

# My ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson – Part III

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## ***Introduction***

I am interested in genetic genealogy; which Wikipedia defines as “the use of DNA testing in combination with traditional genealogical methods to infer relationships between individuals and find ancestors.”<sup>1</sup>

I am a Swedish-American; my mother’s parents were both the first-generation born in America of Swedish immigrant parents. In the past few years, I have been using genetic genealogy to expand and to confirm my Swedish family tree.



Midsummer celebration in Sweden

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic\\_genealogy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_genealogy)

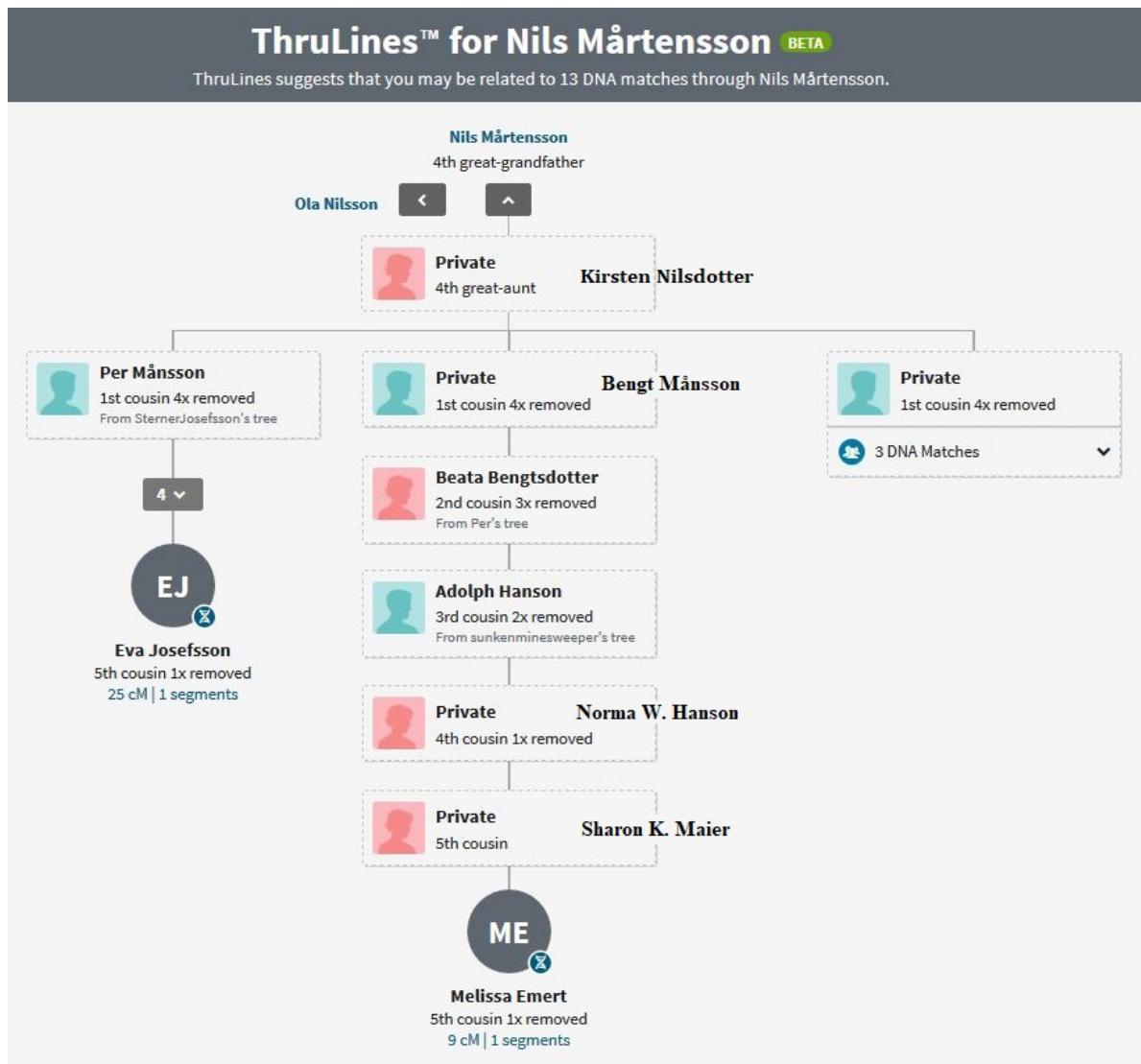
## **ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson**

In two previous narratives, I described several different branches of my ThruLines™ going back to my fourth-great grandfather, Nils Mårtensson (1722-1806).

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

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

Well, there is one last branch of this ThruLines™ that I now will discuss. The center part of my ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson shows Melissa Emert's line back to this person:



According to Ancestry.com, Melissa is my fifth-cousin once-removed, and we have a DNA match that is 9 cM in size.

Melissa's line back to Nils Mårtensson includes four individuals who are marked "Private" and are not named. However, I discovered that clicking on the box they are in brought up a new page showing who the person is and when they were born [except for living people]. Combined with some Google searches, I was able to determine Melissa's exact line back to Nils Mårtensson.

Melissa's mother is Sharon Needham (nee Maier). Sharon and her husband George Norris Needham (1944-1998) were married in 1966 in the Sugar Grove United Methodist Church (in Illinois), and they made their home in Kaneville, Illinois. George was born in Aurora, Illinois, which is the city where my wife was born and raised.

Melissa's great-grandfather Adolf H. Hanson (1877-1944) was born in Östorp, Halland, Sweden. He immigrated to America in 1894 and settled in northern Illinois. In the 1920 and 1930 US Census, he was shown as living in Blackberry Township, Kane County, Illinois. This connection to Sugar Grove and Kane County is interesting to me, in that my father-in-law was born in Sugar Grove, and lived his entire life in Kane County.

Going back more generations, we have Beata Bengtsdotter (1833–1917), born in Våxtorp. Then Bengt Månsson (1804–1885), also born in Våxtorp. And then Kiersti (or Kirsten or Kierstin) Nilsdotter (1764–1822), born in Menlösa (just a few kilometers from Våxtorp). She was a daughter of Nils Mårtensson.

### ***Other DNA Matches with My Family***

My younger daughter Amy and three of my Swedish-American cousins have their DNA profiles on the Ancestry.com website, and Melissa Emert has DNA matches with all of them:

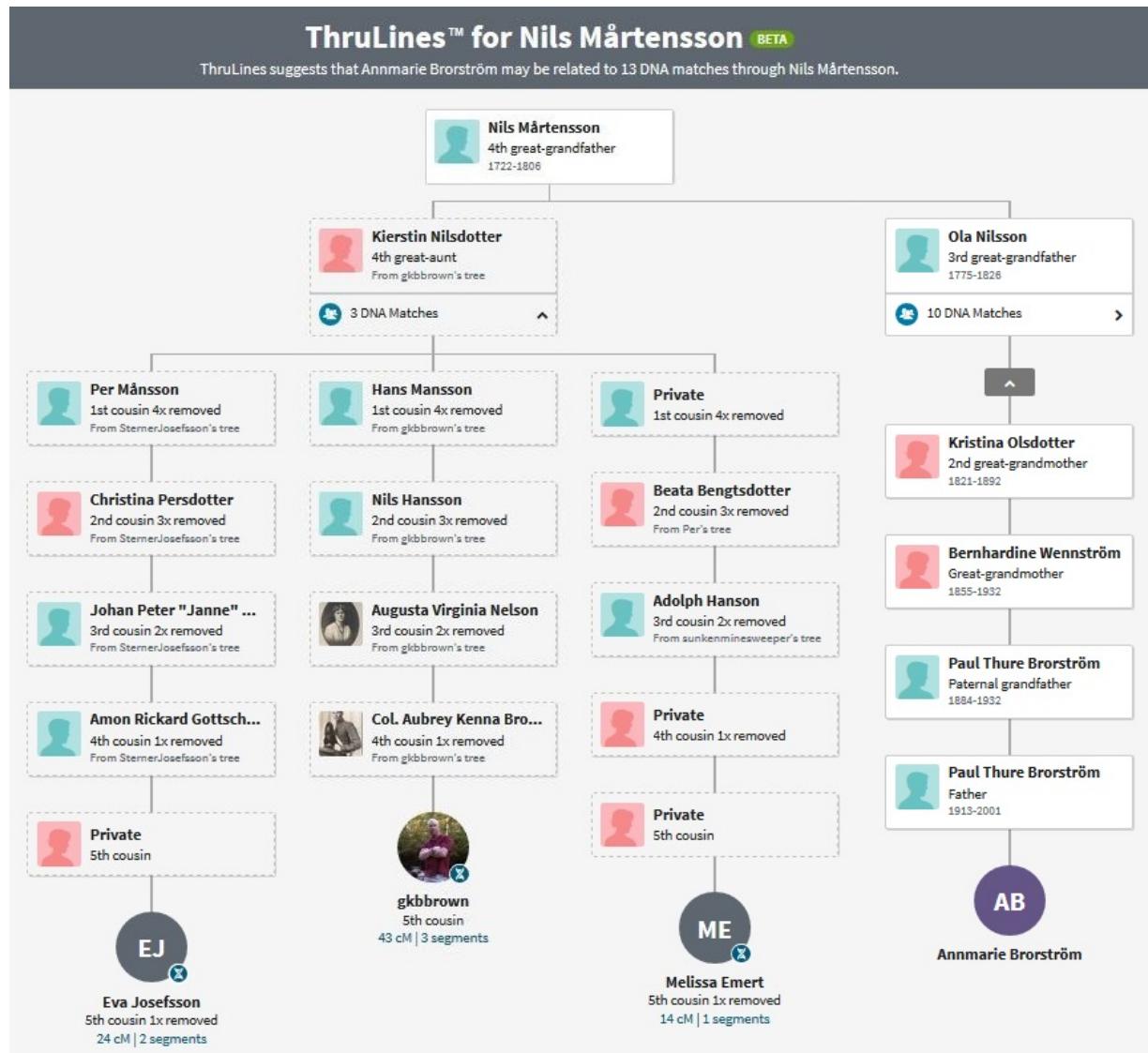
Burks – 9.2 cM  
Amy – 11.6 cM  
Susan – 13.2 cM  
Stuart – 28.1 cM  
Annmarie – 13.8 cM

All of us except Amy are fifth-cousins once-removed (5C1R) of Melissa. In 2017, the noted genetic genealogist Blaine Bettinger found that 5C1R average 21 cM, with a range of 0 – 79 cM. So all of us are below average except for Stuart. Amy's relationship with Melissa is 5C2R, and Bettinger found that 5C2R average 17 cM, with a range of 0-43 cM.

As an aside, I have no idea how Amy has a larger DNA match with Melissa than I do.

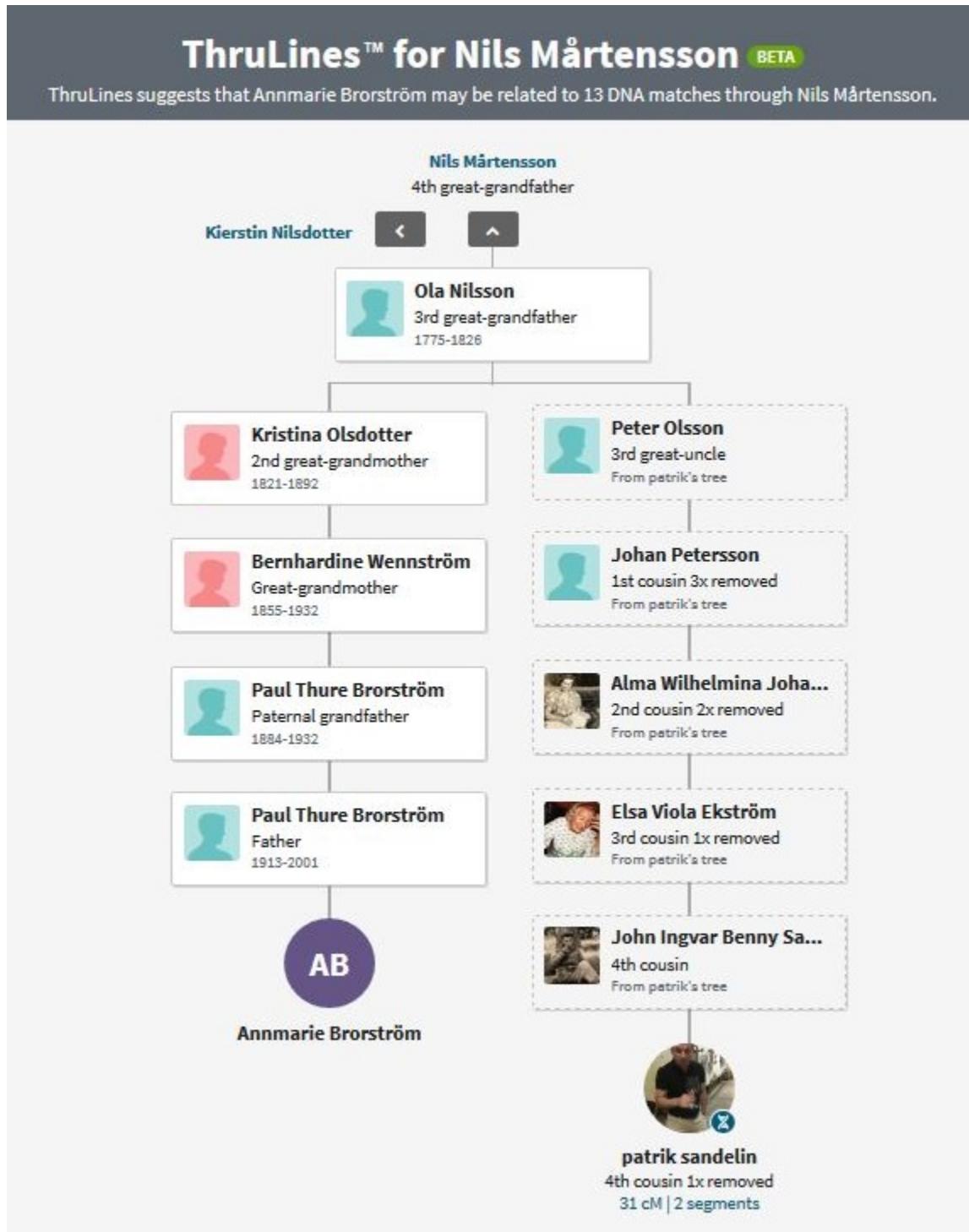
## ***What about Annmarie Brorström?***

At this point, I thought I had discovered all the lines back to my fourth-great grandfather Nils Mårtensson. However, for completeness, I decided to look at my first-cousin Annmarie's ThruLines™ to Nils Mårtensson. Here is the initial view of her ThruLines™:



This ThruLines™ is exactly what I would have expected. It shows Eva Josefsson, Gary Kenna Brown (*gkbbrown*) and Melissa Emert, as well as Annmarie.

I next expanded the ThruLines™ by looking at the descendants of Ola Nilsson. I was surprised to see that Annmarie had an additional line that I don't have:



This ThruLines™ shows that Annmarie has a DNA match with Patrik Sandelin. Patrik is descended from Ola Nilsson via his son Peter Olsson (1813-1899), while Annmarie and I are descended from Ola Nilsson via his daughter Kristina Olsdotter (1821-1892).

Here are some details about Annmarie's DNA match with Patrik Sandelin:

AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Annmarie Brorström

**patrik sandelin**  
Member since 2014, last logged in yesterday

**Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins**  
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))  
Confidence: High

**Amount of Shared DNA**  
31 centimorgans shared across 2 DNA segments

They share 31 cM on two DNA segments. According to his profile page on Ancestry.com, Patrik lives in Danderyd, Stockholm, Sweden.

I then examined the DNA matches that Annmarie and Patrik share. It turns out that they have shared DNA matches with Lauren Meier (Annmarie's daughter), Susan Brorström Baker (Annmarie's sister), Stuart Eck (Annmarie's half-brother), and Robert Baker (Susan's son). But they also have a shared match with Jennie Sandelin.

AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Annmarie Brorström

## Shared matches with patrik sandelin

**4TH COUSIN**

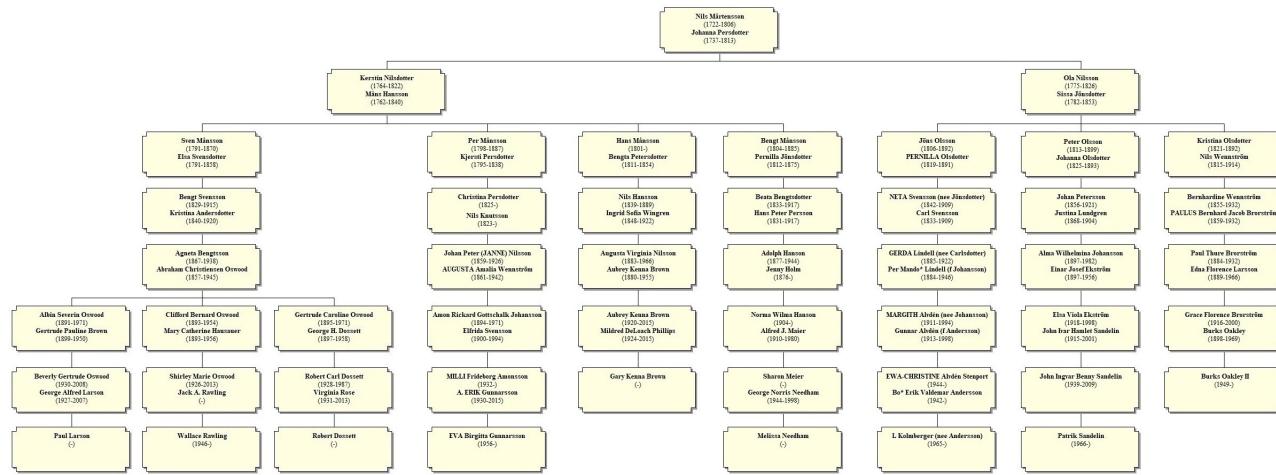
**Jennie Sandelin**   
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins  
Confidence: Very High  
Shared DNA: 45 cM across 2 segments

No Trees [View Match](#)

I can only guess that Jennie is Patrik's sister. Jennie and Annmarie share 45 cM of DNA on two segments. And their shared matches include our Brorström-Wennström second-cousin, Peter Horton. Of course, Peter is also descended from Nils Mårtensson. According to her Facebook page, Jennie lives in Stockholm and went to Uppsala University. More Swedish cousins to visit when I go to Sweden!!

## All the Lines back to Nils Mårtensson

I now have discussed all of the different lines back to Nils Mårtensson. Annmarie and I have DNA matches with a large number of individuals who all are descended from Nils Mårtensson. The following chart shows these different lines:



Since this chart is unreadable at this size, I printed it as a PDF – that file is at:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/genealogy/NilsMårtenssonDescendants.pdf>

Note that you can zoom in on the chart and scroll around when this file is viewed in a web browser.

## Conclusion

Using our family's DNA matches on Ancestry.com, combined with our Swedish family tree and numerous other family trees on this website, I now have identified nine lines that go back to my fourth-great grandfather, Nils Mårtensson (1722-1806). A number of our family members (first-cousins, their children, my younger daughter) also share these DNA matches.

Since the Ancestry.com website organizes a person's ThruLines™ by individual ancestors, I have been discussing my ThruLines™ for Nils Mårtensson. I actually don't know if the matching DNA segments come from Nils or from his wife, Johanna Persdotter (1737-1813).

Finally, I have to state that I continue to be impressed by the technology associated with DNA and family trees. One of my father's interests was genealogy, and he never could have imagined what we are able to do today while sitting in front of a networked computer. Truly amazing!