

ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter – Part II

By Burks Oakley II
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Introduction

I am using DNA testing to expand and to confirm my family tree. In the past few years, I have become quite interested in learning more about my Swedish ancestry. My mother was Grace Florence Brorström (1916-2000), and all four of her grandparents were Swedes who immigrated to America in the 1880's.

In February 2019, Ancestry.com released a beta version of its ThruLines™ software. This software first identifies my DNA matches (that is, the individuals with whom I have matching segments of DNA, indicating a common ancestor) and then examines my family tree and theirs, seeking to discover how we are related. An important feature of this software is that it also examines all of the family trees on Ancestry.com as it seeks to discover these connections.



Skåne landscape. Photo taken by Guillaume Baviere.

I previously wrote about my ThruLines™ for one of my 5th-great grandmothers – a Swedish woman named Gundel Åkesdotter (1710-1785):

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

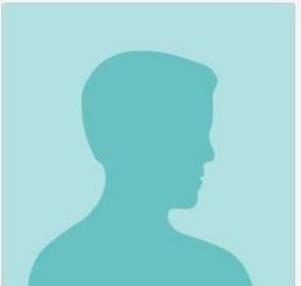
Since the number of people with DNA on Ancestry.com is growing rapidly, it turns out that it is productive to revisit each of my ThruLines™ regularly, as well as those of my Swedish-American cousins who have their DNA on Ancestry.com – Annmarie, Susan, Stuart, and Peter. These cousins have DNA matches with distant cousins that I don't have, due to the way that autosomal DNA is inherited.

This narrative addresses a new addition to our ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter. This research turned up some interesting details about our family's Swedish roots in northwest Skåne County and southwest Halland County.

Annmarie's ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter

In this section, I'll examine Annmarie's ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter, but Susan's and mine show nearly the same thing.

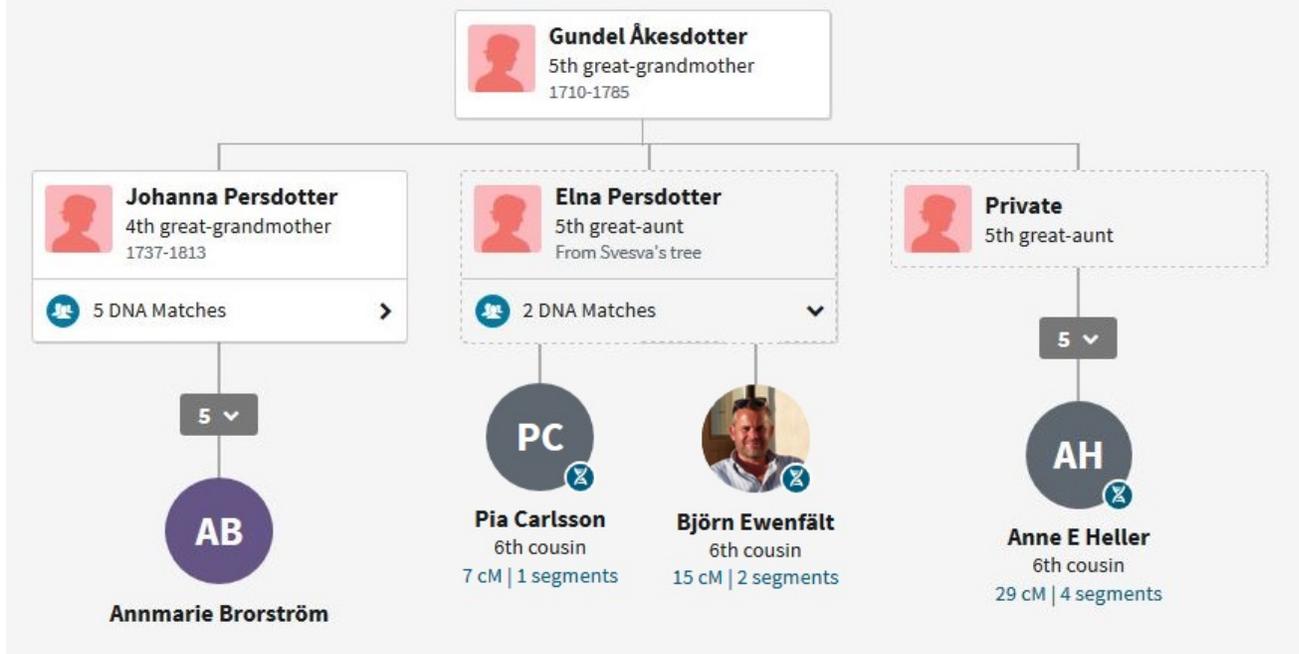
The image shows a screenshot of the Ancestry.com ThruLines™ interface for Gundel Åkesdotter. The title is "5th Great Grandparents". There are four columns representing different ancestors. The first column is highlighted with a red border and contains a red silhouette of a woman. Below it is a white box with the text: "Gundel Åkesdotter", "5th great-grandmother", and "1710-1785". The second column has a teal silhouette of a man and a white box with "Per Jönsson", "5th great-grandfather". The third column has a red silhouette of a woman and a white box with "Boel Svensdotter", "5th great-grandmother". The fourth column has a teal silhouette of a man and a white box with "Gudmund Pålsson", "5th great-grandfather", and "1709-1758".

| 1710-1785 | 1751 | 1698-1705 | 1709-1758 |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Gundel Åkesdotter 5th great-grandmother 1710-1785 | Per Jönsson 5th great-grandfather | Boel Svensdotter 5th great-grandmother | Gudmund Pålsson 5th great-grandfather 1709-1758 |

Clicking on Gundel's name goes to a new webpage with the ThruLines™; here it is:

ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter BETA

ThruLines suggests that Anmarie Brorström may be related to 8 DNA matches through Gundel Åkesdotter.



Anmarie has DNA matches with individuals in two lines going back to Gundel Åkesdotter. In my earlier narrative, I discussed the Elna Persdotter line in the middle of this chart, which connects Pia Carlsson and Björn Ewenfält back to Gundel Åkesdotter.

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

But what is Anne E. Heller doing here? Her line is at the right side of this chart. I wrote about her in the ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson:

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

Anne Heller is descended from Jöns Jeppsson on a line that goes back through our second-great grandfather Nils Wennström. Here is the chart from that earlier narrative:

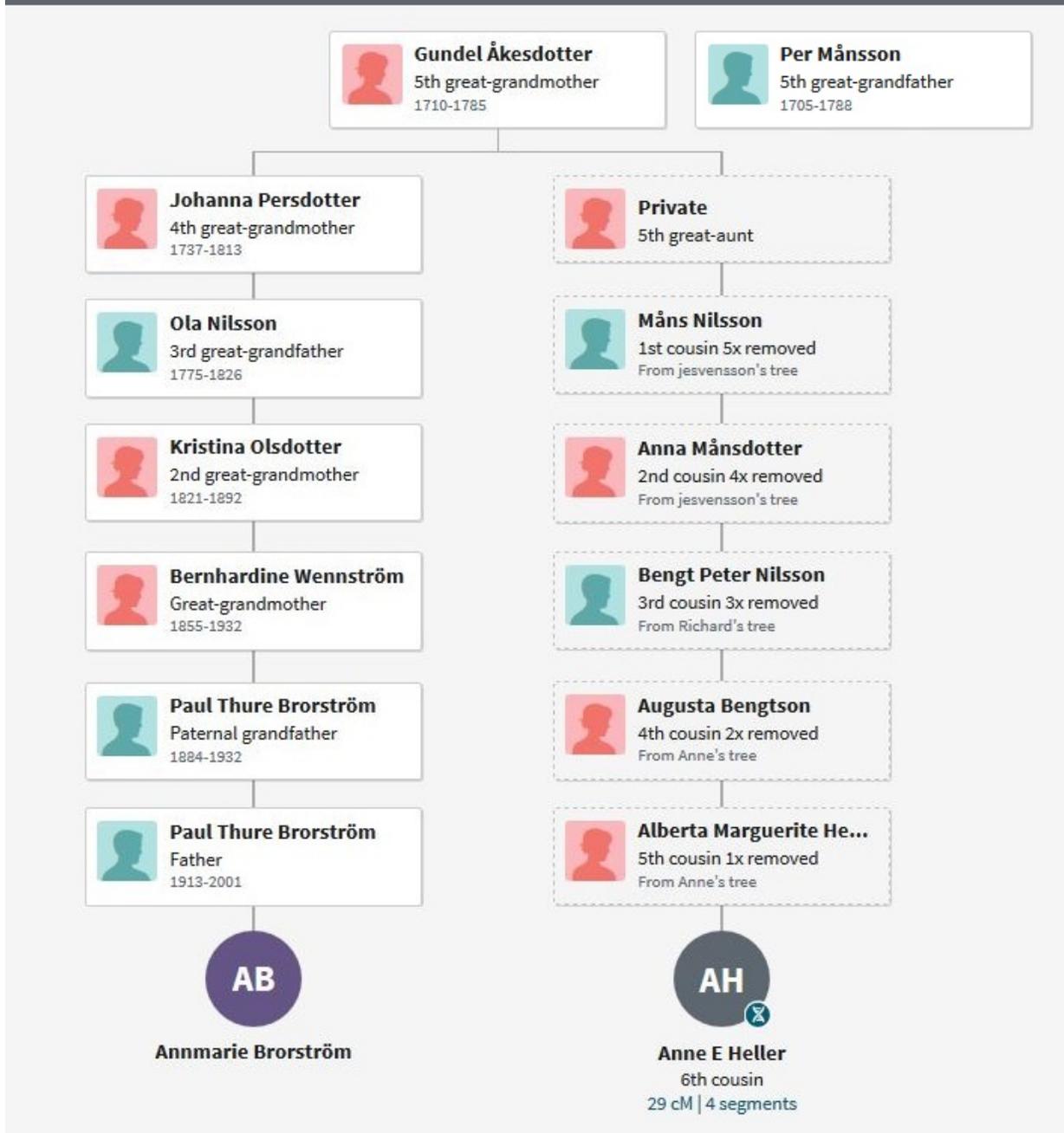


How is it that this ThruLines™ now suggests that Anne Heller is descended from Gundel Åkesdotter?

Opening the ThruLines™ sections with Annmarie and Anne Heller gives both of their lines back to Gundel Åkesdotter:

ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter BETA

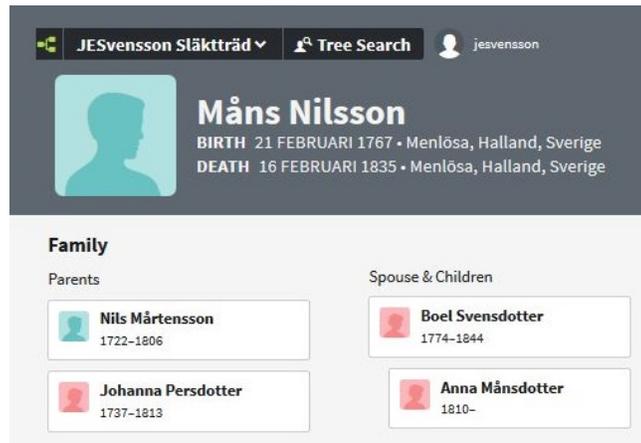
ThruLines suggests that Anmarie Brorström may be related to 8 DNA matches through Gundel Åkesdotter.



Note that Anmarie's line to Gundel Åkesdotter goes back through Bernhardine Wennström's mother, Kristina Olsdotter (Kristina was the wife of Nils Wennström).

Who is the woman marked "Private" at the top of Anne Heller's line? This woman was a daughter of Gundel Åkesdotter and her husband Per Månsson, and she also was the mother of Måns Nilsson.

Several family trees on Ancestry.com show that Måns Nilsson's mother was Johanna Persdotter:



JESvensson Släkträd Tree Search jesvensson

Måns Nilsson
BIRTH 21 FEBRUARI 1767 • Menlösa, Halland, Sverige
DEATH 16 FEBRUARI 1835 • Menlösa, Halland, Sverige

Family

Parents

- Nils Mårtensson** 1722-1806
- Johanna Persdotter** 1737-1813

Spouse & Children

- Boel Svensdotter** 1774-1844
- Anna Månsdotter** 1810-

And several family trees show that one of Johanna Persdotter's sons was Måns Nilsson:



Dannbring Family Tree Tree Search Ann-Marie Dannbring

Johanna Persdotter
BIRTH 19 NOV 1737 • Troedsfälle, Hasslöv, Halland, Sverige
DEATH 2 NOV 1813 • Menlösa, Våxtorp, Halland, Sverige

Family

Parents

- Per Månsson** 1706-1788
- Gunilla Åkesdotter VIII:188** 1710-1785

Spouse & Children

- Nils Martensson** 1722-1806
- Mårten Nilsson** 1758-1759
- Kerstin Nilsdotter** 1764-1822
- Måns Nilsson** 1767-1835
- Bengta Nilsdotter** 1769-
- Ola Nilsson** 1775-
- Pål Nilsson** 1783-

All these family trees on Ancestry.com indicate that the woman marked “Private” was Johanna Persdotter. This means that the woman at the top of both lines is Johanna Persdotter – so these lines should have been merged at the top. Note that the ThruLines™ software is still being beta-tested, so bugs like this are to be expected.

The ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter shows the second way that Anne Heller and I are related. The first way was through my line back to Jöns Jeppsson, which goes through Nils Wennström. The second way is through Kristina Olsdotter, who was the **WIFE** of Nils Wennström.

Recall that in my previous narrative about Anne Heller¹, I found that she also is related to Lise-Lotte Kolmberger. The following screenshot shows that Annmarie and Anne Heller both have DNA matches with Lise-Lotte Kolmberger:

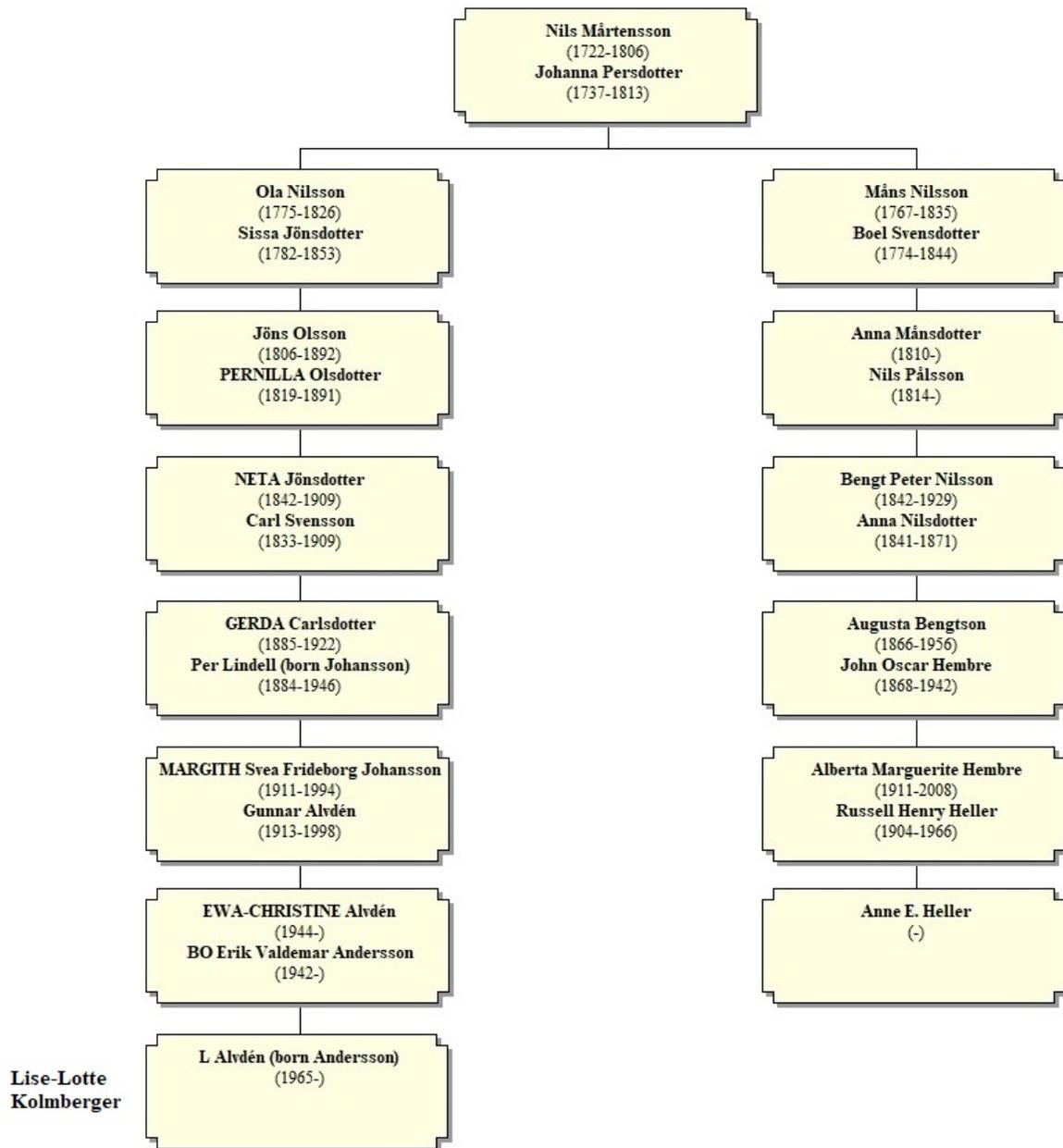


The reader should keep in mind that I am related to Lise-Lotte through Kristina Olsdotter. I wrote about this earlier:

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

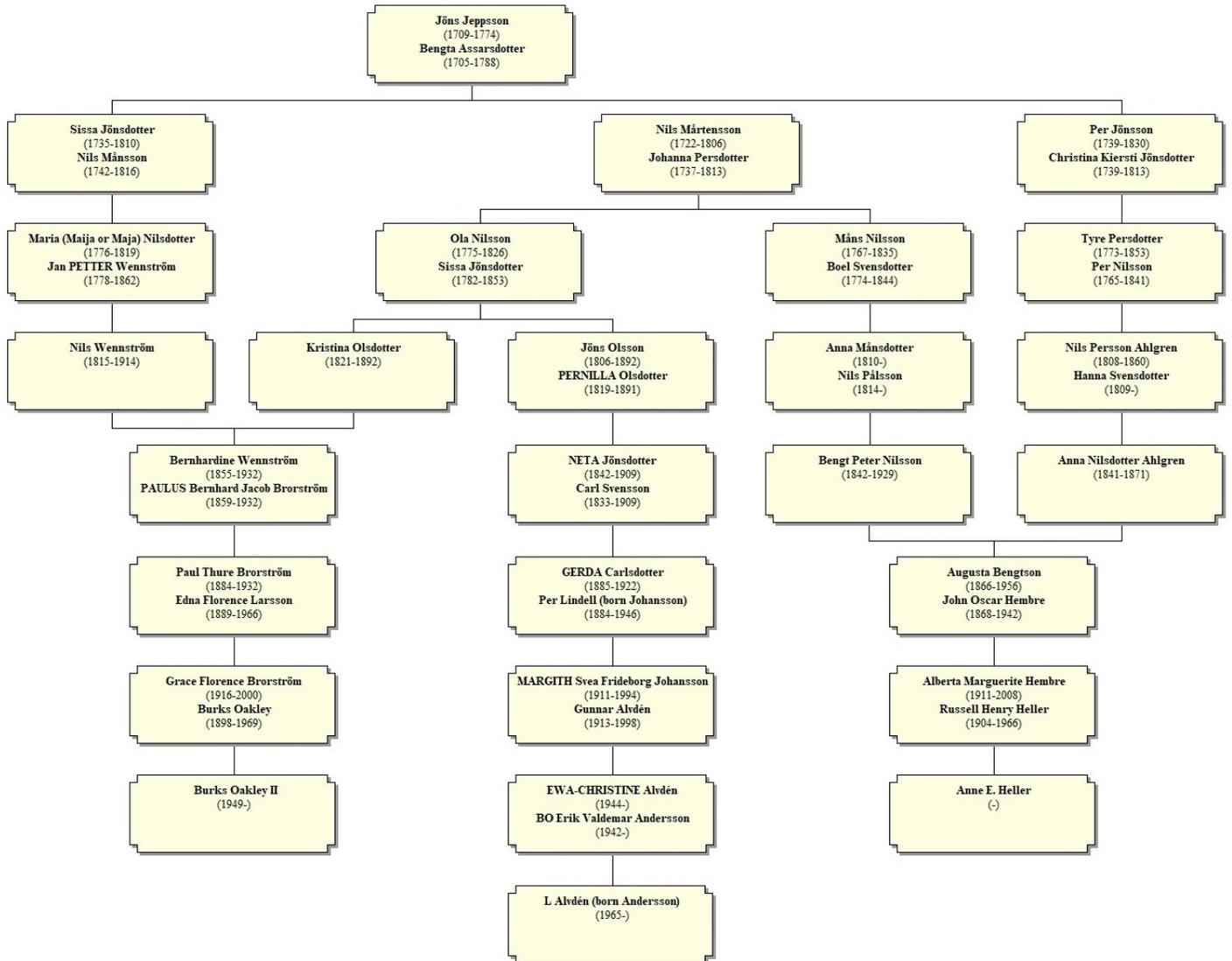
I now know how Lise-Lotte and Anne Heller are related, and it involves Johanna Persdotter and her husband Nils Mårtensson:

¹ <http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/ThruLines-JönsJeppsson.pdf>

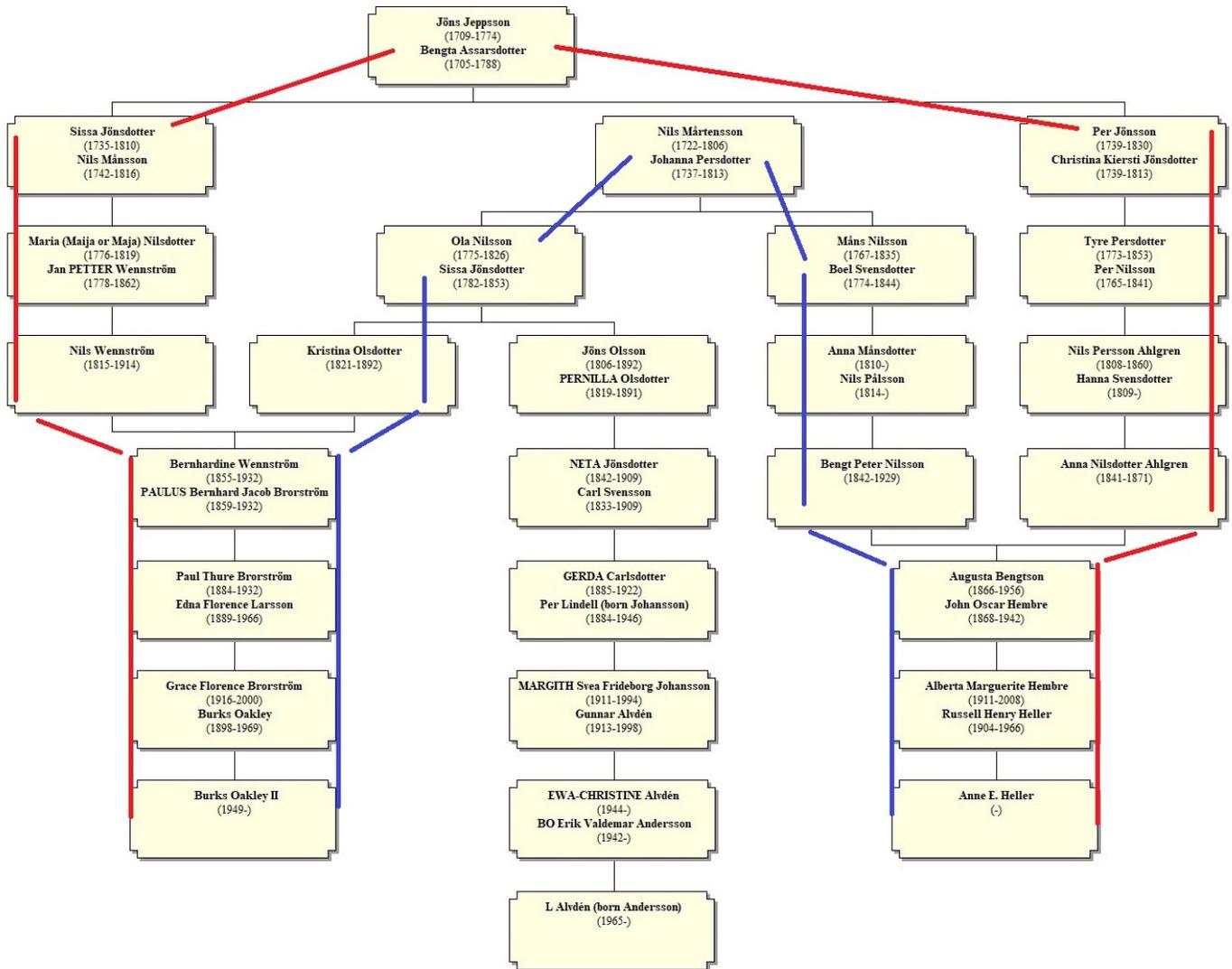


This chart shows that Lise-Lotte and Anne Heller are both descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter.

Putting the information from the ThruLines™ for Jöns Jeppsson and Gundel Åkesdotter together, plus adding Lise-Lotte Kolmberger, gives the following chart:

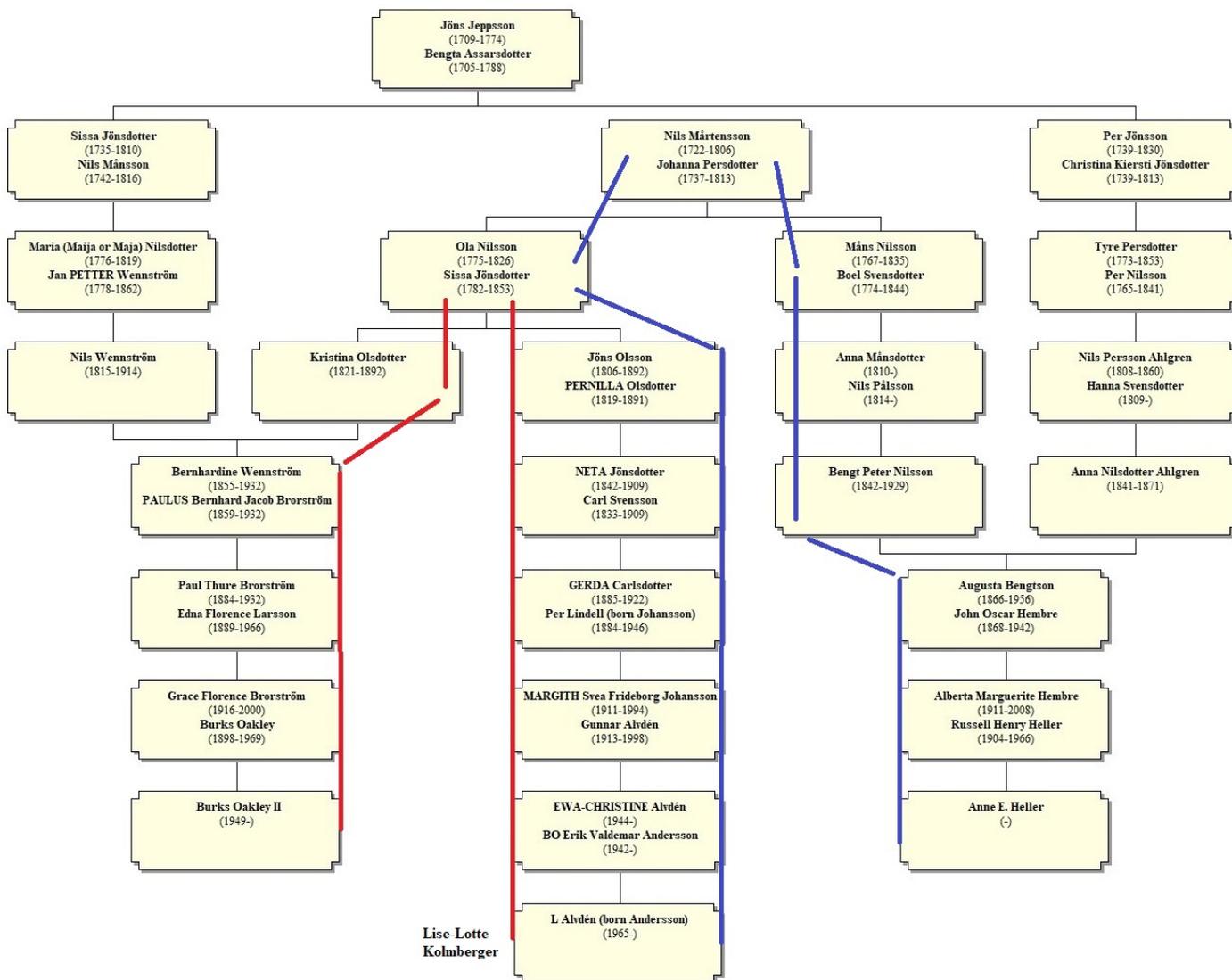


This isn't as complicated as it might seem at first. And it doesn't have anything funky (such as first-cousins marrying each other). Let's first look at the two different ways that Anne Heller and I are related:



The red lines show how Anne Heller and I are both descended from Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter. The blue lines show how we both are descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter. I am related to Anne Heller in two different ways, but this isn't surprising given that the families at the top of this chart lived in Hasslöv, Våxtorp, and Menlösa (three villages that are within 8 km of each other), in the early and mid-1700's.

Let's now look at how Lise-Lotte fits into the picture:



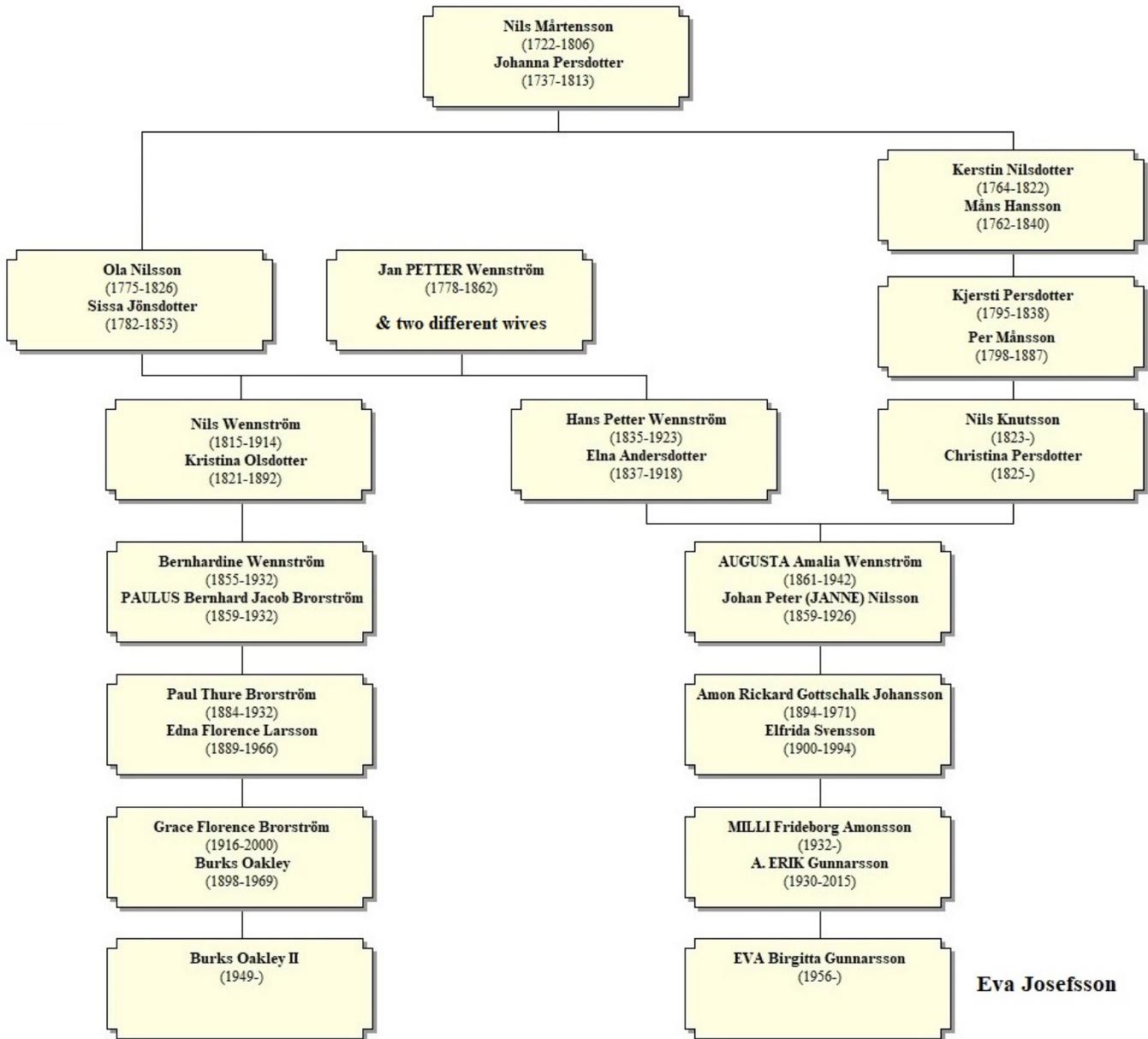
The red lines show how Lise-Lotte and I are both descended from Ola Nilsson and his wife Sissa Jönsdotter. The blue lines show that Lise-Lotte and Anne Heller are both descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter.

This chart emphasizes that all three of us are related to each other, but in different ways. Since I am related to Anne Heller in two different ways, but only share a single segment of DNA with her, I am unable to know which of our common ancestors the DNA comes from (this would require a chromosome browser, which is not available on the Ancestry.com website).

Note that Eva Gunnarsson Josefsson also is related to me in two different ways. And one of those ways is from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter, as described in:

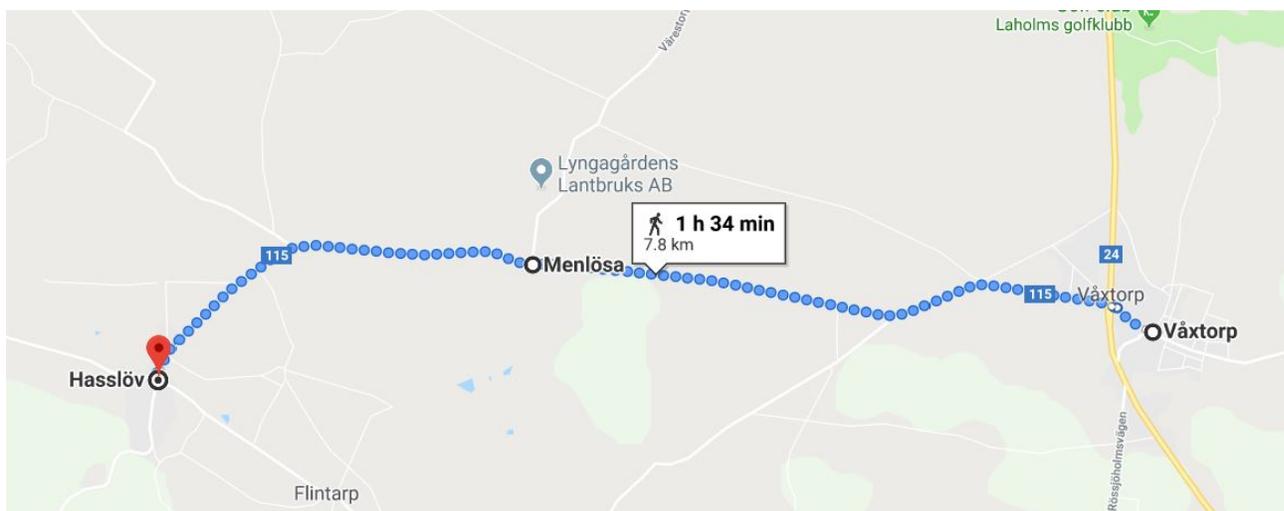
<http://www.burksOakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/NilsMårtensson-PartI.pdf>

Here is a chart from that narrative, showing our double relationship:



These double relationships are easily accounted for, given that most of these families lived in the villages of Hasslöv, Menlösa, and Våxtorp, which are located just 8 km apart. The small populations of these villages in the early 1700's meant that families intermarried.

Just for fun, here is a map showing the location of these villages:



Map of southwest Halland County, showing the villages of Hasslöv, Menlösa, and Våxtorp. Nils Wennström lived in a house in the top center of this map, where the current Lyngagårdens Lantbruks AB company is located.

Other DNA Matches with Anne E. Heller

Let's first look at my ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter:

ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter BETA

ThruLines suggests that you may be related to 8 DNA matches through Gundel Åkesdotter.

▶ Relationships ☰ List

Gundel Åkesdotter
5th great-grandmother
1710-1785

Johanna Persdotter
4th great-grandmother
1737-1813

5 DNA Matches >

Elna Persdotter
5th great-aunt
From Svesva's tree

2 DNA Matches ▼

Private
5th great-aunt

5 ▼

Burks Oakley

5 ▼

AH

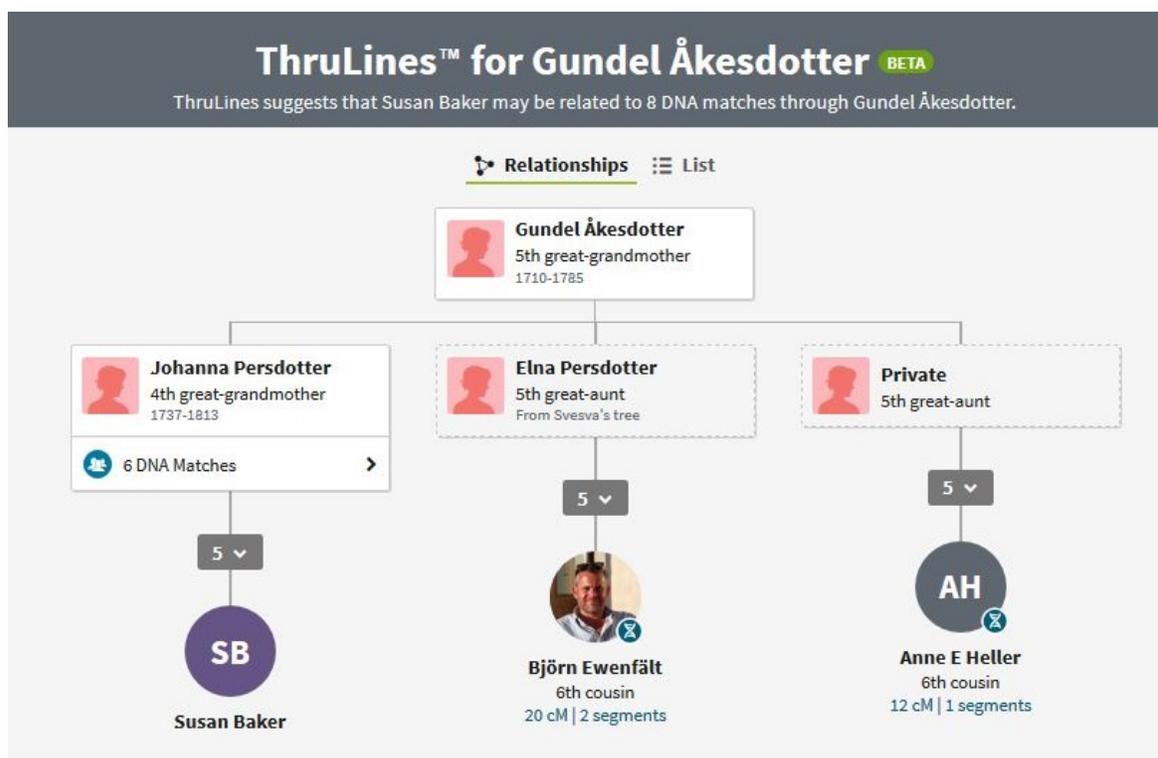
Anne E Heller
6th cousin
8 cM | 1 segments

My middle line, which connects through Elna Persdotter, was discussed in my earlier narrative about Gundel Åkesdotter:

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

This line connects Denis Sullivan and his sister Susan Sullivan LeDeuc to Gundel Åkesdotter through Gundel's daughter Elna Persdotter.

Here is Susan's ThruLines™ for Gundel Åkesdotter:



Susan's ThruLines™ has a line connecting Björn Ewenfält to Gundel Åkesdotter, as well as Anne Heller's line. And in looking at Susan's shared DNA matches with Anne Heller, I was presented with another view of their DNA matches, including Lise-Lotte Kolmberger and Björn Ewenfält.

← AncestryDNA Home > Member Matches for Susan Baker

Shared matches with Anne E Heller

IMMEDIATE FAMILY

★  [Annmarie Brorström](#) 290 people
Possible range: Immediate family - close family
Confidence: Extremely High  [View Match](#)

4TH COUSIN

★  [Lise-Lotte Kolmberger](#) Unlinked Tree
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins
Confidence: Extremely High  [View Match](#)

★  [Björn Ewenfält](#) 1,345 people
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins
Confidence: Good  [View Match](#)

Unfortunately, Lise-Lotte's family tree on the Ancestry site is private and not linked to her DNA test, so she doesn't show up in any of these ThruLines™.

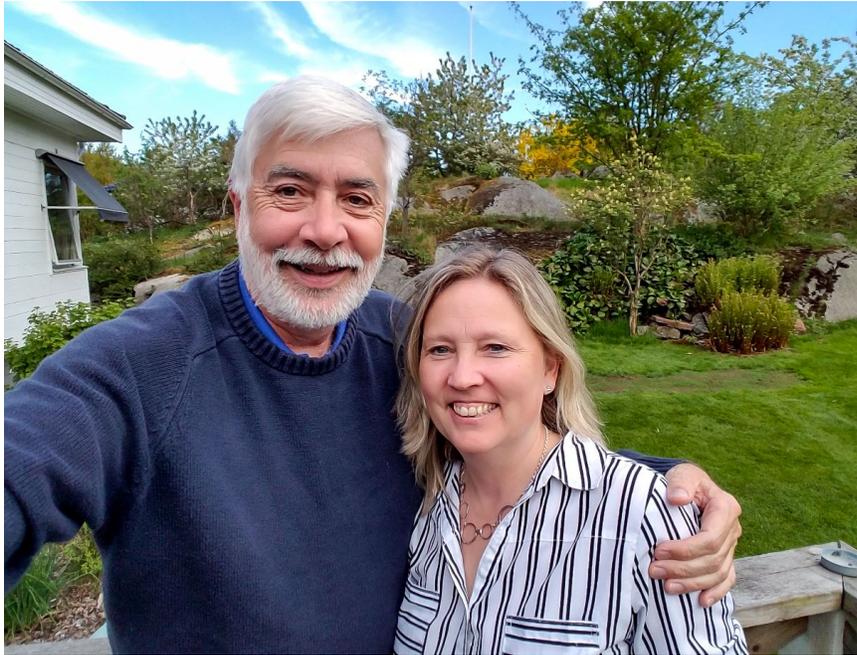
Conclusion

In this narrative, I have discussed Annmarie's ThruLines™ going back to our fifth-grandmother, Gundel Åkesdotter (1710-1785), who lived in Hasslöv, Halland County, Sweden. While I had presented some of this in an earlier narrative, the information about our DNA match with Anne E. Heller was new and provided a second path through which we are related: we both are descended from Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter **AND** from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter. Through these lines, Anne Heller is related both to Nils Wennström and to his wife Kristina Olsdotter.

Finding this second connection to Anne Heller provided insight into Lise-Lotte Kolmberger's DNA match with Ann Heller.

Appendix – Photos

Here are some miscellaneous photos.



Burks & Lise-Lotte in the backyard of her home in Billdal (south of Gothenburg)



The church in Hasslöv. Nils Wennström and his wife Kristina Olsdotter are buried here.



The church in Våxtorp.



Road sign in Menlösa, across the street from where Eva Josefsson's brother lives.