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# ***Turning of the Wheel***

*Meeting the Challenges and  
Charting/Creating the World  
with Spokes and a Hub*

12 September 2011

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**College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences**

with support from:

University of Idaho's Humanities Endowment,  
National Endowment for the Humanities, and  
gifts from friends of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences

# GATHERING the HUCKLEBERRIES



Photo: John Hartman 2011



Elysia Moran and Victoria Spino,  
with Grandpa, Rob Moran.

Photo: Frey 2003



# HEALING JOURNEYS

pay attention to both the “external and inner healing,”  
both “head knowledge and heart knowledge”



Cliff SiJohn, Coeur d'Alene Casino. Photo: Frey 2002

# HEAD KNOWLEDGE and HEART KNOWLEDGE

Material Reductionism  
Cartesian Dualism  
Scientific Method

a tangible world of discrete  
quantifiable objects viewed as  
if behind a glass pane

binary oppositions

devoid of spirit

contrasting world views, contrasting epistemologies

Spiritual Animation  
Unified Holism

a transitory world co-created at the  
convergence of those participating,  
an event in the making

kinship

imbued with spirit



# HEAD KNOWLEDGE and HEART KNOWLEDGE

geological processes

Coyote and Snake



Along the Clearwater River NEPE-HI-0959

the physical action/reaction  
of scalpel and chemo drugs

the pulsating through an  
Eagle-feather

“mutually exclusive”?

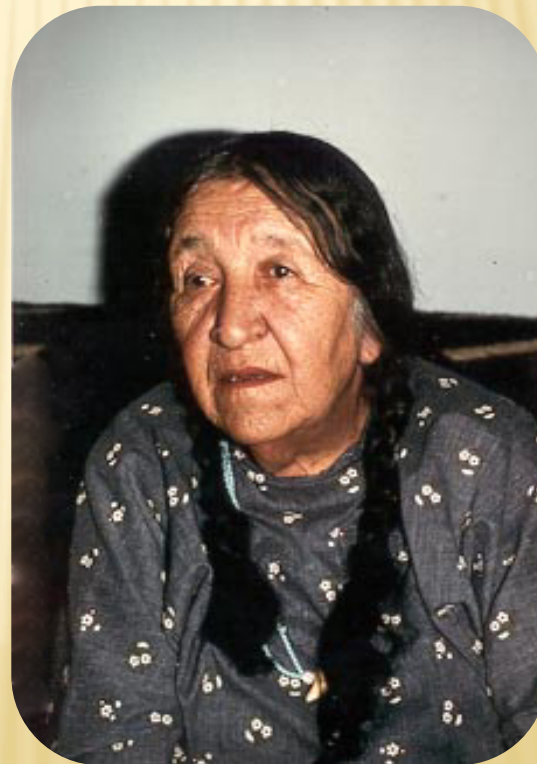


huckleberry to guide?

# LIVES of TOM and SUSIE YELLOWTAIL

Apsáalooke (Crow) of 1970s

as Sundance chief and *Akbaalía*, as Baptist, as nurse, as  
healer, on Presidential-appointed councils



Tom and Susie Yellowtail, Wyola. Photo: Frey 1974



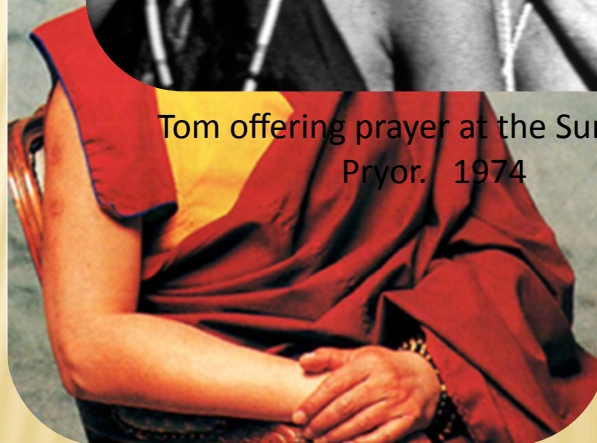
# TOM YELLOWTAIL OFFERING A PRAYER



COUNCIL FOR THE  
PACIFIC  
WORLD

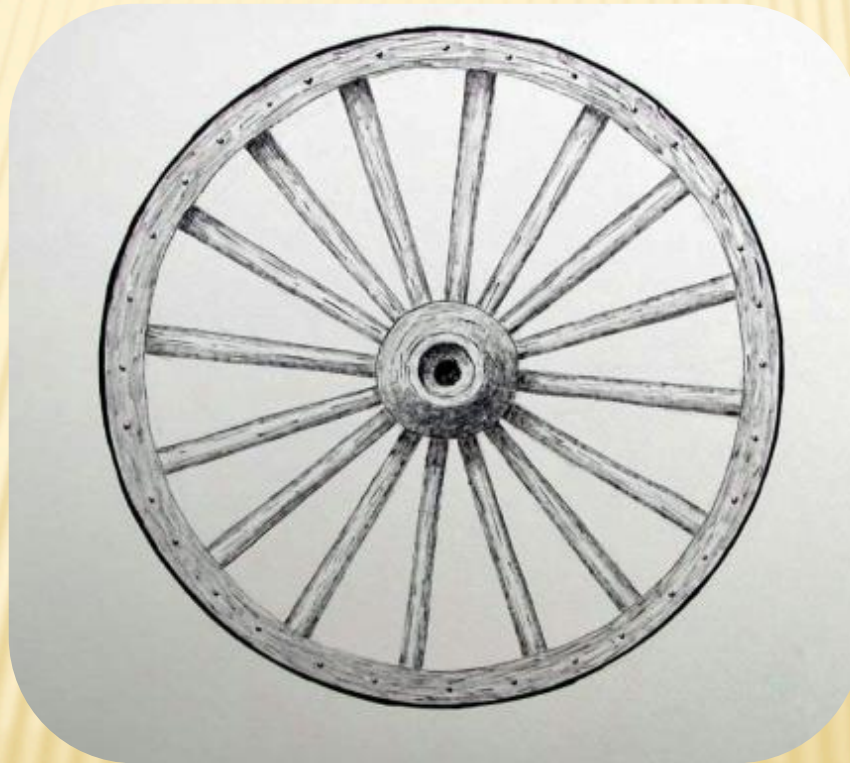


Tom offering prayer at the Sundance.  
Pryor. 1974



# THE WHEEL

Tom Yellowtail's "Wagon Wheel"



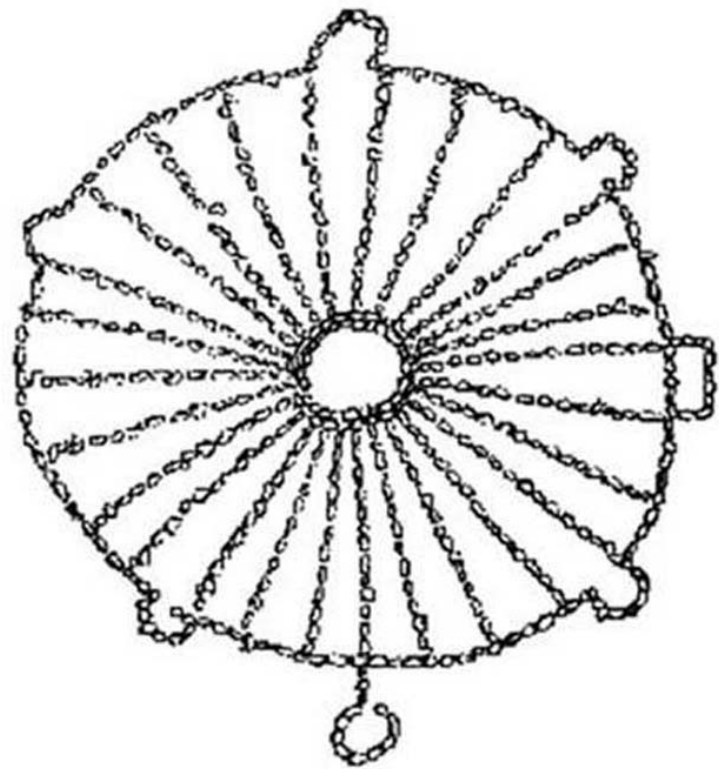


# BIG HORN MEDICINE WHEEL

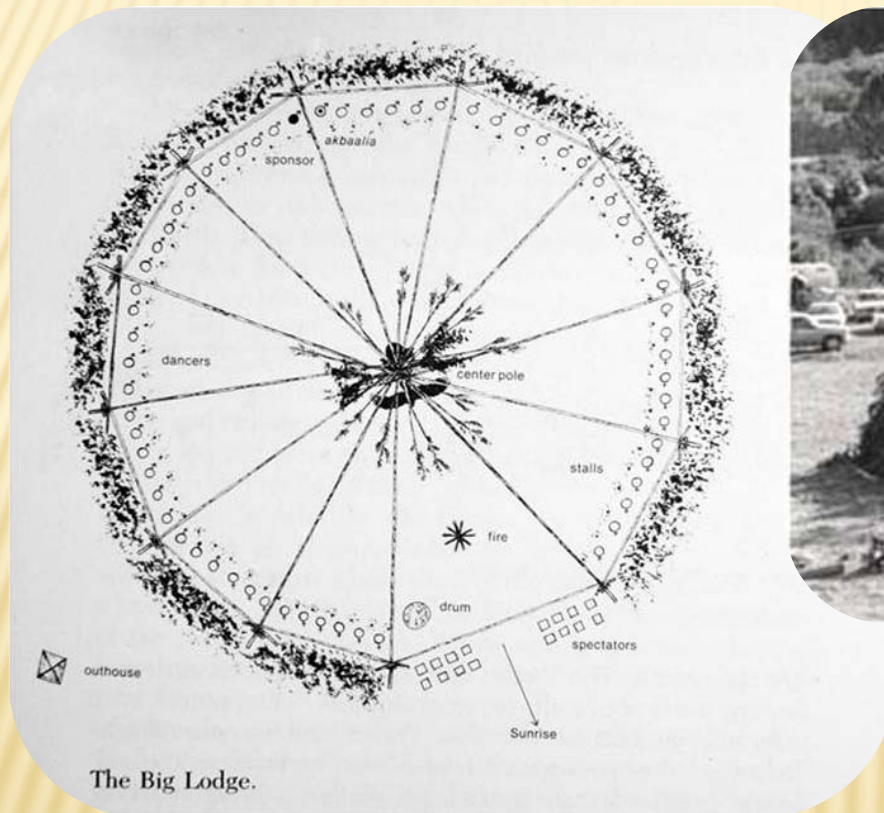
## Burnt Face



Rocks of the Big Horn Medicine Wheel, Wyoming,  
Photo: Frey 1993



# SUNDANCE LODGE



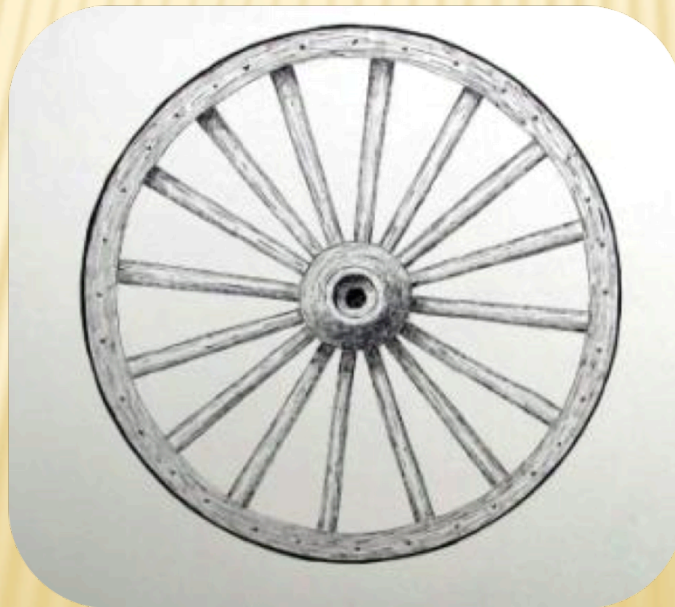
Crow Sundance Lodge, Wolf Mountains.  
Photo: Frey 1993

***Ashkísshe***



# TOM YELLOWTAIL'S WHEEL

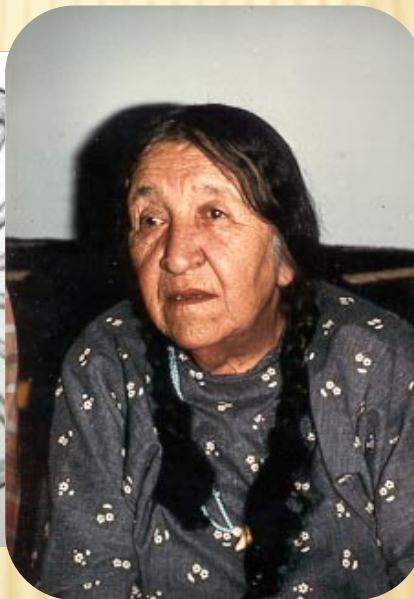
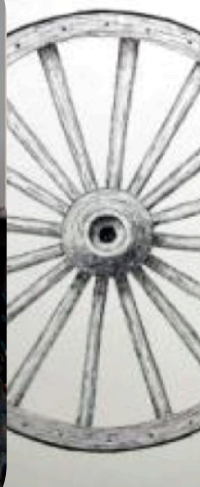
the various paths, the spokes, distinct and equal,  
yet all linked by the same rim and hub,  
if the wheel is to turn



# VARIED PATHS

can travel the many but distinct spokes, when maintaining integrity of each, while each part of a greater whole

**a map**



**competency**

without threat of the “mutually exclusive”





# HUCKLEBERRIES

wagon wheels and rock medicine wheels

Sundancer participants, Baptist parishioners, IHS practitioners

spokes and a hub

interplay of the unique and universal,  
our collective diversity and what we share in common

huckleberries offered, lessons to be learned?

attend to heart and head ways of knowing

# BIOMEDICAL and SUNDANCE WAYS

traveling the distinct healing spokes:  
reclining with an IV of stem cells, dancing with Buffalo Spirit



Receiving the stem cells, Seattle.  
Photo: Kris Roby 2009



The Buffalo and Eagle being blessed before  
the start of the Sundance, Gordon Plain Bull  
and Tom Yellowtail. Pryor 1974



# INNER HEALING

## Burnt Face

stumble and fall - health taken



confusion and solitude, replaced by loving support

journey of perseverance and sacrifice

transformation possible:

a child's face restored

reborn as a child

# LINCHINITY

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“betwixt and between”

timeless and spaceless, between the spokes,  
devoid of distractions and mundane sensibilities

listen deeply – most essential



# OUT OF THE CHAOS, OUT OF THE LIMINALITY

- placing one's self in the shoes of another
  - unselfish support for another
- a healing language of the hub/rim



Frey following the stem cell transplant, Seattle. Photo: Kris Roby 2009.



Mable Pretty On Top  
being “doctored,”  
Sundance, Pryor. 1974

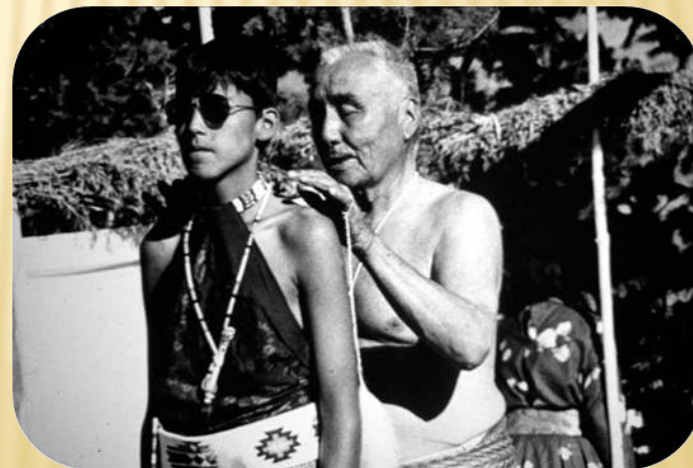
“that pat on the back from doctor’s hand  
or Eagle-feather held in hand”

# EMPATHY - COMPASSION

that certain look in Tom's face - that Eagle-feather fan held in hand



another huckleberry?





# TOM ATTENDING TO HIS CHORES

“as if we’d known each other for years,”  
yet so fundamentally different, so little in common



Tom Yellowtail, Wyola. Photo:  
Joseph Epes Brown, circa 1970s

**how can two people so different, relate so effortlessly?**

# BAAÉECHICHIWAAU

“re-telling one’s own”

act of telling of Coyote or of one’s own life-defining events  
a gift received, now re-told, gifted to you



**power of story**

a language of our shared  
humanity, our hub/rim

Tom Yellowtail, retelling a favorite story, with his  
great grandkids, at his cabin, east of Wyola.

Photo: Frey 1993

**bridging** what can divide the spokes,  
the “**mutually exclusive**”





# FURTHER APPLICATIONS - IMPLICATIONS?



Schitsu'umsh elders Lawrence Nicodemus

and Felix Aripa, along with Freya Blumner

Photo: Rosemary Peone 2000

for our unfolding stories, as students, teachers, researchers,  
for your unfolding story  
as ethnographer, researcher and teacher  
what huckleberries await?  
let's take a journey, a humanities expedition together

# ANOTHER DANCE

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as “distinguished humanities professor” – aka as “ethnographer”

a “research design” – **the humanities**

*human condition*

*interpretive*

*wisdom*

*reflect* and *respond*



# A COMMUNITY of “VANDALS”

questions to ask you and others:

“what is the interplay between the unique and universal,  
between the particular and ubiquitous,  
between our collective diversity and shared humanity?”

**University of Idaho**



**a community ethnography**

# VANDAL COMMUNITY

**David Adler** - Public Policy

**Katherine Aiken** - History

**Barry Bilderback** - Music

**Dan Bukvich, Navin Chettri and their Students** - Music and the **Jazz Choir**

**Don Burnett** - Jurisprudence

**Rob Caisley, Lojo Simon and their Students** - Theatre and the play, ***Adoration of Dora***

**Nancy Chaney** - Mayor and Alumni

**Marco Deyasi** - Art Historian

**Stephen Drown** - Landscape Architecture

**Dan Edwards** - Chemistry

**Sanford Eigenbrode** - Chemical Ecology and Entomology

**James Foster** - Biology and Computer Science

**Heather Gasser** - Women's Center

**Janis Johnson and Nez Perce elders** - Literature and an evening of Nez Perce Jazz

**David Lee-Painter and his Students** - Theatre

**Sally Graves Machlis and Delphine Keim-Campbell** - Art and Design

**John Mihelich** - Anthropology and Sociology

**Garth Reese** - Religious Studies

**Michael O'Rourke** - Philosophy

**Marty Peterson** - Legislative Representative for the President

**Brandon Schrand and his Students** - Creative Writing

**Bill Smith** - International Relations

**Carmen Suarez** - Human Rights, Access and Inclusion Office

**Bill Voxman** - Photographer and Mathematics



# IMPLICATIONS

how we conceptualize the interplay between diversity and universality has far reaching implications on our capacities:

for communication and collaboration,

for creativity in the arts and discovery in the sciences,

for tolerance, civility, and respect

for building local and global community

you're invited to an **Humanities Exploration**. let's see what  
**huckleberries await.**

