

## Genealogy Rocks!

### Consider Joining an Ethnic Genealogical Society

Most genealogists know the benefits of joining a local genealogy society, whether they have relatives in the area or not. However, many genealogists don't think about joining an ethnic society. Ethnic societies



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offer lots of specific research information and can make a huge difference in research success. Because they're specialized, they concentrate on a specific group or place, and members can learn to effectively research in that area.

For example, I belong to the Swedish Genealogical Society of Colorado. I had no idea on how to research my Swedish ancestors, especially considering that I don't speak Swedish. during three years of membership, I've learned to use Swedish parish records to trace family members, to trace potential living relatives in Sweden and much more. Not only have I traced my own family back several

generations, but I've helped others do the same.

There is an ethnic society for almost every interest, and we are lucky to have a great selection in Colorado, including Palatines to America, Wales-Ireland-Scotland-England Family History Society (W.I.S.E.), Swedish Genealogical Society of Colorado, Colorado Society of Hispanic Genealogy, Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado, and many more.

Most of these societies meet monthly with a program and speaker, and dues are reasonable. Plus, many of these societies also sponsor yearly seminars, which often have nationally-known speakers. The potential brick wall breakthroughs are definitely worth joining these societies.

❖ *Carol is the society's researcher, instructor for Larimer County Genealogical Society. Our next program is Show & Tell Your Family History on July 21 at the Harmony Library in Fort Collins. Visit our website at [www.lcgsc.org](http://www.lcgsc.org) for more events. Estes Park Genealogical Society has their annual all day seminar at the Estes Valley Library on July 16 from 9-4 pm. Register at 970-586-8116.*