

Gunilla Torell – Another Wennström Relative

By Burks Oakley II
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Introduction

I have been methodically looking at my ThruLines™ for my ancestors on Ancestry.com. If you don't know what a ThruLines™ represents, or how it is constructed, please read some of my other narratives, such as:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/NilsMårtensson-PartI.pdf>
<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/NilsMårtensson-PartII.pdf>
<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/NilsMårtensson-PartIII.pdf>



Swedish countryside in Skåne

In this short narrative, I'll discuss my ThruLines™ for one of my third-great grandfathers, Petter Venström (1778-1862), who lived in the northwest part of Skåne County, Sweden. He was also known as Jan Petter Wennström. He had six children with his first wife, Maja Nilsson (1776-1819), and then seven children

with his second wife, Johanna Persdotter (1801-1888), as shown in the following chart from Eva Josefsson's family tree on the Ancestry.com website:¹



The image shows a screenshot of an Ancestry.com profile for Jan Petter Wennström. The profile includes a silhouette placeholder for a photo, his name, birth date (20 AUG 1778) in Tåssjö, Skåne, Sverige, and death date (6 JUL 1862) in Hålshult, Tåssjö (L). Below the name are tabs for LIFESTORY, FACTS, and GALLERY. The 'Family' section is expanded to show 'Parents' and 'Spouse and Children'. The parents are Pähr Wennström (1747-) and Anna Elisabet Malmberg (1756-1795). The spouse is Johanna Persdotter (12 nov 1801 - 12 apr 1888). The children listed are: 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 - ?), 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 - ?), and Hans Petter Wennström (5 sep 1835 - 3 maj 1923).

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

I am descended from his son Nils Wennström (1815-1914). Amazing that Nils died just a few weeks after his 99th birthday!

Here is a selfie taken in front of Nils Wennström's house in Menlösa, Sweden (in southwest Halland County):

¹ <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/25929417/person/12500060991/facts>



Photo taken 14 May 2018

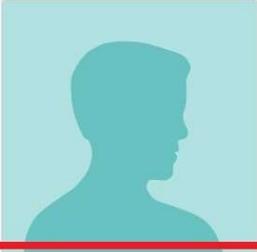
ThruLines™ for Petter Venström

The ThruLines™ for my third-great grandfather Petter Venström are grouped with those of all my other third-great grandparents (I have identified 29 of my 32 third-great grandparents in the family tree that I have on Ancestry.com).

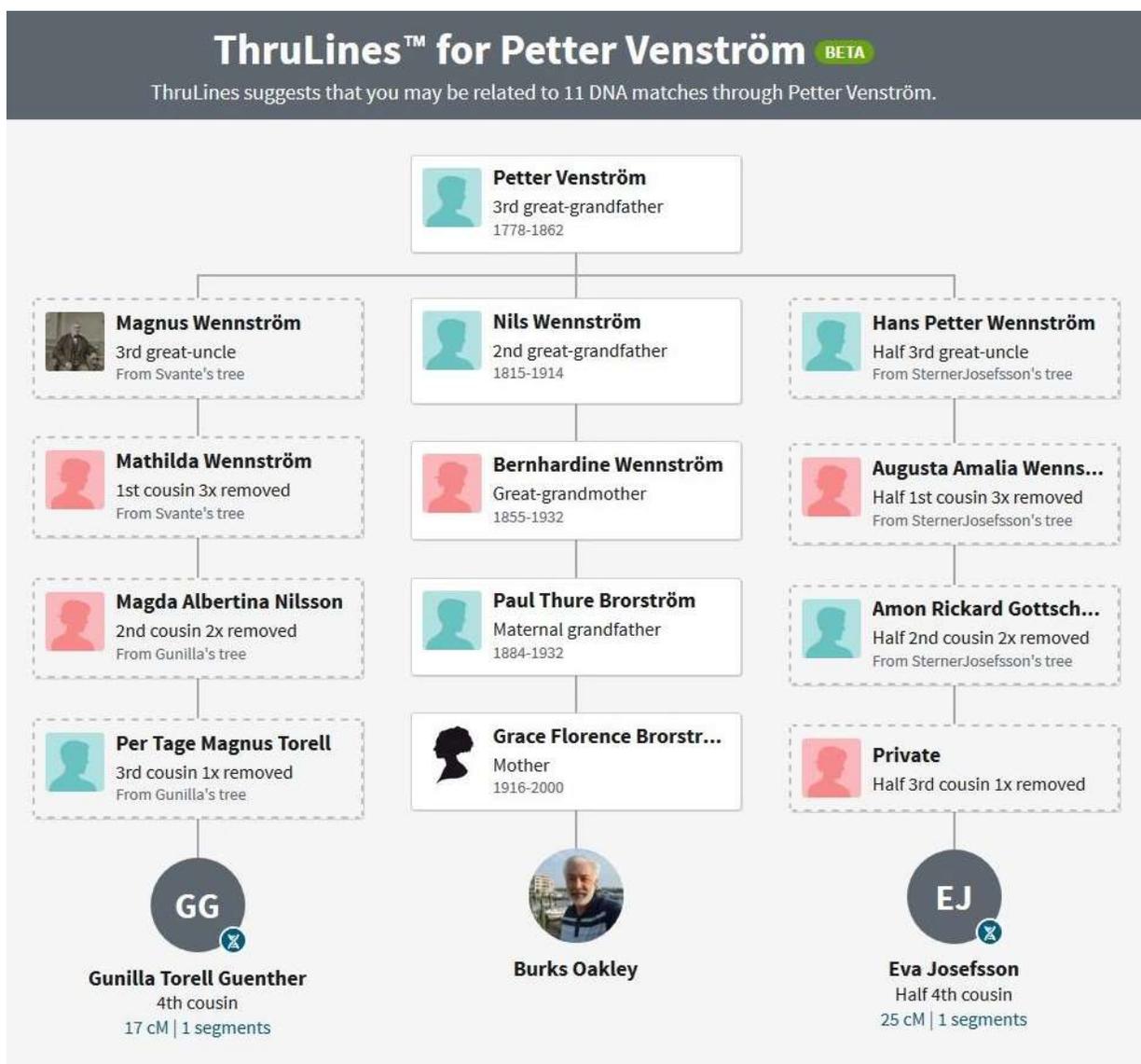
ThruLines™ BETA

ThruLines suggests how you may be related to your DNA matches through these common ancestors.

3rd Great Grandparents

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
|  Petter Venström 3rd great-grandfather 1778-1862 |  Maria Nilsdotter 3rd great-grandmother 1776-1819 |  Ola Nilsson 3rd great-grandfather 1775-1826 |  Sissa Jönsdotter 3rd great-grandmother 1782-1853 |
|---|--|--|--|

My ThruLines™ for Petter Venström is shown in the following chart:



This ThruLines™ shows three separate ancestral lines that go back to Petter Venström. One is my line (in the middle of the chart), connecting through Nils Wennström. Another line (at the right) connects Eva Josefsson via Hans Petter Wennström. I previously wrote about Eva at:

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

The third line (at the left) is new to me. It connects Gunilla Torell Guenther to Petter Venström via his son Magnus Wennström (1809-1898). The ThruLines™ shows that Gunilla is my fourth-cousin, and we share 17 cM of DNA on a single segment.

Gunilla's line back to Jan Petter Wennström actually is constructed from information found in several different trees on the Ancestry.com website. Her father and paternal grandmother are from her own tree:



The next three people are Wennströms from “Svante’s tree” (owned by Svante Burge, who appears to be a Swede living in Haverdal, on the coast near Halmstad, in southwest Halland County). Here is a relevant part of his family tree (the *Burge – släkträd*):

Burge – släkträd Tree Search Svante Burge

Magnus Wennström
BIRTH 10 SEPTEMBER 1809 • Svenstorp, Tåssjö sn
DEATH 22 SEPTEMBER 1898 • Ränneslöv, Halland, Sverige

Family

Parents

- Jan Petter Wennström 1778–1862
- Maria (Maja) Nilsdotter 1776–1819

Spouse & Children

- Dorothea Jönsdotter 1809–1882
- Nils Wennström 1839–1876
- Maria Wennström 1842–1915
- Anna Stina Wennström 1846–1912
- Mathilda Wennström 1849–
- Jakobina Wennström 1851–1900

This shows the line from Mathilda Wennström (born 1849) to her father Magnus Wennström (1809-1898) to his father Jan Petter Wennström (1778-1862).

Looking at Mathilda in Svante's tree – well, this tree doesn't have anything about Mathilda's family. So how did the ThruLines™ software connect Mathilda Wennström (from Svante's tree) to Magna Albertina Nilsson (from Gunilla's tree)?

I only see two family trees on Ancestry.com that have Mathilda Wennström, and neither of them have anything about her family. So I decided to try the other way, and look for Magna Albertina Nilsson. Voilà!

The screenshot shows a profile for Magda Albertina Nilsson on Ancestry.com. At the top, it indicates the family tree is 'Johansson/Olsson Fam...' and the user is 'Douglas Johnson'. The profile includes a red silhouette placeholder for a photo. The name 'Magda Albertina Nilsson' is prominently displayed, followed by her birth and death information: BIRTH 28 MAY 1878 • Ränneslöv No.1 Halland, Sweden and DEATH 30 DEC 1942 • Båstad, Skåne, Sweden. Below this, the profile is divided into two sections: 'Family' and 'Spouse & Children'. The 'Family' section lists 'Parents' as Per Nilsson (1850-) and Matilda Wennstrom (1849-). The 'Spouse & Children' section lists 'Bengt Johan Jakobsson (Torell)' (1863-1925) and 'Per Tage Magnus Torell' (1902-1997).

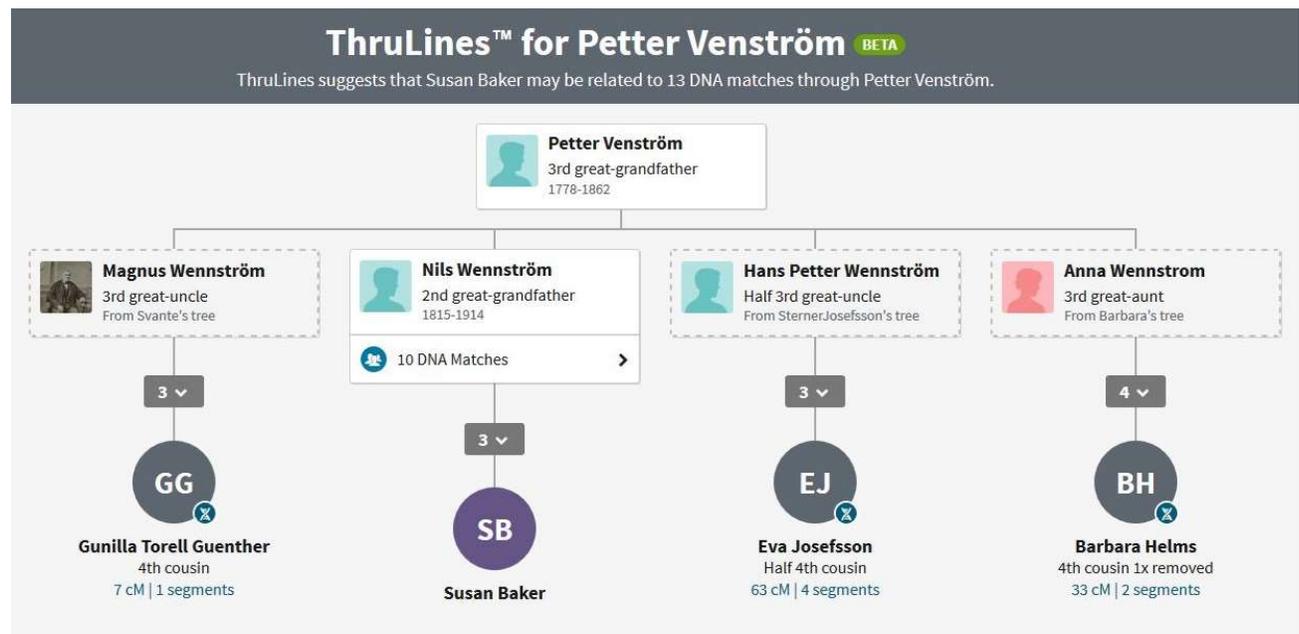
Douglas Johnson's *Johansson/Olsson Family Tree* has the connection. Matilda Wennstrom (not Mathilda Wennström), her daughter Magda Albertina Nilsson, and Magda's son Per Tage Magnus Torell. The ThruLines™ software searched through millions and millions of family trees on the Ancestry.com website to connect Gunilla to Petter Venström – which is really cool! I should add that Douglas Johnson's tree is extremely well sourced, with many records supporting Magda and her family.

This last search turned up one puzzling fact – Magda's husband is listed at Bengt Johan Jakobsson (Torell). Why did he take the family name of Torell? A mystery for now.

Susan's ThruLines™ for Jan Petter Wennström

In looking to see if other family members have DNA matches with Gunilla, I found that my first-cousin Susan Brorström Baker has a match with her, but her

siblings Stuart and Annmarie don't. Since Susan has a DNA match with her, I next looked at Susan's ThruLines™ for Petter Venström (aka Jan Petter Wennström):



Unlike my ThruLines™ shown earlier in this document, Susan's ThruLines™ for Petter Venström has **three** lines in addition to hers: the first is to Gunilla Torell, the second is to Eva Josefsson, and the third is to Barbara Helms. I wrote about Susan's DNA match with Barbara Helms in an earlier narrative:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/BarbaraHelms-WennströmRelative.pdf>

Since I don't have a DNA match with Barbara Helms, I don't get her line in my ThruLines™ for Petter Venström. But Susan does, as does Annmarie.

I'll mention that since Annmarie doesn't have a DNA match with Gunilla, her ThruLines™ for Petter Venström has the lines for Eva and Barbara, but not the line for Gunilla. This just emphasizes the random way that DNA is inherited. And with distant cousins, where we just have one small segment of DNA for the match, it is easily lost, even amongst close family members.

Conclusion

In this short narrative, I have discussed how the ThruLines™ software on Ancestry.com identified my DNA match with Gunilla Torrel and determined that

she and I are both descended from my third-great grandfather Petter Venström (also known as Jan Petter Wennström).

My first-cousin Susan Brorström Baker also shares this match with Gunilla, and in fact, she has a match with another descendant of Petter Venström (Barbara Helms) that I don't have.

Overall, the genetics once again support the genealogy. And this takes my family tree back to southwest Sweden in the late 1700's. Priceless!

