

Katherine: (How old were you when you got your ears pierced?)`

Nora: I must have been around six or seven years old when they pierced my ears.

STORY OF THE ORIGIN OF SMOKES BETWEEN OSAGES AND DELAWARES

My father told me the story about the origin of the smokes between the Delawares and the Osage people. Long ago there was an elderly lady and her name was Wahoney. The tribe referred to her as "Old Lady Wahoney," who had one son. He was looking for his mother's horses out in the Osage Hills. And he was killed there in the hills, presumably by the Osages. So, when they found his body, there were two arrows on top of it, the young man's body. So, the chief of the tribe at that time -- they wanted peace with all the neighboring tribes, so, they went over to the Osage country and negotiated with them. So, they decided to have smokes between the two tribes. One year we went to the Osage people and we smoked the pipe of peace with them and exchanged gifts and the following year they would come over here and do the same. We had big dinners, smoked the pipe of peace and exchanged gifts. This story was told to me by my late father as being the origin of the smokes. They held these smokes about once a year. And the last one, I was told was held up here north of Dewey.

Katherine: (Now did you ever go over there?)

Nora: No. These were all held before I was born.

Katherine: (I mean--did the Delawares go over?)

Nora: Yes. We all went over there to the Osage country. The whole band that was in this area at the time went over there to smoke the pipe of peace with the Osages, and exchanged gifts and all eat together. I remember one time my father told me he was a young man, since this all happened before I was born, my father went over with the rest of the Delawares to attend one of these smokes and he said that he was given a horse by some Osage man named Oluhomoi. And he became his great friend from that time on.

Katherine: When were they last held?

Nora: Well, my brother was just a small child. He must have been around seven. When was he born? It must have been in the late 80's.