Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: James Moody

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Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: James August Moody

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3 February 2017
James August Moody

James Moody was born on August 12, 1859, in Lekvatten, Varmland in Sweden. He died on 14 July 1947, in Minneapolis, Hennepig County, Minnesota, United States. His home outside of Augustana was located in 3121 Grand Avenue, Ward 8, Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota.

James (Jöns Pärsson) immigrated to the United States from Sweden in 1864 with his parents Pär Jansson and Ingeborg Anderstorp Jansson Andersdotter, his brother, Johan August Pärsson and sister, Inga Maria Pärsdotter. When they immigrated, James’s first name changed from Jöns, and his father changed his name from Pär to Peter, while everyone in the family attained the last name Moody. His father was a Swedish farmer, and they lived in Stockholm, Wright, Minnesota, United States. While James was living with his father in Stockholm,
Minnesota, his mother, Ingeborg, kept the house. James’s parents married on 26 December 1856, in Sweden. James’s father died on 12 March 1905, and his mother died on 8 April 1904, in Stockholm, Minnesota.

James began his studies at Gustavus Adolphus College, but he continued his education at Augustana for the next four years. He was a junior from 1883-1884 and then later graduated in 1885. Moody’s denomination is Evangelical Lutheran. Moody was also the V. Custos for his class and was interested in classic studies.

After James graduated from Augustana College in 1885, he attended the seminary from 1886-1888 and was ordained in 1888 in Galesburg, Illinois. He then moved back to Minnesota, where he began preaching for the Lutheran Church as a clergyman. His life as a clergyman took him to many different places in Minnesota. He preached in Crookston, Eagle Lake, Fergus Falls, Roseau Badger, Detroit Lakes, Stockholm, Sablylund, and Minneapolis. Later in life, James decided to become a professor at Augustana. He was involved in the different choirs at Augustana as well as being the director of the Oratorio chorus. The chorus had a great reputation and was featured in the Rockety-I, the old version of the college’s yearbook.

While in Minnesota James met Augusta Johnson and they got married in 23 August 1893. They lived together in Clitherall, Otter Tail, Minnesota, United States in 1900 and then moved to Fergus Falls. Ward 1 sometime in between 1900 and 1910. Edna Johnson, James’s niece,
lived with the couple when they first moved after they got married. Eventually James and Augusta had five children between 1896 and 1906: Hulda Viola Moody, James Rudolph William Moody, Ruth Augusta Eleanor Moody, Edna Evangelique Moody, and Mildred Theodora Moody.\(^{30}\) James and the family moved about a lot with his sons and daughters moving out of the house as they went. Between 1910 and 1920 they moved to Detroit Township, Becker, Minnesota.\(^{31}\) Then between 1920 and 1930 they moved again to Ward 8, Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota, United States. James then stayed in this house until the end of his life in 1947.\(^{32}\) James and his family traveled depending on where the Lutheran ministries needed him. His wife Augusta immigrated in 1888 from Sweden\(^{34}\). James’s paternal line is as followed: Grandmother was Annieka Eriksdotter\(^{35}\) and Grandfather was Johan Persson Modig, Great-grandparents were
Pehr Modig\textsuperscript{36} and Kiersti Bengtsdotter\textsuperscript{37}, Erik Mattison\textsuperscript{38} and Karin Jonsdotter\textsuperscript{39}. There is not much known about James’s maternal line.

In conclusion, James’s life started in Sweden, but Augustana College gave him a huge boost into his career and had a huge impact on the rest of his life.

\begin{footnotes}
\item[38] “Sweden Baptisms, 1611-1920”, \textit{FamilySearch}, database entry for Erik Mattison in baptism of daughter Annieka Eriksdotter.
\end{footnotes}
Ancestors of James August Moody

Generation 1

1. James (Jöns) August Modig Moody. For more information about James, see the biography in the main part.

Generation 2

2. Pär Jansson Modig Moody. Pär was born in Sweden and was at the same church his whole life until immigrating to the United States in 1864. While he was in Sweden, he leased his farm land in Lekvattnet, Varmland. He married Ingeborg Andersdotter on 26 December 1856.

3. Ingeborg Andersdotter Modig Moody. Ingeborg was also born in Sweden. She had three children in Sweden including James being the middle child. After they immigrated to America in 1864, Ingeborg was in charge of the household.
   - Johan August Pärsson Modig Moody. Johan is the oldest sibling in James’s family. He immigrated to America in 1864 with the family.
   - Jöns August Modig Moody. See 1. above.
   - Augusta Modig Moody. Augusta was born in Lekvattnet, Varmland, Sweden on 10 November 1861 and died on 16 May 1862 with no death location.
   - Inga Maria Pärsdotter Modig Moody. Inga Maria is the youngest sibling in James’s family at the time they immigrated from Sweden in 1864.

43 Bergendoff, Conrad. The Augustana Ministerium (Rock Island, Illinois : Augustana Historical Society, 1980), page 42. The Ministerium was compiled from other sources. It is a transcription. When the original sources were in Swedish, it is also a translation.
Gustav Moody. Gustav was born 25 June 1866 in Stockholm, Wright, MN.\(^{49}\) He died 25 August 1925 in Cokato, MN.\(^{50}\)

Anton P. Moody. Anton was born on 10 March 1868 in Stockholm, Wright, MN.\(^{51}\) He died on 13 December 1928 and was buried in Stockholm Cemetery.\(^{52}\)

Olaus (Lewis) Moody. Olaus Moody was born on 27 April 1871 in Stockholm, Wright, MN.\(^{53}\) He died on 5 May 1922.\(^{54}\)

**Generation 3**

4. Johan Persson Modig. Johan was born on 7 August 1793 in Ostmark, Varmland, Sweden. He died after 1861 in Sweden.\(^{55}\)

5. Annika Eriksdotter. Annika was born on 8 December 1797 in Fabacken, Lekvattnet, Varmland, Sweden. She was Christened on 10 December 1797 in Ostmark, Varmland, Sweden. She died on 26 March 1865 in Fabacken, Lekvattnet, Sweden.\(^{56}\)

   **Erik Modig.** Erik was born on 15 September 1821 in Lekvasttnet, Varmland, Sweden. He died on 5 August 1881 and was buried in Zion Cemetery, Buffalo, MN.\(^{57}\)

   **Per Jansson Modig.** See number 2 above.

   **Kersten Modig.** Kersten was born on 22 May 1827 in Lekvattnet, Varmland, Sweden. She immigrated to America in 1864 and married Nils Mattson. She is buried in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Watertown, Minnesota.\(^{58}\)

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\(^{49}\) “United States Census, 1880”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Gustav Moody. States he was born on this date and place.


\(^{51}\) “United States Census, 1880”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Anton Moody. States he was born on this date and at this place on the census.


\(^{53}\) “United States Census, 1880”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Olaus Moody. States he was born on this date and place.


Kayjsa E. Jansdotter Modig. Kayjsa was born on 6 March 1829 in Lekvatten, Varmland, Sweden. She married Jons Erickson in Sweden and immigrated in 1866. She died on 9 March 1902 and was buried that same day in Stockholm, Wright, Minnesota, United States.  

Johan Jansson Modig. Johan was born on 1 January 1831. He died on 3 July 1889 in Stockholm Twp, Wright, Minnesota, United States and was buried in that same town.  

Olaf Modig. Olaf was born in Varmland, Sweden and died in 1865 in Minnesota, United States.

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Generation 4

8. Pehr Modig. Pehr was born on 4 February 1776 in Sweden. He married Kiersti Bendtsdotter on 6 August 1802 and he died on 25 September 1831.

9. Kiersti Bengtsdotter. Kiersti was born on 25 October 1772 in Sweden. She married Pehr Modig on 6 August 1802 and they had 5 children. She died on 7 October 1841.

Johan Persson Modig. See number 4 above.

Johannes Pehrsson. Johannes was born on 3 August 1803 in Fogdarp, Forslov, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was christened on 7 August 1803 in the same place he was born. He died on 2 April 1841 in Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was buried on 9 April in 1841.

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Pal Pehrsson. Pal was born on 10 June 1806 in Fogdarp, Forslov, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was christened on 15 June 1806 in the general same location as birth. He died on 14 December 1874 in Salomonhog, Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was buried on 19 December 1874.

Jons Killstrom. Jons was born on 24 June 1809 in Killerod, Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was Christened in generally the same location on 27 January 1809. He died on 27 January 1884 in Killerod, Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was buried on 3 February 1884.

Nils Pehrsson. Nils was born on the 31 May 1813 in Killerod, Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was Christened in generally the same location on 7 June 1813. He died on 25 December 1816 in Killerod, Grevie, Kristianstad, Sweden. He was buried on 29 December 1816.

10. Erik Mattison. Erik was born on 11 March 1770 in most likely Sweden.

11. Karin Jonsdotter. Karin was born on 4 January 1770 in Hvitkarn, Ostmark, Sweden. She died on 16 December 1805.

Annieka Eriksdotter. See number 5 above.

Generation 5

18. Bengt Nilsson. Bengt was born in 1736 in Sweden. He married Karna Thomasdotter on 8 February 1767 and died on 22 February 1820.

19. Karna Thomasdotter. Karna was born in 1746 in Sweden. She married Bengt Nilsson on 8 February 1767 and they had 8 children. She died on 16 October 1808 in Sweden.

Kiersti Bengtsdotter. See number 9 above.
20. **Mattes Johanson.** Mattes was born in 1735. He died in on 3 April 1785.\(^75\)

21. **Annika Eriksdotter.** Annika was born about 1737 in Sweden. She died on 18 April 1802 in Sweden.\(^76\)

   **Erik Mattison.** See number 10 above.

22. **Jons Clementsson.** Jons was born on 19 April 1744 in Ostmark, Varmland, Sweden. He died on 31 January 1803 in Sweden.\(^77\)

23. **Britta Samuelsdotter.** Britta was born in 1737 and died about 1816.\(^78\)

   **Karin Jonsdotter.** See number 11 above.

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\(^75\) RosalynRuthCaulkins, a *FamilySearch* user. *FamilySearch*,

\(^76\) RosalynRuthCaulkins, a *FamilySearch* user. *FamilySearch*,

\(^77\) RosalynRuthCaulkins, a *FamilySearch* user. *FamilySearch*,
(https://familysearch.org/tree/person/LLWD-5M2/details : 7 June 2016), Jons Clementsson. Rosalyn said she got the information from *ancestry.com* and just transcribed it onto *FamilySearch*.

\(^78\) RosalynRuthCaulkins, a *FamilySearch* user. *FamilySearch*,
(https://familysearch.org/tree/person/LLWD-RVC/details : Birth-7 June 2016, Death-17 July 2016), Britta Samuelsdotter. Rosalyn has written the birth year from her personal information and the death year she got from another record by the name of Kay Breding Netz.
Descendants of James August Moody:

Generation 1

1. **James Moody**. James married Augusta Johnson. For more information about James and Augusta, see the biography in the main part. James and Augusta had five children.
   +2. **Hulda Viola Moody**
   +3. **James Rudolph William Moody**
   +4. **Ruth Augusta Eleanora Moody**
   +5. **Edna Evangelique Moody**
   +6. **Mildred Theodora Moody**
   +7. **Missing child**

Generation 2

2. **Hulda Viola Moody** was born on 24 March 1896 in St. Hilaire, Pennington, Minnesota, baptised on 16 April 1895 in Minnesota, confirmed on 30 May 1909. There are no records on her death. Sometime between 1910 to 1920 she got a job as a schoolteacher probably teaching at the local schools as she probably traveled around. Hulda also never moved out of the household of her parents until sometime between 1930 to 1940. She may have married or may not have but she certainly lived with her parents for a long time. Therefore, there are no records of marriage so she does not have any descendants.

3. **James Rudolph William Moody** was born on 29 December 1896 in Battle Lake, Otter Tail, Minnesota, Baptized in 3 January 1897 in Minnesota, and confirmed in 7 May 1911. Probably before the family moved back to Minnesota from Wisconsin James moved out and got a job as a science teacher in Sherman, Grayson, Texas. While down there he met Irene Jones and they got married in 1927 or 1926. Sometime after 1930 but before 1932 his...

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79 Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, undated, unknown pages; “Records of Swedish American Churches”, images of church records on microfilm, unknown reel; Swenson Center for Swedish Immigration Research, Rock Island, Illinois; entry for Hulda Moody telling her birth, baptism, and confirmation dates.


81 “United States Census, 1940”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Hulda Moody says that in 1940 Hulda is no longer in the household with parents while in the 1930 census it does.

82 Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book number, unknown page, entry for James Rudolph Moody having his birth, baptism, and confirmation dates.

family moved to University Park, Dallas, Texas where he got a new job as a salesman which could be the reason for why they moved\textsuperscript{84}.

James had children
+8. Mildred Irene Moody\textsuperscript{85}.
+9. Elizabeth Anne Moody\textsuperscript{86}.

4. Ruth Augusta Eleanora Moody was born on 3 July 1899 in Battle Lake, Otter Tail, Minnesota, United States, Baptized on 19 July 1899 in Minnesota, and Confirmed on 10 May 1914 in Minnesota\textsuperscript{87}. She has no known Job through 1920 and she moved out of her parents household sometime between 1920 and 1930. She had a job as a nurse after 1920\textsuperscript{88}. There are no records that she married and thus no records of her having any children.

5. Edna Evangelique Moody was born on 12 April 1903 in Battle Lake, Otter Tail, Minnesota, baptized in 21 May 1903 in Minnesota, and confirmed in 14 May 1916 in Minnesota\textsuperscript{89}. There are no indications of her moving out of her parents household until at least 1940\textsuperscript{90}. After 1930 she had a job as a clerk at the Minnesota State Sanatorium for Consumptives. She was listed as working for Leonard M. Larson as a servant/clerk who was a physician at this Sanatorium\textsuperscript{91}. There are no records of marriage so she does not have any descendants.

6. Mildred Theodora Moody was born on 15 August 1905 at Battle Lake, Otter Tail, Minnesota, baptized on 17 September 1905 in Minnesota, confirmed on 1 June 1919 in


\textsuperscript{87}Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book number, unknown page, entry for Ruth Augusta Eleanora Moody having her birth, baptism, and confirmation dates.

\textsuperscript{88}“United States Census, 1930”, FamilySearch, database entry for Ruth Augusta Eleanora Moody stating that she moved out and got a job as a nurse by 1930.

\textsuperscript{89}Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book number, unknown page, entry for Edna Moody having her birth, baptism, and confirmation dates.

\textsuperscript{90}“United States Census, 1940”, FamilySearch, database entry for Edna Moody says that in 1940 Edna is no longer in the household with parents while in the 1930 census it does.

Minnesota, and died 3 March 1977 in Hennepin, Minnesota\textsuperscript{92}. There was no indication of her having a job until possibly after 1930. Between 1930 and 1940 she moved out of the household of her parents\textsuperscript{93}. There are no records of marriage so she does not have any descendants.

7. Missing child: unknown birth. Probably died as an infant. Probably both was born and died in Minnesota\textsuperscript{94}.

**Generation 3**

8. **Living Moody** has no records of any marriages and thus no records of any children.

9. **Living Moody** has no records of any marriages and thus no records of any children.

\textsuperscript{92} Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book number, unknown page, entry for Mildred Theodora Moody having her birth, baptism, and confirmation dates.

\textsuperscript{93} “United States Census, 1940”, FamilySearch, database entry for Mildred T. Moody says that in 1940 Mildred is no longer in the household with parents while in the 1930 census it does.

\textsuperscript{94} Moody, *Augustana Ministerium*, 42.
Questions for Further Research

We don’t know much about James August Moody’s life as he came to the United States in 1864 but before he went to Augustana in 1862. This would probably be an area of emphasis if we had to do more research about him. In this area we want to know where they landed when they got to America. We also want to find clues for what pull factors gravitated them to America rather than Sweden. In other words, what would be so attractive in America to go through all the energy and stress to get there? Also knowing their movements and why they moved when they got here would be great. Finally, having clues about who his brothers and sisters married, where they lived, and what jobs they acquired would be fantastic.

Along with not knowing much about his life here in the United States. We also didn’t get many details on what he did while he was in Sweden as a child. We know that he was involved in the church like so many were since that is where his birth record was from, but we don’t know what hobbies or jobs or schooling was involved in his childhood. We could try to look more things up in the Swenson Center for Swedish Immigration and try to get more information on his life back in Sweden to perhaps tell us what he wanted to pursue when he got to the United States.

The last thing that interested our group was to find more information on how James immigrated from Sweden to America. We know he was with his family and what date they left the parish, however, they could have stayed in Sweden a little bit longer to organize all of their belongings and get everything ready. We could search in Special Collections and the Swenson Center for more immigration information such as dates and what boat they took as well. That would also help us figure out where they landed right when they got to the United States and where they went from there with their three kids to settle down and have more children and be a successful immigrant family in America.

We have created a record for James August Moody in the Family Tree on FamilySearch. The record locator is 9J7X-CKF.
Source List

*Augustana College Catalog 1883-1884*, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

*Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885*, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, unknown page, entry for Edna Moody.

Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, unknown page, entry for Hulda Moody.

Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, unknown page, entry for John Rudolph Moody.

Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, unknown page, entry for Mildred Theodora Moody.

Augustana Lutheran Church (Fergus Falls, Otter Tail, Minnesota), Register Books, unknown book, unknown page, entry for Ruth Augusta Eleanora Moody.


“Find a Grave Index”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Anton P. Moody (d. 1928), Stockholm, Wright, Minnesota, United States of America.

“Find a Grave Index”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Gustaf Moody (d. 1925), Stockholm, Wright, Minnesota, United States of America.

“Find a Grave Index”, *FamilySearch*, database entry for Johan Modig (d. 1889), Stockholm, Wright, Minnesota, United States of America.


https://familysearch.org/tree/person/L56Q-NQX/details.

RosenowStevenJames1. *FamilySearch* user.

Sharon Barton and b paulson3382492, *FamilySearch* users.


