



February 2016

WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION



DIGITAL MEETING—PART II

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At its fall meeting in Hagerstown, MD last October the WFA Board of Directors made the decision that the general membership meeting would be done digitally. The primary order of business was the election of a new slate of four directors. Three of those slots could be filled by persons currently on the board who were willing to return: William G Whiteside, Barbara Olson, and David Whiteside. One seat was declared vacant. These board of director positions are for two years.

Original plans were for this digital election to happen in November, but as sometimes happens, those arrangements got sidetracked. Therefore, the election is currently in active mode. A [notice of an election](#) was sent to all members on February 5 naming the candidates and seeking a fourth person to fill the vacancy. According to the constitution an [actual ballot](#) will be sent out in 30 days—March 6, 2016. Hard copies of this notification will be sent to all active members without email.

[Be watching your inbox for both of these notifications.](#) Return your completed ballot as soon as possible! Also, PLEASE consider running for the vacant board position. The work is interesting and the board is a fun group of people. If you have questions about the responsibilities, contact Bill W. Whiteside at whitesi@attglobal.net.

The next scheduled board of directors meeting is in Hagerstown, MD on April 20, 2016.

In Memoriam

Joseph Samuel Whiteside

Thurman Whiteside

PUTTING YOUR FAMILY TREE ON LINE

For many family historians the “gateway” genealogical sites of Ancestry.com and Family Search are destinations for family trees and stories. At these sites you can share your research with others and conversely others can help you fill the holes in your tree. These sites give you the benefit of large internet traffic and also the reasonable assurance that the sites will be around for a long time.

The FamilySearch Family Tree <https://familysearch.org/> is free but requires setting up an account. There is good support with a newsletter and blog updates. It is Wiki based, so all entries can be edited.

<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/www.ancestry.com/> is where public trees can be built and viewed without a membership. Ancestry WorldConnect Project <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> is an early free online tree project begun by Rootsweb Free to contribute and search. Owned by Ancestry. It has been the most productive over the years for making contact.

For descendants of British ancestors who stayed at home, <http://genesreunited.co.uk/> is a good place to put your family data. There is a small fee to upload or build your tree. First names and surnames are searchable by others.

For focused and a very concentrated “one name” site our own <http://whitesideancestry.org/> offers quite a lot about Whiteside and ongoing Whiteside research. We encourage everyone to share and to collaborate to solve Whiteside family history problems. **The Next Generation (TNG) of Genealogy Site building is available to all WFA members free of charge.**

Putting your tree online at various sites for sharing and gaining new family connections should definitely be considered. The wider the exposure the greater the chance to collaborate and benefit from others research.

In Memoriam

Joseph Samuel Whiteside

1931—2015

The WFA founders included two very important “Joes” - Joe Kingsberry and Joe S. among its number. Last November 27 we lost Joe Samuel. Joe S was an ex-Marine and a lifelong Mason. He did good things for others and would often ask “How can I help?” He was an ardent supporter of the WFA and took on the task of treasurer for multiple terms although I doubted he really wanted the job. His mind and heart made no allowances for leaving when needed.

I have a picture of the “two Joes” taken in Londonderry back in 2007 when the WFA traveled to North Ireland. On that trip many newly found cousins made memories together.

Sometimes today I have to stop myself when I go to pick up the phone to call him. It’s very hard for me to realize he is gone. I had anticipated being the first to go, but such is not the reality. My memory of his doing good things and unquestionable loyalty will never die. Good bye cousin; I will miss our telephone conversations.

Warren Whiteside

DID YOU KNOW??

That the WFA in the UK is very alive and is busy.

- Our UK director David Whiteside has advertised the WFA on the Facebook page of the Norfolk County Historical Society using an informational PDF.
- He has also placed the same advertisement in the "Family Tree" magazine which is widely circulated throughout the country.
- David is also going through the Whiteside documentation that was left by Barbara J Whiteside, one of our original founders, who passed away. He is converting this to pdf format. Look for it on the pages of the WFA website soon.

If you live in the UK contact David for help with your research or to participate in the various activities of the WFA "across the pond." You are very important to us!

That WFA Dues are Due!!

Annual WFA members are the only folks who get to celebrate two New Years each January. You share the traditional worldwide celebration, but you can also celebrate the opportunity to renew your WFA membership! There are two ways to do this. Use your PayPal account or pay by check.

- USA folks send **US \$10.00** to James Whiteside, 106 Anne Hutto Rd., Anderson, SC 29625
- UK folks send **6.50** to Christina Whiteside, 39 Osborne Rd., Stock on Tees, TS18 4DJ, England
- Canadians please **CA \$10.00** to William G. Whiteside, 128 Ridley Blvd, Toronto, Ontario, M5M 3L9

DNA Information—How Is It Used?

Are you aware that when you purchase a DNA kit for genealogy testing through either Ancestry or 23andMe that you are literally giving these companies carte blanche to your DNA and the rights to your DNA information. This info can be sold to large pharmaceutical companies for medical testing and there is absolutely no opt-out. They can basically do whatever they want with your anonymized data.

Both companies have a higher level of participation at which you can choose to opt out of or participate in. This level gives them permission to sell or use your non-anonymized data, which means that your identity is attached to the information. If you do opt out, they can still use your anonymized data which means that identifying data has been removed.

Many people think that if you opt-out, your data is never shared or sold, but that is not true. Some people are fine with this, others are not. Many people don't understand the situation. If you are involved and you care, perhaps you should do some research. Investigate both companies and get clear instructions on your rights and the steps you should take to remove your DNA from their possession.

If you have questions about your personal situation, you may contact the Whiteside Family Association DNA group leaders for help. They are Warren Whiteside, warrenwhiteside@verizon.net and William G. Whiteside, whitesi@attglobal.net.

Our genealogy options are so varied and exciting. Be an educated genealogist!

Our roots are in England and we have many British cousins. Maybe we would understand ourselves better if we understood our family across the pond. Below are some classified ads which were actually placed in U.K. newspapers. I think you would agree that

BRITISH HUMOR IS DIFFERENT

FREE PUPPIES

1/2 cocker spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog

JOINING NUDIST COLONY!

Must sell washer and dryer!

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes.

Excellent condition, best offer. No longer needed,

Got married, wife knows everything.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE

Worn once by mistake

Call Stephanie

REMEMBER

Watch for the email or "snail mail" bringing you the ballot for the WFA Election for Board of Directors.

These should be sent March 6.

Return your ballot as soon as possible!

Have questions about WFA projects and activities? Want to know who to ask??
Go to the WFA website front page and scroll down. Everything you ever wanted to know is right there!

