

Apache John--that's the Whip. Of course most of this information came from old mans like Sam Klinkole (si.kole) and Taho and Apache Ben. There's few of those guys that they got this--what's his name-- Dr. Gilbert McAllister?--He wrote a book about this Blackfeet (referring to McAllister's description of the old Blackfoot Society). And there were four different dances. Three of these were abolished. They used to talk about it. This one here that we dance now--it's better. They all had names. They might be in the book--the other three names. This one here--Blackfeet--well, they use that kind of victorious, some way. Celebration--these young mans did. Go out with these staffs and use that for fights between the tribes. They really say that it's not ours. That was taken away, or, Apaches fought these Indians that owned the staffs. Somehow they got hold of it. I guess they was victorious. So that's the way it began. Just little what they tell--you catch it here and there. Next time he went out, well, he took the staff. Took it out and roam around until he met another Indian. So he got off his poney--whatever he was riding--and he stuck it in the ground. Ready for fight. So he tie himself to the staff and he tell the enemy to "Come on--I'm ready! So if you want your staff back you have to come get it. You have to get it from me first!" So that's some of the stories that's been told. So finally they got three more. So from that time on they organized different type of program for each name. This one what we dance--well, it's kind of a high honor--to these staff bearers. They're kinda respected leaders. They were leaders, with the Whip Man. But the Whip Man has authority over all of them. Every small detail that has to be done--well, these staff bearers and family look toward the