

My ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson – Part I

By Burks Oakley II
16 March 2019

Introduction

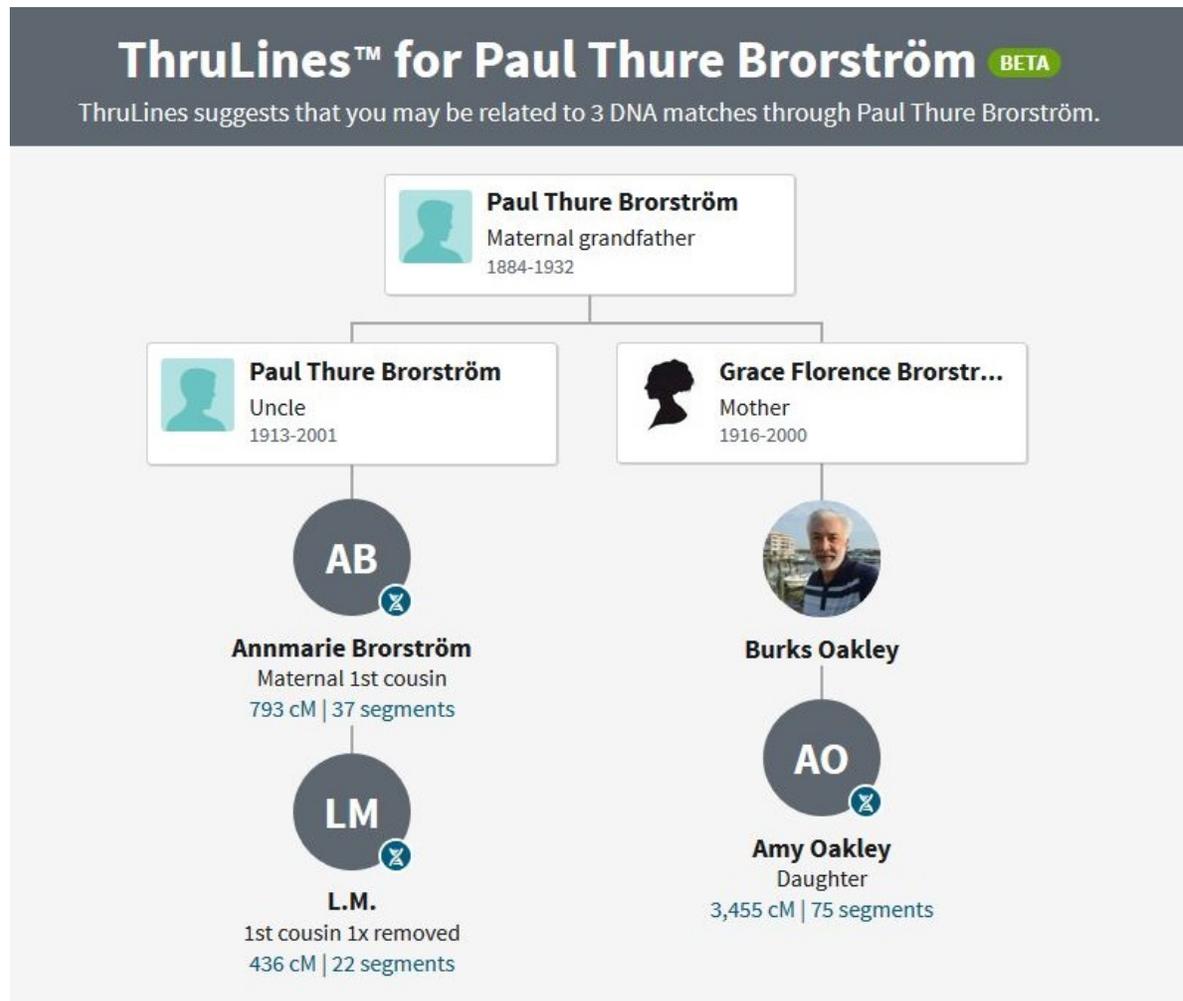
I am a Swedish-American – my mother was Grace Florence Brorström (1916-2000), and all four of her grandparents were Swedes who immigrated to America in the 1880's. I am very interested in learning about my Swedish ancestors, and to that end, I have been using DNA on the Ancestry.com website to expand my knowledge of the Swedish part of my family tree.



Countryside in Menlösa, Halland County
(photo taken by Burks Oakley II on 14 May 2018)

In February 2019, Ancestry.com released a new software feature called ThruLines™. This software first identifies my DNA matches and then searches their family trees (and mine) to determine how we are related. An interesting aspect of this software is that it also searches through other family trees on Ancestry.com, looking to build-out more complete family trees for all the

individuals involved. As an example, the following screenshot shows my ThruLines™ for my maternal grandfather, Paul Thure Brorström Sr. (1884-1932) – also known as PTB Sr.:

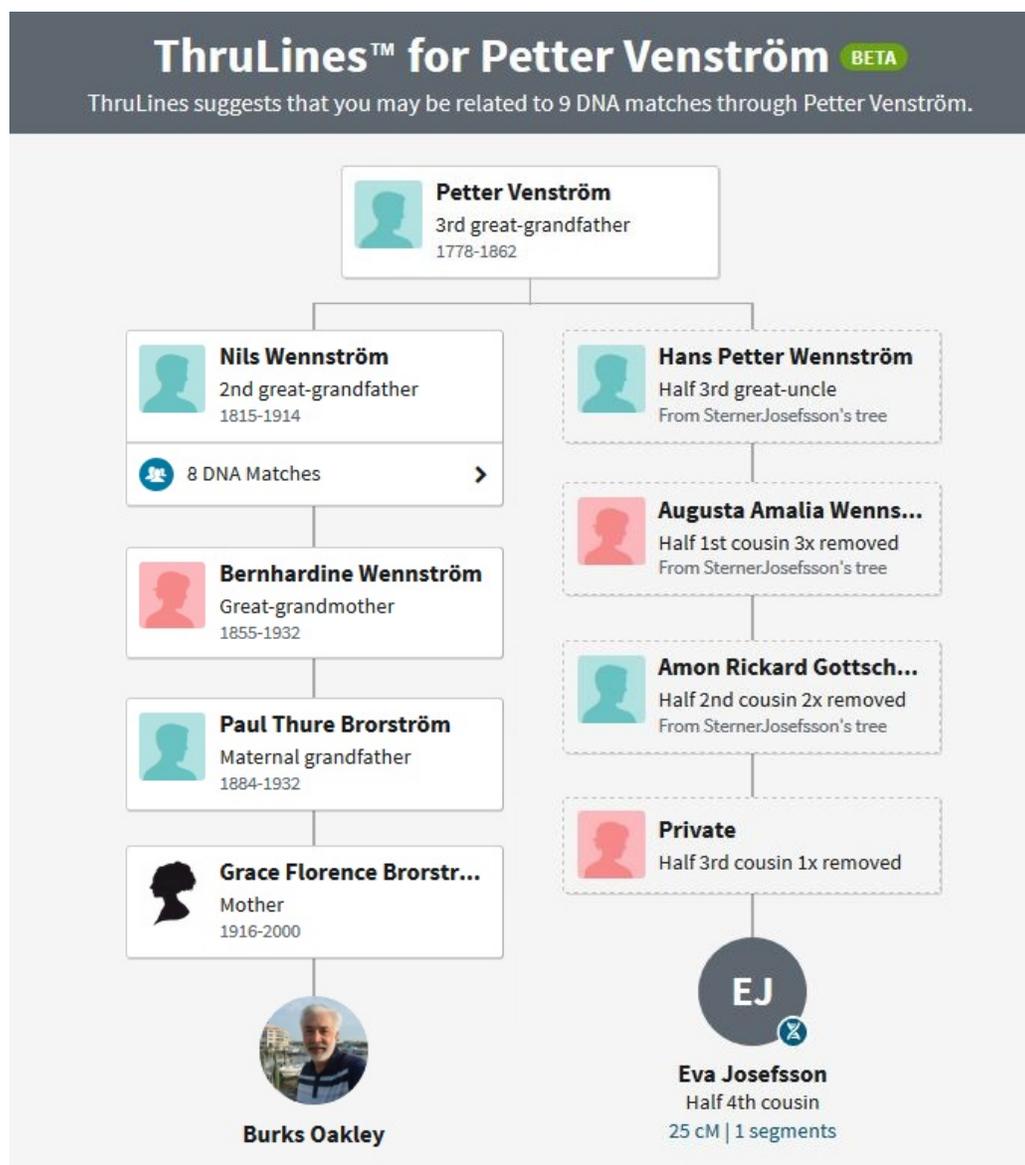


This ThruLines™ shows that I have three DNA matches with descendants of PTB Sr.: my first-cousin Annmarie Brorström, her daughter Lauren Meier (**L.M.**), and my daughter Amy Oakley. The ThruLines™ chart shows the genealogical connections with each of these individuals, as well as the size of the DNA matches that I have with them. Note that this chart does NOT show two of Annmarie's siblings who have their DNA profiles on Ancestry.com, since they do not have family trees linked to their father, Paul Thure Brorström Jr. (1913-2001).

While this wasn't a very interesting ThruLines™, I actually have found some that have added to my knowledge of my family tree. Read on!

ThruLines™ for Jan Petter Wennström

I have been examining the ThruLines™ for my Swedish ancestors in my family tree on the Ancestry.com website. One of these individuals was my third-great grandfather, Petter Venström (also known as Jan Petter Wennström):



This ThruLines™ identified a woman named Eva Josefsson (nee Gunnarsson) who also is descended from Petter Venström (Wennström). I have a 25 cM DNA match with Eva and she is my (half) fourth-cousin. The chart shows that I am descended from Petter Venström through his son Nils Wennström (1815-1914), while Eva is descended from Petter Venström through his son Hans Petter Wennström (1825-1923). Nils was a son of Petter Wennström from his first marriage, while Hans Petter was a son from his second marriage – which is why the ThruLines™ notes that we are half fourth-cousins. I have known about my

DNA match with Eva and how we are related for well over a year. As an aside, I visited Eva and her husband Sterner Josefsson in Halmstad, Sweden, in May 2018. A narrative that I wrote about Eva is online at:

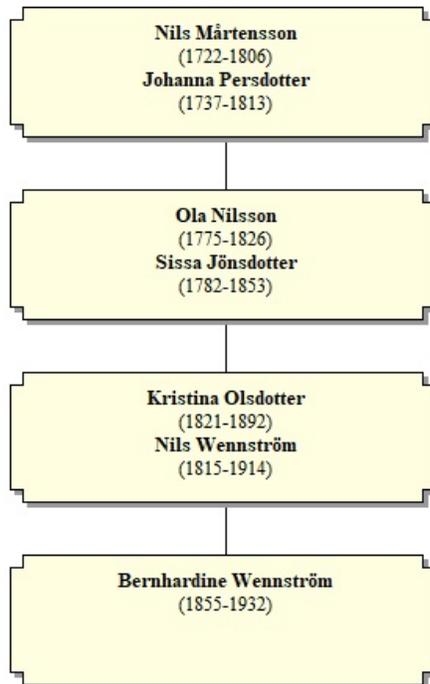
<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/EvaJosefssonWennströmConnection.pdf>

A Surprising ThruLines™ - Going back to Nils Mårtensson

As I continued to examine the ThruLines™ of my Swedish ancestors, I got to my fourth-great grandfather, Nils Mårtensson. Nils was born in Våxtorp in 1722, and he died in Hasslöv in 1806 at the age of 84. Readers of my narratives will know that my Wennström ancestors lived in Menlösa, which is southwest Halland County, just a few kilometers from Våxtorp and Hasslöv:



Nils Mårtensson was a progenitor [I always wanted to use that word] of my Wennström ancestors; he was the paternal grandfather of Kristina Olsdotter, who married Nils Wennström. Continuing on another generation, this makes Nils Mårtensson a great-grandfather of Bernhardine Wennström, as shown in the following chart:

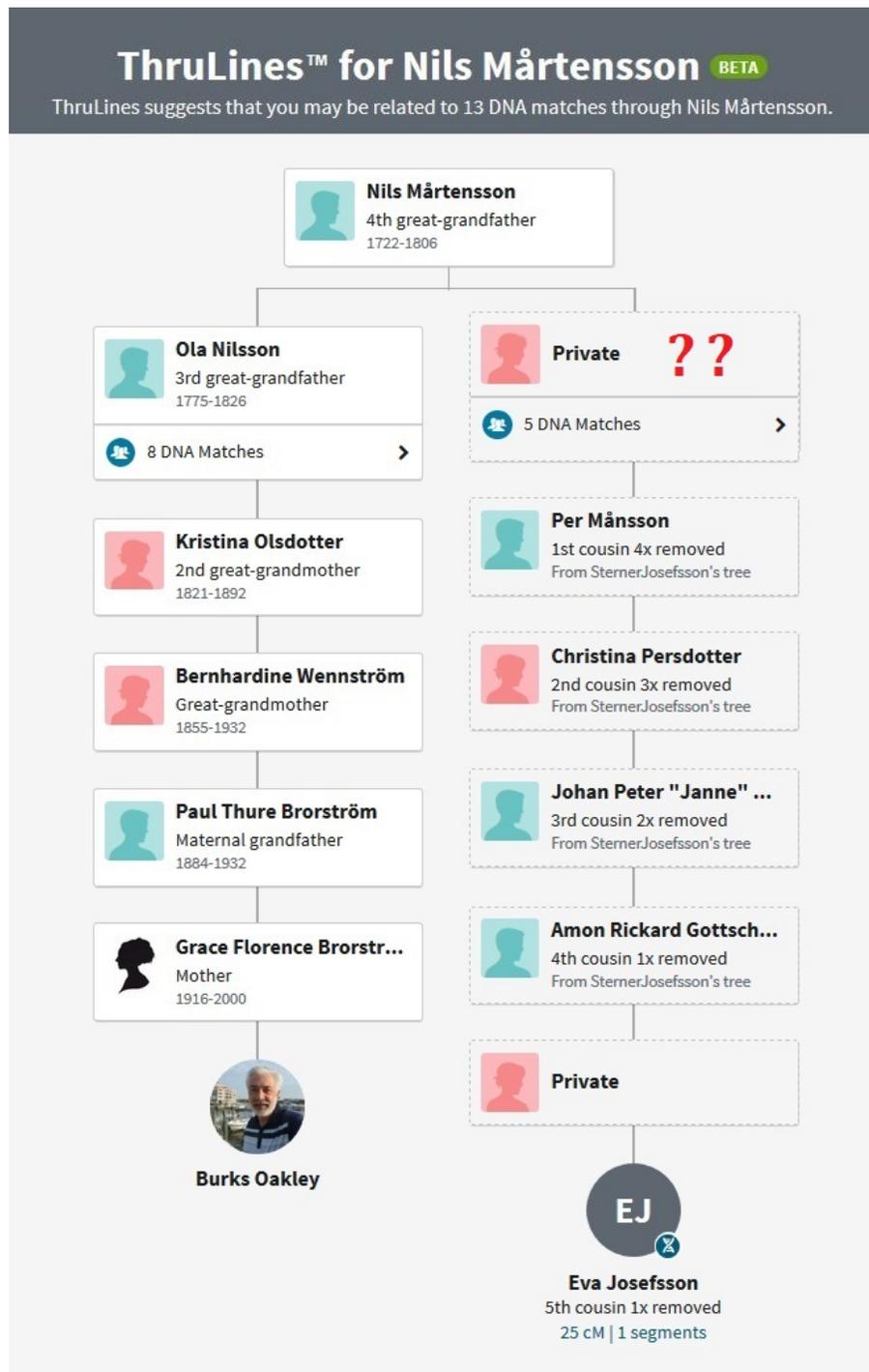


Bernhardine Wennström immigrated to America in 1882; she was my great-grandmother.

When I looked at the ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson, I was astonished to find out that

[go on to the next page.....]

Eva Josefsson also is descended from Nils Mårtensson!



Perhaps it isn't that much of a surprise to learn that Eva Josefsson is also descended from Nils Mårtensson, since the rural area around Haslöv and Våxtorp was sparsely populated in the 1700's, and families intermarried.

That brings me to the question: Who is the daughter of Nils Mårtensson (marked Private) that is at the top of Eva's line?

Searching for various people in family trees on the Ancestry.com website led me to discover that this woman was Kerstin Nilsdotter (1764-1822). She was born in Menlösa and died in Våxtorp.

Svensson Släkktred vitsordet

Kerstin Nilsdotter

BIRTH 11 MAR 1764 • Menlösa, Halland, Sverige
DEATH 1 OCT 1822 • Våxtorp

Facts

Name and gender ▾

1764 (AGE)	Birth 11 MAR 1764 • Menlösa, Halland, Sverige
1790 26	Marriage 1790-06-13 • Våxtorp Måns Hansson (1762-1840)
1791 27	Birth of Son Sven Månsson (1791-1870) 4 Okt 1791 • Toboda, Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige
1798 34	Birth of Son Per Månsson (1798-1887) 4 AUG 1798 • Toboda, Våxtorp (N)
1801 37	Birth of Son Hans Månsson (1801-1875) 10 SEP 1801 • Toboda, Våxtorp (N)
1804 39	Birth of Son Bengt Månsson (1804-1885) 1804-02-28 • Toboda Våxtorp
1822 58	Death 1 OCT 1822 • Våxtorp

Family

Parents

- Unknown Father
- Unknown Mother

Spouse & Children

- Måns Hansson**
1762-1840
- Sven Månsson**
1791-1870
- Per Månsson**
1798-1887
- Hans Månsson**
1801-1875
- Bengt Månsson**
1804-1885

As an aside, Kerstin's husband was Måns Hansson, while one of their sons was Hans Månsson. Don't you love the Swedish patronymic naming convention??!!

The following excerpt from a family tree on Ancestry.com shows that Kerstin Nilsdotter was indeed a daughter of Nils Mårtensson:

Burge - släktträd Svante Burge

Nils Martensson

BIRTH 16 JANUARI 1722 • Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige
DEATH 1 APR 1806 • Menlösa, Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige

Facts

Name and gender ▾

1722 (AGE)	Birth 16 januari 1722 • Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige
1757 35	Marriage 8 Maj 1757 • Hasslöv , Halland, Sweden Johanna Persdotter (1737-1813)
1758 36	Birth of Son Mårten Nilsson (1758-1759) 12 Jun 1758
1759 37	Death of Son Mårten Nilsson (1758-1759) 1759
1764 42	Birth of Daughter Kerstin Nilsdotter (1764-1822) 11 MAR 1764 • Menlösa, Halland, Sverige
1767 45	Birth of Son Måns Nilsson (1767-1835) 21 FEB 1767 • Menlösa 2, Våxtorp (N)
1769 47	Birth of Daughter Bengta Nilsdotter (1769-) 23 MAR 1769 • Menlösa 2, Våxtorp (N)
1772 50	Birth of Daughter Anna Nilsdotter (1772-) 06 Jul 1772
1775 52	Birth of Son Ola Nilsson (1775-1826) 1775 • Hasslöv (N)
1783 61	Birth of Son Pål Nilsson (1783-) 13 FEB 1783 • Menlösa 2, Våxtorp (N)
1806 84	Death 1 Apr 1806 • Menlösa, Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige

Family

Parents

Unknown Father

Unknown Mother

Spouse & Children

Johanna Persdotter
1737-1813

Mårten Nilsson
1758-1759

Kerstin Nilsdotter
1764-1822

Måns Nilsson
1767-1835

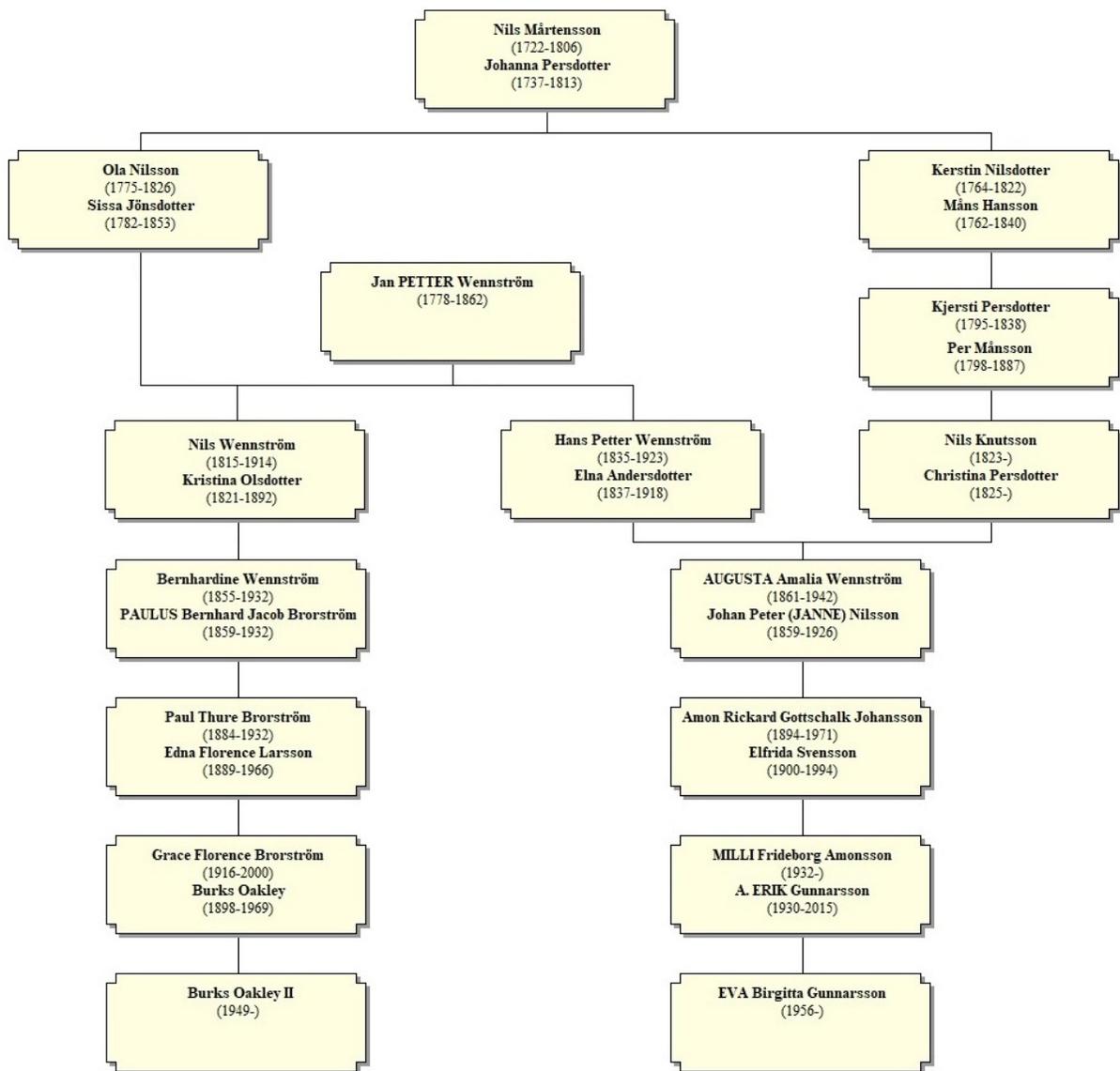
Bengta Nilsdotter
1769-

Anna Nilsdotter
1772-

Ola Nilsson
1775-1826

Pål Nilsson
1783-

So this is cool! I'm related to Eva Josefsson in two different ways!! This double relationship is shown in the chart on the next page:



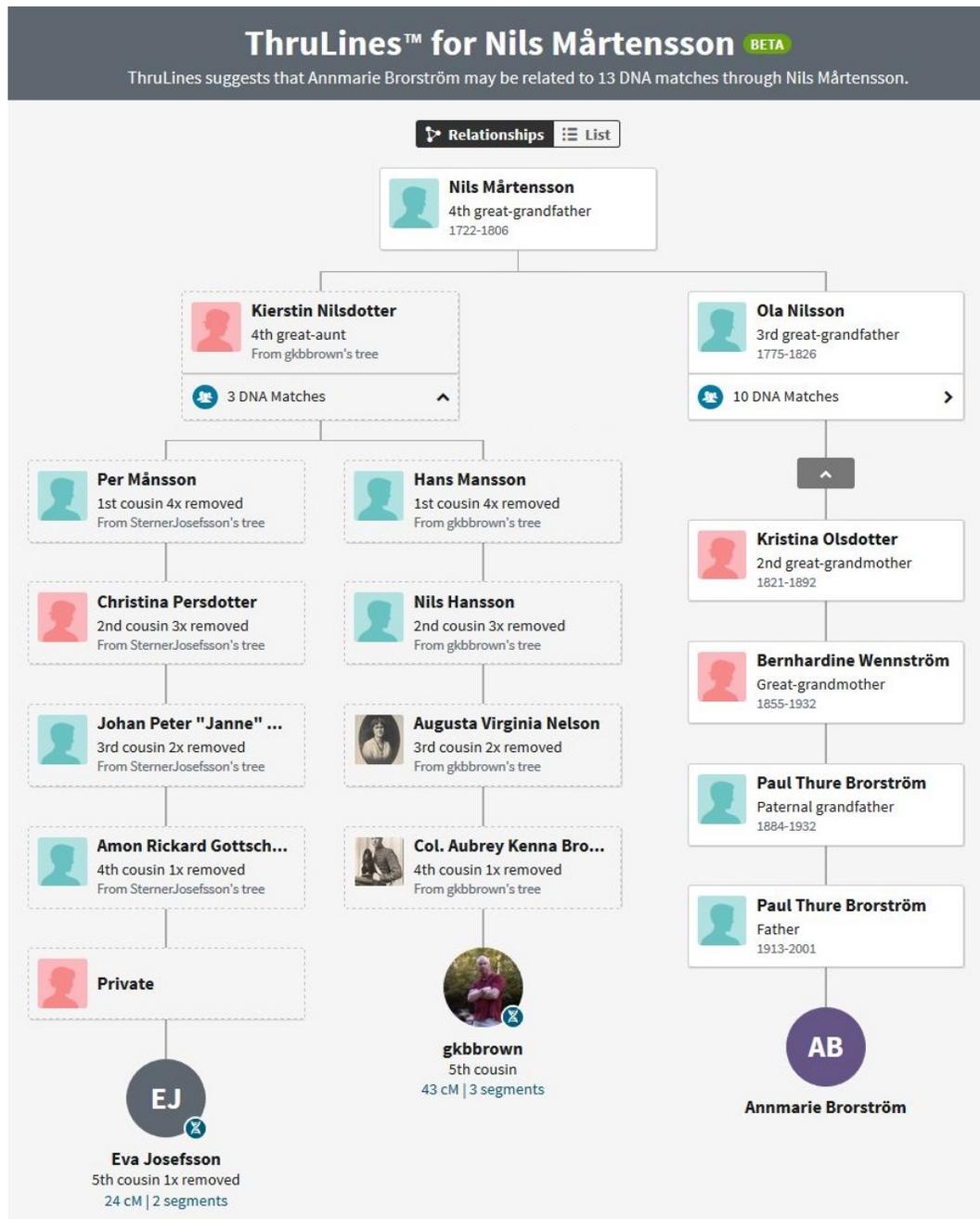
At the upper-right of the chart is Eva's line back to Nils Mårtensson, and in the upper-center is her line back to Jan Petter Wennström. Nils Mårtensson's great-great grandson Johan Peter (Janne) Nilsson married Jan Petter Wennström's granddaughter Augusta Amalia Wennström.

In my line at the left, Nils Mårtensson's granddaughter Kristina Olsdotter married Jan Petter Wennström's son Nils Wennström.

It is interesting that Eva is my 4th-cousin going back on the Wennström connection, but she is my 5th-cousin once-removed on the Mårtensson connection.

ThruLines™ for Annmarie Brorström & Nils Mårtensson

My first-cousin Annmarie Brorström has her DNA profile on Ancestry.com, along with a very detailed family tree. My mother and her father were siblings, and she shares all of my Swedish heritage. I examined her ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson – one reason to do this is that Annmarie will have some DNA matches with distant relatives that I don't have (due to the way that DNA is inherited).

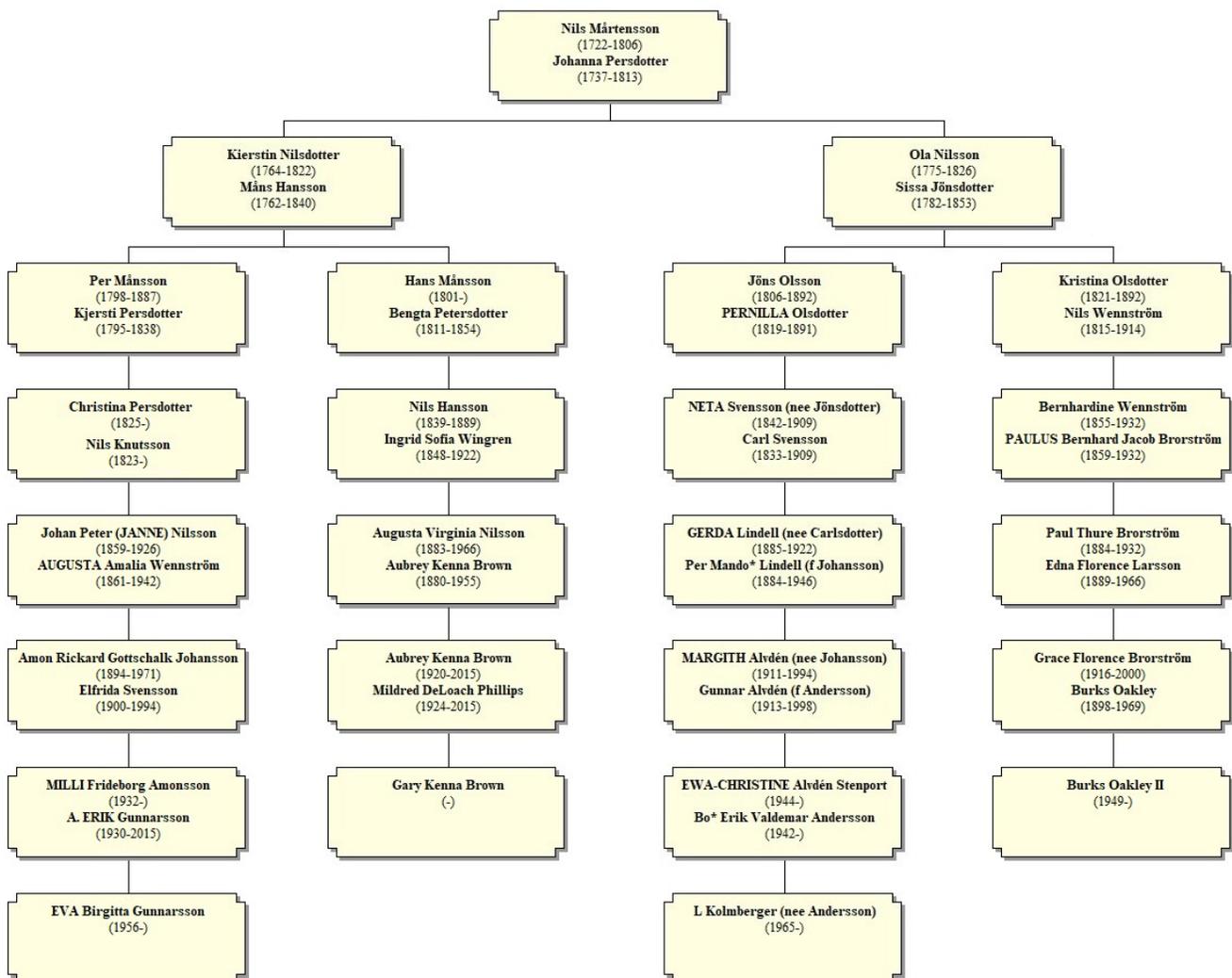


It is interesting to see that Annmarie's ThruLines™ not only included the line to Eva Josefsson, but also included a line to Gary K. Brown (*gkbbrown*). I wrote about our family's relationship with Gary in a previous narrative:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/GaryBrown-WennströmConnection.pdf>

Of course, when I reviewed that narrative I wrote about our relationship with Gary K. Brown, I remembered that Lise-Lotte Kolmberger (another one of my DNA matches on Ancestry.com) also is descended from Nils Mårtensson. Lise-Lotte doesn't turn up in any of these ThruLines™, since she does not have her family tree linked to her DNA profile on Ancestry.com (really her mother's DNA profile).

I find it amazing to see that we now have FOUR family lines with DNA matches that go back to Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter! These lines are shown in the following chart:



Conclusion

In this narrative, I have described how the new ThruLines™ software on Ancestry.com identified several new DNA relatives who are descended from my fourth-great grandfather Nils Mårtensson (1722-1806) and his wife Johanna Persdotter (1737-1818). In all, we now have four lines with DNA matches that go back to this couple. Two of these lines go back to their daughter Kiersten Nilsson, while the other two lines go back to their son Ola Nilsson.

I find it amazing to see how these DNA matches continue to connect my Swedish roots to southwest Halland County and the villages of Våxtorp, Menlösa, and Hasslöv.

Appendix – Photos



Road signs in Menlösa



Field in Menlösa



The church in Våxtorp



The church in Hasslöv