

Björn Magnus Brorström – A Brorström Cousin Living in Sweden

by Burks Oakley II
5 August 2018

Introduction

My mother was Grace Florence Brorström (1916-2000). All four of her grandparents were Swedes who immigrated to America. Her *farfar* (Swedish for her father's father) was Paulus* Bernhard Jacob Brorström (1859-1932), and he and his wife Bernhardine Wennström Brorström (1855-1932) immigrated to America on their honeymoon in the spring of 1882.

I am interested in my Swedish heritage, and I'm always trying to find additional distant cousins who are living in Sweden. Not only does this help expand my family tree, but also it gives me a great excuse to travel to Sweden every summer to meet the new relatives that I have discovered.

I was in Stockholm in May 2018, and my cousin Gigi Sand (nee Brorström) gave me a printout with the names and addresses of a number of individuals living in Sweden who have the Brorström surname. My cousin Hans Brorström annotated this list and noted that one of the people on this list, Björn Brorström, age 64 and living in Gothenburg, was his first-cousin. Of course, this means that Björn is also related to me.

I finally have gotten around to finding some details about Björn, and they are presented in this short narrative.

Björn Magnus Brorström

I was prompted to contact Björn last month after receiving an e-mail note from Gigi's son Fredrik Sand. On 7 July 2018, Fredrik wrote to Hans and me:

This week I attended several seminars in Almedalen - a sort of political festival - in Visby, Gotland: <http://www.almedalsveckan.info/english>

As I now work with issues related to higher education, I went to a seminar where a number of principals/presidents of universities spoke. One was Björn Brorström, vice-chancellor of the University of Borås.

Hans, when I spoke to Björn I got the impression that he is your cousin. Pleasant man in conversation and he made a strong presentation, too.

https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Björn_Brorström

I found Björn's e-mail address using the search function on the University of Borås website (in Swedish, Högskolan i Borås, so the website is: www.hb.se), and I sent him an e-mail message. He responded:

Very nice to hear from you. Fredrik mentioned your interest in our family and family tree when we met last week. In a separate mail I will send you a description that my grandfather put together fifty years ago. When I come Gothenburg after my holiday I will send you the complete report.

My father is Carl-Magnus and I have a sister named Eva. I am married to Ing-Britt and we have two children Sara and Magnus.

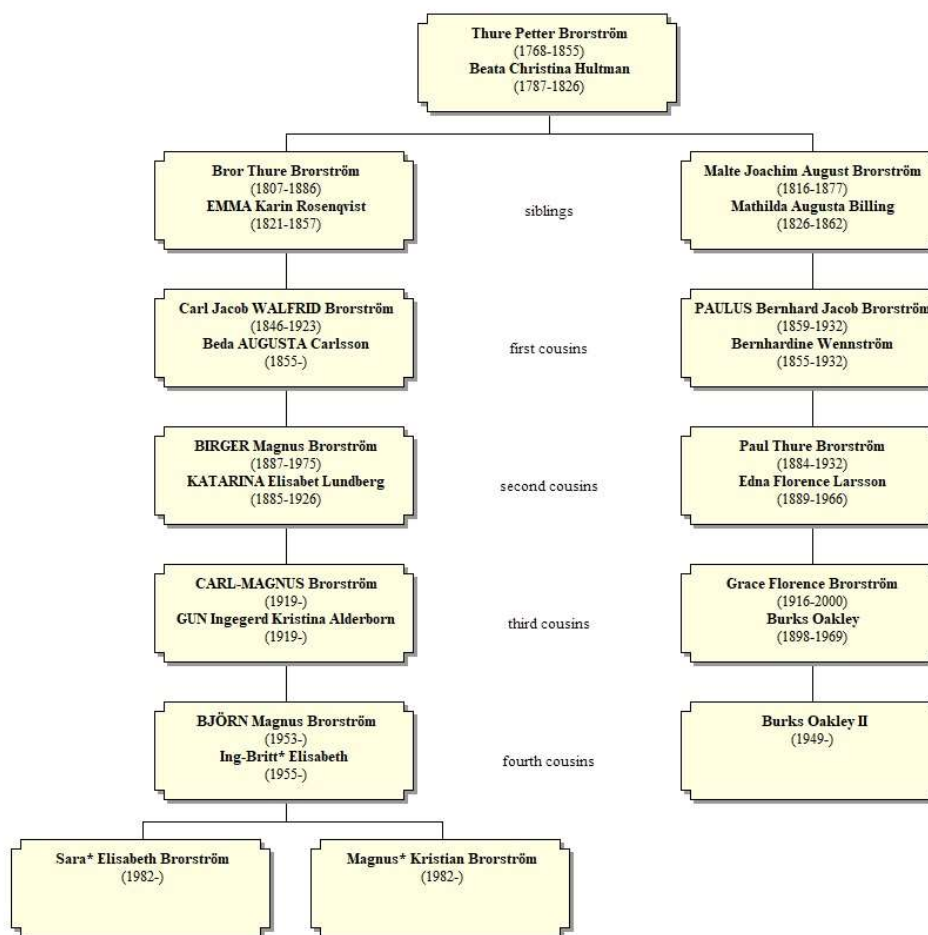
I found Björn on the gutturps.se website, which is maintained by my Brorström cousin Anna Guttorp. Here is the entry for Björn's parents:

Slakten Guttorp med närstående

BIRGER Magnus Brorström (1887-1975)	
KATARINA (Karin) Elisabet Lundberg (1885-1926)	
CARL-MAGNUS B-son Brorström	GUN Ingegerd Kristina Alderborn
b. 9 okt 1919 d. bur. occ. edu. rel.	b. 30 aug 1919, Uddevalla, Göteborg och Bohuslän d. bur. occ. edu. rel.
Barn	
EVA Kristina Brorström BJÖRN Magnus Brorström	

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Using the family tree on the guttorps.se website, I was able to construct a chart showing how Björn and I are related:



Björn and I both are descended from Thure Petter Brorström (1768-1855) and his wife Beata Christina Hultman (1787-1826). Björn and I are fourth-cousins.

In May 2018, I visited the small town of Borrby, in southeast Skåne, and I saw the gravestone of Thure Petter and Beata Christina. Thure Petter was the priest of the church, so he and his wife, as well as their son Malte and his wife, are buried right next to the church.

In his first e-mail, Björn sent me a photo of a page from the Släkten Brorström (the Family Brorström) book that his grandfather wrote some fifty years ago:

Släkten Brorström

Jöns Olsson

Tab. 1.

Bror Jönsson

Tab. 2.

Jöns Brorström

Tab. 3.

Nils Brorsson

Tab. 4.

Thure Petter Brm.

Tab. 5.

Bror Thure

Tab. 6.

Carl Oscar

Tab. 7.

Malte J.

Tab. 8.

Alfred

Tab. 9.

Victor

Tab. 10.

Magnus Walfrid Hjalmar

Tab.11

Tab.12

Tab.13

Thure Paulus Bernhard Alfred C.

Tab. 14

Tab.15

Tab.16

Malte

Einar Birger Harald

Tab.17

Tab.18

Tab.19

Tab.20

Thure Vitalis Carl Alfred

Tab.23

Tab. 24

Sverker Carl-Magnus

Tab.21

Tab.22

Einar Stenhagen

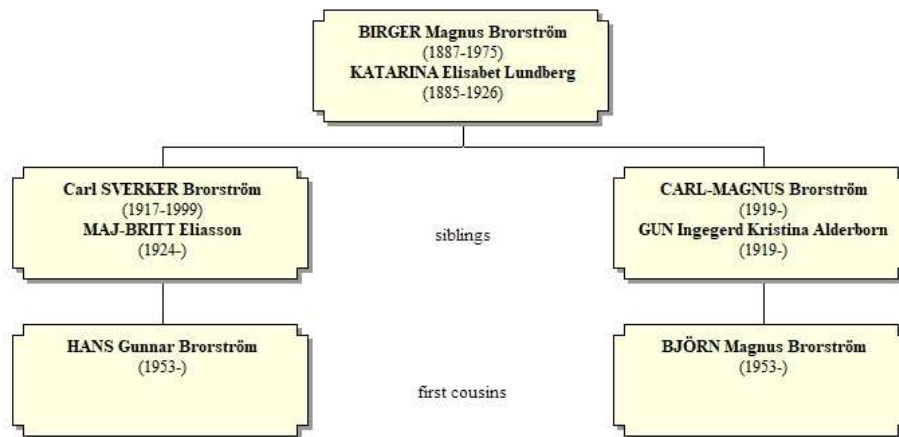
Tab. 25

Emma Rosenqvist

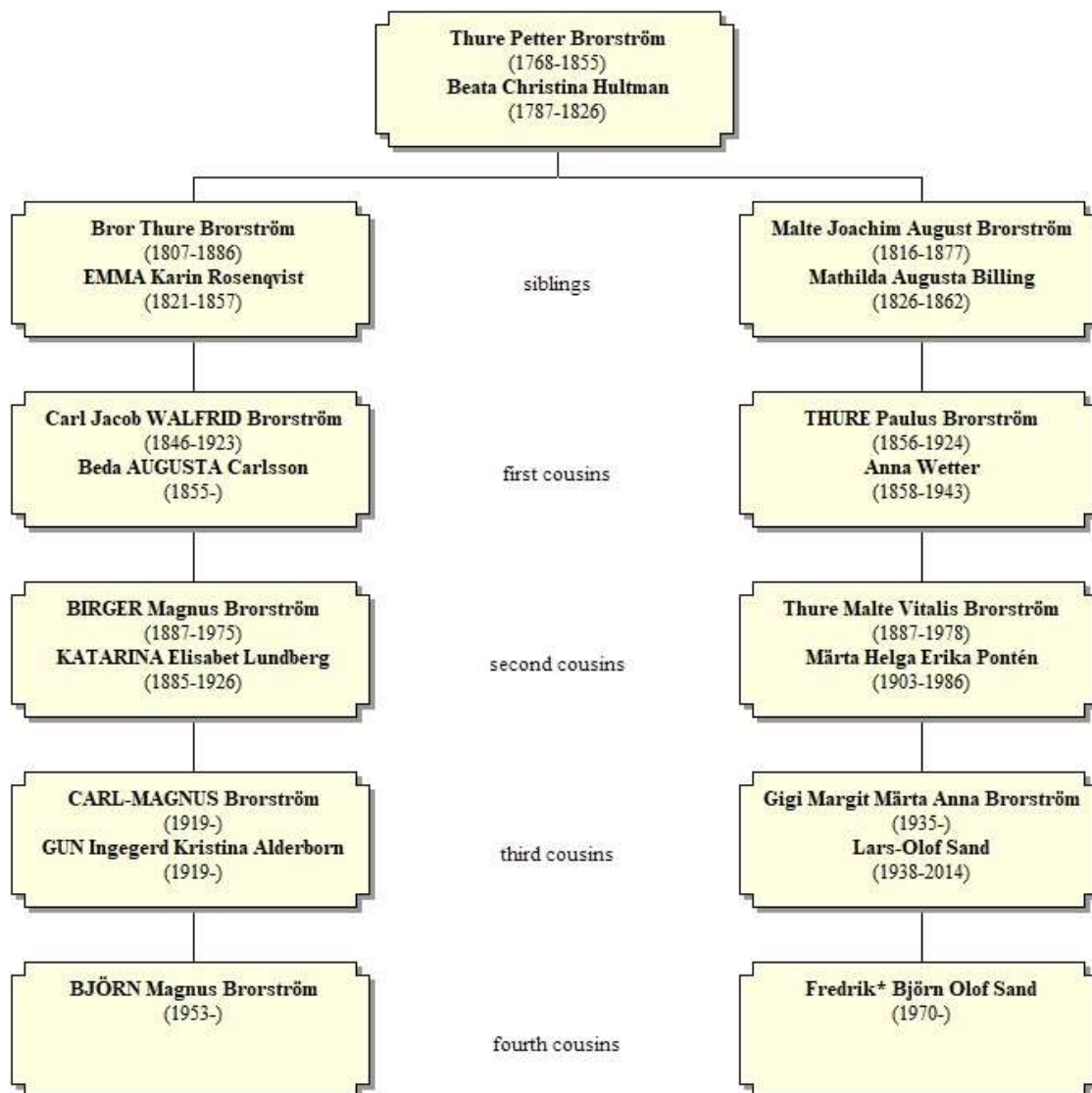
Tab. 26

This page clearly shows Björn's pedigree: Thure Petter Brorström (Tab. 5), followed by Bror Thure (Tab. 6) in the next generation, followed by Walfrid (Tab. 12), Birger (Tab. 19), and Carl-Magnus (Tab. 22) in subsequent generations. This is exactly what is found on guttorps.se (and in my relationship chart shown above).

In the introduction, I mentioned that Hans said that Björn was his first-cousin- here is a chart showing how they are related:



Since I have mentioned Fredrik Sand several times in this narrative, I'll include this chart showing how Björn and Fredrik are related:



About Björn Brorström

In this section, I'll first mention Björn's professional life. As I learned from Fredrik's e-mail (above), Björn is the Vice-Chancellor (or Rector or Principal; the highest administrative leader of a school or university) of the University of Borås.

Borås is located about 65 km straight east of Gothenburg:



Björn Brorström has an entry on the Swedish Wikipedia site at:

https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Björn_Brorström

Part of his entry (translated into English) includes:

Björn Brorström, born 1953, is a Swedish economist, principal of the University of Borås.

Brorström holds a PhD in Business Administration at the University of Gothenburg in 1982 with a dissertation on the use and design of municipal annual reports. In 1989, Brorström participated in the establishment of Communal Research in Western Sweden, where he is a director and

director. Brorström was employed as a professor at the University of Gothenburg in 1996 and worked as a faculty for the Administration College between 2000 and 2006. From November 2006 to August 2011, Brorström was a professor at the University of Borås.

The University of Borås website has most pages in both Swedish and English. His welcome is at: <http://www.hb.se/en/About-UB/Organisation/Chancellors-welcome/>

Vice-Chancellor's welcome

Welcome to the University of Borås, a modern and innovative institution of learning that conducts high-quality education and research

Our educational programmes and research rest firmly on a scientific base; we work to ensure that all education is closely tied to current research. Our educational programmes and research are characterised by high societal relevance in the sense that research results must be practically applicable and educational programmes focussed towards professions and employment. It is essential that research results are useful and contribute to improvements in business and public sectors. Moreover, a criterion of excellence is that our graduates be employable in professions that are closely related to their education.

Our educational programmes and research are of high quality; this has been achieved through the development of models and methods, the provision of knowledge of how to apply them, and the continuous critical examination of various kinds of development and phenomena. Our work is characterised by openness to new ideas and original ways of interpreting changes and conditions. We want our students to be well-educated when they leave the university as well as well-versed, with an ability to see their own field and their own profession from a variety of perspectives. Abilities such as these provide a strong basis for life-long learning.

As Vice-Chancellor of the University of Borås, I feel it is important to preserve our ideals and work to provide conditions for students and staff to develop strong and creative educational and research environments. Our students can therefore develop the qualities needed to meet the great challenges we face in building long-term sustainable development in society.

Björn Brorström



I'll now mention his personal/family life. Björn is married to Ing-Britt, and they live in Gothenburg. They have twin children Sara Elisabeth and Magnus Kristian, who were born in 1982. Sara and Magnus are both married, and each have two children.

Summary

In this brief narrative, I have described how I learned of my fourth-cousin Björn Brorström, how we connected, and how we are related. He has a wonderful academic position as the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Borås, and I most definitely am looking forward to meeting him and his family when I next visit Sweden.

Appendix A:

Here are some additional photos of Cousin Björn from the hb.se website:





Appendix B:

Here are a few photos of the grave marker of Thure Petter Brorström (1768-1855) and his wife Beata Christina Hultman (1787-1826). They are buried next to the church in Borrbý, in southeast Skåne.



