



WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

WFA Activities

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- > **WFA Activities**
- > **WFA in the UK**
- > **Happy Grand**
- > **parents**
- >

INSIDE

General Meet	2
WFA in the UK	3
WFA in 2015	4
Website News	5
Stranger Than Fiction	6

The WFA Board of Directors often wonders about the question of “how relevant is our work?” If we are offering something interesting to “Those of Whiteside” then we are doing our job. Here is a quick snapshot of the various services we offer:

- **WFA WEBSITE**—The quantity and quality of the material and data we have here on everything Whiteside is unequalled. No other site can provide this type of quality data and expertise in one package. Our rate of human error is very low. We can’t be good at everything, but we certainly are the BEST WHITESIDE SITE on the internet.
<http://whitesideancestry.org/>
- Since 2007 364 family historians have used the Whiteside data base, and contributions by members to the Genealogies is ever increasing. These are gedcoms & narratives about individual families.
- **WHITESIDE FAMILY FACEBOOK**—has 255 Whitesides currently in the group. This tool for collecting dynamic personal family stories, pictures, grandchildren, etc. is always fun to read.
www.facebook.com/groups/351635528197341/
- **FTDNA WHITESIDE PROJECT**—has samples from 100 Whitesides, mostly yDNA but not an insignificant number of mtDNA and autosomal. There have been 55 upgrades of samples since last January. This is a new science where we are looking for the unknown and we are finding it. For example I have discovered a 3rd cousin in New Hampshire! There are stories much more exciting than mine to tell, but space here does not permit their telling. Discoveries are happening all the time. It is gratifying to see this program working so well.
- **WHITESIDE FAMILY GEDCOMS**—These are the electronic versions of family trees that can be entered into a common program called TNG. There is a link on the home pages of the WFA website. Our goal is to have all our tree charts quality checked and electronically available for analysis. We hope to discover where various families have common ancestors.

Judging by enthusiasm we see in the various WFA services, we believe we are relevant. Now, where do we go from here? You tell us!
William G. Whiteside

November 2014

SEPTEMBER IN THE WFA

Beautiful Lexington, Virginia was the destination of choice for September in the WFA. The Board of Directors meeting was held in the Rockbridge Regional Library Community Room on Friday, September 12 and the Annual Meeting of the membership was held in the same space on Saturday, September 13, 2014. Quite a number of Virginia Whitesides attended the meeting along with the Bastiens from Kentucky. These meetings were hosted by the local Whiteside families led by Ruby Leighton. These folks were excellent hosts!

At the Saturday meeting Nancy Torphy and Jim Whiteside were re-elected to the board of directors. Anne Whiteside Jackson was named as a new board member.

The group was told that 350 people are active participants in WFA activities with 140-170 of those doing active research; 240 participate on Facebook; 90 are in the DNA project; 70 are in the Brigantes project. The membership is 75% from the US, 10% from the UK & Canada, and 15% from Australia, Europe, and other areas.

The program for the day was screening of a video on the "Old Wagon Road." This pioneer path goes right through this area of Virginia and was the primary route used by our Whiteside ancestors as they moved from Pennsylvania to the more southerly areas looking for new homes.

The weekend continued with sightseeing and ancestry research in the Lexington area Saturday afternoon. The family gathered at Ruby Tuesday's on Saturday evening for a dutch dinner. Sunday the WFA members were guests of the local Whiteside family at their annual reunion. Wow! Such food! These folks really know how to entertain. Many thanks for their hospitality.

Thanks to Frances Bastien for sending this picture of the group present that day.



We hope we can include many more folks for the next meeting. We'd love to have you!

November 2014

Revolutionary War Soldier William Whiteside



William Whiteside, Patriarch and leader of the Whiteside family was born and raised on the frontiers of North Carolina. He was of Irish descent, warm hearted, impulsive, and patriotic. If you were his friend, you had his heart and he would shed his blood freely for his country or his friend.

William was a brave soldier and was in the Battle of King's Mountain. Later William Whiteside erected a fort on the road from Cahokia to Kaskaskia, which became known as Whiteside Station. Soon after his arrival in Illinois, he became a leader in the Indian War. He was captain of many parties that took signal vengeance on the savage foe for murders they committed on the women and children, as well as grown men.

William Whiteside was buried at Whiteside Station, south of Columbia, Illinois. History of family #9000.

WFA in the UK

The WFA in the UK is alive and well under the guardianship of David Whiteside of Lancashire. He and Malcolm R. Whiteside took advantage of an opportunity to appear at a Family History Exhibition at Kendal, England on August 30, 2014. They share the various services and activities of the WFA with the various groups present. Quite an exciting "first" for the UK WFA. Thanks to David & Malcolm.



WFA Table at the Family
History Exhibition in Kendal, England

Tower of London on October 22, 2014 with the blanket of enamel poppies each of which represented an English soldier who died in WWI. Many of our Whiteside ancestors were among this group.



November 2014

WFA in 2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The WFA Board of Directors will have their spring meeting in Hagerstown, Maryland on April 22, 2015 at the Hampton Inn on Interstate 81. These meetings are always open to all WFA members.

2015 ANNUAL MEETING AND CLAN GATHERING

Definite details will be available in the next newsletter, but these meetings will take place in Gastonia, NC in the fall. Look for further information soon!

Why Our Great Grandparents Were So Happy...

Have you ever wondered why our great grandparents all had such fond memories of their youth?

Well... I'm surprised they remembered anything at all!!!

Forget Tums & Tylenol.

A bottle of Bayer's 'Heroin'.

Between 1890 and 1910 heroin was sold as a non-addictive substitute for morphine. It was also used to treat children suffering with a strong cough.



Metcalf's Coca Wine was one of a huge variety of wines with cocaine on the market. Everybody used to say that it would make you happy and it would also work as a medicinal treatment

There are many more of these astounding remedies, but you get the idea.....

It's no wonder they were called, **"The Good Old Days"**.
From cradle to grave... everyone was **STONED!**

November 2014

WFA WEBSITE NEWS

Arlis Whiteside and Dan Boucher have volunteered to manage the technical end of our web site. Many thanks to them for stepping up to the plate on this very important task. They are currently comparing our Joomla platform to other platforms to determine the best way forward. Any change will not take place until after March 30, 2015 which is the end of the membership renewal period.

Many thanks must be extended to Chris Whiteside who has been the “behind the scenes” manager and doer of all things for our website for many years. We definitely could not and would not be where we are today without Chris. This newsletter editor sends her personal thanks your way. Many times there would not have been an edition, particularly after we moved to the digital format, without your support and help. Many, many thanks!!

We continue to seek a replacement for Robert Whiteside our faithful and diligent webmaster. He created and has maintained our website for years. He’s ready to retire. Would someone like to give him this opportunity? We hope so. Just contact Bill G Whiteside at whitesi@attglobal.net

Last edition we discussed the meaning of the term GEDCOM. It’s an electronic family tree file. For people working on these Dan Boucher sends the following advice. Don Whiteside’s charts remain the most accurate documents we have until proven otherwise. However, we know that they are not always easy to read and deal with. Here are some rules of thumb to guide your work:

- Start with the Master Index on the WFA website; here is typed info with names, dates, and places from the charts. Check the index against the chart for accuracy and use Don’s notes.
- Follow the charts input only when you can see and read it
- Don’t guess
- Need help—send an email to danb1455@rogers.com.

Did You Know?

According to an article recently published in the *Genealogy in Time* magazine family surnames can be very difficult for a genealogist to work with. Research into surnames can often yield unexpected surprises. Surnames in families change more frequently than most people realize. Two people who share a surname can have no biological relationship.

In Britain (the location of our Whiteside origins) surnames have been in existence for only about 700 years. This represents about 25 generations of males. What is the probability that two people having the same surname also share a common ancestor? It turns out that among British men there is only a 24% probability.

This is what the WFA is all about! Finding our common ancestor/s. Our DNA project and all our research have this goal.

November 2014

STRANGER THAN FICTION

DNA evidence can sometimes provide strange and interesting results. The following is the story provided by Richard Soard who suddenly found himself to be a Whiteside! The DNA results prove that Philip Sword, Sr. is not my ggg/gf. I had suspected that the real parents of my gg/gf Henry Sword were Thomas Whiteside, jr 1783-1851 and Philip Sword's daughter Polly Ann Sword. There were several strong clues to support this speculation:

- In the 1810 census the family of William Whiteside and his brother Thomas were living 5 houses away from Philip Sword.
- Thomas Whiteside had a history of fathering children out of wedlock.....at least 13 are documented. He financially supported all of his OOW children, but never married any of his mistresses.
- Henry Sword/Soard, mm gg/gf settled in neighboring Claiborne Co TN about 1835 and he is said to have purchased a farm 2 years later. The purchaser of that land in 1837 was Polly Ann Soard. This is the only time her name appears in Claiborne Co. records. Since Thomas supported all his OOW children, it is thought that he provided the money for Polly Ann to buy the land for their son Henry.
- Henry Sword had 3 wives while residing in Claiborne Co. He also had close family ties in nearby Grainger Co.
- Henry named his first daughter Polly Ann.

Richard Soard writes that his search for family is just getting started since he knows for sure that he is a Whiteside, not a Sword despite his name. The Whiteside DNA project does not include anyone who is a descendant of Thomas Whiteside. That's his next project—find that elusive person.

Members are having discoveries all the time. The DNA project is working well.

Kathe Houk, volunteer manager of the mtDNA program has had to give up her responsibilities because of some health issues. Anyone who would be interesting in assuming this task, please contact Bill G Whiteside at whiteside@attglobal.net.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you wish to stop receiving a WFA newsletter either by postal mail or
By Email notification, please contact the following:

Barbara Olson bholson@earthlink.net
215 Howland Ave., Cary, NC 27513 USA