

WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

November 2022



WFA BOARD UPDATES

The WFA Board of Directors had two virtual meetings during 2021-2022 and one in-person meeting in April 2022.

In April 2022 the Board met in Gastonia to experience a Cemetery Crawl which will be discussed in another article. They held an informal meeting with Jerry Samouce to see and discuss the Whiteside tartan which he had designed.

On May 9, 2022 the board had an official meeting via zoom. The group heard regular reports and discussed financial and membership reports. The board voted to accept Jerry Samouce's offer to accept the ownership of the tartan.. No decision was made concerning a Clan Whiteside since the WFA's primary focus is genealogy.

Tentative plans were made for an in-person meeting in the fall of 2022 in Hagerstown, MD. Due to lack of persons able to attend in person and the inflated cost of meeting facilities, the board had an October 2022 meeting via zoom instead..

The fall meeting was held on October 18 with a quorum of board members present. Regular reports and info on various group activities were presented. The death of the WFA Historian Bill R. Whiteside was noted. He was but another of the original founders to pass away.

Plans were discussed to try again for an in-person meeting in Hagerstown in the spring of 2023. More info will follow.,

1. Board Updates
2. President's Report
3. Cemetery Crawl
4. Family Legend
4. DNA News



IN MEMORIAM

Recently the WFA's retired Senior Historian Bill R. Whiteside, passed away, a very sad moment for us all. "Bill R", as he was affectionately known, was a significant contributor of Whiteside family research posted on our website. He meticulously analyzed the work of Don Whiteside (the WFA standard) to confirm it's accuracy and to add more information as it became available. Bill R's entire house was a library of 3 ring binders organized by family number which contained hard copy notes of all the major families that are known. As Bill R's health became a challenge he was no longer able to keep his research library and had to dispose of it by recycling, but he maintained digital copies that he continued to reference. After Bill R's passing we were contacted by his son offering his digital library to the WFA. We are thrilled to accept it and are discussing the very best way to preserve and make available his treasure of Whiteside research. We will inform the membership of our plans when formalized.

Richard Soard

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Think 2022 was a good year for the WFA. Bouncing back from Covid.

Membership numbers have increased from 113 in May to 133.

Even though we did not have a large gathering we did have a small get together in the Spring and visited several cemeteries in the Charlotte Area. Think the highlight was seeing the Hugh Whiteside gravesite at the beautiful Fishing Creek Church Cemetery where a number of revolutionary war soldiers are buried.

Barbara and Nancy continue to work on some educational videos that we hope to have on the website at some point.

After highlighting our Scottish Heritage, Jerry Samouce and the Board were successful in having a registered Whiteside Scottish Tartan by the Scottish Tartan Registry based on documents related to Whitesides Ancestry in Scotland.

Our focus on the Facebook Group Site hopefully has provided more insight by the membership into our various projects and activities. Thanks to our Facebook team for giving us a face on social media. Facebook Membership has increased from 570 in May to 580.

We set out with some Goals this Spring that we strive to reach. Will attach that document as well as some planned updates to our Bylaws

In summary we continue to be active but continue to look for more support throughout the Membership for Volunteers and input.

On a sad note we lost one of our Pillars with the recent death of Bill R Whiteside. He had helped so many of us learn about all of our Whiteside Cousins.

Chip Whitesides

SPRING 2022 CEMETERY

In April 2022 the WFA Board met in Gastonia, NC for an informal meeting at First ARP Church and then adjourned to an interesting cemetery crawl of the many burial sites in the general Gastonia and western South Carolina area. We visited the Pisgah ARP Church, the Sharon ARP Church, the Fishing Creek Church, and the Smyrna ARP Churches.

Below are some pictures from those various places.



Barbara Olson stands looking at her Whitesides Grand-parents graves in the Pisgah Cemetery. With her are Jim and Bill G. Whiteside, and Arland Whitesides.



Jim Whiteside and Barbara Olson examine the resting place of one of their family 3400 ancestors



Jim Whiteside, Bill G. Whiteside, Barbara Olson, Chip Whitesides, and _____ take pictures of a renewed grave at the Smyrna cemetery.



Bill G. Whiteside, Nancy Torphy, Barbara Olson and Arland Whitesides examining one of the earliest Whiteside ancestors.

Tracking Down a Family Legend

All of our families have stories which have been shared over time and many generations. All of the telling and retelling has certainly “added” to these stories, and, in the end, these stories have become like something from the children’s game of Telephone. I am sure that we have all wondered if there is any truth to them, and, of course, there is really no one left to ask.

In my family, the story is about Edward Edgley Whiteside, born in the Cincinnati, Ohio area on January 20, 1858. Edward is the brother of my great-grandfather, Samuel Addison Whiteside and son of my great-great grandfather, Addison Hayes Whiteside, also born in the Cincinnati area on September 10, 1816. The family lived in Ohio and is found in the 1860 census there. By 1864, the family had moved on to Iroquois County, Illinois. Addison’s mother, Anna Stewart Whiteside, is buried in the Onarga Cemetery following her death in January, 1865.

Iroquois County, Illinois is about 120 miles south of Chicago, tucked up next to the Illinois/Indiana border. It is great farm land and farming is what Addison and his son, Samuel, did.

But Edward chose a different path. The family story is that he had moved on to Texas and was a telegraph operator there. Edward’s story did not end happily. He was supposedly murdered while at work. Finding out if this was true was the next step. A friend who was quite a master at old newspaper indexes found the following:

Texas Statesman, September 12, 1883

It will be remembered that the station agent of the International Railway at Thorndale suddenly disappeared last Saturday night, and it was suspected that he had absconded, though nothing was missed from the office. About 11 o’clock today some stock men saw buzzards alighting, and supposing it to be dead stock, went to see. They found the dead body of Whitesides (sic), the agent who disappeared Saturday night, stabbed to the heart. No clue as to whether suicide or murder, thought many think he was murdered. It is said he had a difficulty with some parties, but no one seemed to know, in fact my informants seemed afraid to speak much of it.

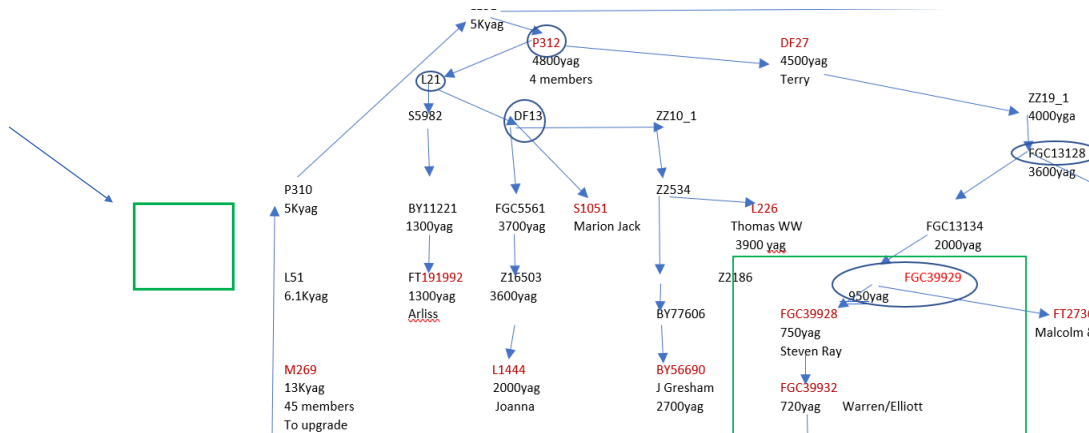
After discovering this, I went to the Findagrave database and there he was. Edward E. Whiteside, died September 7, 1883 and was buried in the Palestine, Texas Cemetery about 130 miles north-east of Thorndale. The age on the tombstone matches Edward’s and, most telling for me, is the Odd Fellows insignia on the top of the stone. Edward’s father and brothers were all Odd Fellows members.

Edward was remembered in our family. My great-grandfather named one of his sons, Edward Edgley, and I knew my Great Uncle Ed very well. While I don’t have more of the details of this entire event, I took great **satisfaction in the discoveries I did make.**

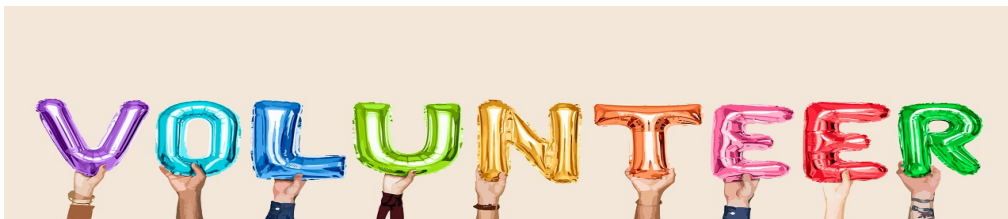
Nancy Torphy

WHITESIDE DNA PROJECT ON FTDNA

A few years ago, you provided a DNA sample to FTDNA with the resulting analysis showing you were M269. Since then, the science has moved on from this marker to terminal SNP's. To put this advance into perspective M269 mutation happened 13 000 years ago. The Big Y SNP mutation could be 200



years ago. The more recent data has allowed us to more accurately map the various lines of Whiteside families. However, the lines are incomplete as a result of insufficient data. You can help us complete the SNP history map by upgrading your FTDNA Y sample from M269 to Big-Y. We are close to the discount season I will let you know when FTDNA is having a sale. Attached is a partial view of the mapping to date.



The WFA needs volunteers to do some important tasks. Several are listed below:

1. **DNA Manager**—work with Bill G. Whiteside to oversee the Whiteside DNA project; recruit individuals to participate in the project
2. **Website Manager**—Arless Whiteside needs support and someone to begin assuming some of the responsibilities of keeping the website operational.
3. **Newsletter Editor**—the WFA newsletter needs a new caretaker and editor to publish 4 editions per year to keep all members informed and interested.
4. **Backup treasurer** to support Jim Whiteside and cosign on the bank accounts

These are positions that the board has recognized, but if you have a skill set not mentioned here that you are willing to share with the organization, please contact Chip Whitesides at chip.whitesides@gmail.com