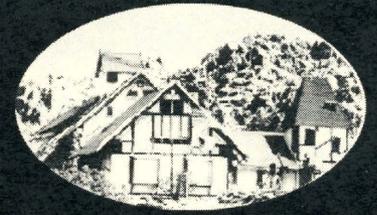


# FAVIM Bulletin

Friends  
of the  
Antelope Valley  
Indian Museum



P.O. Box 1171  
Lancaster, California 93584

October-November-December, 2018  
Volume 34, Number 4



## 2018 American Indian Celebration Report BY MUSEUM CURATOR: PEGGY RONNING

We knew that we were going to have a great day at the annual American Indian Celebration when we saw how many cars were lined up on Avenue M waiting for the gates to open on Saturday morning! By the end of the first day, we had 705 visitors. The parking lot and driveway were full. Visitors had to park on Avenue M for the first time since the 1990s, and the Begay family ran out of frybread by 2:45. Our attendance on Sunday was also up with 464 visitors. We also had 30 dancers this year plus 46 people staffing vendor booths.



Sisters Kaelene Ashmore and Katianna Warren having a great time.

Many factors contributed to the growth of the event. Our partners, volunteers, vendors, dancers, and park staff did a great job of advertising the event on social media and at Pow Wows around Southern California. Joyce

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<http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov/info.shtml>

Media, which publishes the Lake LA, Rosamond, and Agua Dulce newspapers promoted the event in print and on social media. Now that we have a professional Master of Ceremonies and drum group, more and more dancers join the event each year. Finally, we had perfect weather this year. It was sunny and about 80 degrees with only a little wind.

### Attendance (Including Vendors and Dancers)

Year	Saturday Total	Sunday Total	Total
2010	324	314	638
2011	325	322	647
2012	325	262	587
2013	219	179	398
2014	189	179	368
2015	399	210	609
2016	413	379	792
2017	397	441	838
2018	781	540	1321

## We Reached a Record 6,000 people on the Museum's Facebook Page on October 19<sup>th</sup>!



While many visitors were initially grumpy about waiting in line to pay their admission, parking on the road, walking up the hill, and waiting in line to purchase food, Interpreter Jean Rhyne who was working the gate observed that everyone was happy after experiencing the event.

The Celebration started on Saturday with a blessing by Chumash story tellers Ted and Dennis Garcia. The blessing was followed by a memorial for former AVIM Museum Curator Edra Moore who passed away in May, 2018. Current Curator Peggy Ronning, Cecelia Begay, and Edra's son Mark Moore spoke briefly about Edra's work with the Native community and her love of the museum.

Master of Ceremonies Michael Runningwind did an outstanding job announcing the activities in



**The parking lot was full and cars had to park on Avenue M!**



**Buffalo Creek Drum (l-r): Little Hawk Crump, Brendon Youngbear Urdanivia, James Lang**

the dance arena and sharing traditional Seneca songs and dances. He called for many dances that welcomed participation from enthusiastic visitors, including friendships dances, couples dances, and intertribals.

Buffalo Creek drum group had a song for every dance that Michael Runningwind asked for. FAVIM board member John Martin managed the PA system again this year and even brought a special speaker from home to make the drum sound great. John also took most of the event photos you are enjoying in this bulletin.

Visitor favorites Danza Azteca Xochipilli returned this year to share their Aztec culture and dances.

Dancer Sage Romero shared hoop dances from the Pueblo side of his family. He also shared information about the Paiute side of his family.

Despite the huge crowd, the Begay family kept the frybread and Indian tacos coming in record time. As the food booth was adjacent to the

dance arena, people had a good view of the dancing and stories while they waited in line.



**Erika Diaz of Danza Azteca Xochipilli**

The event would not have been possible without the support of FAVIM Board member Cydnee Ashmore who not only recruited the MC, the drum, and many of the dancers, but she also prepared the food for the dancers. Her daughter Caitlin volunteered to get signed photo releases from all 30 dancers and participants.

We had nine vendor booths and five information booths at the event this year. All of the vendors donated beautiful items for the raffle. FAVIM Board members Don Borchers, Susy Martin, Kathy Moore, and Lynn Dupratt staffed the FAVIM booth. FAVIM Board member Betsy Matheny staffed the FAVIM beverage booth with the assistance of the Tomo Kahni volunteers.

Thank you to all the volunteers who staffed the museum and the touch table: Darrell

Walters, Ann Kittlitz, Anne Williams, Willow O'Brian, Jim Quinn, Michiko Shimizu, Elsie Purdy, and Jeannine Byers. We also had extra help from Red Rock Canyon volunteer Lou Figueroa, Antelope Valley College students Alexandra Jonassen and Emily Rausch, and Emily's son Caleb.

Thank you to the State Parks staff who put in extra-long hours to set up, staff, and clean up after the event: Chris Pistone, Frankie Watson, Socrates Oberes, Caroline Gaete, Jean Rhyne, and Supervising Ranger Matt Williams.

We look forward to seeing you at the Celebration in 2019!



**Docent Darrell Walters in Kachina Hall**



**Dancers Ryan Carver, Chris Hixenbaugh, and Alex Littlebow**



Kaelene Ashmore



Dancers Adrian Thunder Garcia, Thomas DeCrane, and Carlos Miranda Jr.



Storm McMasters, Spirit Wolf Rivera, Raven Magpie Rivera, and Museum Curator Peggy Ronning join in the friendship dance.



Katianna Warren



If you missed the Celebration, don't despair. The museum gift shop features beautiful items hand-made by all the Celebration vendors.



**A JOURNEY TO LIMUW**

BY CORRESPONDING SECRETARY/HISTORIAN: ANNE KITTLITZ

Off the coast of California there are eight isolated islands, known as the Channel Islands. Five of them are now under the protection of our National Parks. They can be visited easily for a day or several days for camping, snorkeling, kayaking and hiking. At the AV Indian Museum there is a large collection of artifacts that represent the Indians who inhabited these islands. The early inhabitants are now called Chumash and they built sturdy canoes called Tomols to travel back and forth to the mainland.

In recent years a group of descendants of the Chumash Indians, named the Brotherhood of the Tomol was formed. This group built a sturdy redwood plank tomol that was completed in 1997. It was named Ely'wun and made its first crossing from mainland to Santa Cruz Island in 2001. Since then several more journeys have been made.



The Tomol approaches Santa Cruz Island.



The men help the tired paddlers land.



The women celebrate with songs and music.

On a recent weekend in September, I was fortunate to witness a reenactment of one of these trips to Santa Cruz Island, also known as Limuw by the Chumash Indians. The paddlers started in the dark early from Ventura and arrived at Scorpion Bay about eight hours later. It was wonderful to see them appear in the distance as a large gathering of Chumash women and children were waiting for them. The people waiting began to chant and played stick instruments to welcome them to shore. Also a large number of men waded into the water to guide the tomol to land.

When they landed, the tired paddlers were helped out of the Tomol, and all the men raised it up on their shoulders to bring it inland. I felt privileged to be there on Limuw to watch this moving scene.

(To learn more about this event and the present day Chumash look up "Chumash Maritime Association")



The men help carry the Tomol to shore.



The tomol is carried inland.



The tomol rests after its long journey.

**Holidays on the Homestead**  
at the  
Antelope Valley Indian Museum

Country Craft Boutique      Homestead Style Holiday Decorations

Featuring Cowboy Poetry Singer  
Mike Tcherkassky!

Cowboy Songs around a Bonfire      Chili Cook-Off

**Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**5 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

Adults: \$10   Ages 6-12: \$5   Age 5 & under: Free  
15701 East Avenue M, near Lake LA  
Event Info: (661) 946-6900

### Crafters and Chili Cooks Sought for Holiday Event at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum

Chili cook-off entries and craft boutique applications are now being accepted for the Antelope Valley Indian Museum's eighth-annual "Holidays on the Homestead," to be held on Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> from 5 pm to 8 pm. The historical-themed fundraiser also features a cowboy poetry singer, cowboy coffee heated over a campfire, and homestead-era holiday décor throughout the museum grounds.

All chili styles will be considered for the cook-off, and there is no registration fee. The chili cook-off event honors Rose Edwards, the wife of the museum's builder, who was known for her chili and cornbread holiday feasts at their 1930's homestead Christmas celebrations.

The theme of the small indoor craft boutique is country-western and/or holiday items. Booths are \$30.

For chili cook-off or craft booth information and applications, contact Jean Rhyne at (661) 946-6900 or [Jean.Rhyne@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Jean.Rhyne@parks.ca.gov).

Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum (FAVIM) is online:

- [AVIM.parks.ca.gov](http://AVIM.parks.ca.gov) : Click on “Join” for information about FAVIM, and about volunteering at the AV Indian Museum
- [Facebook.com/IndianMuseumFriends](https://www.facebook.com/IndianMuseumFriends) : Photos, FAVIM announcements, and events such as Visiting Artists, Nights at the Museum, the Annual Celebration and more. “Like” us and support the Museum!

Online information about Antelope Valley Indian Museum State Historic Park:

- [AVIM.parks.ca.gov](http://AVIM.parks.ca.gov) : Museum website with information about the American Indians of the Great Basin, Southwest, and California coast; events calendar; virtual tours of the museum; and search the museum’s entire collection online.
- [Facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum) : Share upcoming Event announcements with friends!

**FRIENDS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY INDIAN MUSEUM DIRECTORS 2017-2018**

President: Don Borchers - [d.and.b@mac.com](mailto:d.and.b@mac.com)

Vice President: *Vacant Position*

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Treasurer:  
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Members-at-Large: *Vacant Position*

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Antelope Valley Indian Museum  
State Historic Park

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15701 East Avenue M  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
(Avenue M between 150<sup>th</sup> St. & 170<sup>th</sup> St. East)

Phone: 661-946-3055



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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov>

and FAVIM is now on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum>

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### Your Membership Is Important To FAVIM

FAVIM raises funds to support Projects and Activities at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum. The membership is renewed each September, except in the case of Life Membership.

Please make membership checks payable to "Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum" (or "FAVIM"), and return to:

P.O. Box 1171, Lancaster, CA 93584.

If you are not yet a member, and would like to support the Indian Museum, and receive a quarterly FAVIM Bulletin, and also receive a 10% Discount with Membership Card to use in the FAVIM Gift Shop, please send your check to the above address.

NEW \*\* BULLETIN Delivery Option - Choose one:

- either Email - provide Email address
- or USPS Postal mail

Dues:

Individual	\$ 15	Organization	\$ 35
Family	\$ 20	Patron	\$ 50
Life	\$ 200		

If your name or address is not correct, or you have moved, or you just need information about the Park or FAVIM, please call 661-946-3055.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PO Box 1171, Lancaster, CA 93584

Indian Museum

Friends of the Antelope Valley

