

Lance Carlson – A DNA Match on the Ida Gustava Larsson Line

by Burks Oakley II
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Introduction

I am using DNA on the Ancestry.com website to confirm and to extend my family tree. I especially am interested in the Swedish branch of my family tree. My mother was Grace Brorström Oakley (1916-2000), and all four of her grandparents were Swedes who immigrated to America in the 1880's. Of course, that made her 100% Swedish.

My mother had an older brother, Paul Thure Brorström Jr. (1913-2001), and four of his children have their DNA profiles on the Ancestry.com website. Due to the way that autosomal DNA is inherited, they have DNA matches with some of our distant Swedish relatives that I don't have. So when I find a DNA match on their Swedish line, it is as good as me having that match.

Several times each week, I look to see if I have any new DNA matches on Ancestry.com; however, I'm really only interested in those matches where the software on the website is able to identify an ancestor (or ancestors) that a DNA match and I have in common. I typically get more than one hundred new DNA matches each week, but only once every few weeks do I get one showing a common ancestor.

Of course, the same goes for my Swedish-American Brorström first-cousins.

Susan's DNA Match with Lance Carlson

Several weeks ago, I noticed that my cousin Susan Brorström Baker had a new DNA match with a man named Lance Carlson [the blue dot in the screenshot below means that I hadn't viewed this match previously]:

The screenshot displays the 'Susan Baker's DNA Matches' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'List' and 'Map'. Below this, there are filter buttons for 'Unviewed' (selected) and 'Common ancestors'. A search and sort option is also visible. The main match entry is titled 'One month ago' and shows a profile for 'Lance Carlson' with a blue dot indicating it is unviewed. The relationship is listed as '5th-8th Cousin' with 'Shared DNA: 7 cM across 1 segments'. To the right, it indicates '3 People' and 'Common ancestor'.

Susan and Lance share just 7 cM on a single DNA segment. I always like these small DNA matches, since they come from common ancestors who are farther back in the family tree. And the important thing is that Ancestry.com found an ancestor that they have in common.

When I looked into the details of Susan's DNA match with Lance, I learned that they both are descended from Maria Torstensdotter:

How are Susan Baker and Lance Carlson related?

Common Ancestors 🌿

According to Ancestry member trees, these are the common ancestors that connect Susan Baker and Lance Carlson. View a common ancestor to see the relationship path that connects them.

Susan Baker and Lance Carlson could be half 4th cousin 1x removed through:



Maria Torstensdotter
4th great-grandmother
1791-1831
[View Relationship](#)

Maria Torstensdotter was Susan's fourth-great grandmother (of course, she was MY fourth-great grandmother as well). Here is my line going back to this woman:

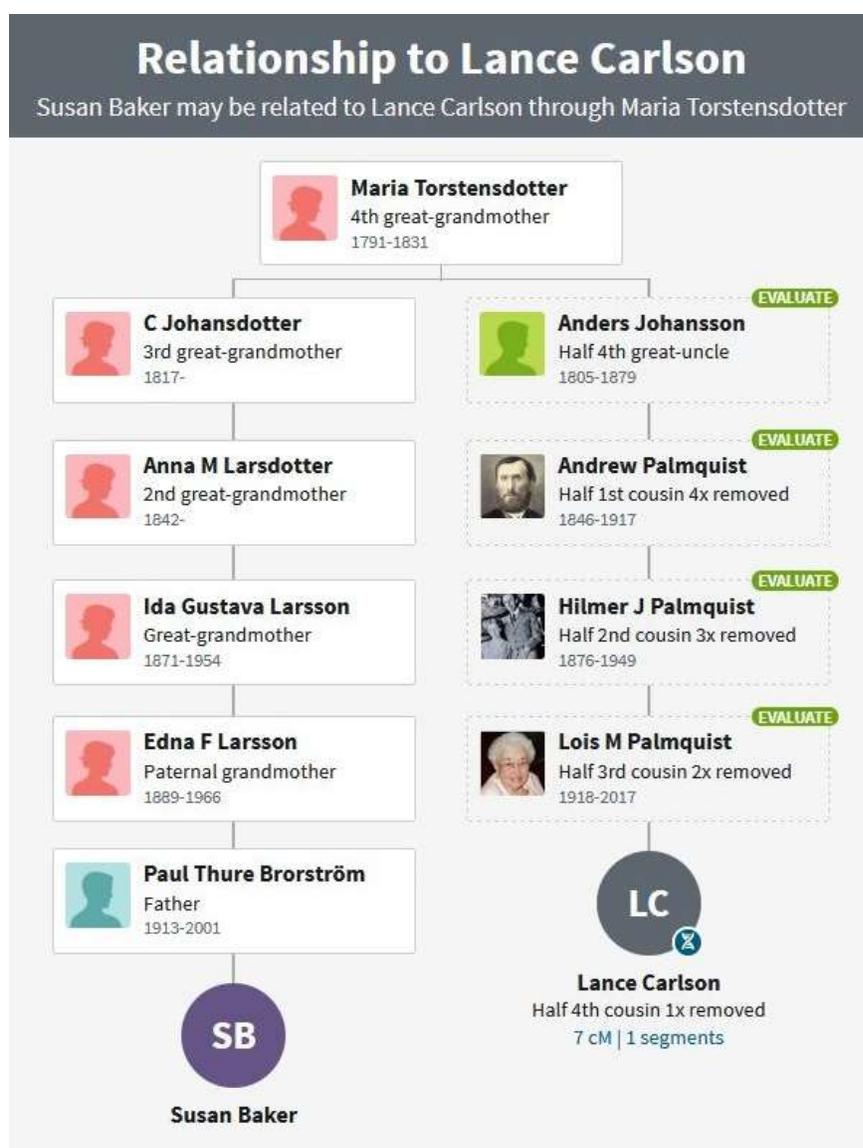


Maria was the great-grandmother of my great-grandmother Ida Gustava Larsson (1871-1954). Ida immigrated to America with her parents and younger sister, Emma Christina Larsson, in 1882.

Wow! This is one of just a handful of DNA matches that our family has on the Ida Gustava Larsson line. So this is great to see!

It is interesting to note that my line going back to Maria Torstensdotter is all women.

Software on the Ancestry.com website automatically created a chart showing how Susan and Lance are related:



Susan is descended from Maria Torstensdotter through her daughter Christina Johansdotter (1817-?), while Lance is descended from Maria Torstensdotter through her son Anders Johansson (1805-1879). I note that Anders' son was named Andrew Palmquist, so it looks like they took on the inheritable family name of Palmquist, which was not all that unusual in Sweden at that time (more about this below).

I next wanted to confirm that the Maria Torstensdotter in Lance's line is the same person as the Maria Torstensdotter in my line. Here is my entry for this woman:

Burks Oakley II ▾ Tree Search

Maria Torstensdotter
BIRTH 1791 • Algutstorp, Sweden
DEATH 1831 • Algutstorp, Sweden

Family

Parents

Torsten Andersson Bärnström
1750-1815

Katarina Andersdotter
-1829

Here two entries from other trees that were used to construct the ThruLines™ (although there are eleven trees with this information). The first entry is from the “Anderson gedcom tree”:

The screenshot shows a genealogy profile for Maria TORSTENSDOTTER. At the top, the tree name is "anderson gedcom tree" and the user is "Adam Anderson". The profile includes a red silhouette icon, the name "Maria TORSTENSDOTTER", and birth/death information: "BIRTH 1 AUG 1791 • Dunebacken, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden" and "DEATH 24 NOV 1831 • Hagrunga, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden". Under the "Family" section, "Parents" are listed as "Torsten Andersson Brandkula BANSTROM 1750-1815" and "Catharina ANDERSDOTTER 1759-1829".

The second entry, which has the same exact information, is from the “Stenborg” tree:

The screenshot shows a genealogy profile for Maria (Maja) Torstensdotter. At the top, the tree name is "Stenborg" and the user is "kent_stenborg". The profile includes a red silhouette icon, the name "Maria (Maja) Torstensdotter", and birth/death information: "BIRTH 1 AUG 1791 • Dunebacken, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden" and "DEATH 24 NOV 1831 • Hagrunga, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden". Under the "Family" section, "Parents" are listed as "TorstenAndersson Brandkula Banström 1750-1815" and "Catharina Andersdotter 1759-1829".

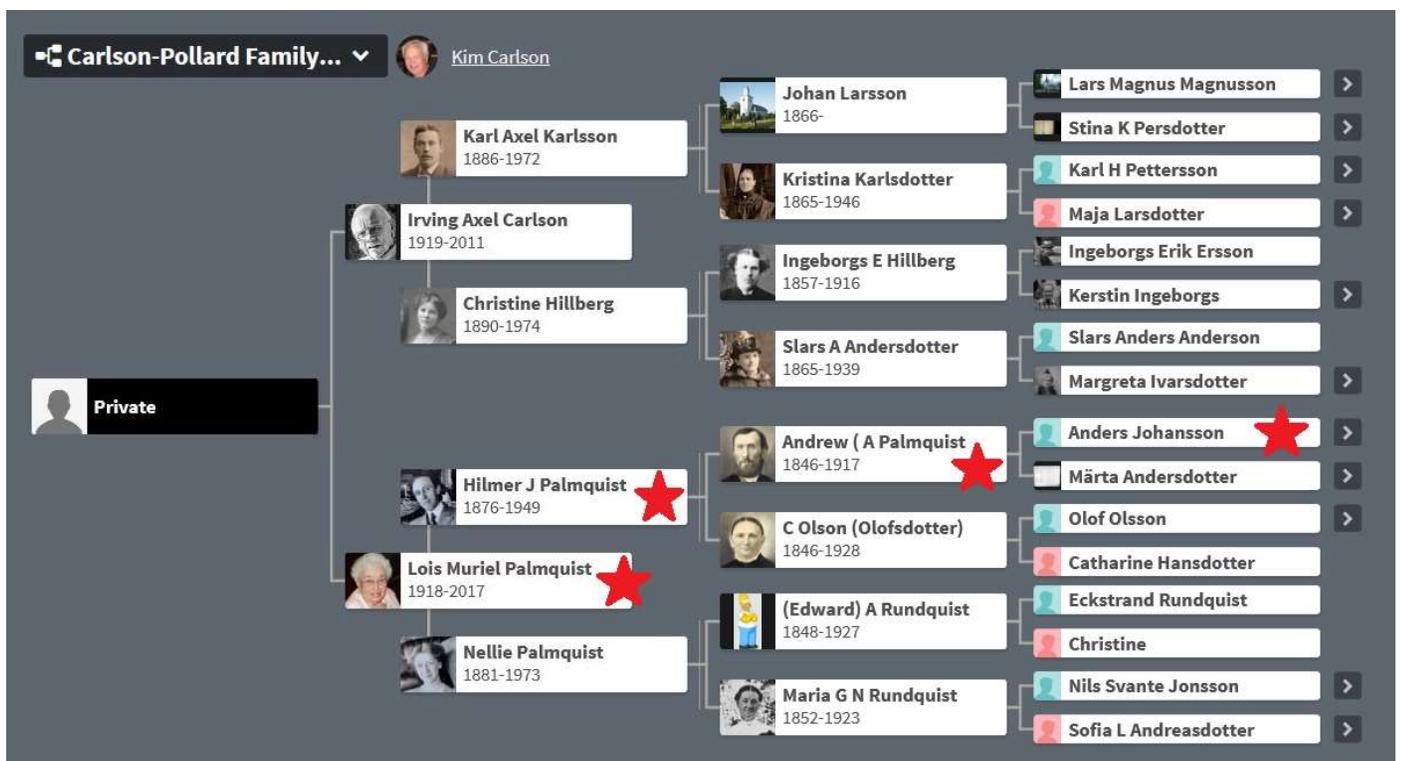
Given that the dates, locations, and parents are all the same, I conclude it is the same Maria Torstensdotter in Susan’s line (my line) and Lance’s line.

I next wanted to confirm the line from Lance back to Maria Torstensdotter. I looked at Lance’s family tree:



Oh my! He only has his parents in his family tree. Somehow the software found Lance's mother in another family tree that showed the line through her back to Maria Torstensdotter.

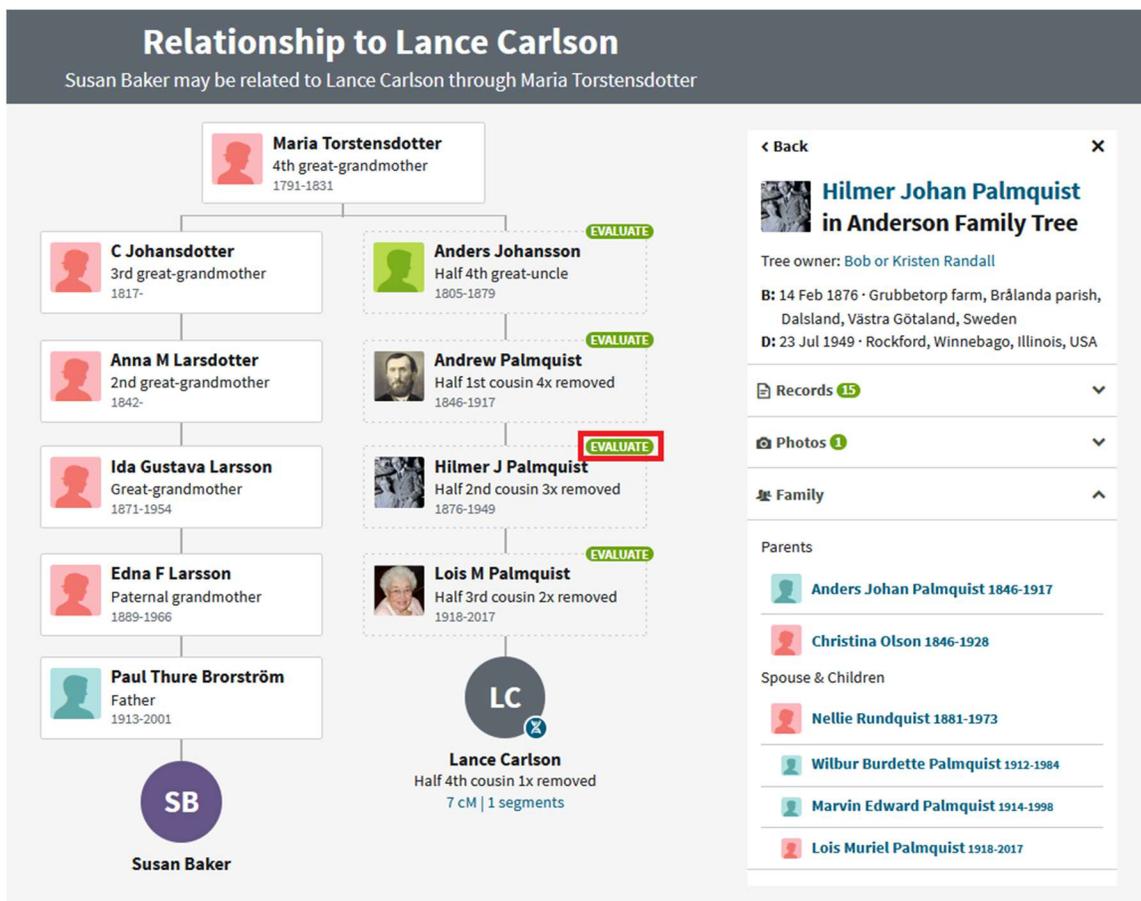
I searched for Lois Palmquist, and found her in the "Carlson-Pollard Family Tree", which is owned by Kim Carlson:



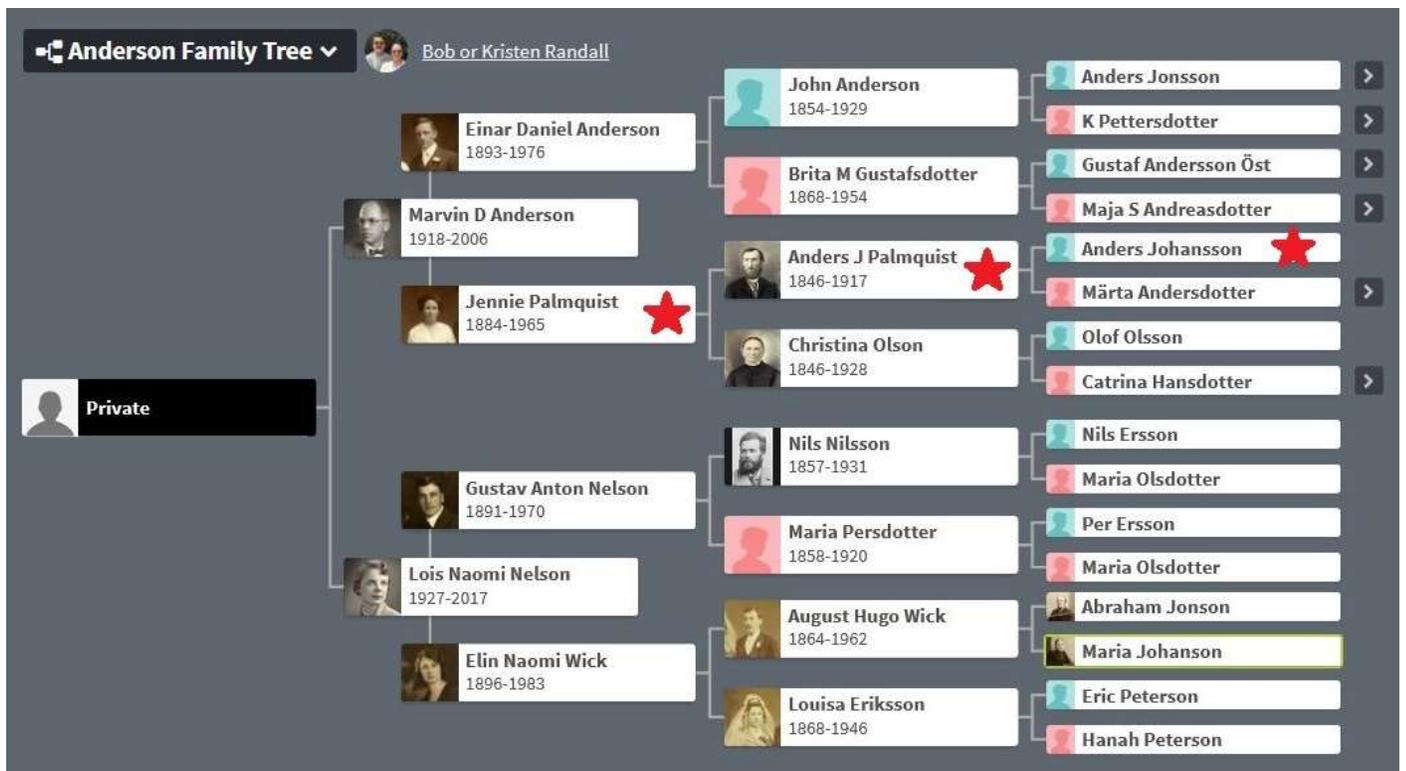
This tree shows the line from Lois Muriel Palmquist back to Anders Johansson, and it then has Ander's mother as Maja Torstensdotter (not shown). Well, Maja is another name for Maria in Swedish. So this line looks legitimate.

But wait! Kim Carlson's parents were Irving Axel Carlson and Lois Muriel Palmquist – and those are the parents of Lance Carlson. Recall that this all started with Susan Brorström Baker's DNA match with Lance. So Lance and Kim must be brothers! An e-mail exchange with Kim confirmed this.

I also found a part of Lance's family line back to Maria Torstensdotter in a tree owned by Kristen Randall:



Kristen has this line because her great-grandfather was Anders (or Andrew) Palmquist:



Anders J. Palmquist (1846-1917) was Kristen's great-grandfather and he was Lance's great-grandfather. So Kristen and Lance are second-cousins.

Adopting the Family Name of Palmquist

Andrew Palmquist appears in Kim Carlson's family tree:



The screenshot shows a family tree interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with "Carlson-Pollard Family..." and a "Tree Search" button. Below this, a profile card for "Andrew (b. Anders Johon Andersson) Palmquist" is displayed. The card includes a portrait of a man with a beard and a top hat. To the right of the portrait, the name "Andrew (b. Anders Johon Andersson) Palmquist" is written in large, bold letters. Below the name, the birth and death information is provided: "BIRTH 8 FEB 1846 • Västra gatan (west street) Bralanda, Dalsland, Västra Götaland, Sweden" and "DEATH 7 MAR 1917 • Lanse, Clearfield, Pennsylvania, USA".

Note that this entry shows that he was born Anders Johon Andersson and changed his name to Andrew Palmquist. Palmquist is an “ornamental” name composed of the elements palm (for palm tree) plus quist, an old or ornamental spelling of kvist, meaning ‘twig’. I wrote about Swedish names in an earlier document:

http://www.burksoakley.com/genealogy/HBO-PatronymicNames_27Jan20.pdf

I asked both Kristen and Kim about why the name was changed to Palmquist.

Kim wrote “I think I heard from my mother (who was a Palmquist) there were just so many Andersons that when Anders emigrated from Sweden to the US, he took Palmquist. Not sure of any reason why he chose Palmquist specifically...but I think that was the reason. Just wanted something different to distinguish themselves from all the ubiquitous Andersons.”

Kristen wrote “A Swedish friend said they might have just wanted to change it because Andersson was/is a very common surname. (Anderson is my maiden name, interestingly enough.) I believe one of Andrew's brothers bucked the Palmquist trend and changed his name to Norlin.”

I am not sure about these explanations. Andrew Palmquist immigrated to America in 1880 or 1881. Here is a timeline for Andrew from Kim Carlson's family tree:

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1853 7 | Birth of Sister Inga Maja Andersdotter (1853–1854) 7 Jun 1853 • Brålanda, Västra Götaland, Sweden |
| 1854 8 | Death of Sister Inga Maja Andersdotter (1853–1854) 13 Jun 1854 • Brålanda, Västra Götaland, Sweden |
| 1855 9 | Birth of Brother Otto Andersson (1855–1856) 15 Nov 1855 • Bråland, Västra Götaland, Sweden |
| 1856 10 | Death of Brother Otto Andersson (1855–1856) About 1856 • Bråland, Västra Götaland, Sweden |
| 1858 12 | Birth of Brother Aron Palmqvist (1858–1944) 11 May 1858 • Brålanda, Västra Götaland, Sweden |
| 1858 12 | Birth of Brother Aron Palmqvist (1858–1944) 11 May 1858 • Brålanda, Älvsborg, Sverige |
| 1861 15 | Birth of Brother Adolf Teodor Palmqvist (1861–1953) 6 Maj 1861 • Grubbetorp, Brålanda, Västra Götaland, Sverige |
| 1861 15 | Birth of Brother Adolf Teodor Palmqvist (1861–1953) 6 Nov 1861 • Grubbetorp, Brålanda, Västra Götaland, Sverige |

From this timeline, Andrew's brother Otto Andersson was born in 1855. And his brother Aron Palmqvist was born in 1858. So it would appear that the family name was changed between those dates. Andrew's brother Adolf Teodor Palmqvist was born in 1861 and had the Palmqvist name. And Adolf Teodor stayed in Sweden all his life – he didn't immigrate to America. When his son Anders Rudolf Palmqvist was born in 1900/01, he was listed in the church birth book as Adolf Teodor Palmqvist:



Of course, when or why the family name was changed really isn't all that important. I guess I should just leave it at that – that my first-cousin four-times-removed took on the inheritable family name of Palmqvist.

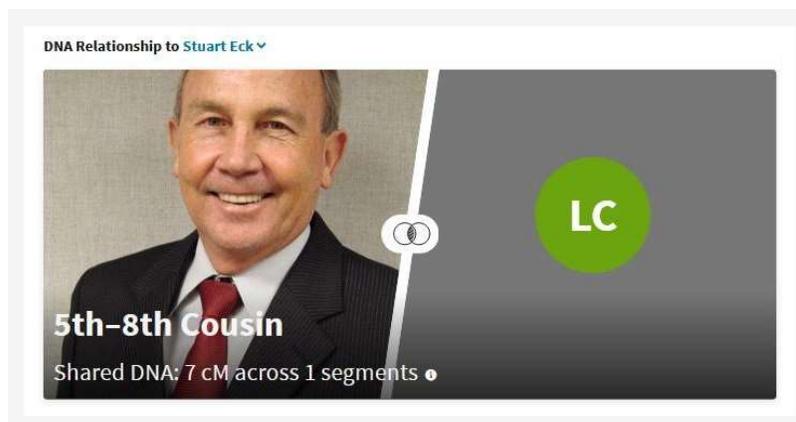
All of Paul's Children have a DNA Match with Lance Carlson

I first saw Susan Brorström Baker's DNA match with Lance Carlson. I then looked at her siblings who have their DNA profiles on Ancestry.com.

Peter Thure Brorström (now Peter Larson) has a match:



Stuart Eck has a match:



And Annmarie Brorström has a match:



But unfortunately, I don't have a match with Lance. And none of us have a DNA match with Kim Carlson (Lance's brother).

Who was Maria Torstensdotter's Husband?

The astute reader should have wondered why only Maria Torstensdotter is listed as the common ancestor for Susan and Lance. What about Maria's husband? The first Swede that I had a DNA match with was Göran Grotting, who is from Gothenburg. When we first made contact in 2013, Göran worked very hard to determine how we are related. He built complete family trees for the lines of all four of my mother's immigrant grandparents. For Ida Gustava Larsson's line, his entry for Christina Johansdotter shows that her parents were Johannes Blek Johansson (1785-1840) and Maria Torstensdotter (1791-1831). Here is an excerpt from the PDF that Göran sent me in 2013:

III:7 mm f

Johannes **Blek Johansson** (290). Född 1785 i Vänersborg (P). Död 1840 i Algutstorp (P). (Barn II:4)

Gift med efterföljande ana.

Barn:

Christina **Johansdotter** (288). Född 1817 i Algutstorp (P). (Se II:4).

III:8 mm m

Maria **Torstensdotter** (291). Född 1791 i Algutstorp (P). Död 1831 i Algutstorp (P). (Barn II:4, Far IV:15, Mor IV:16)

Gift med föregående ana.

So this is the information that I have in my family tree.

But others have Maria Torstensdotter with a different husband. Here is Kim's tree:

The screenshot shows a family tree interface for 'Carlson-Pollard Family...'. At the top, there is a search bar and a profile picture of Kim Carlson. The main entry is for Maja Torstensdr, with a birth date of 3 NOVEMBER 1780 in Sandlycke, Gunnarsnas, Alvsborg, Sweden, and a death date of 24 NOV 1831 in Sandfället, Sundals-Ryr (P). Below this, there are two columns: 'Family' and 'Spouse & Children'. The 'Family' column lists parents: Torsten Andersson Brandkula Banström (1750-1815) and Catharina Andersdotter (1759-1829). The 'Spouse & Children' column lists three individuals: Johannes Larsson (1772-1841), Anders Johansson (1805-1879), and Cajsa Johansdotter (1809-1883). A fourth individual, Johan Eric Johannesson (1812-1888), is listed below the others but is not connected to Maja in this view.

He has Maria Torstensdotter's husband as Johannes Larsson (1772-1841). Note that this entry does not show my ancestor, Christina Johansdotter (1817-?).

Here is an entry from the Stenborg Tree:

Stenborg ▾ Tree Search  kent_stenborg



Maria Torstensdotter

BIRTH 1 AUG 1791 • Dunebacken, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden
DEATH 24 NOV 1831 • Hagrunga, Algutstorp, Alvsborg, Sweden

Family

Parents

 **TorstenAndersson
Brandkula Banström**
1750-1815

 **Catharina Andersdotter**
1759-1829

Spouse & Children

 **Johan Blek Johansson**
1785-1840

 **Anders Magnus
Johansson**
1813-

 **Johannes Johansson**
1815-

 **Christina Johansdotter**
1817-

 **Torsten Johansson**
1820-

 **Carl Johansson**
1822-

 **Andreas Johansson**
1825-1829

 **Johanna Johansdotter**
1828-1877

 **Andreas Johansson**
1830-

This entry shows Maria Torstensdotter's husband as Johan Blek Johansson (the same as Göran found in 2013), and this lists my ancestor Christina Johansdotter as one of the children.

Well, Kim Carlson's tree shows three children born between 1805 and 1812 – with Johannes Larsson as the father. Kent Stenborg's tree shows eight children born between 1813 and 1830 with Johan Blek Johansson as the father. Hmmmmm – What if the first marriage ended in 1812 and Maria Torstensdotter then remarried? Two separate marriages; two different husbands. That would explain all of this.

And it would be why only Maria Torstensdotter is the common ancestor for Susan and Lance.

I'll have to add this to my list of things to investigate at some time in the future.

One last point. According to the "Stenborg Släkträd" (Stenborg Family Tree), Johan Blek Johansson remarried after Maria Torstensdotter died in 1831. He then had two more children with his second wife before he died in 1840.

Stenborg Släktträd Tree Search kent_stenborg

Johan Blek Johansson
 BIRTH 1785
 DEATH 1840 • Ambjörnstorp, Algutstorp, Älvsborg, Sverige

Spouse & Children

Maria Torstensdotter
1791-1831

Anders Magnus Johansson
1813-

Johannes Johansson
1815-

Christina Johansdotter
1817-

Torsten Johansson
1820-

Carl Johansson
1822-

Andreas Johansson
1825-1829

Johanna Johansdotter
1828-1877

Andreas Johansson
1830-

Spouse & Children

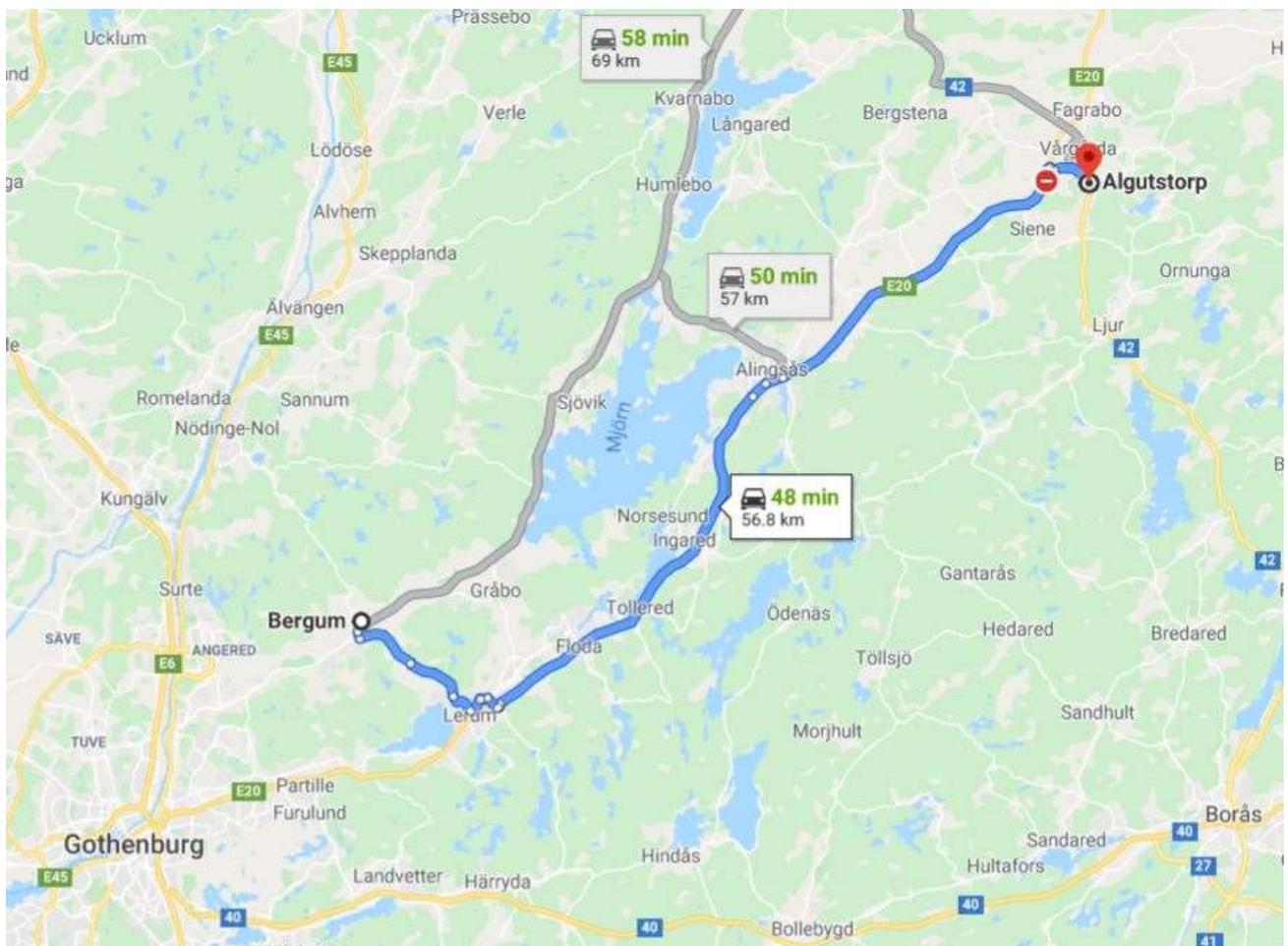
Catharina Jonsdotter
1802-

Maria Johansdotter
1833-

Christina Johansdotter
1838-1839

Algutstorp, Sweden

Maria Torstensdotter lived her entire life in Algutstorp, which is located ~70 km northeast of Gothenburg, as shown on this Google map:



This map also shows the location of Bergum, Sweden, since that is where Ida Gustava Larsson was born in 1871. And recall that Ida Gustava was a great-granddaughter of Maria Torstensdotter.

Summary

In this narrative, I have described a DNA match that my Brorström first-cousins have with Lance Carlson. This DNA match most likely goes back to our fourth-great grandmother, Maria Torstensdotter (1791-1831), who lived in Algutstorp, Sweden.

Even though Lance only has his parents in his family tree, the software on the Ancestry.com website was able to use other trees to construct his line back to Maria Torstensdotter.

This DNA match is one of just a small handful that my Brorström cousins and I have with individuals who connect through our great-grandmother Ida Gustava Larsson.

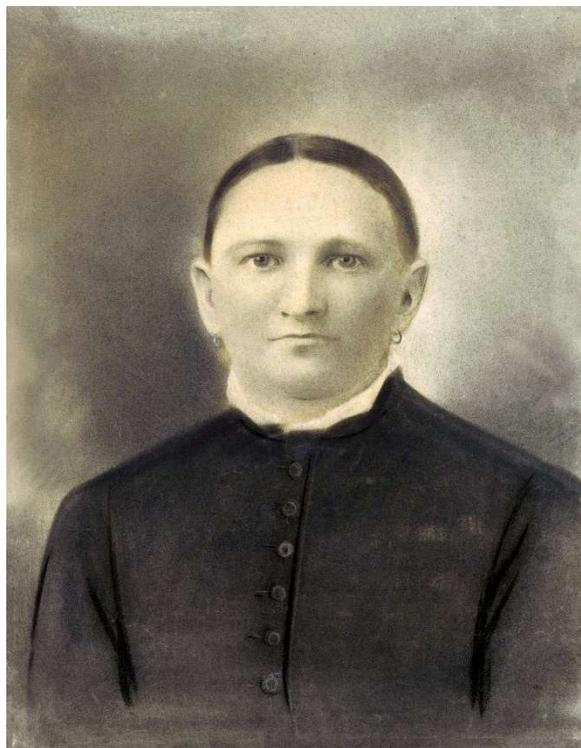
Finally, I am grateful that I have access to my Brorström cousins' DNA on Ancestry.com, since it greatly increases my odds of finding additional DNA matches with descendants of our Swedish ancestors.

Appendix

Here are scans of photos of Andrew Palmquist and his wife Christina that were sent to me by Kristen Randall:



Andrew Palmquist



Christina Olofsdotter/Olson

Here is a photograph of a document written in Swedish by Anders Palmquist (at the left), and the English translation written by Kim Carlson's father (at the right):

Wänneteken
Jag Anders Palmquist
är föd den 2 februari 1846
i Brälanda församling
of Elfsborgs län Sweden
min hustru är föd den
20 januari 1846 i Gesta
församling Elfsborgs län
Sweden.
Lansé Pa den 7 Oktober
1907
A. Palmquist
(Hilmers father).

from
Andrew Palmquist

I Anders Palmquist was born the
2nd February 1846 in
Brälanda congregation of
Elfsborgs län Sweden
my wife was born the
20th January 1846 Gesta Congregation
Elfsborgs län Sweden
Lansé Pa the 7th October 1907

A. Palmquist