (Viejas).

## **Gift of Kilma Lattin (Pala)**

Plant samples and ethnobotanical documentation gathered on the Barona Indian Reservation between 1978 and 1982.

## **Gift of Kimberly De Berzunza**

Four plastic Indian figures and the three books: Cherokee Run by Barbara Claassen Smucker, Walt Disney’s Peter Pan and the Indians, and Bugs Bunny and the Indians.

## **Gift of Jerry Starnes (Menominee)**

Book: Indian Nations of North America, produced by National Geographic and printed in 2010.

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

Book: Sunrise Corridor: A Region’s Prehistoric Human Past.

*Background photograph: Quest Classic Series Bass Guitar, gift of Bruce Curo (Barona)*



## 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 piece!*



Rookwood oak leaf ceramic ornament with a "Chanterelle" glaze (top) and a "Copper Canyon" glaze (bottom).



COMING SOON!



Inspired by traditional southern California Indian baskets, David Salk's unique ceramic creations feature both traditional and modern designs.



Beautiful hand-crafted gourd art work featuring acorns. Acorn-shaped bird houses and gourd ornaments show off the artistic skill of Tom Ward (Manzanita), a local Kumeyaay artist.

### Barona Cultural Center & Museum

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