Eleanor Beemer's excellent treatise, *My Luiseño Neighbors* is exactly what she says it is, a selection of excerpts from her personal journal. It is not intended to be a professionally oriented assessment of any particular aspect of the Luiseño lifeway, and she does not propose any "scientific" treatment of the data she has collected.

Mrs. Beemer describes ritual activities, artifacts, important places, local folklore, and perhaps most importantly, *people* in a backcountry reservation setting over a time span covering a substantial portion of the mid-20th century. She presents her material in an easy to read, literate style.

Many of the kinds of activities reported here are not altogether new and much of the general behavior described has been reported or at least alluded to by earlier ethnographers working the larger Luiseño area, so one should not read this book expecting a breakthrough in terms of large amounts of new and exciting ethnographic information. On the other hand, Beemer approaches the data and, more importantly, the contextual setting from which the data were derived from a perspective not possible under more typical anthropological data-collecting processes. The data presented here were collected over a long period of time so that many of her observations have meaningful temporal significance, and they were collected with a very special personal touch that suggests a level of authenticity not often seen in these kinds of reports.

In the opinion of this reviewer, the Beemer book is a valuable presentation of an important segment of a local history, and a gold mine of potentially useful and important ethnographic tidbits. Eleanor Beemer is an astute, sensitive observer, and the information she presents should be given careful and serious consideration. In short, this is not just another collection of interesting little local stories to be read once and set aside. It is a source book that will almost certainly be consulted again and again by scholars interested in the Luiseño as a people.