

start from scratch--moccasins, leggings and whatever he used to dance--even the staff. They replace that. They recover that staff and put some more feathers on it. When they do that, well, they're ready to dance. Their dance is maybe just once or twice a year. They don't dance like we do nowadays. We celebrate almost every weekend.

BLACKFEET SOCIETY STAFFS

(That's back in the old days?)

Yeah, that's back in old days. They believe in that strongly. They don't try to--the people that's members of the tribe, they don't try to interfere with these staff heirs (heirs of staff owners). These staffs belongs to the people--the family. That's the way this Blackfeet's road is. You know what that means. You know, that tradition.

SHELL ORNAMENT WORN AS A CHILD

(Yeah. I'd like to talk to you more about that sometime, too. Could you tell me again about that little thing you use to wear around your neck?)

Yeah. I don't know who just put that on me. And I tried to get me picture back, but I can't get it. My aunt had it. And somehow in my baby pictures, I had what you call bobbed hair? I had long hair. You could see that little button there. I don't know what they called that. I wore it all the time, until I got--oh, maybe when I started to school they took it off. And we kept it. We kept it till our cousin, Aurelia, she was a little girl. And my aunt, she wanted it, and she borrowed it. She wanted her little girl to wear it. So I don't know where it went from there.

(Well, what was it made of?)

Oh, that was some kind of a shell. I don't know what that is.

(What color was it?)

It's kind of a bone color and pink. You've seen a lot of those