

and a wreath of sage around their heads to which was attached a downy white eagle plume over the forehead. These wreaths consisted of several stems of sage bent around and tied with sinew. The wreaths were worn with the crossed ends of the sage just over the forehead. The wristlets and anklets were shorter lengths of sage stems bent around and tied in similar fashion.

The dance step consisted of bending the knees and raising the body straight up and down in time to the even, unaccented drum beat. The dancers stood side by side on the south, west, and north sides of the lodge, facing the center post, except for the Sunrise Dances and Closing Dance when they faced the sun. They kept their faces elevated, as if looking at the things tied in the fork of the center post. Their feet did not leave the ground as they bounced up and down. Their arms were held slightly away from the body and allowed to hang down, the hands loose at the wrists, and with the backs of the hands presented when viewed from the front. The eagle bone whistles were held in their mouths without support from the hands. As they danced, the men blew on their whistles, making short, even notes, coming close together on each stream of breath in time with the drum. Then a short pause as they sucked in another breath and then more short, even, high-pitched notes.

On Saturday and Sunday some of the dancers carried things in their hands while they danced. Most of the dancers had eagle wing fans which they carried during the first few songs of the dance. At times they extended these fans toward the center post and drew them back toward themselves with a waving, fluttering motion, as if drawing upon themselves some blessing or good thing from the center post. Some dancers held a black silk handkerchief which occasionally they raised and let flutter, in the manner of the eagle wings. One dancer held a horse tail (or buffalo tail) in his hand and used it the same way. The co-sponsors, Victor Rivera and Crawford White, took turns dancing with the Medicine Wheel, a sacred object consisting of a slender stick (or sticks) bent and tied in the form of a