



February 2017

WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

SPRING BOARD MEETING

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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The WFA Board of Directors will hold its 2017 Spring Meeting in Cary, NC at the home of Barbara & Carl Olson. The meeting is scheduled for April 19 & 20. A block of rooms has been reserved at the local Hampton Inn for members.

All WFA members are welcome to attend any board meeting. If you would like to attend and need further information about accommodations, contact Barbara Olson at bholson@earthlink.net. The block of rooms will close in mid-March, so contact her soon.

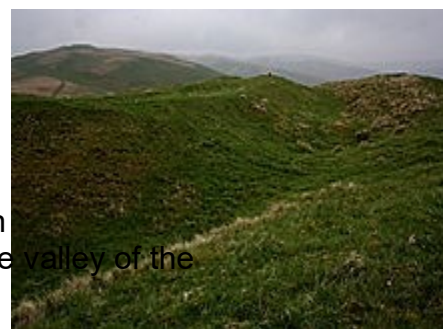
Come to find out about the work of your organization.

Whiteside Hill

On this hill in the Borders region of Southern Scotland with its tremendous views along the valley of the Lyne Water long ago there stood a fort. Through the years this fortress underwent several stages of construction and expansion. The final phase of its life probably belonging in the early Roman period saw great reduction in its size. This was just prior to the siting of the first Roman fort in the area at Easter Haprew.

Contrary to earlier thinking, the people met by the Romans were not woad-painted savages, but probably farmers, living on rich grazing lands with fields, pathways, and fixed settlements.

Could these ancient folk have been among our Whiteside ancestors? Very probably yes! What a history we do have!



PLUSSES & MINUSES OF TREE CHARTS

Prepared by Don Whiteside



The Tree Charts prepared by Dr. Don Whiteside are a huge source of information.

There are about 1600 hand-written chart pages of Whiteside and related surnames. Don must have spent much of his time preparing these charts, for hundreds of Whytsyd families.

A huge plus is that all WFA members have access to all Don's Tree Charts. All these pages have been digitized and are available on the WFA web site. However, a big minus is that the data on these image-digitized charts cannot be machine searched, since the text has not been extracted. You must display and read a page to extract information from it.

Another plus is that the WFA is in the process of creating Chart Index encoded text files, which can be machine searched. These Indexes contain most of the information that can be read on the Charts (but not all the information!)

The Tree Charts for all the countries (and counties) outside of the USA have been indexed. However, a large minus is that not all USA states have been indexed as of December, 2016. (Volunteers are needed to index the remaining large states!)

I have recently improved the WFA web site to make access to the Tree Charts and Chart Indexes clearer and easier. I have also published on the site two user procedures, one describing the contents of the Chart Indexes, and one about how to use Chart Indexes. To use a Chart Index, detailed step-by-step procedures are provided to:

1. Download a Chart Index file
2. Search a Chart Index, for any known complete or partial name, date, place, or Whiteside family number
3. View an Original Chart page

These Tree Charts and Chart Indexes are a good place to begin or add to your genealogy research. But remember these charts are as received from Don Whiteside, and have not been checked, corrected, or edited. The information contained was mostly collected between 1950 and 1990.

Tree Chart Corrections and Additions

An important question is: How should we record corrections and additions to Don Whiteside's Tree Charts? The WFA has concluded that changing these Tree Charts is not practical, and risks accidentally losing useful information.

Probably the best way to record Chart corrections and additions is to prepare a new family genealogy, and this has been done for many Whytsyd families. The new family genealogy document can be posted on the WFA website under Members Research, Family Genealogies, and/or this genealogy can be added to the TNG part of the website. (Anyone using the Tree Charts should look in both these places for more data on their family of interest.)

Ideally, a new family genealogy would include an entire numbered Whiteside family, but it could include only an identified branch. Preparing a new genealogy can be done by a family member or any interested person. Most people use some genealogy software to capture their data and to prepare useful documents. (I use Ancestry.com and Family Tree Maker, but there are several other good alternatives.)

Arliss Whiteside 4600



Stay in Touch!

How many times have we **heard** this or said this to someone? Or like one of my mom's favorite quips "Call me if you don't need me!"

Please remember the WFA whenever you change any of your contact information, such as mailing address and especially email address. These are the only ways we have of contacting you and sharing information about what is going on in the WFA. If you have received this newsletter by email, then we have your correct email address. However if you received it through the postal service or you just happen to be visiting the WFA web site and saw this newsletter was available, then we most likely do not have your active email address.

So please take a few moments to double check your contact profile on the WFA site. Its really simple. Just go to the site www.whitesideancestry.org and log in. On the member's page, look for the third box down on the left side of the page titled "User Menu". Within that box, click on the words "My Profile". This gives you access to all of your contact information we have. Please take a few minutes to review and update as necessary.

That way we can Stay in Touch!!
Jim Whiteside, Membership

Take the drama Out of Your Life!



Its getting down to the wire for all our Annual Memberships. March 31 is the WFA membership renewal deadline for 2017. So please renew your annual membership now and live life a bit easier!

You can renew right from the website. Just log into the site, www.whitesideancestry.org. Then look for the "MEMBERSHIP" tab in the line of tabs across the top of the page. Click on "Renew" and the instructions will come up.

We will be sending out a reminder in late March to those who have not renewed, but why wait till then.

Jim Whiteside, Membership



Working both ends of the DNA poles

As is often the case, things have a way of naturally evolving.

Back in the Spring of 2001, I certainly had no clue that 16 years later that I'd be digging so far back and deeply into the very origins of our tribe. Nor did I foresee that my cousin Bill G. would be heavily working with the very same recombinant (autosomal) DNA material to ferret out more contemporary lineages. (Family Finder) Such is due to the ongoing and relentless march of a field we know as population genetics. The quest to know who we are and where our people originated marches on unabated at an accelerated pace. All this tied to an enormous quantity of material collected over the many generations by many including our Dr. Don Whiteside makes for some very exciting stuff that comes from what some see as a dry and dusty field of interest. As a cousin once remarked an activity of "irritating the living whilst disturbing the dead".

Once DNA is mentioned it seems that many turn their mental switches to the off position. Easy to understand why. It is a very unfamiliar subject to many and involves a number of unfamiliar terms. Almost akin to learning another language and of some expense. Following records is a much less painful exercise and can yield very exciting things. Both research ways have their pros and cons just as many other activities.

This said, the history of the WFA, Inc; is built upon what happened with yDNA way back in 2003. So searching through DNA (and generous giving by many new found cousins) has certainly yielded some unintentional results including the formation and incorporation of the WFA in 2004. As for me, I just hope that all forms of family research will continue. I further hope those of our shared family groups will feel the sense of satisfaction, discovery and pride I have come to know over these past years.

Semper unas familia, Warren

PS If there is anyone interested in getting involved, please contact William G. Whiteside.

DID YOU KNOW?????

It seems that the Philadelphia Whiteside sisters were special favorites of GEORGE WASHINGTON. They met socially and at services at Christ Church, Philadelphia. It may well be that their financial support helped to win the Revolutionary War. The Washington and Whiteside mansions were located very close to each other in Philadelphia in those days.

Who would have thought???.....

Our ancestors were of great influence in directing the history of this country!!

The Untold Story of the Philanderer Thomas Whiteside Jr. 1783 PA—1851 TN

I have already told the story of my 3rd great grandfather, Thomas Whiteside, Jr., widely known for fathering 13 children out of wedlock With two mistresses simultaneously from 1824—1849 in Grainger Co. TN. Before that it is believed he fathered a son in an out of wedlock relationship with Polly Ann Sword, the daughter of his neighbor Philip Sword. That son is my 2nd great grandfather, Henry Sword/ Soard born around 1810.



In his will, Thomas generously provided for those of his 13 children who were living in 1851, all of whom were given the Whiteside surname. It is also believed he is the one who provided the money for Polly Ann Sword to purchase their son Henry Sword/Soard's homestead in neighboring Claiborne County in 1837. So was Thomas really a philanderer or a caring father who was so committed to the success of his Bean Station Tavern and Inn that he wouldn't commit to marriage?

The 1851 codicil to his will may reveal the truth about the real character of Thomas Whiteside Jr. He bequeathed 1-1/2 acres and not less than \$2,000 to build a church and burying ground and \$300 to oversee its construction. Here is an excerpt from the codicil:

"The part of said lot appropriated for a burying place shall be held by said trustees to be used for that purpose by all who may wish to inter their dead there. I direct that said trustees hold said lot and the church when erected for the use and benefit of the new School Presbyterian Church to be open to and used by them as a house of worship at all times when they may choose to occupy it for that purpose, but on suitable and proper occasions when not used by said Presbyterians I wish it to be open to the free use of any other Christian denomination who may choose to assemble and worship their God there, as it is my strong desire that all the branches of the Christian church should be prosperous and happy. In order that said trustees may have the benefit of this donation I require of them that they cause a church to be built of brick on said lot at least forty feet wide by sixty feet long, plastered and comfortably provided with seats and a gallery which when completed shall not cost less than two thousand dollars judiciously expended. I also require that they enclose said lot with a good plank or post and railing fence and run such a fence on either side of the alley to the road, with a good gate at the road which fences shall always be kept in repair so as to exclude stock from said enclosure and not interfere with the adjacent lands."..... "It is my wish and direction that the aforesaid church be used alone for the worship of Almighty God and never at any time to be used or applied to any other purpose whatsoever".

DNA analysis identified me genetically as a Whiteside. As I redirected by research from Sword/Soard to Whiteside and learned of Jenkin, William & Thomas Jr. all in 1810 Grainger County, the story began to unfold about Thomas Jr. and his behavior that today might be described as a philanderer. As a genealogist I am interested in the truth, not making judgements. For whatever one might think about Thomas Whiteside Jr, all his children and mistresses, the codicil to his will reveals what was in his heart. Something for which I am very proud.....proud to be a Whiteside and a 3rd great grandson of Thomas.

Richard Soard

The WFA Board of Directors is happy to announce that Anne Whiteside Jackson has agreed to serve another term as a member of the board. We welcome her and her knowledge of genealogy research.

ATTENTION ALL DNA PARTICIPANTS!

Great news!

Family Tree DNA now accepts autosomal file transfers for all Ancestry tests (meaning both V1 and V2) along with 23andMe V3 and V4 files.

Before today, Family Tree DNA had only accepted Ancestry V1 and 23andMe V3 transfers, the files before Ancestry and 23andMe changed to proprietary chips. As of today, Family Tree DNA accepts all Ancestry files and all contemporary 23andMe files (since November 2013).

You'll need to [download your autosomal raw data file](#) from either Ancestry or 23andMe, then upload it to Family Tree DNA. You'll be able to do the actual transfer for free, and see your 20 top matches – but to utilize and access the [rest of the tools](#) including the chromosome browser, ethnicity estimates and the balance of your matches, you'll need to pay the \$19 unlock fee.

Previously, the unlock fee was \$39, so this too is a great value. The cost of purchasing the autosomal Family Finder test at Family Tree DNA is \$79, so the \$19 unlock fee represents a substantial savings of \$60 if you've already tested elsewhere.

To get started, [click here](#) and you'll see the following "autosomal transfer" menu option in the upper left hand corner of the Family Tree DNA page:

the process is now drag and drop, and includes instructions for how to download your files from both 23andMe and Ancestry.

What will you discover today? I hope you didn't have anything else planned. Have fun!!!

William Garrison Whiteside II

December 1912—November 2016

Calgary, Canada

Father of WFA President, William G Whiteside