



Episode 18: Get Help from Others Researching the Same Name

5 minute challenge—**Choose an ancestor you're having trouble finding. Spend 5 minutes online!**

Steps:

1. **Check** online forums and message boards for surname searches.
2. **Subscribe** to a surname mailing list. There's a good chance you're related to someone else who has subscribed.
3. **Search** library catalogs for published histories. If you find someone publishing information about your ancestor, it's a good bet he or she has more information about other ancestors.
4. **Contact** societies. Usually for the price of the membership, you will receive a publication with lists of names and contact information of people who have made inquiries.



Helpful hints:

Working with another person is a great way to do your genealogy. Each of you may have access to different information, which can allow you to cover more ground and broaden the search.

Search the directories of genealogical organizations on the Federation of Genealogical Societies' Society Hall page <http://www.fgs.org/societyhall/>.

Vocabulary

Forum:

A website for people to post and read messages, questions and answers, usually for a specific topic or area of interest

Mailing List:

A list of names and addresses of people who have subscribed to receive requested information periodically.

Genealogical Society:

A society that allows society members and others to share family history information and knowledge, often historical in nature.

