

# My New DNA Match with Svante Burge – Going Back on my *Wennström* Ancestral Line

By Burks Oakley II  
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I am interested in genetic genealogy – that is, the use of DNA to confirm and to extend my family tree. I make extensive use of the Ancestry.com website in this hobby/pastime/obsession.

When I visit the Ancestry.com website (which is typically daily), I usually view all my DNA matches and then filter them so that I only see those DNA matches that meet two criteria: (1) software on Ancestry.com has identified our common ancestors and (2) I have not viewed the DNA match previously. Most days, this process turns up zero new matches to examine. But just yesterday, I saw that I had a new DNA match with a man named Svante Burge:

The screenshot shows a DNA match card for Svante Burge. On the left is a profile picture of a man. To the right of the picture, the name "Svante Burge" is displayed. Further right, the relationship is listed as "Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed" with "Maternal side" below it. Below the relationship, it shows "47 cM | < 1% shared DNA". To the right of this information, there are two icons: a tree icon for "Public linked tree" with "1,392 people" below it, and a group of people icon for "Common ancestor". The entire card is titled "Distant Family" at the top left.

Svante and I share 47 cM of DNA, and this match is on my mother’s side of the family.

The name Svante Burge is familiar to me. I searched the “Genealogy” folder on my Windows computer, and I found a text file from 26 July 2019 that referenced his family tree – here is a screenshot of the text:

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https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/69220337/person/192075208398/facts?ssrc=
svante Burge - has a good tree for Jöns Jeppsson and all his children
```

I also learned that I had referenced his family tree in a number of narratives about my Swedish DNA matches:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/ThruLines-JönsJeppsson.pdf>

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

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

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

<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/ThordJohnson-WennströmLine.pdf>

Svante has been a member of Ancestry.com since 2014; it appears that he just recently submitted his DNA for “testing” on the site.



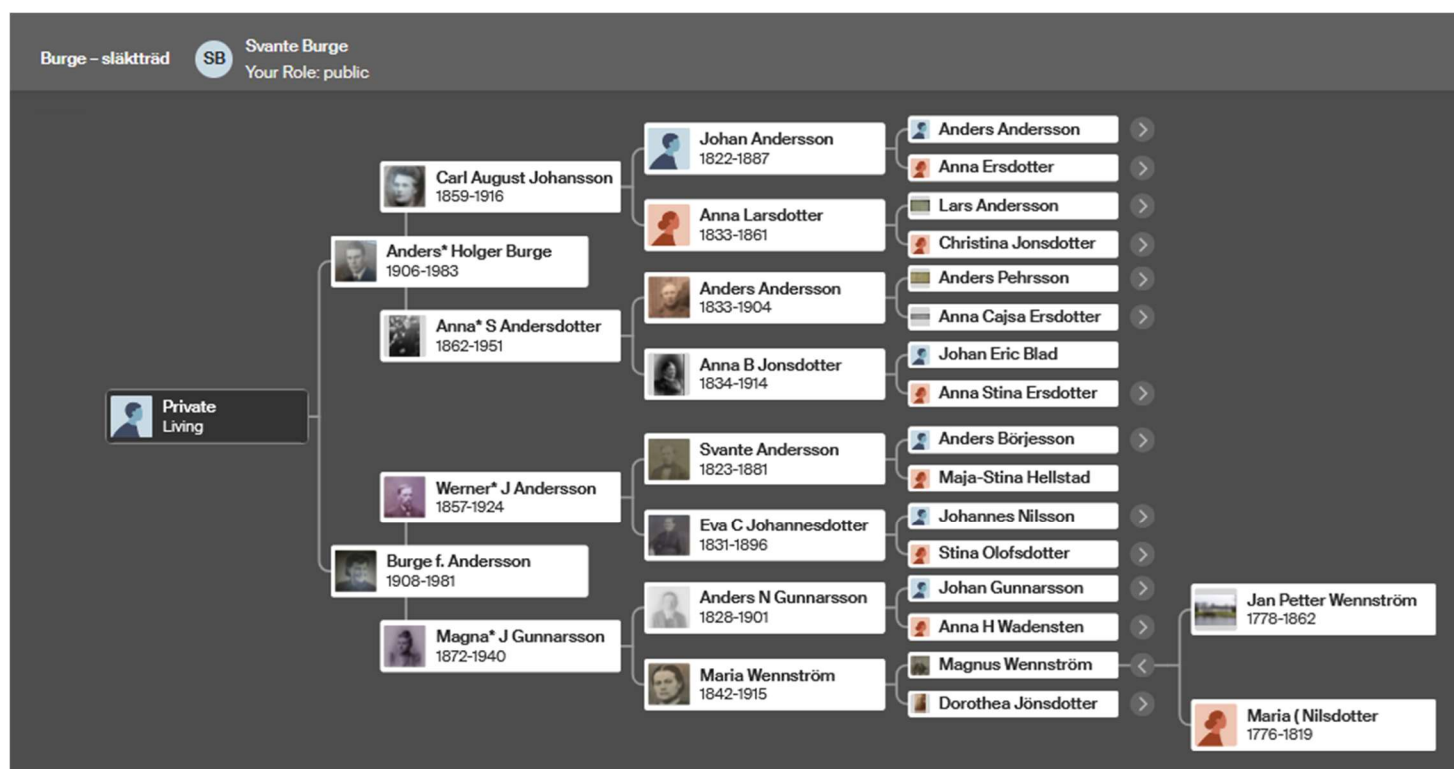
At this point, I should take a brief detour and say something about how Svante Burge's name is pronounced in Swedish. I did a Google AI search on this topic, which turned up:

“Svante Burge” in Swedish is pronounced approximately as SVAN-teh BUR-geh.

- Svante: Pronounced with a short ‘a’ (like in “swan”) and a clear ‘e’ at the end (not silent).
- Burge: The ‘u’ sounds like the Swedish (similar to the French ‘u’ or German ‘ü’, not ‘uh’) and ‘g’ is hard (like in “go”).

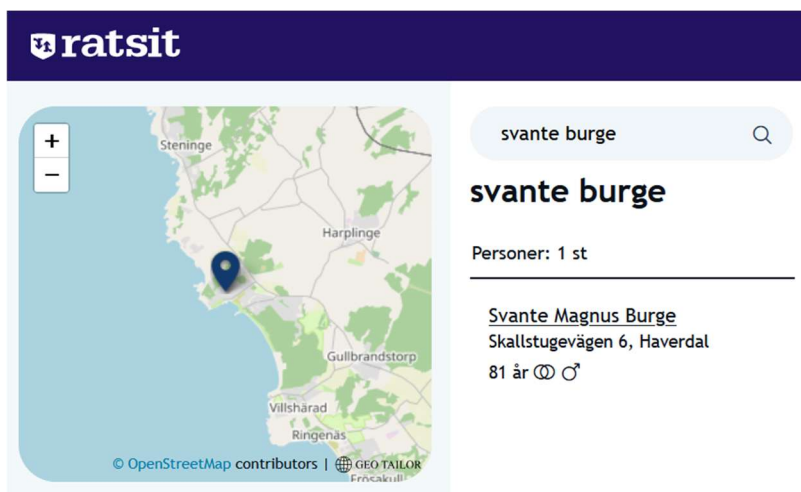
But I digress....

I next looked at Svante's pedigree chart on the Ancestry.com website:



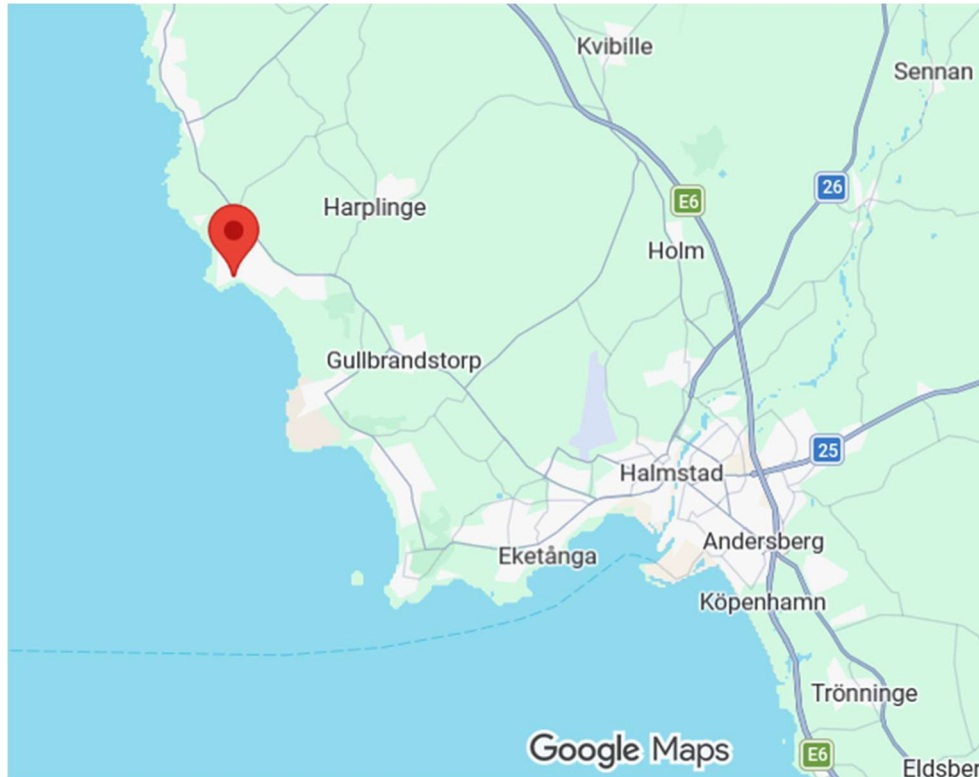
A number of things stand out here. First, his pedigree is extremely complete, showing all sixteen of his second-great grandparents. Second, he has the complete line back to the **Wennström-Nilsdotter** couple (our common ancestors). Third, his father was born in 1906 and his mother was born in 1908, so he must be my age (76), or perhaps a few years older. Finally, his parents lived their entire lives in Sweden (not shown in this pedigree chart).

I next searched for Svante on the ratsit.se website:



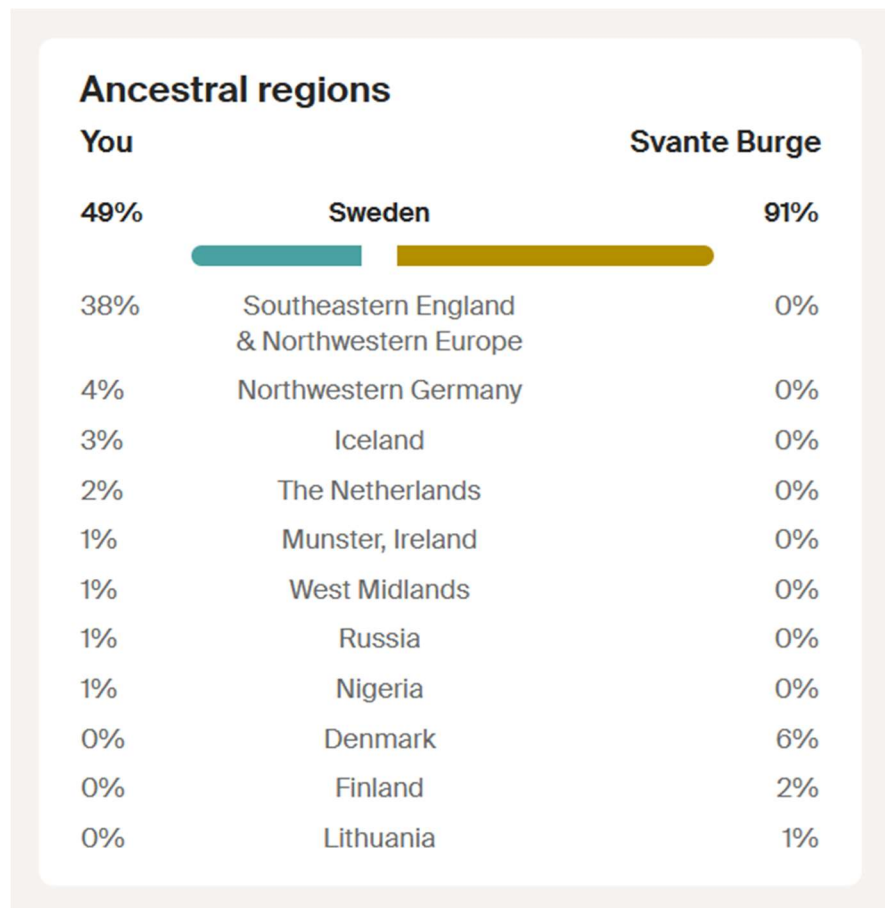
Oh my! Svante lives in Haverdal, which is in Halland County, on the west coast of Sweden.

Here is a map from Google Maps, showing Haverdal (red marker):



Haverdal is located northwest of Halmstad, and I have visited my Swedish cousin Eva Josefsson (née Gunnarsson) and her husband Sterner in Halmstad many times on my trips to Sweden. [More about Eva later.]






I went on to look at Svante’s ethnicity estimates:



As would be expected for a Swede, Svante’s ethnicity estimates include 91% Sweden, 6% Denmark, and 2% Finland.

Since my mother's four grandparents were all Swedish immigrants, she was fully Swedish, so it is not surprising that I am estimated to be 49% Swedish.

I next went on to look at the DNA matches that Svante and I have in common – our so-called “Shared DNA Matches”. There are nine people in this group, and here are five where I can figure out something about our relationships:

| Shared match:   | Your:   | Svante Burge's:   |
|---|---|---|
|  <b>jimhorton311</b><br>Managed by Cheryl Horton | Your:<br>2nd cousin<br>276 cM<br>Maternal side  | Svante Burge's:<br>4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>23 cM            |
|  <b>Courtney Owens</b>                           | Your:<br>Half 2nd cousin 1x removed or 2nd cousin 2x removed<br>109 cM<br>Maternal side | Svante Burge's:<br>3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>26 cM |
|  <b>Cynthia McKenna</b>                          | Your:<br>4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>37 cM<br>Maternal side             | Svante Burge's:<br>4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>21 cM            |
|  <b>Gunilla Torell Guenther</b>                 | Your:<br>4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>17 cM<br>Maternal side             | Svante Burge's:<br>Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed<br>45 cM            |
|  <b>Per Marklund</b>                           | Your:<br>Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin<br>17 cM<br>Maternal side             | Svante Burge's:<br>Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin<br>38 cM            |

Jim Horton is a grandson of Ebba Maria Cecilia Brorström (1887-1967), and Ebba was a younger sister of my maternal grandfather, Paul Thure Brorstrom Sr. (1884-1932). Their mother was Bernhardine Wennström (1855-1932).

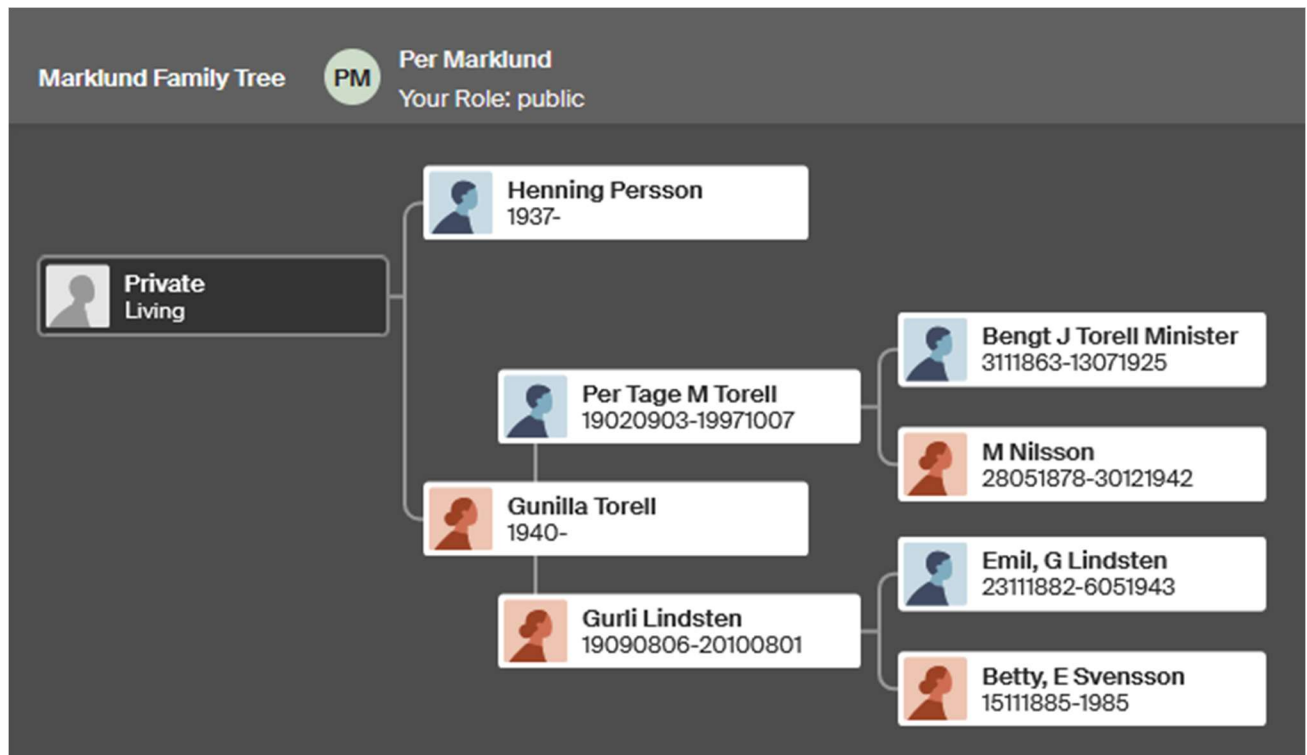
Courtney Owens is a big unknown to me. She and I share 109 cM of DNA and she has both Brorström and Wennström DNA relatives, but she only has her mother in her family tree. I have been unsuccessful in contacting her. But she certainly is a **Wennström** descendant.

Cynthia McKenna has DNA matches with a very large number of **Wennström** descendants, but she only has five people in her family tree.

Gunilla Torell Guenther is descended from the **Wennström-Nilsdotter** couple, just like Svante and I are. I wrote about my DNA match with Gunilla previously:

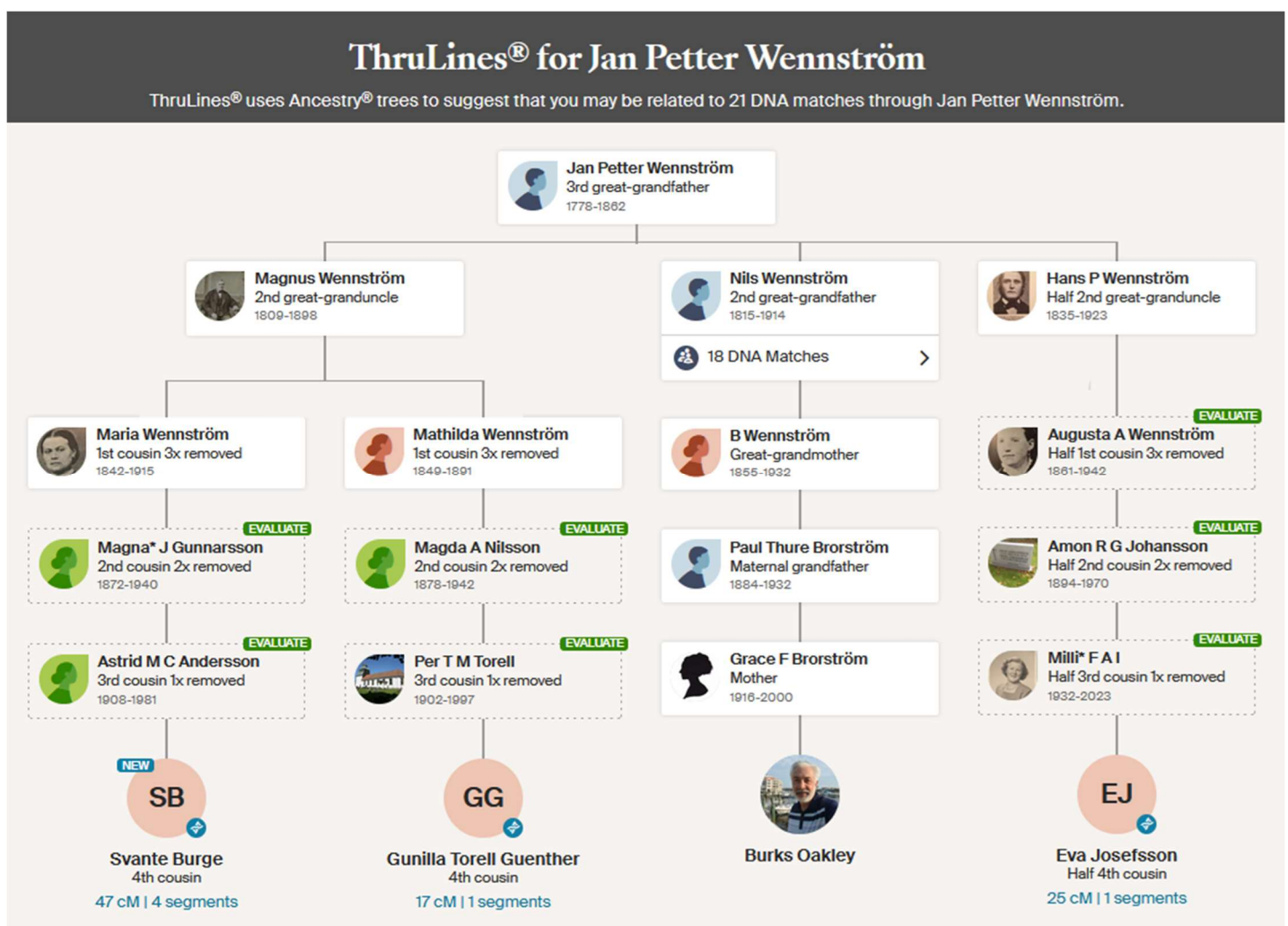
<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/GunillaTorell-WennströmConnection.pdf>

It turns out that Per Marklund is Gunilla Torell's son. Per's DNA profile is NOT linked to his family tree, but when I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”, I noticed that Gunilla was his mother. Here is the relevant portion of Per's pedigree:



As an aside, it is very interesting to see how Per encodes dates in his family tree. For example, “3111863-13071925” are the birth and death dates for Gunilla’s paternal grandfather, Bengt J. Torell.

Recall that Svante and I are both descended from Jan Petter Wennström and his wife Maria Nilsdotter. I went on to look at my ThruLines® chart for Jan Petter Wennström:



I have DNA matches with 21 descendants of Jan Petter Wennström. Eighteen of these matches go back to Jan Petter through my second-great grandfather, Nils Wennström (1815-1914). The other three DNA matches are with Svante Burge, Gunilla Torell Guenther, and Eva Josefsson.

Based on this ThruLines® chart, Svante and Gunilla are both descended from Jan Petter Wennström's son Magnus Wennström (1809-1898), while Eva is descended from Jan Petter's son Hans Petter Wennström (1835-1923).

Note that Eva is listed as a "half" relationship. And this needs a little explanation.

Here is the profile for Jan Petter Wennström from Eva's family tree on Ancestry.com:

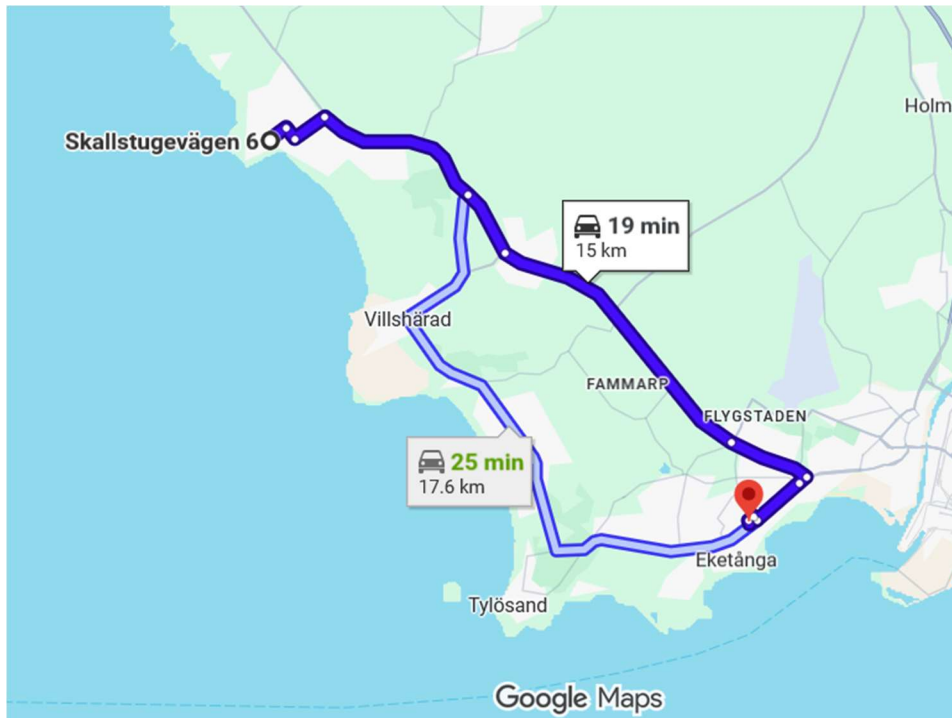
The screenshot shows the profile for Jan Peter Wennström V on Ancestry.com. At the top, there is a search bar with "Eva Josefsson f Gunnars..." and a "Find in tree" button. The profile header includes a silhouette icon, the name "Jan Peter Wennström V", and his birth and death information: BIRTH 20 AUG 1778 • Sundby, Ornö, Stockholm, Sverige; DEATH 6 JULI 1862 • Svenstorp, Tåssjö, Skåne, Sverige. Below the header, the profile is organized into sections: "Relationships" (Parents), "Spouse and children", and "Spouse and children".

| Relationships  | Spouse and children                         | Spouse and children                          |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Parents</b>   | <b>Maria (Maja) Nilsdotter</b><br>1776-1819 | <b>Johanna Persdotter V</b><br>1801-1888     |
| <b>Pähr (Peter) Wennström VI</b><br>1747-1795              | <b>Carl* Peter Wennström</b><br>1802-1887   | <b>Måns Wennström</b><br>1821-1821           |
| <b>Anna Elisabeth (Anna Lisa) Malmberg VI</b><br>1756-1795 | <b>Sven Wennström</b><br>1804-1806          | <b>Andreas Wennström</b><br>1823-1831        |
|  | <b>Anna Stina Wennström</b><br>1806-1855    | <b>Fredrik Wennström</b><br>1825-1912        |
|  | <b>Magnus Wennström</b><br>1809-1898        | <b>Maria Wennström</b><br>1827-1864          |
|  | <b>Sissela Wennström</b><br>1812-1895       | <b>Johannes Wennström</b><br>1829-1851       |
|  | <b>Nils Wennström</b><br>1815-1914          | <b>Andreas Wennström</b><br>1833-1924        |
|  | <b>Sven Wennström</b><br>1817-1912          | <b>Hans Petter Wennström IV</b><br>1835-1923 |
|  |   | <b>Lars Wennström</b><br>1839-1844           |

Note that Jan Petter (or Jan Peter) was married twice. His first wife was Maria Nilsdotter (1776-1819). He had seven children with Maria. After she died in 1819, he married Johanna Persdotter (1801-1888), and he went on to have eight children with her. His last child, Lars Wennström, was born in 1839, when Jan Petter was 61 years old. His second wife, Johanna, was just one year older than his oldest child from his first marriage. Amazing!

Since Eva Josefsson (née Gunnarsson) is descended from Hans Petter Wennström (a son from Jan Petter's second marriage) and I am descended from Nils Wennström (a son from Jan Petter's first marriage), Eva and I have a "half" cousin relationship.

Eva lives in Halmstad, and Svante lives in nearby Haverdal. Here is a Google Map showing how close they live to each other:



They live just 15 km from each other. And they are fourth-cousins. I wonder if they are aware of this...

### ***Summary:***

In this narrative, I began with my new DNA match with Svante Burge. He and I share 47 cM of DNA and we are fourth-cousins. We both are descended from Jan Petter Wennström (1778-1862) and his first wife Maria Nilsson (1776-1819).

Svante is a Swede who lives in Haverdal, which is in Halland County, on the west coast of Sweden.

Svante and I have DNA matches with other descendants of Jan Petter Wennstrom, including Gunilla Torell Guenther and her son Per Marklund, and Eva Josefsson.

Eva lives in Halmstad, Sweden, which is just 17 kilometers from where Svante lives in Haverdal. If they haven't met each other previously, they sure should do so now.

## ***Appendix: The Early Days of the Wennström Family***

The Wennström family had its beginnings in Fembecke, Vendel, in Uppsala County, Sweden. This location is between the cities of Uppsala and Gävle. I visited there in May 2019 with my Swedish cousin, Hans-Fredrik Wennström. I wrote a short narrative about Hans-Fredrik in early 2019:

[http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/Hans-FredrikWennström-WennströmConnection\\_25Jan19.pdf](http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/Hans-FredrikWennström-WennströmConnection_25Jan19.pdf)

Here is a selfie that I took when I was at Fembecke, with one of the centuries-old buildings in the background:



The first person to use the Wennström name was Pähr (Peter) Matsson Wennström, who was born in Vendel in 1747. Here is part of his profile from Svante's family tree on Ancestry.com:

Burge – släkträd ▾ Find in tree SB Svante Burge




**Pähr (Peter) Matsson Wennström**  
BIRTH 1 JUNI 1747 • Fembecke, Vendel (C)  
DEATH 7 AUG 1795 • Sjösa gruva, Svärta sn (D)

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/69220337/person/44296871317/facts>

One of Pähr's sons was Jan Petter Wennström:

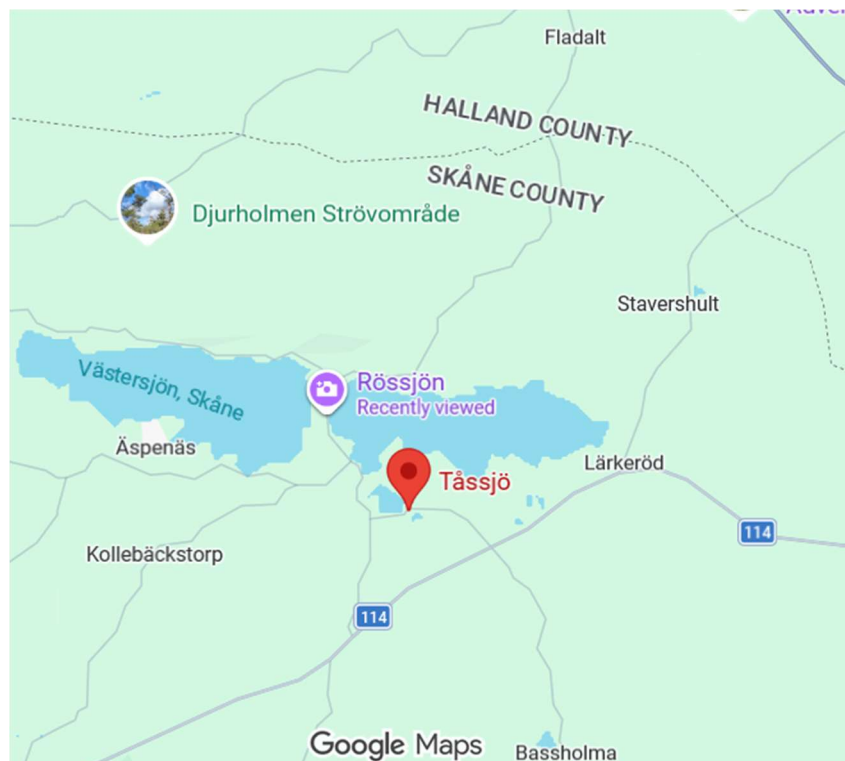
Burge – släkträd ▾ Find in tree SB Svante Burge



**Jan Petter Wennström**  
BIRTH 20 AUG 1778 • Sundby, Ornö, Stockholm län, Sverige  
DEATH 6 JUL 1862 • Svenstorp el. Hålshult, , Tåssjö Skåne

Jan Petter eventually moved to Tåssjö, in far northern Skåne County.

Here is a Google Map showing the location of Tåssjö:



As I recall, Jan Petter Wennström worked first as a hunter on the large estate of a Danish merchant. It is interesting that Svante's profile for Jan Petter Wennström (on the previous page) includes a photo of the main house of this estate, Rössjöholms Slott. I visited there in May 2019 with my cousin Eva Josefsson and her husband Sterner. Here are several photos:





One of Jan Petter Wennström's sons was Nils Wennström, and Nils was my second-great grandfather. Nils was born in a small house very close to the border between Skåne and Halland Counties.

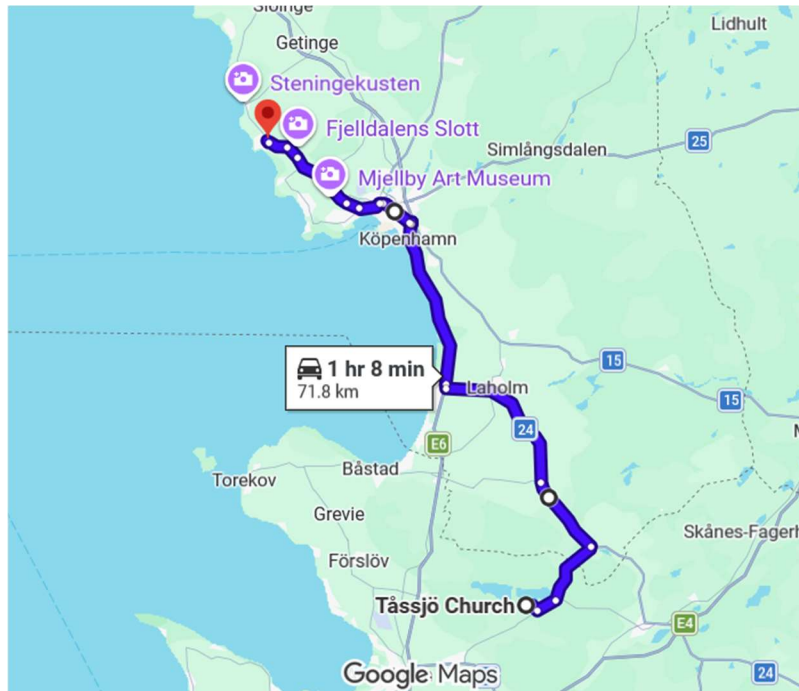
When I was there in May 2019, I took two photos very close to where Nils was born. The first is looking from Skåne into Halland County:



The second was taken across the road, looking from Halland County into Skåne:



As I wrote in the main part of the narrative, Svante Burge lives in Haverdal, which is just 71 kilometers from Tåssjö:



Let me conclude by saying that the Swedish name “Tåssjö” is almost impossible for me to pronounce. I did a Google AI search, which returned:

The Swedish place name Tåssjö is pronounced roughly as TOH-shuh or TOHS-yuh. Here is a breakdown of the pronunciation based on Swedish phonetic rules:

Tå-: The “å” makes an “oh” sound, similar to the vowel in the English word “for” or “door”.

-ssjö: The “sj” combination in Swedish creates a distinct voiceless sh-sound, often described as a breathy, aspirated “sh” sound.

-ö: The “ö” at the end is a rounded vowel, similar to the “ea” in the English word “earn”.