



WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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**SAVE THE DATE!!**

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST :

> **ANNUAL MEETING  
PLANS**

>

## 2014 Annual Meeting

The WFA plans to hold its 2014 annual meeting and clan gathering in **Lexington, VA** right in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley along the wagon road which so many of our ancestors traveled to reach their homes farther south.

The reunion will be the weekend of **September 13 & 14, 2014**. It will include both the regular membership meeting, excursions to points of interest throughout the area, and participation in the annual reunion of the local Whiteside clan. Lots of fun and relationship building!

**Mark your calendars NOW and look for further details and info to be coming in future newsletters.**

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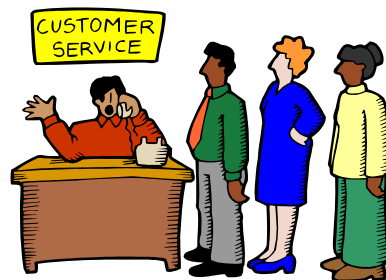
## WFA RESOURCES

The WFA is very blessed to have people within its membership who can provide other members with assistance in a number of areas.

Below is a list of these people and their various specialty areas. Please feel free to go to the WFA website and find the box which will let you connect with one of our mentors.

- How to do Research—Bill G. Whiteside, Sandi Trapp,
- Genealogy Software—Bob Whiteside
- DNA Project—Warren Whiteside
- Website Info—Bob Whiteside
- Don Whiteside's Charts—Elliott Whitesides
- General WFA Info—Bill G. Whiteside
- TNG—Dan Boucher

Make use of these mentors!



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

The WFA Board of Directors met in Cary, North Carolina at Barbara Olson's home on October 19, 2013. Among the items discussed and approved were an **Ethics Statement** concerning research information accepted for use on the website and a statement concerning the **Standards for Research** for items accepted for the website. Both of these documents can be seen and reviewed on the members portion of the website. Reports were received from all officers and project chairpersons.

Beginning plans were approved for the 2014 Annual General Meeting in Lexington, VA.

The next meeting of the BOD will be in Hagerstown, MD on April 16, 2014. All members are welcome to attend. Particular details of this meeting will be in future newsletters.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

At the recent BOD meeting there was quite a bit of discussion about the succession of positions and responsibilities, etc. This has caused some serious thought among some members that bears sharing for all to consider.

**FTDNA participants** should consider choosing a "beneficiary" for their DNA sample. This gives you the opportunity to choose someone to control your sample after your death. The Whiteside DNA project will not remove a participant's sample from the project. Those who are deceased have had that information noted in our records but their sample remains intact. All DNA participants are encouraged to consider their choices and make decisions for your own sample.

Likewise, all **researchers** are asked to consider what is going to happen to all their "stuff" when they are no longer able to control it. Either through poor health or death, all of us face the challenge of not being able to control all our belongings. Making decisions about these things while we are still capable and perhaps cleaning out the clutter we collect are very important steps to take. You are asked to give particular thought to all your research info. Do you have a younger family member who would welcome and cherish it and hopefully continue your work? Or do they have no interest at all? Those are tough questions, but they need to be addressed. Maybe someone in the WFA would like your research. It never hurts to ask! Good luck with these very difficult tasks.

**REMEMBER:** All Don Whiteside's documents are available on the members' part of the website and can be downloaded.

## WHAT IS THIS DNA TESTING ALL ABOUT?? WHY IS IT IMPORTANT??

**GENEALOGY** is simply the study of a person's family tree. **GENETIC GENEALOGY** uses DNA testing to determine the genetic relationship between people.

**Why use DNA for genealogy?** There are many reasons, but some of the most common are to learn about one's ancestry; to prove or disprove a relationship between two people; to find relatives for those who are adopted; to prove or disprove a theory about where people came from; to prove that one's family tree actually reflects one's ancestry.

**What is a DNA test?** It is a tool that genealogists use for answering all of the above questions and many more. There are two kinds of kits: one involves spitting into a test tube and the other swabs the inside of the cheek with a small brush and deposits that into a tube. Both are easy to use. They do not involve needles, blood, or urine.

**What is DNA?** In layman's terms it is the molecule that encodes the genetic instructions for building and operating all living things. Your DNA is in every cell that is you. The DNA found in all your cells is essentially your personal building and operating instructions given to you by your parents. But beyond that it is the encyclopedia of where you came from. It is the story of your ancestors told through the bits of DNA that they have passed down to you. It is this passing down process which makes DNA so important to genealogists. Your ancestors tell you about their pasts by the DNA which you still carry from them. This is how "dead people can talk."

The above information is taken from the "Beginners Guide to Genetic Genealogy" from Wheaton Surname Resources.

The **Whiteside DNA Project** is one of the most important activities of the WFA. If you are interested in participating, contact Warren Whiteside or William G. Whiteside for further information.

## COULD A BROWN REALLY BE A WHITESIDE??

This is a story related by a lady from Missouri whose family name is Brown. Through ancestry she connected with a distant cousin who was also related to her ancestor William Marley Brown. They each had close male family members take a DNA test which did not confirm their "Brown" name, but instead showed that they matched perfectly with the Whitsett/Whiteside family!

Could a Whiteside male have been taken in or adopted by a Brown family? Or could there be another answer? This is but one of many stories that DNA testing has produced through the years. Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction!



## WFA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The WFA needs volunteers to help with the following tasks:

- Member of the Board of Directors
- Administrator for a new WFA Twitter site
- Webmaster for our public web pages

Contact William G. Whiteside if you are willing to do any of these tasks.

## WOW! WFA Members Have It Made!

The Whiteside Genealogy program is an extension of the Whiteside Family Association website. Members of WFA have the best of both worlds. They can research their families in one area the Whiteside Family Association which stores thousands upon thousands of documents/ records and build their family history in the Genealogy area of the website .

In this website design there is an area for “Whiteside Members Only” to store their family history in a safe protected “vault”. Our Whiteside data based is a “Repository” open to all members to upload documents such birth certificates, census data, family tree data (Gedcom files), cemetery maps and headstone locations, notes, dates, anniversaries, source documents and much more . Its uniqueness is that it gives each member the opportunity to login and immediately view other members’ data all in one place. This is great way to quickly make family connections with other families.

The administrator oversees the functionality of the program, helps members with questions and answers (how to lessons) and registers “New Qualified Members” to the program by allocating passwords.

As “New Families” become members of Whiteside Family Association, they automatically become members of the Whiteside Genealogy program. All this for one annual fee, there is no better deal out

[www.whitesideancestry.org](http://www.whitesideancestry.org)

Use this website to support your research.

