

COMPANIONING AND CIVILIZATION - THE HEALED FEMUR

*[Margaret] Mead said that
the first sign of civilization
in an ancient culture
was a femur (thighbone)
that has been broken
and then healed.*

*Meade explained that
in the animal kingdom,
if you break your leg, you die...
A broken femur that has healed
is evidence that someone
has taken time to stay
with the one who fell,
has bound up the wound,
has carried the person to safety
and has tended the
person through recovery.
Helping someone else
through difficulty is where
civilization starts.*

The Best Care Possible
-Ira Byock