

12-1-2015

## Genealogical Queries

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag>



Part of the [Genealogy Commons](#), and the [Scandinavian Studies Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

(2015) "Genealogical Queries," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 35 : No. 4 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol35/iss4/19>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Swedish American Genealogist by an authorized editor of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@augustana.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@augustana.edu).

# Genealogical Queries

Genealogical queries from subscribers to *Swedish American Genealogist* will be listed here free of charge on a “space available” basis. The editor reserves the right to edit these queries to conform to a general format. The inquirer is responsible for the contents of the query.

We would like to hear about your success if you receive useful information as a result of placing a query in this publication. Please send us your feedback, and we will endeavor to report your new discoveries in this section of the journal.

## Lindgren?

My mother grew up a Lindgren; my grandfather grew up a Lindgren. His father was Lindgren or so we thought until we learned that Magnus Lindgren came to the United States from Sweden in 1869 as Magnus Petersson (b. 13 March 1837 in Blädinge [Kron.] from Vislanda [Kron.]. His brother Anders Petersson came in 1879 and never changed his surname. We heard from second cousins the story that Magnus decided one day that there were too many Magnus's Petersons so he became Magnus Lindgren.

We thought he just plucked Lindgren out of the air. We knew that was not an unusual Swedish name because we had heard of Astrid Lindgren. When I began my research into the family history in Sweden, I found a different story.

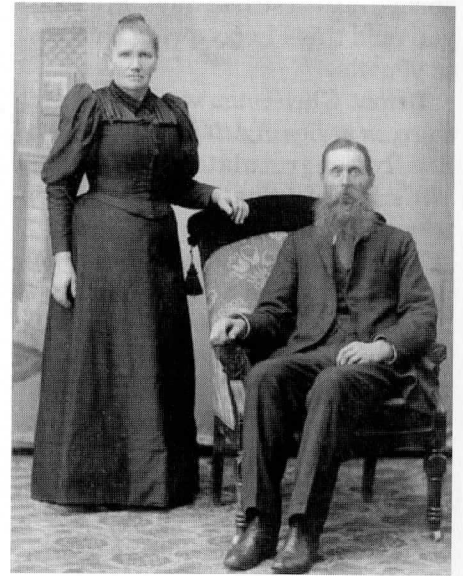
Magnus' father was Peter Andersson Lindgren (Blädinge [G] AI:8 {1836-1840} Image 36 / pag. 29). So Magnus simply switched to Lindgren.

Now I wanted to know when Lindgren entered the family. Some said it was a soldier's name, but I couldn't find a link to a soldier. Another generation back, I found Peter's father Anders Lindgren with no patronymic even in his marriage record. The household records showed his complete birthdate, but not the parish. However, thanks to the information on the KGF CD that resulted from the great work of the Kronoberg's *län* genealogy group, I found Magnus and his wife Anna ca 1894. an Anders born on that date (Nöbbele [G] C:2 {1777-1833} Image 71 / Pag. 133). I checked the family of this Anders and found he had a brother Petter who was also a Lindgren at the time of his marriage. Anders died young. In his *bouppteckning* (Konga häradsrätt [G] FII:9 {1793-1794} Image 467 / Pag. 927), his brother Petter became responsible for the minor children. All the household records and birth records support a finding that these two brothers began life in Linneryd parish as the sons of Gumme Andersson and Märta Andersdotter. Their sons Anders and Petter were born at Randö in Linneryd parish. Using the farm name Skruv in Herråkra (Kron.) from the *bouppteckning*, I finally found one household record where the priest wrote “Petter Gummesson Lindgren.”

So I now know approximately when Lindgren entered the family (around 1780), but I don't know why. And why did the brothers both use only Lindgren at the time of their marriages? Was it to impress their brides' families? Did it suggest a higher social status?

Donna Dyhrkopp Clarke, 8421 Farrell Drive, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3851

E-mail: <dyhrkoppclarke@yahoo.com>



1324

**Editor's note:** Lindgren is indeed a very common name in Sweden. According to the Swedish Bureau of Statistics ([www.scb.se](http://www.scb.se)) 22,869 persons have this surname in 2014, and it comes as #23 of the 100 most common surnames. It is a typical Swedish surname consisting of two elements of nature, the linden tree and a branch (*gren*).

As your Anders Lindgren is mentioned as being a *master carpenter* when he died on 11 June 1794 in Väckelsång (Kron.), it is quite possible that he had been trained as a skilled carpenter, perhaps in the nearby city of Växjö, and then as a journeyman carpenter started to use a family name, Lindgren, which was very common for craftsmen to do.

Please send your queries to SAG!  
Not everything is online!