

# **Fred Johnson and Frederick Hinton – DNA Matches Connecting to Larsson Family Roots in Fjärås, Sweden**

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12 February 2019 [Revised 8 June 2019]

This narrative includes DNA connections with:

- Fred Johnson
- Frederick Hance (Hinton)

## ***Introduction***

I am a Swedish-American; my mother's four grandparents all immigrated to America from Sweden in the 1880's. For the past few years, I have been using DNA analysis on the Ancestry.com website to expand my knowledge of my Swedish ancestry.

Four of my Swedish-American first-cousins also have had their DNA tested on Ancestry.com – Peter Thure Brorström (who changed his name to Peter Larson as an adult), Annmarie Brorström DeMattia, Susan Brorström Baker, and Stuart Eck. I recently have started looking at their DNA matches, with the goal of identifying distant Swedish cousins who will help me confirm and expand my Swedish family tree. Since people inherit half their DNA from each parent, my Swedish-American cousins will have DNA matches with our distant cousins that I do not have. Therefore, it makes sense to examine their DNA matches in addition to mine.

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. An important feature of this software is that it also examines all of the family trees on Ancestry.com as it seeks to discover these connections. It even

searches family trees that are marked “Private”, to which I would normally not have access.

This narrative deals with my family’s ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson (1775-1838) and his wife Talena Persdotter (1778-1853). These people were my fourth-great grandparents.



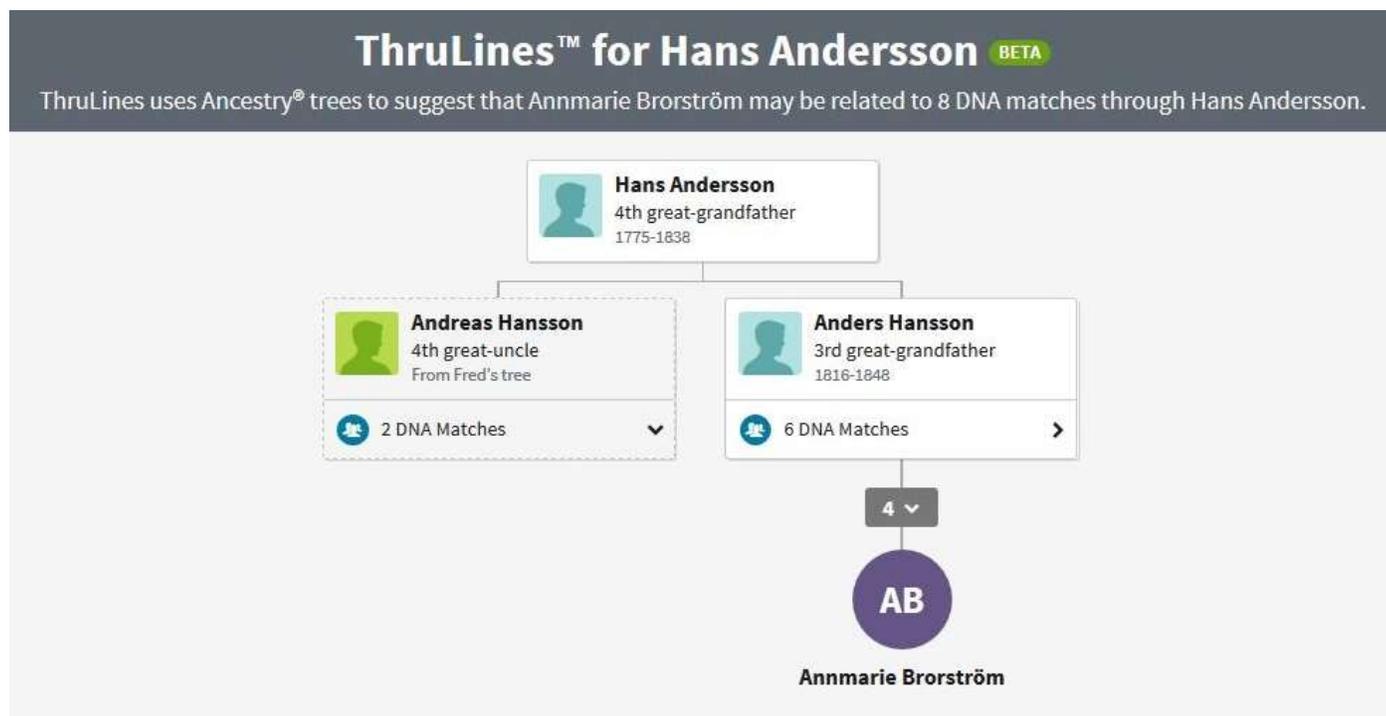
They lived in Fjärås, Sweden, and were the second-great grandparents of my immigrant great-grandfather, Lars Emil Larsson (1864-1945).



The church in Fjärås.

## *ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson and Talena Persdotter*

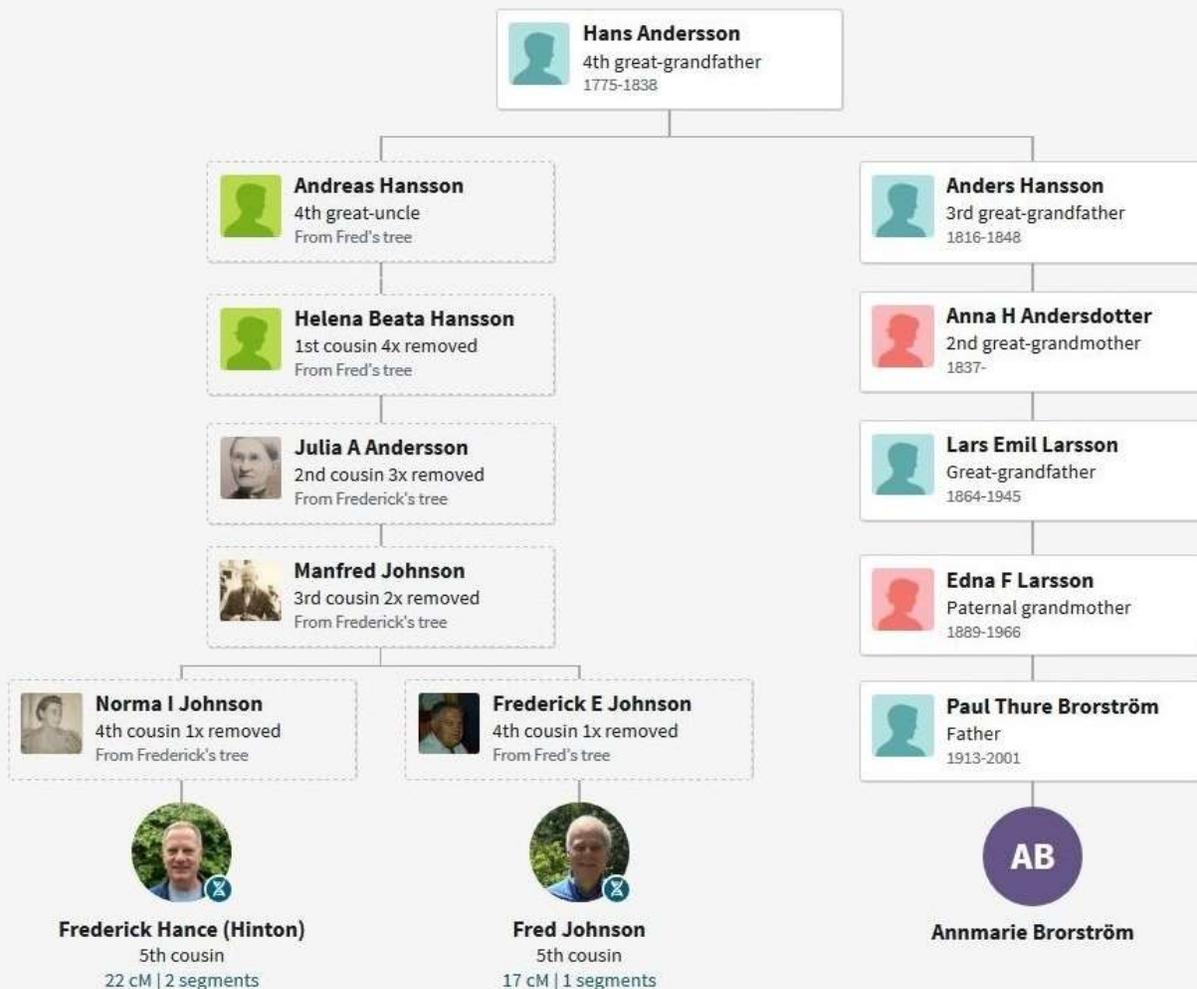
I started first with MY ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson and his wife Talena Persdotter. Unfortunately, I don't have any DNA matches that can be traced back to this couple as our MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor). So I then moved on to look at Anmarie's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson:



This ThruLines™ shows that Anmarie is descended from Hans Andersson through his son Anders Hansson, and that she has DNA matches with two people who are descended from Hans Andersson through another one of his sons, Andreas Hansson. Opening up each of these lines gives the following view of Anmarie's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson:

## ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson BETA

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that Anmarie Brorström may be related to 8 DNA matches through Hans Andersson.



This ThruLines™ chart suggests that Anmarie could have DNA matches with Frederick Hance (Hinton) and Fred Johnson because they all are descended from Hans Andersson.

This chart also shows that Frederick Hance (Hinton) and Fred Johnson are first-cousins. They are fifth-cousins to Anmarie, and they share 22 cM and 17 cM of DNA with her, respectively. According to research done by Blaine Bettinger, fifth-cousins average 17 cM of shared DNA, with a range of 0 to 42 cM. So their match is exactly on this average.

Anmarie is descended from Hans Andersson through his great-grandson Lars Emil Larsson (1864-1945), who immigrated to America in 1887. Frederick Hance (Hinton) and Fred Johnson are descended from Hans Andersson through

his second-great grandson Manfred Johnson (1879-1980), who immigrated to America in 1900.

As an aside, it appears that Manfred Johnson was born Manfred Jansson, and changed his surname to Johnson when he immigrated to America. Manfred lived in Vallda, Sweden, which is about ten miles west of Fjärås.

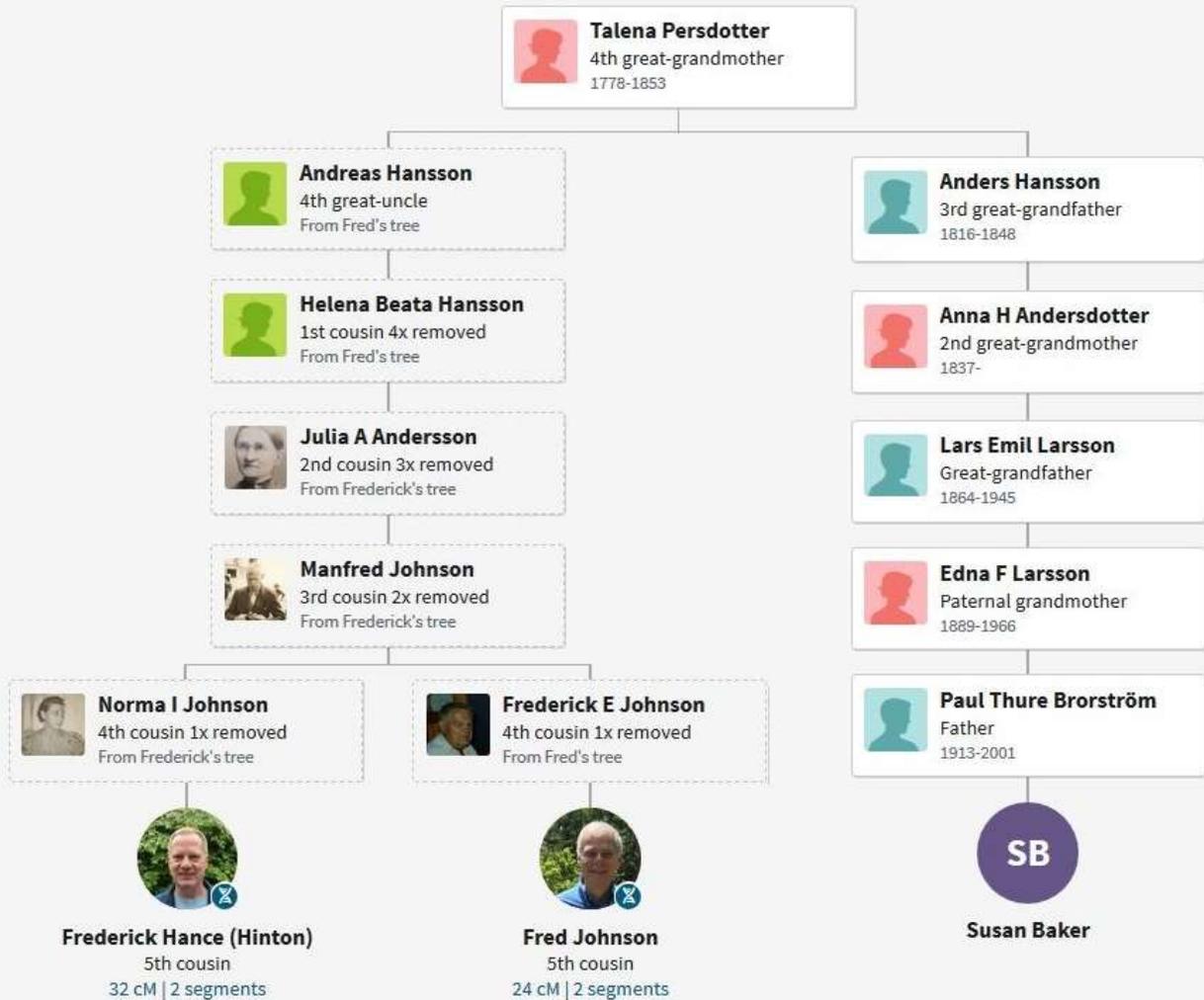
Fjärås and Vallda are shown on the following Google map:



I next looked at my first-cousin Susan's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson, and not surprisingly, it was the same as Annmarie's (except for the size of the DNA matches). For completeness, I also looked at Susan's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson's wife, Talena Persdotter. As expected, it was exactly the same as Annmarie's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson:

## ThruLines™ for Talena Persdotter BETA

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that Susan Baker may be related to 8 DNA matches through Talena Persdotter.



Susan's DNA match with Frederick Hance (Hinton) is 32 cM, while her match with Fred Johnson is 24 cM. Again, just what is expected for fifth cousins.

The noted genetic genealogist Arthur Sissman warns about using ThruLines™ as anything more than a starting point for research.<sup>1</sup> The genealogical connections shown in ThruLines™ definitely should not be taken as fact. So I looked in detail into the line going back from Frederick Hance (Hinton) and Fred Johnson to Hans Andersson and Talena Persdotter.

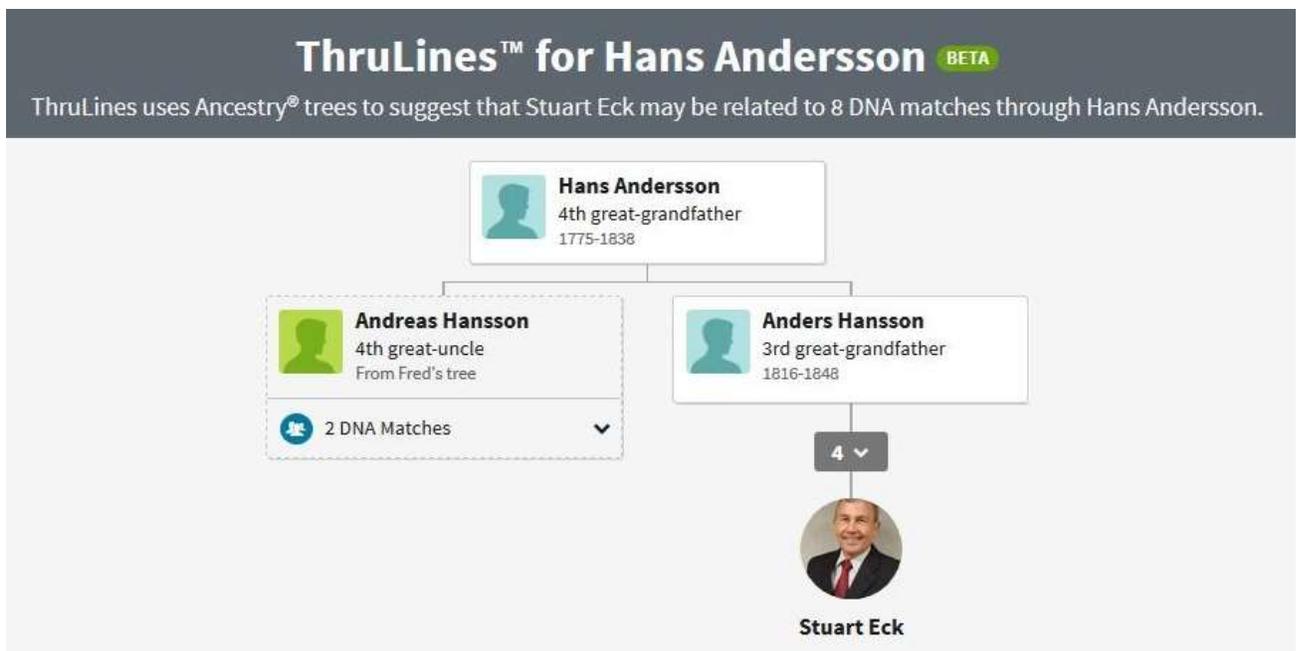
This entire line is in Fred Johnson's family tree, including Hans Andersson and his wife Talena Persdotter; it wasn't pieced together using multiple trees found

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Sissman is the Chair of the DNA SIG for the Collier County Genealogical Society in Florida.

on the Ancestry.com website. Given that this entire line is in Fred Johnson's family tree, I am inclined to believe that these genealogical connections could indeed account for the DNA matches.

I exchanged e-mail messages with Frederick Hance (Hinton). He informed me that his birth name was Frederick Allen Hinton, and that he had been given up for adoption at birth. He was raised with the name Frederick Joseph Hance. And it was only through DNA on Ancestry.com that he discovered his actual birth family, and his relationship to Fred Johnson.

Just for completeness, I also looked at the ThruLines™ that my first-cousin Stuart has for Hans Andersson:

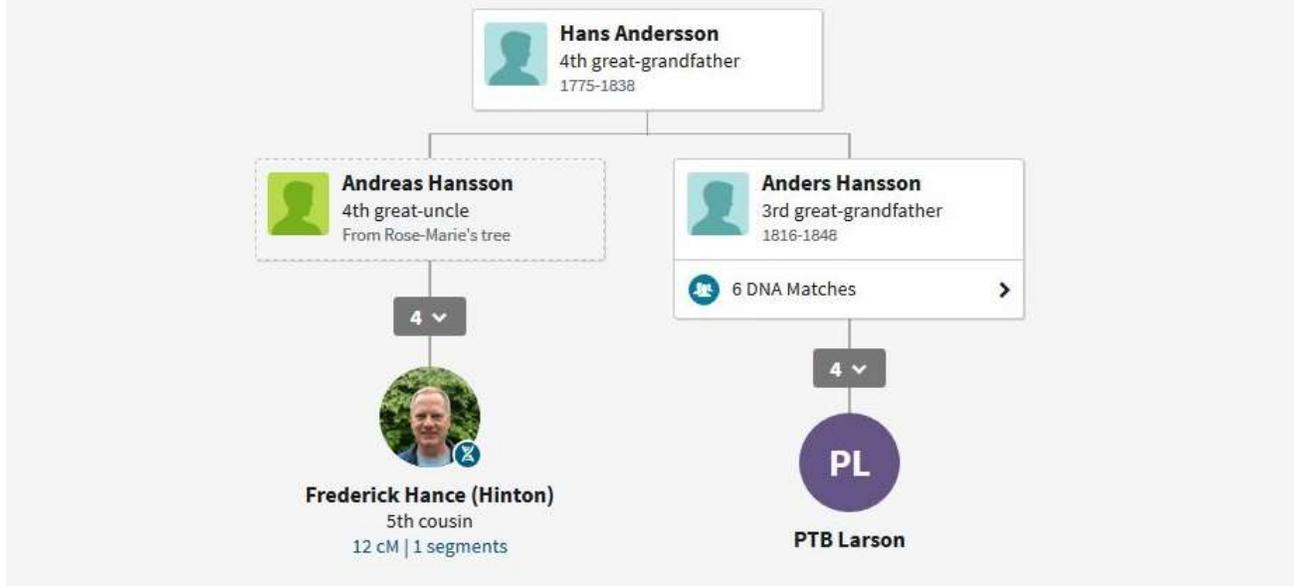


Stuart has the same DNA matches with Frederick Hance (born Hinton) and Fred Johnson – 21 cM and 14 cM, respectively.

I also looked at Peter Thure Brorström's ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson:

## ThruLines™ for Hans Andersson BETA

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that PTB Larson may be related to 7 DNA matches through Hans Andersson.



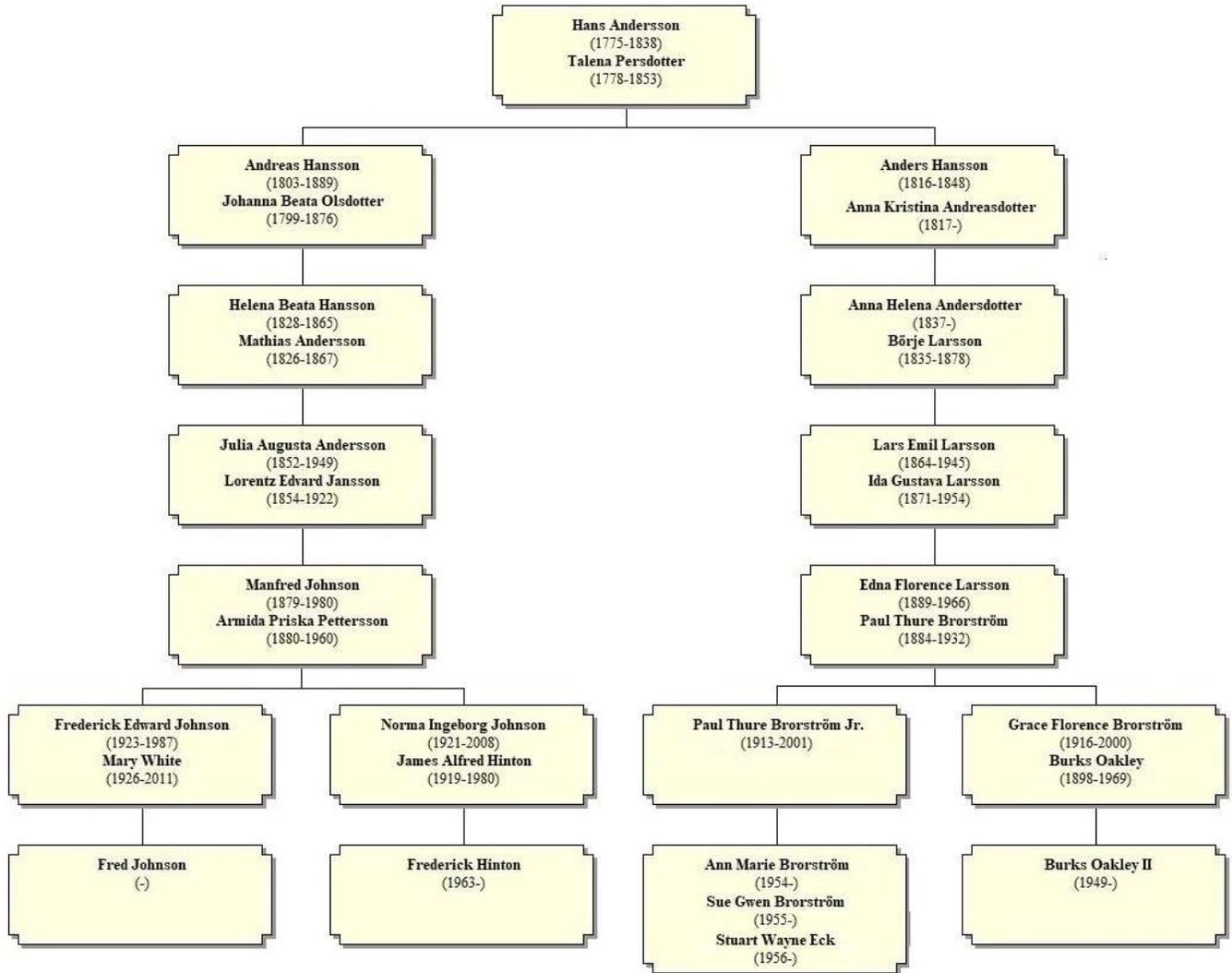
Interestingly, Peter only has the DNA match with Frederick Hance (born Hinton); he doesn't have the DNA match with Fred Johnson.

It is worth repeating that I do not have a DNA match with either Fred Johnson or Frederick Hance (born Hinton). I am grateful that my Swedish-American cousins have given me access to their DNA profiles on Ancestry.com, since I probably would not have found these fifth-cousins any other way.

### ***Conclusion***

In this narrative, I have presented details of DNA matches between my Swedish-American first-cousins Peter, Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart, and our Swedish-American fifth-cousins Fred Johnson and Frederick Hance (born Hinton). Both our families (Larsson, Johnson) have family trees showing that we are descended from Hans Andersson (1775-1838) and his wife Talena Persdotter (1778-1853), who lived their entire lives in Fjärås, Sweden. The DNA matches between the two families provide strong support for the genealogical record.

The combined family trees are shown in the following chart:



## ***Appendix – Photos from Fjärås***

On 1 July 2016, my first-cousin Susan Brorström Baker and I visited Fjärås. We were accompanied by our distant Swedish cousins Göran Grotting and Ingemar Nilsson, along with Ingemar's wife Pia. Here are some photos taken on that visit.



Burks standing in front of a house in which Lars Emil Larsson lived.



Another house in which Lars Emil Larsson lived.



The church in Fjärås.



The view looking west from the church.



Another view looking west from the church.



One of the houses in which Lars Emil Larsson lived is in the center of this photo.



Road sign for Fjärås.



Welcome to Fjärås Centre.



Burks, Stig RUNE Ingmar Carlsson, Susan, Göran, and Ingemar in the yard of one of the houses in which Lars Emil Larsson lived. Rune is a Larsson descendant, but due to my inability to speak Swedish, I never did learn the relationship.