



# WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

## 2014 WFA ANNUAL GATHERING

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- > **ANNUAL MEETING PLANS**
- > **Things to See & Do In Lexington**



We're going to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors this fall when we visit Lexington, VA for our 2014 annual clan gathering and meeting.

The dates are September 13 & 14, 2014. This beautiful town in the Virginia mountains is the home of the famous "Wagon Road" which many of our Whiteside ancestors fol-

lowed as they moved to their homes in the more southern parts of the US. Our excursions and program this weekend will center on this fascinating piece of our history. We have also been invited to join our Whiteside "cousins" in this part of Virginia for their annual reunion on Sunday afternoon September 14th. This will be a unique opportunity to rub elbows with our "kissin" cousins" and enjoy their Southern hospitality.

**Days Inn** at 2800 North Lee Highway, Lexington, VA.  
Telephone: 540-463-9134.

Will be our central gathering place and has a block of rooms reserved in the name of "**Whiteside Family Association.**" with a nightly rate of \$89 plus tax. Please call the hotel to make your personal reservations. The Saturday morning meeting will be held in the **Rockbridge County Library** in downtown Lexington. A smorgasbord of activities and excursions is planned for Saturday afternoon. Saturday evening will find the Whitesides family gathering in a local restaurant for the evening meal.

Look later in this newsletter for a list of ideas for "Things To Do In Lexington" and begin to make your family plans.

What a chance to get to know your family and enjoy scenic western Virginia!

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

The WFA Board of Directors held its spring meeting at the Hampton Inn in Hagerstown, MD, on April 17 & 18. At this meeting Jim Whiteside assumed the responsibilities of the membership chair as well as the US Treasurer. The directors discussed at length the challenge of establishing standards for research the WFA will accept. The officers heard that there were 19 electronic family trees containing 31,000 names, 5,000 Whitesides, 9,000 families, and 15,000 places in place on the website as of that time. GEDCOMS for inclusion in this project can be sent to Dan Boucher. This is a major future emphasis.

The board heard about many new projects and initiatives that the WFA is undertaking. It also heard that there is an ongoing need for persons to assume positions of responsibility. The next meeting of the BOD will be on Friday, September 12 in the Lexington County Library right before the Annual Gathering.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Whiteside Family Association sends condolences to two pillars of our organization. On April 12, 2014 Sherry, wife of senior historian Bill R. Whiteside, died. On April 24, 2014 Barbara, wife of webmaster Robert Whiteside, passed away. Bill and Bob, we are very sorry for your loss. We realize these losses mean a great adjustment. The Directors and active members send not only our heartfelt sympathies, but also an offer to help in any way we can.**

**REMEMBER!**

The WFA needs YOUR help. These volunteer positions need willing workers:

- Webmaster
- Board Member
- Data collector

Contact William G Whiteside if you are willing to help.

## IMPORTANT INFO FOR YDNA PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

As technology is continuously advancing, you will want to be a part of future analysis.

The ***My Account—Beneficiary Information*** page is where you may enter and update the information of your kit's beneficiary. This is the person who will be granted control of your myFTDNA account, your DNA test results, and any stored DNA sample in the event of your death. After they contact us, they will gain complete control of the kit and will be authorized to order additional tests with any DNA that may remain in stock.

- \* **Name**—This is the beneficiary's name
- \* **Phone**—This is the beneficiary's telephone number
- \* **E mail**—This is the beneficiary's email address.

To update this information, fill out the form and click the SAVE button. Once you have saved the information, a link to a PRINTABLE FORM will be available. Note that because the form uses the information on your ***My Account—Contact Information*** page, you should update that page before proceeding. If you would like a hard copy to include in your will or with other legal documents, click the PRINTABLE FORM link. Verify your information, print it, and have it notarized.

If you have questions, please contact the DNA Whiteside project administrators, Warren or Bill G Whiteside. [warrenwhiteside@verizon.net](mailto:warrenwhiteside@verizon.net), [whiteside@attglobal.net](mailto:whiteside@attglobal.net)

**Ever Wonder??????**

**Ever wondered how your DNA reflects your connections to your ancestors?** The chart below shows the percentages of DNA that you share from each generation

Relationship to You	Approximate % of Their DNA You Share
Parents	Exactly 50%
Grandparents	25%
Great grand-parents	12.5%
Great-great-grandparents	6.25%
Great-great-great-grandparents	3.125%
Great-great-great-great-grandparents	1.5625%

Dr. Michael Hammer recently stated "Our findings indicate that the last common Y chromosome ancestor may have lived long before the first anatomically modern humans appeared in Africa about 195,000 years ago. Furthermore, the sample which came from an African American man living in South Carolina, matched Y chromosome DNA of males from a very small area in western Cameroon, indicating that the lineage is extremely rare in Africa today, and its presence in the US is likely due to the Atlantic slave trade. This is a huge discovery in our field and shows the critical role consumer DNA testing is; this might not have been known otherwise."

**COUSIN "Bill R"**

We have quite a time in the Whiteside Family Association with members and ancestors named William. Our Senior Historian William R. Whiteside has earned the accolade of William R or just Bill R. He was one of the organization originals.

Most of us are interested in our own family of Whytsyd ancestors but Bill has taken the macro route. His research over more than 30 years includes data on any of the related families that he can find. Although few have seen it, I understand his files, folders, books, and papers are extensive and quite well organized. When a new member joins, one of the first things done, if the new member's family is not known, is to turn to Bill R and ask "Where do they belong?" It is seldom that he

cannot establish a family connection with one of our family numbers.

Bill has been a constant and by far, the best contributor to our website. As individuals and members gather their own family's data, they are not sure what to do with it. If they have not already worked with Bill R, we send them to him. He often turns their info into a report. This he either puts on the website or sends it along to be included in Family Genealogies.

Bill R loves to dig into special projects. There is a special menu in the website's "Member's Research for African-American Whitesides" with 33 articles which mostly came from Bill R.

He has contributed articles on Whitesides at Kings Mountain, NC; Native American Whitesides; and An Encounter with the Comanche in TX/AR in 1829. These can be found by country and topic in the Member's Research under USA on the website.

Bill R has become our "go-to" guy for research on anything to do with Whiteside. He is always ready to help anyone with their Whytsyd Family Genealogy.

Bill R likes things to be right or at least correct to the best of data available. In his own words he says "I am a critic and I hate errors." We started a project to meld our Family Numbers, but ended up with so much "assuming" that we have set it aside until more proof is available.

Bill lives in Illinois where he was a professor of special education at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. He is listed as William R. Whiteside, Professor Emeritus Graduate Faculty, BS, MS, Illinois State University; PhD Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Recently Bill's wife Sherry passed away.

In his quiet way Bill R does his own thing. Since the very beginning of the WFA he has contributed and he continues to contribute. He has been a major factor in the success of the WFA.

Many Thanks Bill!

**WHITESIDE FAMILY****ANOTHER NOTABLE COUSIN****GREGG WHITESIDE**

As one of New York's most popular radio personalities, Gregg delighted listeners as WQXR FM's chief announcer and on-air host of the morning drive-time show for over 20 years. His credentials are lengthy—he is the former national voice of live broadcasts of the New York Philharmonic and the commercial voice of The Metropolitan Opera, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He also was the former host of live intermission features for the Metropolitan Opera Radio Network. Gregg performed with F. Murray Abraham and George Plimpton in the Pierpont Morgan's 9/11 Memorial Tribute.

Currently Gregg is the voice of PBS' series *Keeping Score* with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony. He also produces and hosts the nationally syndicated music and information program *Making Music in Monaco*.

Gregg can currently be heard on WRTI on weekdays from 6 to 10 AM.

Another Whiteside "cousin" who is carrying our name to high places around the US! We are proud to have him in our family.

**WFA Membership & Treasury News**

At its recent meeting in Hagerstown, MD the WFA Board of Directors voted to consolidate the functions of treasury and membership. This made lots of sense since there is much overlap and involvement between both in the administration of our membership and finances. More importantly, our president, William Whiteside, has filled the roles of membership chair and president for several years. The board felt that membership was better placed with the treasurer. This also allows our president to focus on being president.

Bill is a great teacher and has worked hard to transfer membership over to me. That doesn't mean that the student is as gifted as the teacher, so I plead for some patience over the next few months. I should have all this down pat by fall when our memberships renew.

We realize that every fall you make your WFA renewal decision based on the value you have received from the WFA over the previous year. Each renewal cycle is a report card to the Board on its ability to meet your expectations of the WFA. Please keep us informed about your WFA expectations so we can work to reflect an organization that makes you excited to yell out "YES!" when it comes time to renew.

If you have any questions related to membership status or dues payments, please contact me.

Jim Whiteside

A 3400 Whiteside



**PLAN AHEAD FOR WFA SEPTEMBER IN LEXINGTON!!**

We hope lots of you are planning to join us in Lexington, VA, for the annual Clan Gathering and General Meeting of the WFA on September 13 & 14. Here are some ideas of interesting places to visit during your stay in the Shenandoah Valley. It's so beautiful!

Lexington sits at the intersection of I- 81 and I- 64 and Route 11 and Route 60  
Route 11 and/or I-81 are basically the route of the **"Wagon Road"**

Lexington:

- Carriage tour of Lexington, VA; or walking tour of Lexington
- Lee Chapel museum and grounds of Washington and Lee University
- Stonewall Jackson House
- Stonewall Jackson Statue in Stonewall Jackson Cemetery
- Virginia Military Institute grounds and museums; Cadet Drill on Friday afternoon
- Downtown Lexington shopping – small shops
- Two large antique malls 2 miles north of Lexington on Route 11
- Virginia Horse Center – 1 mile out of town on Rt. 11 West to Rt. 39 - Weekend shows

Buena Vista, VA – 6 miles east of Lexington on Rt. 60:

- Glen Maury Park – Golf course, magnificent vistas and photo ops
- Southern Virginia University

Timber Ridge, VA – 10 miles north of Lexington and five minutes from DAYS INN on Rt. 11:

- Old Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church – est. 1756 – where Moses and Thomas Whiteside worshipped
- Birthplace of Samuel Houston – marker and picnic table

Raphine, VA – 15 miles north of Lexington on Rt. 11:

- "Walnut Grove," Cyrus McCormick farm; inventor of the reaper; displays & picnic tables

Natural Bridge, VA – 12 miles south of Lexington on Rt. 11:(currently being turned into a state park)

- Natural Bridge (215 foot natural wonder in stone); walk under the bridge
- Natural Bridge Caverns and Wax Museum
- Natural Bridge Safari Park – auto tour – feed the animals, the giraffe is sure to lick you!

Staunton, VA – 30 miles north of Lexington on Rt. 11:

- Woodrow Wilson birthplace
- Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library
- Frontier Culture Museum of VA – Irish, German, etc. homes of the earlier settlers to the Shenandoah Valley

Charlottesville – 60 miles northeast of Lexington on I-81 to I-64:

- Monticello – home of Thomas Jefferson
- University of VA – grounds and Edgar Allen Poe's room

Bedford – 60 miles southeast of Lexington on routes 501 to 130 to 122:

- National D-Day Memorial (WWII memorial; the book "The Bedford Boys")
- Thomas Jefferson's oval home retreat called "Poplar Forest", undergoing renovation

**"When you're on Route 11, you're on the Wagon Road."**

Compiled by Ruby W. Leighton, Feb. 2014