

# Buracker & Boraker

## Family History Research Newsletters

Number 34

March 2006

### The Crawford Connection Update

Newsletter 33 was about the German ancestors in the Burricker/Boraker line. The Burricker women often married German men with surnames like PRINTZ, HARSHBARGER, PENCE, and KOONTZ. Besides German blood in that line, there was also much English blood.

The Burricker men often married English women. For example, Henry Boroker married Mary Ann BARTON. Daniel Boraker married Nancy JACKSON. And Charles T. Boraker married Ella May CRAWFORD, a very old English surname. The first CRAWFORD is said to have come to America in the early 1600s and arrived in Jamestown, Virginia.

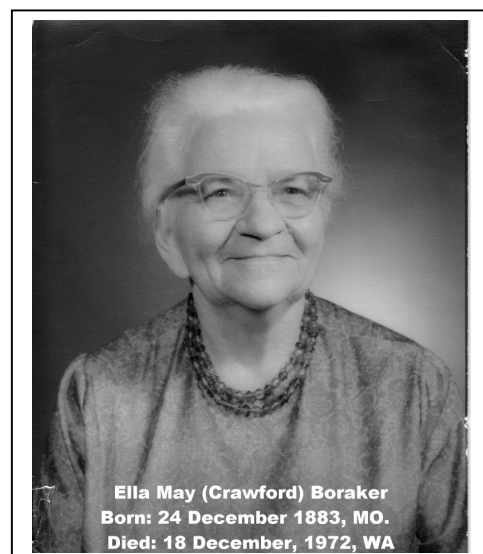
#### Is there also Cherokee blood?

Newsletter 23 was about Jonathan Houston CRAWFORD who was born around 1800 and lived in Bledsoe County, Tennessee. He married Sarah SMITH according to Crawford descendants. The Newsletter quoted Gail Niskern who said, "There is a legend of Indian blood in the family, believed to be in Sarah's line." Lynda Smith, who has done extensive research into the SMITH and CRAWFORD line, also mentioned the same family legend. Is there any evidence to support it?

Eldon Boraker told his children that his mother, Ella May (Crawford) Boraker,

had one eighth Indian blood in her veins. That means her great-grandmother, Sarah (Smith) CRAWFORD who married Jonathan H. Crawford, must have been a full-blooded Indian. The surname of Smith could be an adopted name since the families of Wyatt S. Smith and Jonathan H. Crawford were closely connected.

The first name or names of Jonathan's wife is a mystery. In some records it is "O. C. Sarah Smith" (according to Al Donica and Donald Richardson) and in the 1960 census for Bledsoe County, Tennessee she is listed as "Neoma Crawford" (but "Nioma" in the index). What do the initials "O.C." stand for and where did they come from? Was Sarah also called "Oma" as a shortened version of Neoma? Lynda Smith uses the combined name "Neoma (Oma?) C. Sarah SMITH" in her reports.



What was Neoma's or Sarah's Indian name? Could it have been "Osee" or "Osie"? Lynda Smith said, "When Neoma's son William J. Crawford married his second wife Mary LONG in Oklahoma, he stated on his marriage application that his parents were Johnathan Houston Crawford and O. C. Sarah Smith and that his mother was Cherokee Indian."

Ella May CRAWFORD lived on an Indian reservation as a child. The following article, slightly edited, was published by the Stagholt Nursing Home of Blaine, Washington in the early 1970s:

#### RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

Our resident of the month is Mrs. Ella May Boraker, daughter of Robert and Sarah Palmira Crawford born on December 24, 1883. As a child she lived with her father and mother on the Indian Reservation in Oklahoma....

The Indians used to visit with Ella's mother. One wash day they arrived and looked for their coffee. Mrs. Crawford, being very busy, told them that she didn't have any coffee. The next time they came, they brought their own coffee tied up in an old Indian shirt tail. This shirt tail was used for many things like a handkerchief should the need arise. So Mrs. Crawford served that coffee for her Indian friends.

The family moved to Aurora, Missouri where her father was a stone mason and in that place they reared seven children. At the age of nineteen, Ella May married Charles Boraker. Two children were born to them -- Jewell and Ruth Irene before they moved to Washington State where another daughter was born -- Hilda May. After a few years they returned to Oklahoma where her husband was a

caretaker for the Charles Page Orphanage in Sand Springs. There Ruth and Jewell attended school and a son was born -- Eldon. Later they returned to Washington where they settled on a 40-acre ranch on the Inhof Road and here two more daughters were born, Dorothy Fern and Mildred Bernice. In 1940 Ella and her husband returned to Aurora to visit her mother who was ill.

Ella May came to us at Stafholt in December 1971 and what a busy, little parson she is. She is a familiar sight in the ladies lounge with her needle work basket, as busy as a bee. Her daughter, Ruth Southland, is on the staff at Stafholt as a Licensed Practical Nurse and we are very happy to have them. *[Sent by Mildred Butterworth]*

## ARCHIVES

### 100 years

- Tiger Grocery Co. sold big packages of Golden Grain Granules for 25 cents.

### 75 years

- Charles Boraker of Ferndale was leaving town with his small truck loaded with feed when he saw the noon train coming and tried to stop, but his brakes failed. Before he could act, the train struck his truck and pushed it along the tracks. The two wheels on the opposite side were either broken off or bent underneath. It was surprising that his truck didn't turn over. The load of feed was what kept the truck upright, and other than a new wheel and bent axle, and a small dish in one side, the truck didn't fare too badly. Boraker didn't even get a scratch.

*Ferndale Record-Journal*, February 1, 2006.

Submitted by Charlotte Boraker

**Chart 17 (Rev 6)** *By Robert C. Bortick*  
**The Crawford Family Tree**  
 Jonathan H. CRAWFORD m Neoma (Oma?) C. Sarah SMITH  
 b. Abt 1800 TN | b. Abt 1794  
 Joseph BLACK m Nancy NICHOLS  
 b. 1803 MO | b. 1801 NC

