

Interesting Connections to Anne Heller

By Burks Oakley II
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This narrative includes DNA connections with:

- Anne E. Heller
- Lise-Lotte Kolmberger
- Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport
- Eva Gunnarsson Josefsson
- Patrik Sandelin

Introduction

In the past few years, I have become very interested in my Swedish roots. My mother's four grandparents all immigrated to America from Sweden in the early 1880's, so her ethnicity was 100% Swedish. In turn, this means that I am 50% Swedish, and therefore I can proudly claim that I am a Swedish-American.

I have been using the Ancestry.com website to search for new Swedish relatives, and as part of this search process, I have focused on DNA matches that I share with distant Swedish cousins. One very tangible benefit of my interest in genetic genealogy is that I have visited Sweden in each of the past four years (2016-2019), and I have greatly enjoyed getting to know my newly-found Swedish cousins.

In February 2019, Ancestry.com released a beta version of its ThruLines™ software. This software first identifies my DNA matches (that is, the individuals with whom I have matching segments of DNA, indicating a common ancestor) and then examines my family tree and theirs, seeking to discover how we are related. The software also uses other family trees on Ancestry.com, if necessary, as it looks to make the connection. In an earlier narrative, I wrote about the DNA connections found in my ThruLines™ for my fifth-great grandfather, Jöns Jeppsson (1709-1774):

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/ThruLines-JönsJeppsson.pdf>

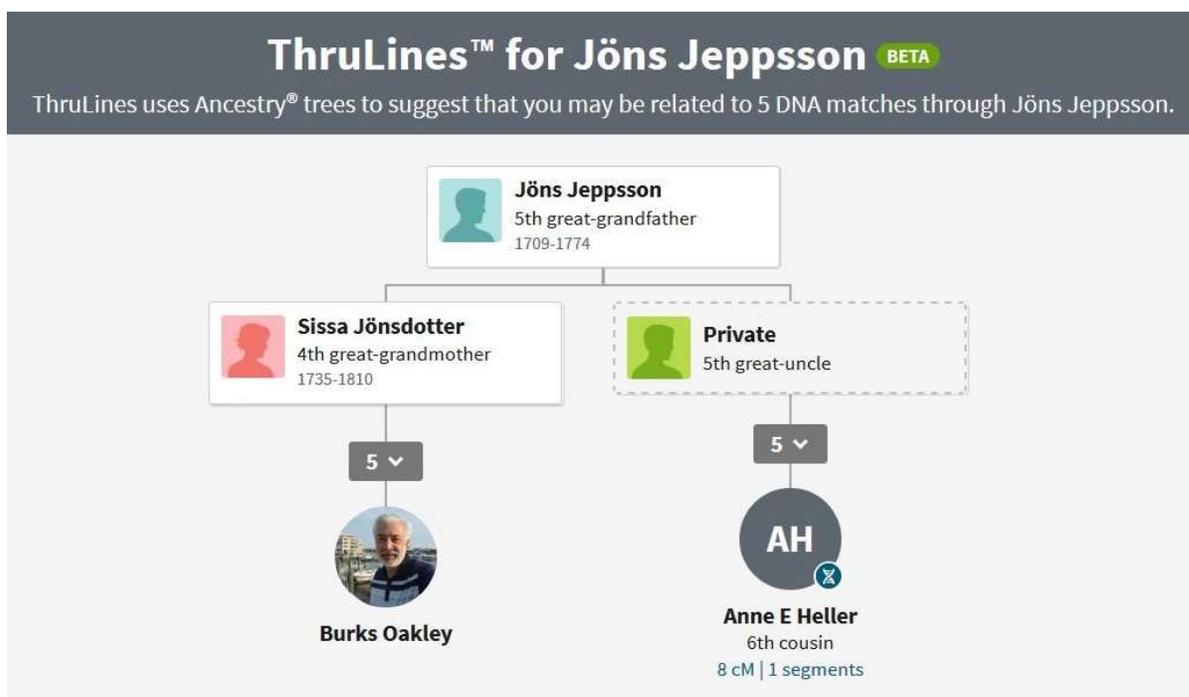
One of the puzzling findings in that narrative was that Lise-Lotte Kolmberger and Anne Heller are related. I wrote:

We are related to Lise-Lotte through Kristina Olsdotter (1821-1892), who was the WIFE of Nils Wennström. However, we are connected to Anne Heller via Nils Wennström himself. I wonder how Lise-Lotte is connected to Anne Heller. We clearly all have ancestors in the Tåssjö, Menlösa, Hasslöv, Våxtorp area, so that is where the connection has to be. This certainly is something to discuss with Lise-Lotte in the future.

In this current narrative, I now have revisited this and have figured out how we all are related. Read on!

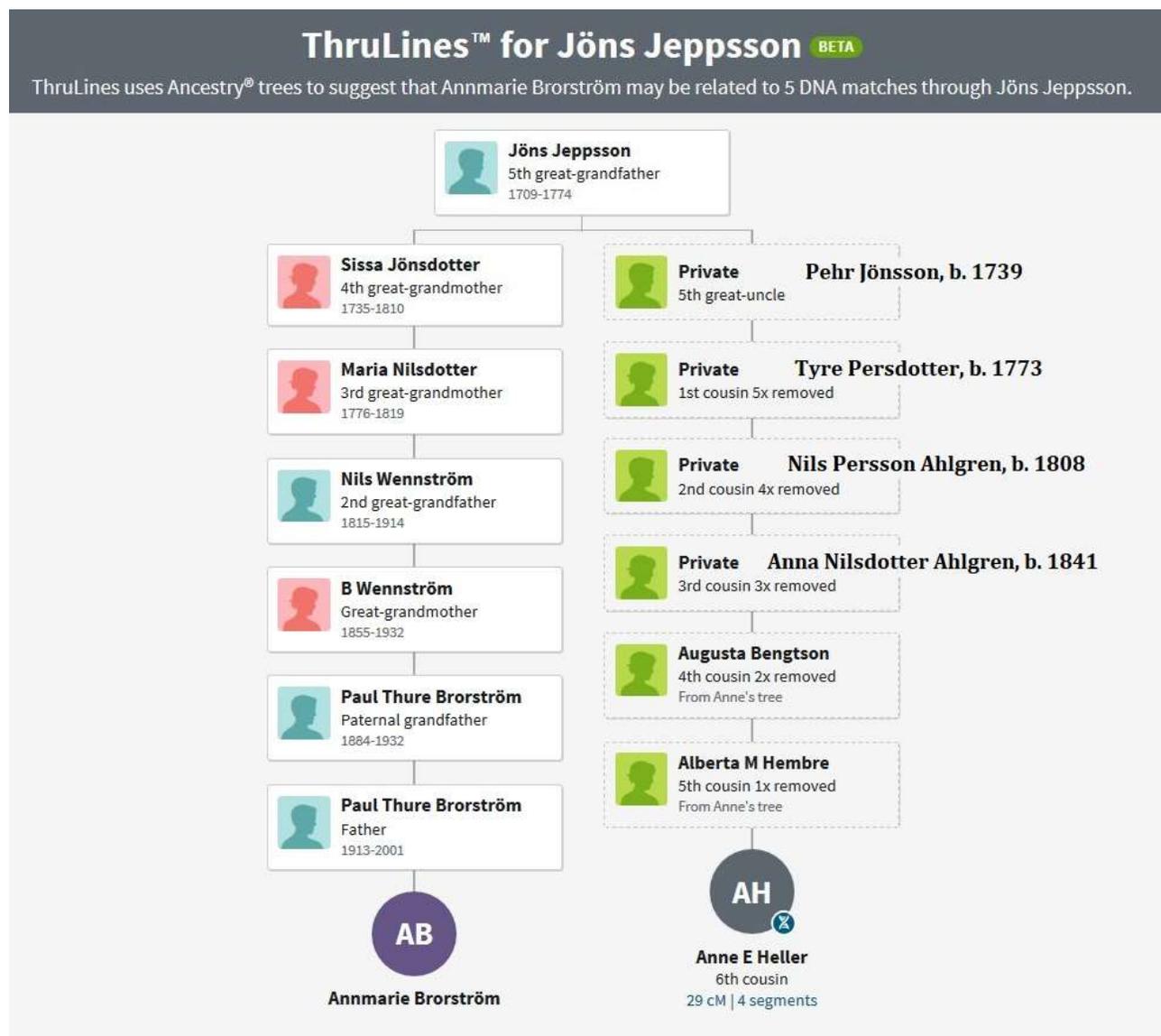
ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson

Here is the initial view of my ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson:



This ThruLines™ shows that I have an 8 cM DNA match with Anne Heller on a single DNA segment, and that we are sixth-cousins. I should add that my ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson's wife Bengta Assarsdotter looks exactly the same. And since my Swedish-American first-cousins Annmarie and Susan share the DNA match with Anne Heller, their ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson also look like this.

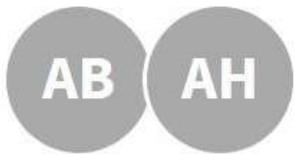
Here is a screenshot showing Annmarie's ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson, but with both lines opened up:



Our family's line goes back to Jöns Jeppsson through our second-great grandfather Nils Wennström, then his *mormor* Sissa Jönsdotter, who was a daughter of Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter. Anne Heller's line goes back to Jöns Jeppsson through his son Pehr Jönsson.

Shared DNA Matches

The puzzle in the previous narrative about the ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson was that Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport also is related to Anne Heller:



Annamarie Brorström and Anne E Heller

Predicted relationship: 4th-6th Cousin
Shared DNA: 29 cM across 4 segments

- ★ + Add to group
- 📄 Featured in narrative about Jons Jeppsson. 13Apr19.

Trees Ethnicity Shared Matches

All matches ▾ Add a filter ▾ Search

4th Cousin



Ewa-Christine Alvdén
Stenport

4th-6th Cousin

Shared DNA: 55 cM across 7 segments ⓘ

🌳 Unlinked Tree

★ ● + Add/edit groups

Annamarie and Anne Heller have a shared DNA match with Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport, who is the mother of Lise-Lotte Kolmberger. I also have this shared match with Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport:



You and Anne E Heller

Predicted relationship: 5th-8th Cousin
Shared DNA: 8 cM across 1 segments

- ★ ● + Add/edit groups
- 📄 ThruLines suggests she is descended from Jöns JEPPSSON and Bengta

Trees Ethnicity Shared Matches

All matches ▾ Add a filter ▾ Search

1st Cousin



Annamarie Brorström

1st-2nd Cousin

Shared DNA: 793 cM across 37 segments ⓘ

👥 390 People

🌿 Common ancestor

★ ● + Add/edit groups

4th Cousin



Ewa-Christine Alvdén
Stenport

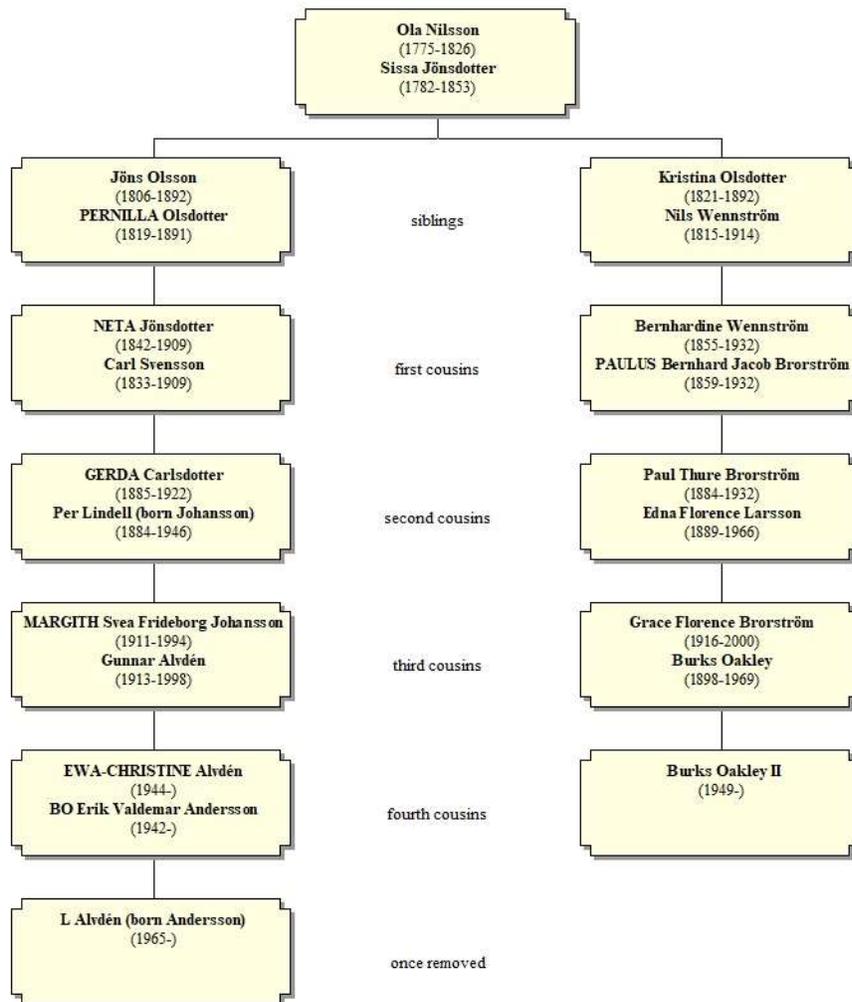
4th-6th Cousin

Shared DNA: 28 cM across 3 segments ⓘ

🌳 Unlinked Tree

★ ● + Add/edit groups

The following chart shows how I am related to Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport:



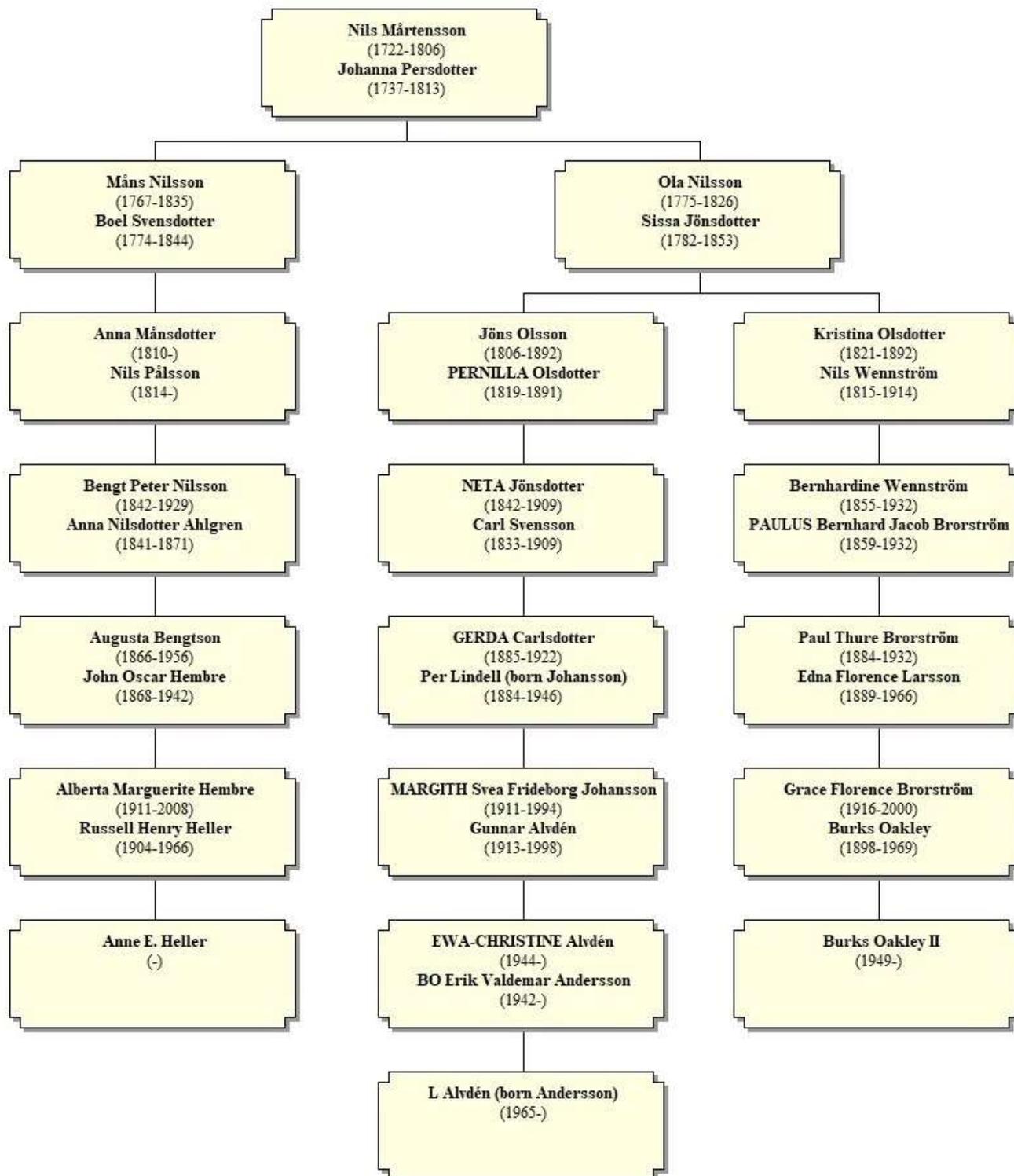
This chart shows that we are related through Kristina Olsdotter (in the upper-right of the chart), who was Nils Wennström's wife. But the ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson, which accounts for our family's connection with Anne Heller, goes back through Nils Wennström himself. And therein lies the puzzle. So how do we get around this?

Drum roll, please....

Scroll down.....

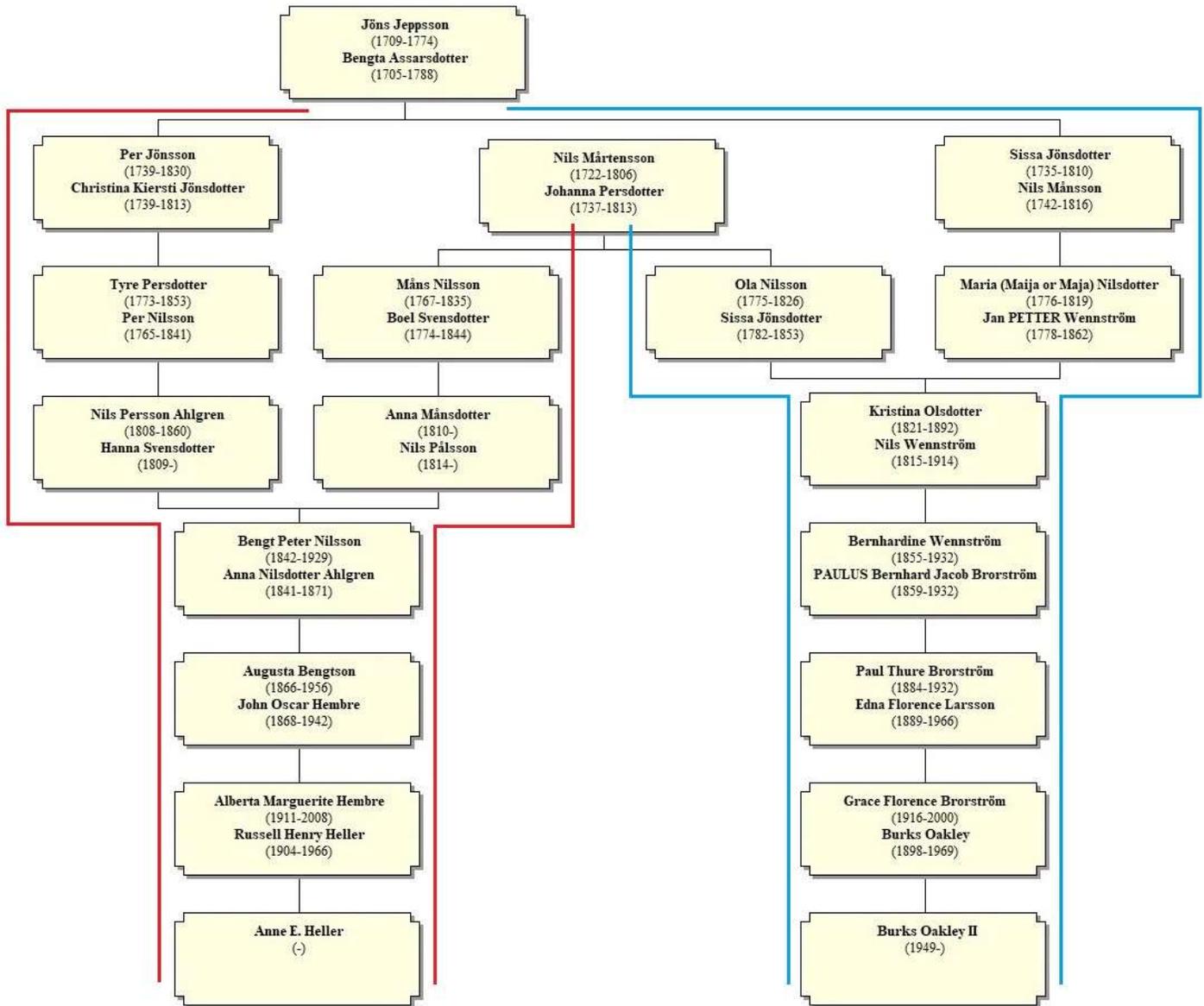
Go to the next page -

After much digging, I found that I have another pair of ancestors in common with Lise-Lotte Kolmberger, her mother Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport, and Anne Heller – and those ancestors are Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter. This relationship is shown in the following chart:



Anne Heller is descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter through their son Måns Nilsson, while Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport and I are descended from this couple through their son Ola Nilsson.

Putting the two sets of common ancestors on the same chart gives the following:



This chart shows that Anne Heller and I are both descended from two unrelated couples: (1) Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter and (2) Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter.

In Anne's line (marked in red), Bengt Peter Nilsson married Anna Nilsson Ahlgren. Bengt was the great-grandson of Nils Mårtensson and Johanna

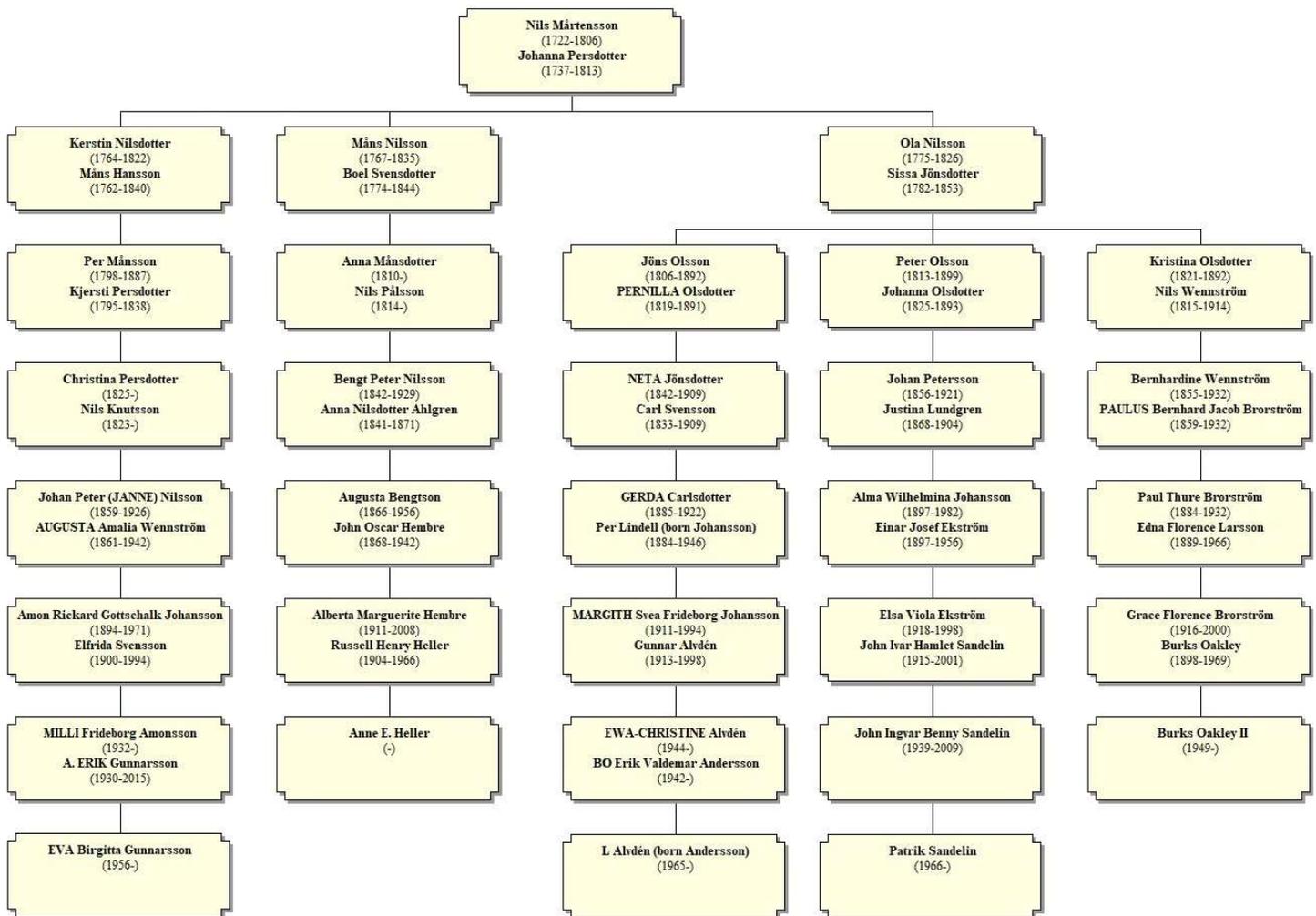
Persdotter, while Anna was the great-great-granddaughter of Jöns Jeppsson and Bengta Assarsdotter.

In our family's line (marked in blue), Nils Wennström married Kristina Olsdotter. Nils was the great-grandson of Jöns Jeppsson and Bengta Assarsdotter, while Kristina was the granddaughter of Nils Mårtensson and Johanna Persdotter.

All these families lived for many generations in southern Halland County, Sweden, in the towns of Våxtorp, Hasslöv, and Menlösa (and just over the border in Tåssjö, which is in the far north of Skåne County). So it isn't at all surprising that the families intermarried.

Note that Annmarie's match with Anne is 29 cM on four segments. It is tempting to hypothesize that Annmarie and Anne have a matching segment of DNA from each of these couples, since they have four different matching segments. On the other hand, I only have an 8 cM match with Anne on a single segment. And Susan has just a 12 cM match with Anne on a single segment. So Susan and I clearly only have a DNA segment from one of these two couples.

I now am able to construct a chart showing how five of my Swedish relatives are related. These people are Eva Gunnarsson Josefsson, Anne Heller, Lise-Lotte Kolmberger and her mother Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport, and Patrik Sandelin:



I visited Eva, Lise-Lotte, and Patrik when I was in Sweden in May 2019. But I never put all this together to realize that they all were related to each other. I guess that a picture is worth 1000 words!

Conclusion

In this short narrative, I have reviewed our family's ThruLines™ for our fifth-great grandparents Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter. These ThruLines™ account for our DNA match with Anne E. Heller. Our line back to this couple goes through Nils Wennström. But it was puzzling to see that Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport has a DNA match with Anne Heller, since I only knew that our family was related to her through Nils Wennström's wife, Kristina Olsdotter.

It turns out that there is another connection with Anne Heller. She also is descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter. And this pathway accounts for the DNA match between Ewa-Christine Alvdén Stenport and Anne Heller.

In putting all this together, I realized that Eva Gunnarsson Josefsson is related to Anne Heller and to Lise-Lotte Kolmberger!! And to Patrik Sandelin (who I met in Stockholm in May 2019). What a small world!!

As I wrote earlier, “We clearly all have ancestors in the Tåssjö, Menlösa, Hasslöv, Våxtorp area, so that is where the connection has to be.” And that is where our connection really was!

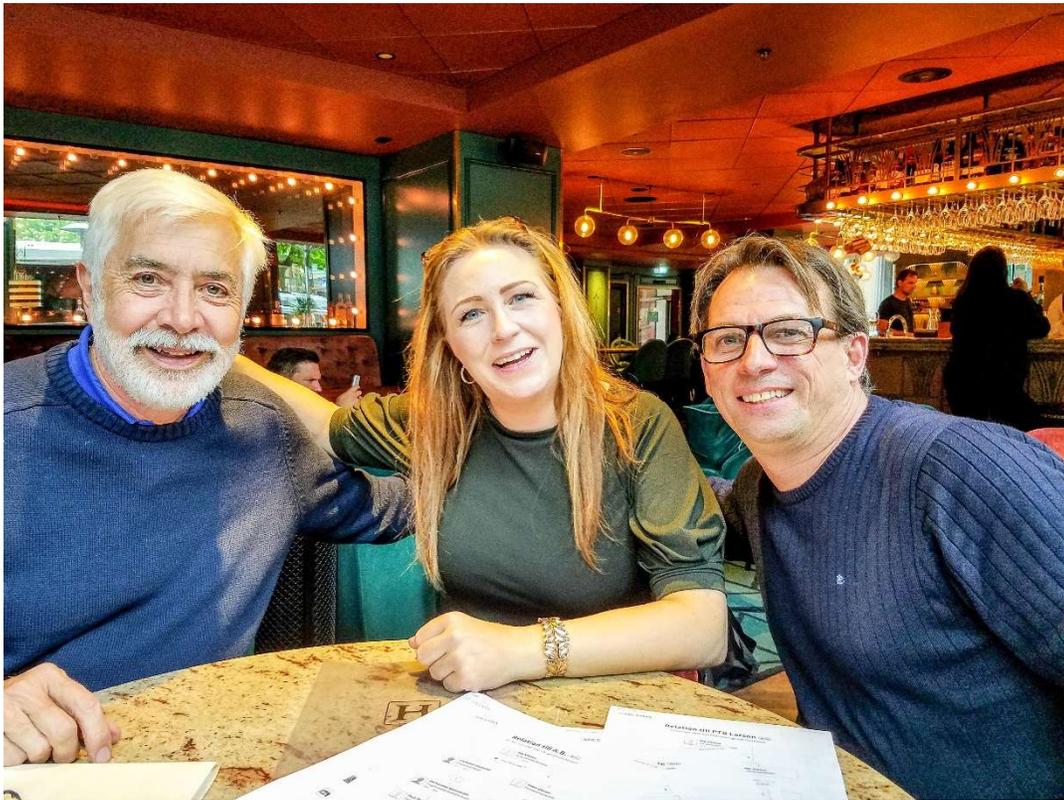
Appendix – Photos from my visit to Sweden in May 2019



Selfie with Lise-Lotte in Gothenburg harbor, 12 May 2019



Eva Josefsson & her husband Sterner in Halmstad, 13 May 2019.



With Patrik Sandelin and his first-cousin Jennie, at the Scandic Haymarket Hotel in Stockholm, 19 May 2019.