

Whittelsey-Whittlesey Family Newsletter

September 2010

Issue Number 1

Introduction

This first issue of an electronic newsletter is being started for the following reasons:

1. To establish a forum to share family news such as births, marriages and deaths, articles about family members from any media both historical and current and as a continuing chronicle of the Whittelsey-Whittlesey ancestors and descendants.
2. To establish networking of W-W persons having their lineage linked to one of the following sons of our progenitor, John (1623-1704), John #2 (1665-1735), Stephen #3 (1667-1760), Joseph #5 (1671- ?), Jabez #7 (1675-1756), Eliphalet #9 (1679-1757) and Samuel #12 (1686- 1752) and to find interested persons in each line who would help in maintaining these efforts over time.
3. To encourage people to join in the collaborative effort to preserve W-W history and genealogical data.
4. To further worthwhile projects associated with the W-W family such as re-furbishing the Whittlesey Monument in the Cypress Cemetery in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, the fence of which needs repair.
5. To consider such other issues which might be of interest to the W-W family?

The newsletter mailing list will not be shared with others for commercial purposes and all mailings will occur in the BCC (Blind Carbon Copy) address box so that email addresses will not be visible to others.

The email list has been compiled from present day and previous email addresses. If you receive this email at duplicate addresses or wish to be removed from the list, please notify me.

1992 Whittlesey-Whittelsey Genealogy

My daughter and I compiled a family genealogy in 1992 after having spent about 10 years of issuing a printed family newsletter and requesting family genealogical information and individual pictures as well as brief bios where desired. We printed 1000 copies of the book and have thus far distributed over 600 of them. The book was assembled in a three-hole format to allow for additional more extensive information to be inserted by individual owners. The original thought was that an update/correction package could be issued periodically to try to keep information current.

Circumstances associated with my work, made it very difficult to keep up with the correction and additions for many years. Many of you or your parents have had their letters unanswered for a long time. This has caused me a great deal of discomfort and I am more than embarrassed that it has happened. Those of you who know me will recognize that it is typical of my 'biting off more than I can chew'. My very belated apologies to those who have been offended by this behavior.

Retirement occurred for me about 2 ½ years ago at age 71. I will be 74 this month and have rededicated my efforts to carrying on the tasks as outlined. As usual, I am soliciting help from anyone who wants to help preserve the heritage of our family.

My present approach to an update of the 1992 effort has been ongoing for quite some time. I have been correcting pages in the book and storing them by page number. I have sent out quite a few of

these over the last couple of years, but the work is woefully behind. Recently I have had my grandson, Samuel Savage Benavidez, son of the daughter who did the actual compilation for the 1992 book, Sarah, working for me before he heads off to California for work purposes. He has been helping to upgrade the book and to establish a more comprehensive index to the 16,000 names in the 1992 book. This index will be used to help keep track of additions to our database, to be able to find a 'John' in the book by a date associated with an assigned number and to sort names based upon location where possible. Presently one would be presented with 20 'Johns' and have to look at each one before locating the intended person. The index will serve as a genealogical database of any of our progenitor's descendants.

Link to 1992 "Genealogy of the Whittlesey-Whittelsey Family"

<http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/FH17&CISOPTR=33278&REC=1>

1992 Book Availability

There are over 300 of the original 1000 copies of the 1992 genealogy available. I have lowered the price from the original \$53.00 to \$25.00 each including postage. My mailing method is "Media Rate" which takes longer but only costs between \$4.50 and \$6.00 most times. I am now selling these because I believe they will do more good in some family member's home rather than in my storage shed!

If you decide to order a book, please contact me with your lineage connection and I will try to include corrected pages or pages added because of new information, either unavailable at the time of compilation, 1992, or information which extends a family since that time.

Whittlesey-Whittelsey Website

In March of this year I established a website for all of the purposes stated above. Quite a few names have been added, but it is a small percentage of the family genealogical data I have on file. There will be ongoing additions to this information. I would also like to ask for those who would be willing to add their own lineage information to contact me and I will send detailed instructions for that purpose.

The website may be found at <http://www.whittlesey-whittelseygenealogy.com/>

Facebook Whittlesey-Whittelsey Group

Quite some time ago I began a *Whittlesey-Whittelsey Group* on Facebook. I am not a constant user of this media, but expect that it could serve some better purpose. I am always open to suggestions as to how to use this. At least it has provided me a source of more people to be added to our mailing list.

Here is the direct link to that 'Group': <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=59026961170>

Summer of 2010

I made a rather extensive trip from Utah to New England this summer and visited a number of cemeteries, historical societies and libraries seeking fodder for this newsletter and data to add to and verify present family information. The advent of the Internet as well as continuing improvements in indexing, cataloging and searching has made this avocation more interesting.

The trip covered 7515 miles in 19 days and took me as far East as Cherryfield, Maine. On part of the trip I was accompanied by Daniel Graham Clark from Muscatine, my third cousin as we have great-grandparents who are siblings, Samuel Averill Whittlesey and Asenath Whittlesey Clark. Dan's great-great-grandmother was Mary Whittlesey and I think that means he has more Whittlesey genes than I have!

My trip returned through Ohio and I met Sally Jo Jenkins and her daughter, Natalie Iafolla. The latter is an avid historian, being a history teacher, and she has written some wonderful documents about

older Whittleseys of note. One such detailed profile and historical sketch on Abner Whittlesey (1746-1821) is being sent as an attachment to this newsletter. In the future there will be additional such historical sketches on Asaph Whittlesey (1753-1778), whose name is on the Wyoming Monument in Wyoming, Pennsylvania, which Dan and I visited this summer, Martin Whittlesey (1737-1808), Lemuel Whittlesey (1740-1823) and Anna Whittelsey Cogswell (1744-1810). These documents have been very well researched and written in an excellent manner. Others are encouraged to follow this format in trying to preserve the lives of your own individual ancestors and then share them with the whole family. A genealogy is restrictive in nature and these types of sketches are the real meat of family history.

One of the highlights of my trip was a drive through Wisconsin for the purpose of visiting or driving through Whittlesey, Wisconsin. I was able to flag down one of the inhabitants of that small town and have my picture taken appropriately in front a large Whittlesey Lions Club sign. There is also a Whittlesey Stadium there and it is quite a nice place. I also drove by the Whittlesey Cranberry Company near Wisconsin Rapids and then went north to Ashland, Wisconsin to visit the Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge. There are a few pictures covering those stops and there will be more detail about both the Cranberry Company and the wildlife refuge in the next newsletter.





