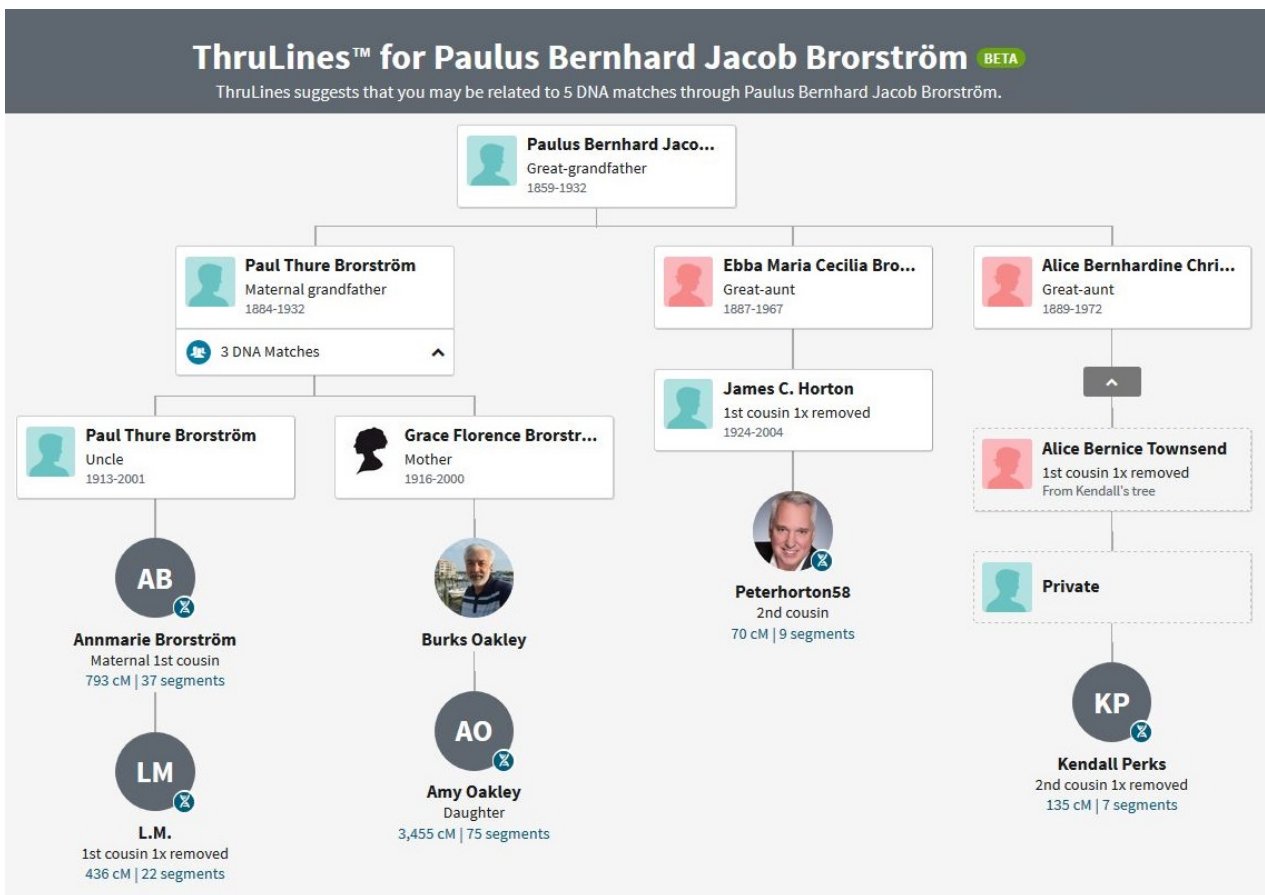


ThruLines™ Connection to Barbara Helms – A Wennström Relative

By Burks Oakley II
18 March 2019

Introduction

In late February 2019, Ancestry.com released a beta version of its ThruLines™ software. This software examines a user's DNA matches, the user's family tree, and all other family trees on the Ancestry.com website. It then suggests the paths, or ThruLines™, between the user and his/her DNA matches. It also suggests potential ancestors who are not already in a user's family tree. As an example, here is a screenshot showing my ThruLines™ going back to my Swedish-immigrant great-grandfather, Paulus Bernhard Jacob Brorström (1859-1932):

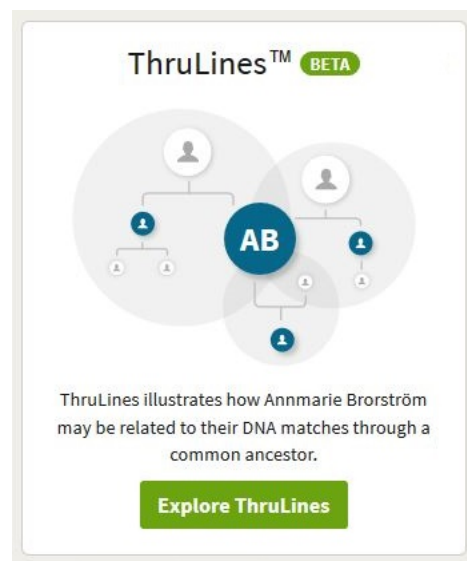


This chart shows that I have five DNA matches with descendants of Paulus Brorström – Annmarie Brorström, her daughter Lauren Meier (**L.M.**), my younger daughter Amy Oakley, Peter Horton, and Kendall Perks. Annmarie is my first-cousin, Peter Horton is my second-cousin, and Kendall is my second-cousin once-removed. I don't have Kendall's line in my family tree on Ancestry.com, so the ThruLines™ software used her family tree to determine that she is descended from Alice Bernhardine Christina Brorström (1889-1972), who is in my tree. Since neither Kendall's father or paternal grandmother are in my tree, the names of these individuals appear inside dotted lines.

This particular ThruLines™ didn't really tell me very much, since I already was aware of my DNA matches with, and my relationships to, all of these individuals. However, this software actually has helped me to find new DNA relatives, and in this narrative, I will describe one of my new findings made with the use of ThruLines™.

Barbara Helms – A Wennström Cousin

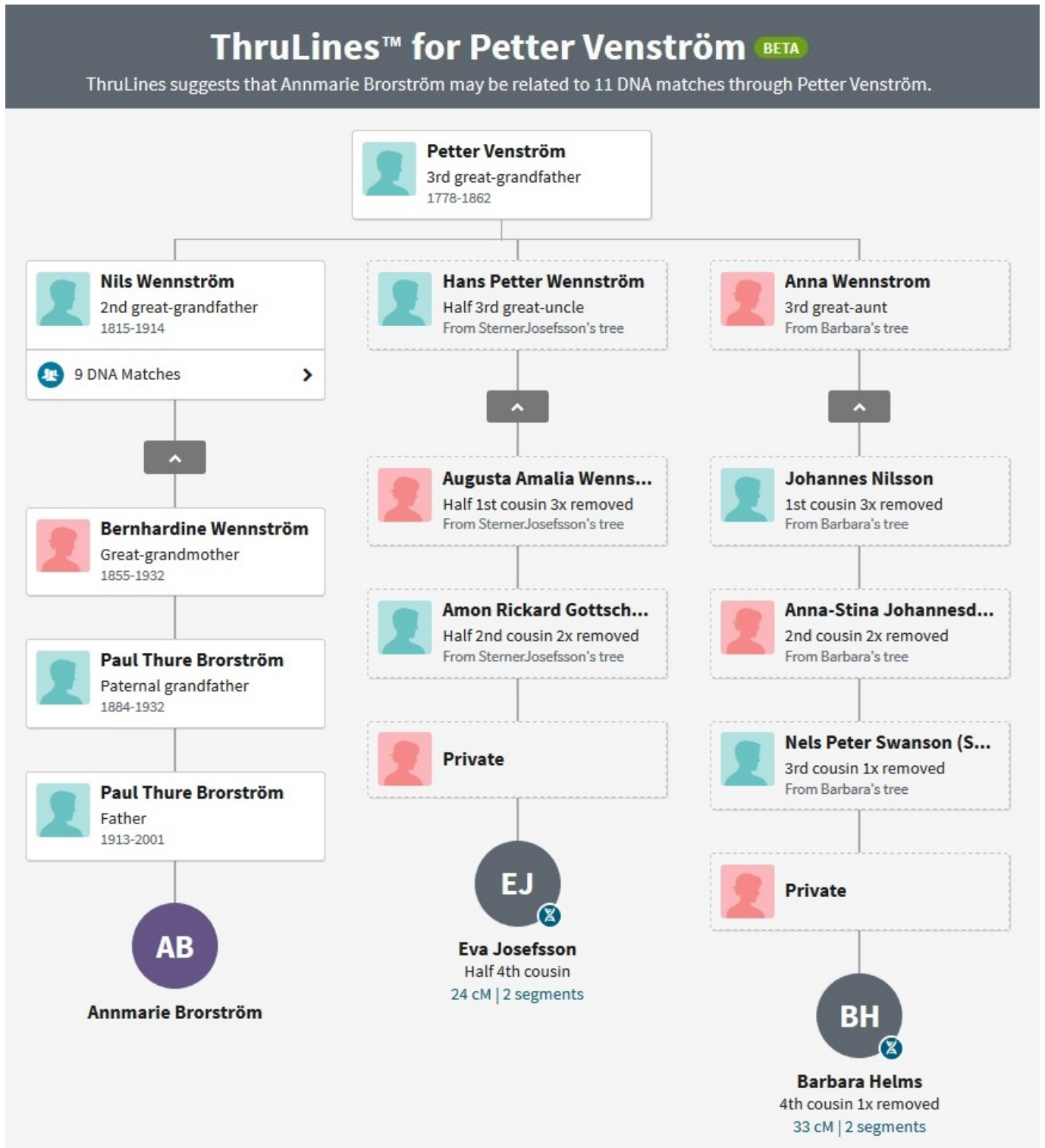
I recently examined various ThruLines™ for my first-cousin Annmarie Brorström. Her father, Paul Thure Brorström Jr. (1913-2001), and my mother, Grace Florence Brorström (1916-2000), were brother and sister. PTB Jr. and Grace were ethnically Swedish, since all four of their grandparents had immigrated to America from Sweden in the 1880's.



I am a “Collaborator” on Annmarie’s DNA profile, which enables me to view her ThruLines™. My reason for looking at Annmarie’s DNA matches is that she is likely to have DNA matches with our distant cousins that I don’t have (due to the

way that DNA is inherited). So if I can find Annmarie's distant cousins who are descended from our common Swedish ancestors, I will know that these people are also my distant cousins.

I looked at Annmarie's ThruLines™ for our third-great grandfather, Petter Venström (also known as Jan Petter Wennström):



This chart shows that Annmarie has DNA matches with two distant cousins who are descended from Petter Venström, and it also shows the most likely way that Annmarie is related to them.

The first person is Eva Josefsson. In May 2018, I visited Eva in her home in Halmstad, Sweden. I also have a DNA match with Eva, and I wrote about her previously:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/EvaJosefssonWennströmConnection.pdf>

Eva is descended from Hans Petter Wennström (1835-1923), who was a half-brother of Annmarie's (and my) 2nd great-grandfather Nils Wennström (1815-1914). Nils was a son of Jan Petter Wennström and his first wife, Maja Nilsson, while Hans Petter was a son of Jan Petter Wennström and his second wife, Johanna Persdotter. The ThruLines™ correctly shows that Eva and Annmarie are (half) fourth-cousins.

The line to Barbara Helms in Annmarie's ThruLines™ (on the previous page) is completely new to me. The ThruLines™ software determined that Barbara is descended from Anna Stina Wennström (1806-1855), who was an older sister of Nils Wennström. All three children of Jan Petter Wennström – Anna Stina, Nils, and Hans Petter, are shown in the following chart, which is part of Eva Josefsson's family tree on the Ancestry.com website:



Jan Petter Wennström

BIRTH 20 AUG 1778 • Tåssjö, Skåne, Sverige
DEATH 6 JUL 1862 • Hålshult, Tåssjö (L)

LIFESTORY FACTS GALLERY

Family



Parents

 **Pähr Wennström**
1747-



 **Anna Elisabet Malmberg**
1756-1795

Spouse and Children

 **Maja Nilsdotter**
1776 - 26 jul 1819

-  **Karl Petter Wennström**
4 okt 1802 - ?
-  **Anna Stina Wennström**
14 nov 1806 - ?
-  **Magnus Wennström**
10 sep 1809 - ?
-  **Sissela Wennström**
23 jan 1812 - ?
-  **Nils Wennström**
7 jan 1815 - ?
-  **Sven Wennström**
28 dec 1817 - ?

 **Johanna Persdotter**
12 nov 1801 - 12 apr 1888

-  **Måns Wennström**
6 sep 1821 - 20 sep 1821
-  **Andreas Wennström**
9 okt 1823 - 11 dec 1831
-  **Fredrik Wennström**
20 sep 1825 - ?
-  **Maria Wennström**
22 nov 1827 - ?
-  **Johannes Wennström**
13 dec 1829 - ?
-  **Andreas Wennström**
4 jan 1833 - ?
-  **Hans Petter Wennström**
5 sep 1835 - 3 maj 1923

Note that Anna Stina Wennström was 29 years older than her half-brother Hans Petter Wennström.


The power of the ThruLines™ software becomes apparent when one realizes that Annmarie's family tree only has Nils Wennström and his father Petter Venström, while Barbara's tree has Anna Wennström (spelled Wennstrom), but no parents or siblings. Fortunately, Sterner Josefsson's family tree has the six children from Jan Petter's first marriage, as well as the seven children from his second marriage.



Given that Annmarie has DNA matches with Eva and Barbara, the ThruLines™ software was able to complete each line in the family tree and show the relationships. And I think that is pretty cool!

Other DNA Matches with Barbara Helms

Annmarie shares 33 cM of DNA with Barbara Helms:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Annmarie Brorström


★  **Barbara Helms**
Member since 2014, last logged in today



 **Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins**
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
Confidence: High 

Amount of Shared DNA
33 centimorgans shared across 2 DNA segments

Annmarie's younger sister, Susan Brorström Baker, also shares 33 cM of DNA with Barbara:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Susan Baker

★  **Barbara Helms**
Member since 2014, last logged in today

 **Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins**
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
Confidence: High 

Amount of Shared DNA
33 centimorgans shared across 2 DNA segments

Interestingly, neither Stuart Eck (Annmarie's and Susan's half-brother) nor I have a DNA match with Barbara Helms.

Annmarie and Barbara Helms share a DNA match with a man having the username of *perlindbe* on Ancestry.com:



The screenshot shows the AncestryDNA interface for 'Member Matches for Annmarie Brorström'. The main heading is 'Shared matches with Barbara Helms'. Below this, there is a category label '4TH COUSIN'. A match is listed for the user 'perlindbe', marked with a star. The match details include 'Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins', 'Confidence: Good' (indicated by a green progress bar), and 'Shared DNA: 27.0 cM across 3 segments'. To the right of the match information, it says '55 people' and there is a 'View Match' button.

Perhaps his name is Per Lindberg (his father was Arne Lindberg). He lives in Västerås, Västmanland, Sweden. And he has an ancestor who lived in Våxtorp, which is a town adjacent to Menlösa, where Nils Wennström lived. I have a DNA match with him – as do Susan, Stuart, my daughter Amy, Lauren Meier (Annmarie’s daughter), and Jessica Eck (Stuart’s daughter). So I’ll have to look into how we are all related to Per Lindberg when I have time – but he has to be a Wennström relative...

Conclusion

In this short narrative, I have described Annmarie’s ThruLines™ for our third-great grandfather, Petter Venström (also known as Jan Petter Wennström). This ThruLines™ turned up Annmarie’s DNA match with Barbara Helms. Annmarie and I are descended from Petter Venström’s son Nils Wennström, while Barbara is descended from his daughter Anna Stina Wennström. Both Annmarie and her younger sister Susan Brorström Baker have 33 cM DNA matches with Barbara.

How wonderful that Annmarie has given me permission to collaborate on her DNA profile on the Ancestry.com website, since I don’t have a DNA match with Barbara, and I never would have been able to link our two branches of the Wennström family tree without her DNA match.