



June 2015

## WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

### 2015 in the WFA

The WFA Board of Directors held its spring meeting on April 22 at the Hampton Inn in Hagerstown, MD. The group always welcomes attendance of members. Diane Micale joined us for part of this meeting. Business items on the agenda included the following:

- ◆ Reports from all officers, activities and groups
- ◆ Discussion of the WFA numbering system for families; creation of new numbers; final numbering decision rests with senior historian
- ◆ Report of DNA projects
- ◆ Historical and research activity
- ◆ Plans for 2015-2016 General Membership meeting
- ◆ Participation in Tech Soup
- ◆ Next meeting will be on October 13, 2015 in Chester County, PA.

### 2016 in the WFA

All WFA members are encouraged to watch for details of exciting activities that are being planned for a **Spring 2016 General Membership Meeting in Chester County, PA.**

This area in Eastern Pennsylvania was a “first stop” for many of our ancestors when they arrived in this country. From here they moved to all parts of the South, Midwest, and even Far West. We will explore our Whiteside history and visit sites of historical interest.



One of the Whiteside Family Association purposes is to connect people all over the world who bear the name Whiteside or any of its derivatives. We are not all alike, but we are all connected!

#### > ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Cemetery  
Adventure 2

Page 3  
Ancestry News  
DID YOU KNOW

Facts of  
Marriage 4

#### INSIDE

Cemetery 2

Ancestry 3

Did You 3

Marriage 4

Interesting 4

## FIND A GRAVE



On my way to the WFA Board Meeting in April, I took a detour to Cincinnati to check on some graves in the very old Wesleyan/Spring Grove Cemetery. It really is a jewel, but is very old (1842 or so) and vandals have done some damage. The cemetery is now in the hands of the City of Cincinnati and is well worth a visit. I had found two of the graves I wanted on the Find a Grave website.

My great-great-great grandfather, Samuel Hayes Whiteside (Jan. 16, 1780 – Oct. 20, 1851) is buried here along with his daughter, Amanda Melvina Whiteside Silsby. Sadly, there is only a pile of rubble where Samuel's grave is probably located, but his daughter's grave is in excellent shape and is easy to read.

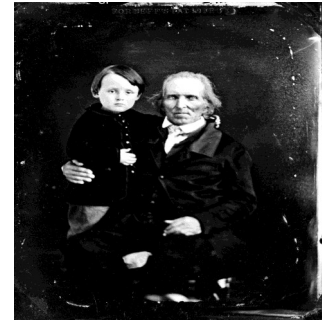
A bit more about Amanda who died sadly on July 13, 1845 following the birth of her son. Amandus died from wounds sustained at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, GA in the Civil War.

Samuel and his wife, Anna Stewart Whiteside, had four sons as well as their daughter. A stone was next to Amanda's and luckily I was able to identify the names Milton (died Sept. 20, 1836) and Washington (July 25, 1840). The stone was very eroded and had probably been erected in tribute to them as the dates were later than their death dates. The writing was extremely difficult to read, but by taking some pictures with a good I-Phone camera and playing around with the contrast, I was able to read the names. It helped to have the names and dates in my family papers. It is just a lot easier to read something when you know what you are looking for. I wonder if the name of the son LaFayette might have also been on the stone, but that was impossible to tell.

So as not to forget the fourth son, that is Addison Hayes Whiteside, my great-great grandfather, who moved on with his family and his mother, Anna, to Onarga, Iroquois County, Illinois.

Having had such luck at the cemetery, I used what I call my "leap of faith" skills and have been able to identify the people on a daguerreotype found in a box of family stuff at my great-grandmother's house. There were several daguerreotypes which had been taken in Cincinnati. Samuel Hayes Whiteside died there in 1851. One of the photographs is of an old man is with a boy who looks to be about 4 or 5. The man must be Samuel and this boy must be Samuel's grandson, Amandus. He would have been about that age around the time of Samuel's death. Since I have no other information, I think that this is my story and I am "sticking to it."

Nancy Torphy



## NOTICE

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

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## WHITESIDE FAMILY



Reuters recently reported that Ancestry is considering a sale that could be valued somewhere in the area of \$2.5-3 billion dollars. No one knows what this might mean for paying customers, users of Ancestry Library Edition and corporate partners. Ancestry currently boasts that it conveys 15 billion genealogy records to over 2 million subscribers. It intends to continue to acquire records at an aggressive pace.

People who have their master family trees on Ancestry are encouraged to download and backup their data. Download your current trees (GEDCOM files) onto your own computer. Make sure that you have copies of documents, videos, photos, and other items that may be attached to your tree. Make sure all of your source notes are intact.

If you have used Ancestry DNA, download a copy of your raw DNA data. Particularly is this true if you have relatives who are deceased. These expensive tests can't be re-rerun! Ancestry has been known to dispose of DNA samples in the past. Don't be caught unawares!

Anyone in the Whiteside family can turn to the WFA for help with storage of their family trees. Dan Boucher manages this area of our data. Please send an updated gedcom of your family tree to him at [danboucher7@gmail.com](mailto:danboucher7@gmail.com). He can give you help if you have problems.

# Did you Know?

- That the WFA has 44 Lifetime Members and 73 annual members in 2015?
- That 91 live in the USA, 14 in Canada, 9 in the UK, and 3 in Australia?
- That there are 99 participants in the FTDNA project and 17 in the mtDNA?
- That the Whiteside Google group has 99 members
- That the WFA Facebook group has 276 friends as of April 2015?
- That in March 2015 we have 24 family gedcoms representing over 60,000 people including spousal families; 6000 of these are Whiteside?
- That the WFA family history (core) group has 369 active and past members as of April 2015?
- That each WFA newsletter is sent by email to 376 members both past and present?
- That the organization has an overall responsibility for 744 people including all the groups?
- That the WFA website is visited monthly by a steady 532 persons who look at 1615 pages?

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



## **INTERESTING MARRIAGE FACTS**

If you have been puzzled by strange situations and circumstances regarding marriages in your English genealogy research, here are some facts that may help you.....

Until the middle of the 18th century marriages could take place anywhere provided they were conducted by an ordained clergyman of the Church of England. This encouraged secret marriages which did not have parental consent and which were often bigamous.

### **Irregular Marriages**

These allowed particularly wealthy couples to marry while at least one of the persons was under age. This was very common in London by 1740. In 1753 the Marriage Act declared that all marriage ceremonies must be conducted by a minister in a parish of the Church of England to be binding.

### **Parental Consent**

No person under 21 could marry without the consent of parents or guardians. Any clergy who disobeyed the law were liable for 14 years in jail. The 1753 Marriage Act required religious non-conformists and Catholics to be married in Anglican churches.

### **Restrictions Removed**

This restriction was finally removed by the Marriage Act of 1836 which allowed non-conformists and Catholics to be married in their own places of worship. It also made possible non-religious civil ceremonies to be held in register offices which were set up in towns and cities.

### **Minimum Age**

In 1929 the minimum age limit was lowered to 16 for both sexes. This is still the minimum age today.

### **Civil Partnerships**

In 2004 Parliament passed the Civil Partnership Act which gave same-sex couples the same legal rights and responsibilities as married heterosexual couples. It also set out formal procedures for the dissolution

## **AN INTERESTING WHITESIDE**

Forbes J Whiteside, a retired arts professor from Oberlin College in Ohio passed away on February 27, 2015. In the very full 96 years of his life he had become recognized as an expert in the areas of art appreciation and color perception. He had a long and distinguished teaching career, first in Minneapolis and then at Oberlin where he was the Art Department head for many years. He was very open to the use of new technologies in art and he collaborated with many colleagues long before the development of Laser-light displays.

Forbes has many paintings in the collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Cleveland Art Museum, and the Allen Art Museum at Oberlin.

In accordance with his wishes, his body was donated to the Albany Medical College for research. His remains will be cremated.

Forbes Whiteside joins the long list of interesting and influential members of the Whiteside Clan who are no longer with us. Our sympathies are extended to his family.