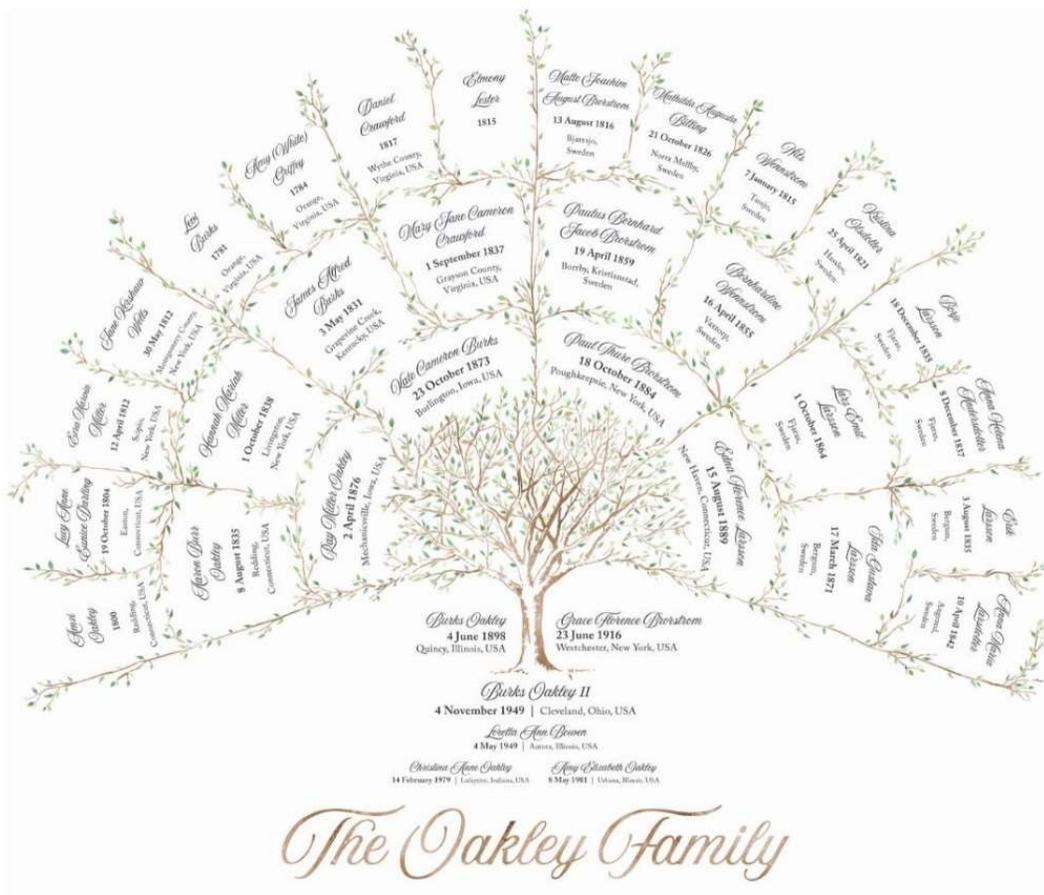


Peter J. Horton – One of My Second-Cousins in the Brorström-Wennström Family

by Burks Oakley II
7 February 2019

Introduction

I am very interested in genetic genealogy – this is, using DNA to expand and to confirm my family tree. This pursuit has taken me in two very different directions, since the two sides of my family tree could not be more different, as shown in the following chart:¹



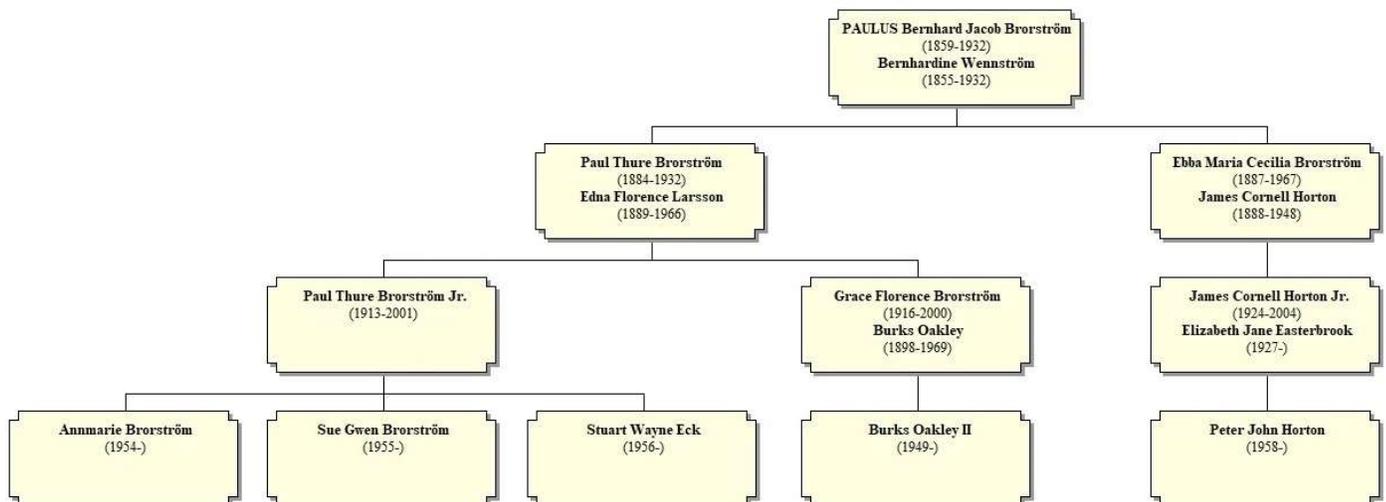
¹ A higher resolution version of this family tree is available online at: <http://www.burksoakley.com/genealogy/family-tree.pdf>

My father's family lines (the left side of the family tree diagram) all go back to America in colonial times, and before that, to England, Ireland, and Scotland. On the other hand, my mother's family lines (the right side of the family tree) all jump quickly to Sweden, since all four of her grandparents were Swedish immigrants who came to America in the 1880's. Her *paternal* grandparents were Paulus Bernhard Jacob Brorström (1859-1932) and Bernhardine Wennström (1855-1932). Paulus and Bernhardine were married in Hasslöv, Sweden, on 6 March 1882, and they immediately departed for their new life in America.

Paulus (Americanized to Paul) and Bernhardine had seven children – two sons, followed by five daughters:

- Malte Bernhard (1882-1946)
- Paul Thure (1884-1932) – *my maternal grandfather*
- Ebba Maria Cecilia (1887-1967) – *Peter Horton's paternal grandmother*
- Alice Bernhardine Christina (1889-1972)
- Lillian Alma Mathilda (1891-1965)
- Grace Anna Elisabeth (1893-1969)
- Pauline Hanna Beata (1897-1986)

In this narrative, I will describe my family's DNA matches with Peter J. Horton, who is a grandson of my great-aunt Ebba Maria Cecilia Brorström. I thought it would be useful to provide a chart showing how the main players are related.



This chart begins with the Swedish immigrant couple, Paulus Brorström and Bernhardine Wennström. The next row has two of their seven children – namely, Paul Thure Brorström (my maternal grandfather) and Ebba Maria Cecilia Brorström (Peter Horton's paternal grandmother). The next row of the chart

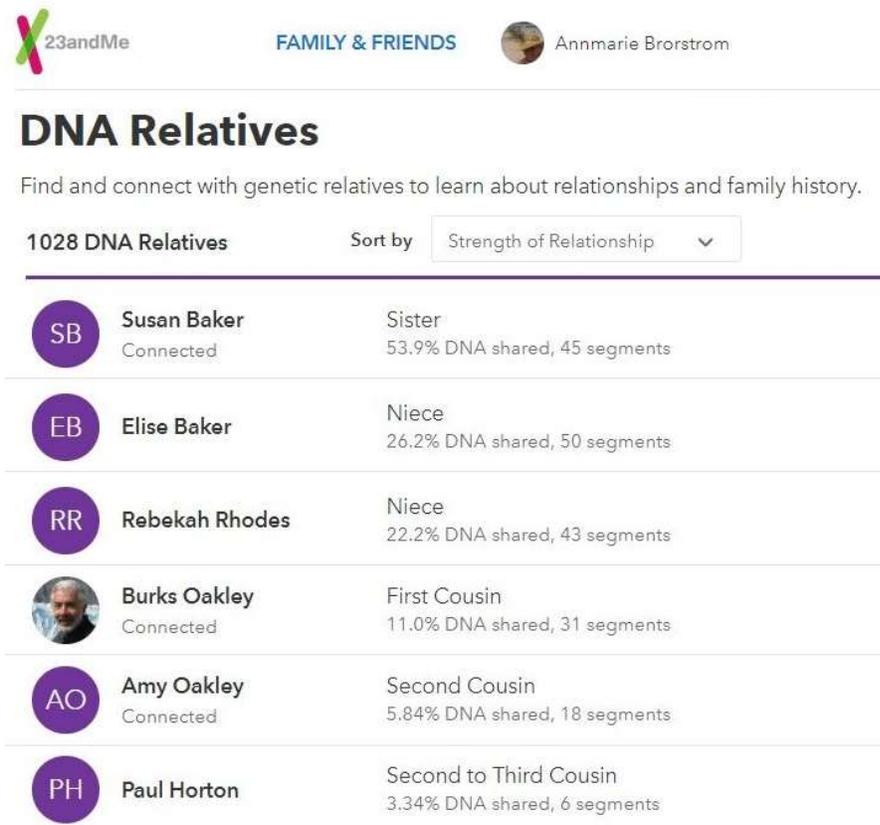
then shows two of the children of Paul Thure – Paul Thure Brorström Jr. and Grace Florence Brorström. And in the next generation, the chart has three of Paul’s children: Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart; and Grace’s son Burks II (your faithful scribe). At the right of the chart, we have Ebba, her son James C. Horton Jr., and her grandson Peter J. Horton.

PTB Jr. and Grace were first-cousins of James C. Horton Jr. Burks II is a first-cousin of Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart. And finally, Burks, Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart are all second-cousins of Peter Horton.

With that background information, let me go on to the DNA matches with Peter Horton.

Our DNA Matches with Peter J. Horton

My Swedish-American first-cousins, Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart, all have had their DNA tested. I regularly search their DNA matches on 23andme.com and/or Ancestry.com to see if I can find new Swedish relatives (since any of their Swedish relatives will also be my relatives). As of early February 2019, Annmarie’s top DNA matches on 23andme.com were:



The screenshot shows the 23andMe interface for a user named Annmarie Brorstrom. The page is titled "DNA Relatives" and includes a search bar and a "Sort by" dropdown menu set to "Strength of Relationship". Below this, a list of six DNA matches is displayed, each with a circular profile picture, name, relationship type, and percentage of DNA shared.

Profile	Name	Relationship	DNA Shared	Segments
SB	Susan Baker Connected	Sister	53.9%	45
EB	Elise Baker	Niece	26.2%	50
RR	Rebekah Rhodes	Niece	22.2%	43
[Profile Pic]	Burks Oakley Connected	First Cousin	11.0%	31
AO	Amy Oakley Connected	Second Cousin	5.84%	18
PH	Paul Horton	Second to Third Cousin	3.34%	6

The first five of Annmarie's DNA matches are straightforward:

1. Susan Baker is Annmarie's younger sister
2. Elise Baker is Susan's daughter
3. Rebekah Rhodes is Annmarie's niece (her older sister's daughter)
4. Burks Oakley is Annmarie's first-cousin
5. Amy Oakley is Burks' daughter

Paul Horton is listed as Annmarie's sixth-largest DNA match. Based on the size of their DNA match, 23andme.com predicted that they could be as close as second-cousins (which they are, as shown in the relationship chart in the *Introduction*).

I then searched Annmarie's DNA matches on Ancestry.com and found that she has matches at the level of a second-cousin with my daughter Amy (they really are first-cousins once-removed) and also with a man having the username of **Peterhorton58**.

AncestryDNA Results for Annmarie Brorström

2ND COUSIN

★  **Amy Oakley** 1,901 people [View Match](#)
Possible range: 1st - 2nd cousins
Confidence: Extremely High

★  **Peterhorton58** 11 people [View Match](#)
Possible range: 1st - 2nd cousins
Confidence: Extremely High

Our second-cousin Peter Horton was born in 1958, so it would make sense that his username on Ancestry.com would be **Peterhorton58**.

Peter has a small family tree on Ancestry.com – here is the relevant part:



Yes! Peter Horton definitely is the grandson of Ebba Maria Cecilia Brorström.

I then looked at Annmarié's DNA match with Peter Horton on Ancestry.com:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Annmarié Brorström

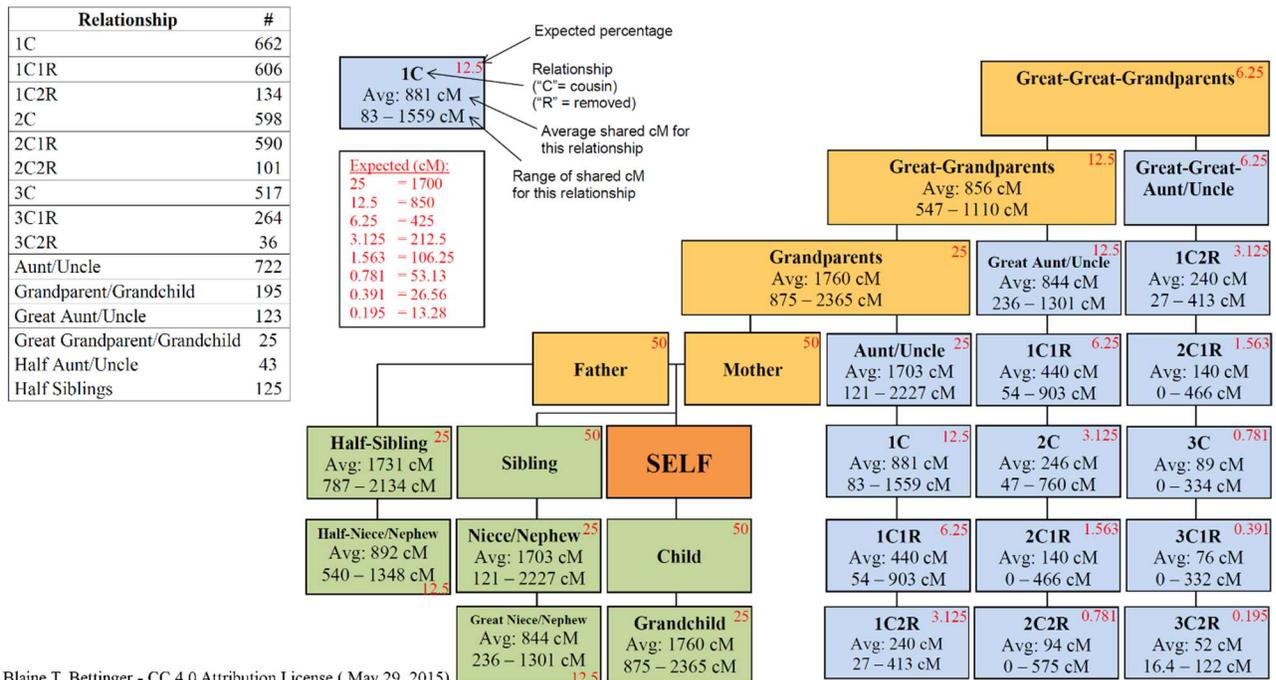
Peterhorton58
Birmingham, AL - Member since 2010, last logged in 2 days ago

Predicted relationship: 2nd Cousins
Possible range: 1st - 2nd cousins ([What does this mean?](#))

Confidence: Extremely High

Amount of Shared DNA
427 centimorgans shared across 17 DNA segments

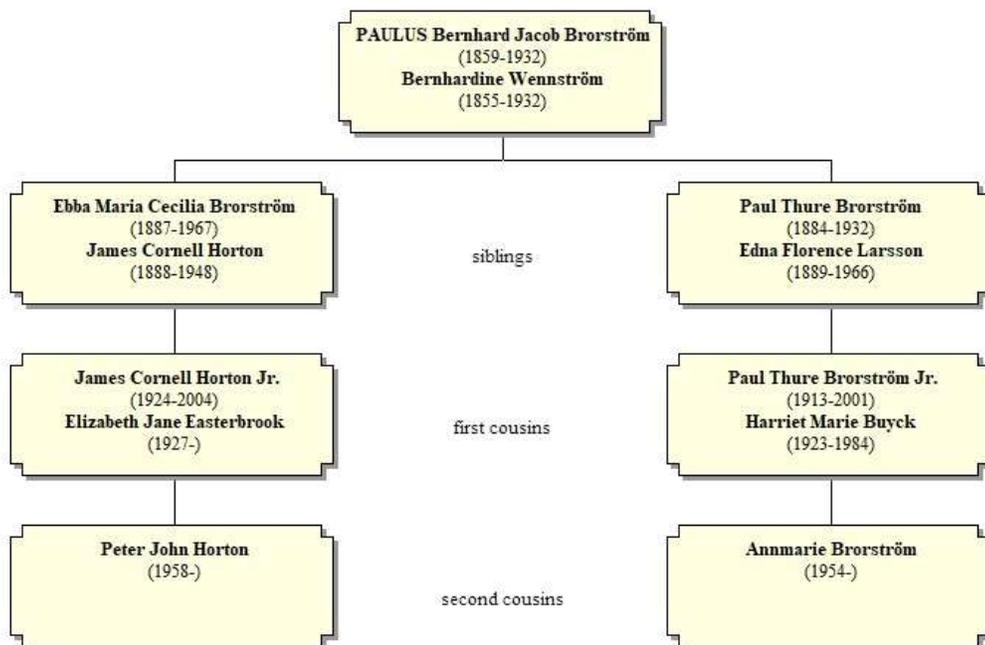
They share 427 cM on 17 DNA segments. In 2015, the noted genetic genealogist Blaine Bettinger published the following data, showing how much DNA is shared between people of various relationships:



Blaine T. Bettinger - CC 4.0 Attribution License (May 29, 2015)

Second-Cousins (2C) average 246 cM, with a range of 47-760 cM. So Annmarie's match with Peter is above average in size.

The following chart shows how Peter and Annmarie are related:



Of course, Peter also is MY second-cousin. Not surprisingly, Peter and I have a DNA match:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Burks Oakley

Peterhorton58
Birmingham, AL - Member since 2010, last logged in 2 days ago

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

Confidence: Extremely High

Amount of Shared DNA
70 centimorgans shared across 9 DNA segments

Our match is only 70 cM, which is very much at the low end of the observed range (47-760 cM) for second-cousins.

For completeness, here are the DNA matches that my other first-cousins have with Peter. First, we have Stuart's DNA match with Peter:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Stuart Eck

  **Peterhorton58**
Birmingham, AL - Member since 2010, last logged in 2 days ago

 **Predicted relationship: 2nd Cousins**
Possible range: 2nd - 3rd cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
■■■■■■■■■■ Confidence: Extremely High 

Amount of Shared DNA
209 centimorgans shared across
10 DNA segments

They share 209 cM on 10 DNA segments. And next we have Susan's DNA match with Peter:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Susan Baker

  **Peterhorton58**
Birmingham, AL - Member since 2010, last logged in yesterday

 **Predicted relationship: 3rd Cousins**
Possible range: 3rd - 4th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
■■■■■■■■■■ Confidence: Extremely High 

Amount of Shared DNA
194 centimorgans shared across 8
DNA segments

Susan and Peter share 194 cM on 8 DNA segments.

I won't take the space to show other DNA matches that Peter has with his Brorström-Wennström cousins, but they include five 2nd-great grandchildren of the Brorström-Wennström immigrant couple:

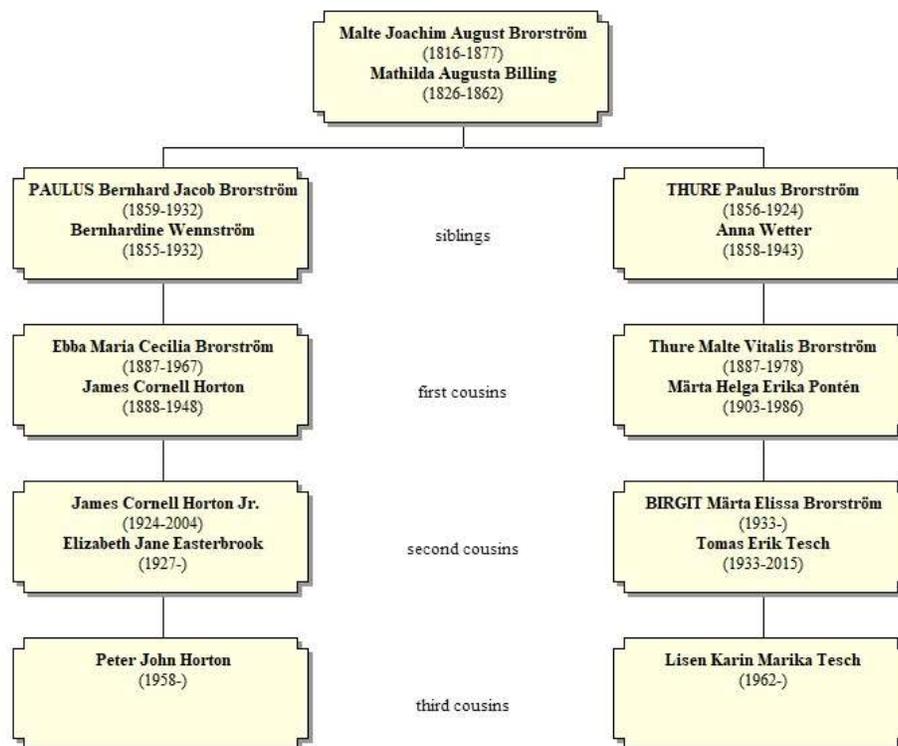
- Robert Baker (Susan Baker's son)
- Lauren Meier (Annmarie's daughter)
- Jessica Eck (Stuart's daughter)
- Amy Oakley (Burks' daughter)
- Kendall Perks (a great-granddaughter of Alice Brorström)

DNA Matches Going Back to Sweden

Peter Horton is a descendant of the Brorström-Wennström couple that immigrated to America in 1882. This heritage means that he should have DNA matches with living members of the Brorström and Wennström family who still live in Sweden. And, of course, he does! In looking at the DNA matches that Peter and I have in common on Ancestry.com, I learned that Peter has a DNA match with our Brorström cousin Birgit Brorström Tesch, as well as with her daughter Lisen Tesch. Birgit and Lisen are Swedes who live in the Stockholm area.

The screenshot shows the AncestryDNA interface for a match with Lisen Tesch. At the top, it says "AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Lisen Tesch". Below this is the profile for "Peter Horton58", a member from Birmingham, AL, who joined in 2010. The match is identified as "Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins" with a "Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins" and a "Confidence: High" (indicated by a green bar). A callout box titled "Amount of Shared DNA" states: "33 centimorgans shared across 2 DNA segments".

Peter and Birgit are second-cousins once-removed, while Peter and Lisen are third-cousins, as shown in the following chart:



So like my other Swedish-American cousins, Peter also has DNA matches with a branch of the Brorström family that remained in Sweden. And interestingly, Peter's match with Lisen (33 cM on two DNA segments) is significantly larger than my match with Lisen (15.2 cM on a single DNA segment).

Peter Horton also has DNA matches with Wennström descendants. For example, the DNA matches that Annmarie and Peter have in common include Robert Lipot:

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Annmarie Brorström

Shared matches with Peterhorton58

3RD COUSIN

★  **Kendall Perks** 
 Possible range: 3rd - 4th cousins
 Confidence: Extremely High 

 624 people 
[View Match](#)

★  **Robert Lipot** 
 Possible range: 3rd - 4th cousins
 Confidence: Extremely High 

 No Trees
[View Match](#)

Robert Lipot is a descendant of Nils Wennström (1815-1914), through his son Johan Peter (John) Wennström. One of John's younger sisters was our great-grandmother Bernhardine Wennström (the Swedish immigrant). I previously wrote about our DNA matches with the Lipot family – see:

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

So this is pretty cool – Peter Horton has DNA matches that go back to our ancestors in Sweden, just like I do, and just like my first-cousins Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart do. After all, the four of us are great-grandchildren of the Brorström-Wennström immigrant couple, and we share the same relationships with our Swedish relatives.

Conclusion

In this brief narrative, I have described how I identified a DNA match with Peter J. Horton, who is a second-cousin on the Brorström-Wennström side of my family. My Swedish-American first-cousins, Annmarie, Susan, and Stuart, also have DNA matches with Peter. And as expected, Peter has additional matches with other Brorström-Wennström relatives in America, including a number of 2nd-great grandchildren of the Swedish immigrant couple.

Finally, Peter has DNA matches with Brorström family members in Sweden, as well as Wennström family members who are descended from a common Wennström ancestor in Sweden.

It is great to see that the genetics (the DNA data) support the genealogical record!

Appendix A - Family Photos



Front Row (seated): Edna Florence Larsson Brorström, Grace Brorström Eggers, Lillian Brorström Meunier. Second Row (standing): Ebba Brorström Horton, Alice Brorström Townsend. [This photo was most likely taken at Grace's 65 birthday party in 1958.]



Gravestone for Ebba Brorström Horton and her husband James C. Horton.
All-Saints Cemetery, Great Neck, Long Island, New York.



Gravestone for Ebba Brorström Horton and her husband James C. Horton.
All-Saints Cemetery, Great Neck, Long Island, New York.



Gravestone for Ebba Brorström Horton and her husband James C. Horton.
All-Saints Cemetery, Great Neck, Long Island, New York.

Appendix B – Information about Peter J. Horton

A short write-up about Peter John Horton appeared in the 23 June 1991 special newspaper that was published in conjunction with the Brorström family reunion. Note that this entire newspaper is available at:

http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/PaulBrorstromNewspaperSpecial_23Jun91.pdf

Peter John Horton

Born Apr 1, 1958 in Hollywood, FL, Peter started school at Holy Cross, Syracuse, continued in the Dewitt school system, and in Birmingham graduated from Mt Brook High School in 1977. After a year in Auburn University's Engineering school, Pete obtained a job with a mechanical contractor, C&H Constructors, in Birmingham. His family was transferred to Atlanta in 1978. Pete started as a draftsman and was later promoted to head up C&H's sheet metal shop. He progressed to the position of Service Manager and became interested in energy management and computer technology. He was soon promoted to Vice-President.

Peter married Kathryn Hunold in the summer of 1981. It was later learned that her father was the son of a Port Washington family who lived across the street from Ebba and Jim's home on Beacon Hill. Kathy's grandmother and Ebba Horton were bridge friends for years.

In 1983 Peter, as VP of C&H, hired his younger brother Bill, who had recently graduated from Georgia Tech. Peter and Bill developed original ideas involving building automation systems and they approached the C&H owner to spin off a new company to further develop the concepts. This didn't pan out, so Pete and Bill formed their own company on Jan 2, 1985, Horton Controls, Inc, with Pete as president, Bill as vice president, Betty Horton as treasurer. Later, brother Jim Horton was hired as a project manager. The company is still going strong in its sixth year; it has eight employees.

Pete and Kathy's first son Pete Jr was born in 1984. A second son David was born in 1987 and a third in 1989. In 1990 Pete and Kathy bought a newer and larger home in Mountain Brook.



Pete Horton • 3rd

✓ Catalyst of Change ✓ Business Development
✓ Partnerships

Birmingham, Alabama Area

 Legrand, North America

 Auburn University

 See contact info

 500+ connections

Pete Horton is Vice President, Market Development at the Legrand North and Central America Electrical Wiring Systems (EWS) Division. In this role he is responsible for driving IoT innovation and technology across five business units.

Previously he was Vice President of the WattStopper business unit at Legrand's Building Controls Systems Division where he architected the Digital Lighting Management platform and led the acquisition of AIC Wireless. Earlier he was the Lighting Control Marketing Manager for Legrand in Europe.

In 1985 he founded Horton Controls Inc, a software, technology provider, and partner with GE Lighting, which was sold to Legrand in 2000.

Horton currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Haystack Organization which focuses on developing semantic modeling solutions for data related to smart devices. He also serves as the technical co-chair on the Alliance to Save Energy's Systems Efficiency Initiative. In the past, he served on the board of directors of Wireless Environments in Cleveland, OH which was acquired by Ring.com in 2017 and Amazon in 2018.

From LinkedIn

Peter Horton

[Home](#)[Projects](#)[Contact](#)

Pete Horton, Birmingham Alabama

Vice President, Market Development, Legrand Building Control Systems

Pete Horton is Vice President, Market Development at Legrand where he is active in strategy and deployment of digital electrical infrastructure and controls for high performance homes and buildings. He led the launch of several key initiatives including International Sales in EMEA, the creation of a distributed digital control platform (Digital Lighting Management), and the acquisition and launch of a wireless control system for exterior lighting.

Pete was the founder and president of Horton Controls, Inc. where he led sales, marketing and service for GE's lighting control division. He has over 35 years' experience with integrated design, intelligent buildings and product development.

Pete is an active contributor and trusted leader in private and government research, participating with research organizations, universities, DoE labs and the Alliance to Save Energy on projects ranging from multi system integration, ZNE buildings, IoT devices and DC Microgrids. His experience and track record of successes in electrical, mechanical, customer service and business development provide unique and valuable insight into future solutions for residential and commercial applications.



From PeteHorton.com