

Thursday, July 18, 2012

Marvin

44750 60th Street West
Lancaster, CA 93536-7619

American Indian Culture and Research Journal
American Indian Studies Center
University of California
3220 Campbell Hall
405 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1548

Dear American Indian Culture and Research Journal:

I am writing to you to request any information you might be able to provide to me regarding the contemporary cultural practices and traditions of gay California Native Americans. I have read two terms used for gay Indians; Berdache and Wintu. I have also carefully read Kroeber's work, and it seems traditional within California for gay California Indians to handle burial matters for tribal peoples, but I haven't been able to read or find information regarding family traditions, religious traditions, etc. For instance, are berdache/wintu allowed to participate in the sweat with the men, or do the wintu sweat separately? What sort of relationships does berdache/wintu enter into? I would appreciate any and all information you can provide or direct me to regarding these issues. Any books, journals, or even any of the California Native Americans I might be able to contact that would have information on these matters would be esteemed by me, and I would be very, very thankful.

I am including a self addressed, stamped envelope with this letter to facilitate any response you may have for me. Again, thank you very much for all your assistance and information in this matter.

Sincerely,



Marvin



copy

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES CENTER
3220 CAMPBELL HALL
BOX 951548
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1548
PHONE: (310) 825-7315
FAX: (310) 206-7060
aisc@ucla.edu
www.aisc.ucla.edu

October 25, 2012

44750 60th St. West
Lancaster, CA 93536-7619

Dear Marvin :

Thank you for your letter dated July 18th. I apologize for the delay in responding to your letter, but we have a very small staff, and your request stumped us a bit. I sent an email to a few faculty and scholars. According to Brian Joseph Gilley, a prominent scholar, "Walter Williams' *The Spirit and the Flesh*, and Will Roscoe's two books *Zuni Man-Woman* and *Changing Ones* have the best historical information." Unfortunately, our library here at the Center does not have extra copies of either book.

Gilley sent me a bibliography of his latest book, which I printed for you to peruse. I have also enclosed two articles printed from the Internet, but please note that our librarian could not find much else on the contemporary practices you asked about.

In future communications, it's always helpful if you let me know what the shipping requirements and restrictions are for your specific institution with respect to books.

I hope you find the enclosed materials useful. If I come across more material, I will send it along. Because UCLA mail is run through a meter, I have returned your self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Sincerely,

Pamela Grieman
Publications Manager

Enclosures

January 30, 2013

FROM: Marvin

44750 60th Street West
Lancaster, CA 93536-7619

TO : Pamela Grieman,
Publications Manager
UCLA American Indian Studies Center
3220 Campbell Hall
Box 951548
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1548

Dear Miss Grieman:

My warmest greetings to you! I apologize that I have taken so long to follow up with you. The materials that you sent me are absolutely marvelous. There was so much information, which directly addressed the very questions I had. You are a truly first rate librarian Miss Grieman. I had asked a friend to perform an Internet search, I had written to Heyday Book Publishers; all of which had returned no success. You were able to immediately obtain significant information for me! Again, I am truly thankful to you for such an excellent achievement.

I did not provide very many specifics regarding my request, but briefly — I have a very good friend here at my institution who is Digueño Mission Indian and he graciously extended an offer to me to participate in a sweat lodge ceremony. Because I am a gay man, I was hesitant to accept his invitation for fear of giving offense. All of the Native Americans who comprise the spiritual circle here had already agreed to my being a guest at the lodge, but to now know the history of gay California Indians allows me to approach the honor I have been offered with the proper frame of reference.

So thank you so very much for this invaluable research. I am very interested in William's *The Spirit and The Flesh*, and Roscoe's *Zuni Man-Woman*. Is it possible to request an interlibrary loan? I work in my Facility Law Library, and I have spoken to our institution's Senior Librarian, Miss Linda Rowe, and she is happy to facilitate a loan. If this is a possibility, please notify me, and I will ask Miss Rowe to call you directly. Thank you so very much for your consideration of, and your wonderful help with, all of these matters.

Sincerely,

Marvin

Marvin

February 11, 2013

Marvin

44750 60th St. West
Lancaster, CA 93536-7619

Dear Marvin :

Thank you for your letter dated January 30, 2013. We are so pleased that our previous shipment of materials was helpful to you. With regard to your request for an inter-library loan, we are unable to acquiesce to your request because we are not a lending library. However, we do have a few suggestions that may help you in your search for *The Spirit and The Flesh*, and *Zuni Man-Woman*.

First, www.bookfinder.com has a massive database of used books available at very discount prices. I have checked, and both of the books you are looking for are available.

Second, using www.worldcat.org, I have found the following libraries that serve your area. It is very likely that the Senior Librarian can request an inter-library loan from them.

Quartz Hill Library
42018 N. 50th St.
W.Quartz Hill, California 93536-3509
Voice: (661) 943-2454

Antelope Valley College Library
3041 West Avenue K
Lancaster, California 93536
Voice: (661) 722-6533 Fax: (661) 722-6456

I hope this information is helpful. If we come across more material, we will forward it to you. And again, feel free to contact us with book requests and we will do what we can to fulfill them.

Sincerely,

Martha Clayton
Publications Assistant