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An interesting obituary - but why?

Elisabeth Thorsell

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This obituary appeared in the *Galva News* in 1914 Aug. 20, and was sent to SAG by Bob Nelson of Trempealeau, WI, who has done extensive research on the people from Bishop Hill.

The deceased man is an ancestor of Bob’s, but also has a wider interest as being an ancestor of movie star Greta Garbo.

The ancestral tables for Greta Garbo were published in 1996 in a book called *24 Famous Swedish Americans*, issued by the Swedish Federation of Genealogical Societies (*Sveriges Släktforskarförbund*). The book is now out of print.

From this we learn that Greta’s mother Anna Lovisa Johansson was born 1872 Sep. 10 in Lillsjödal, Högsby parish, (Kalm.), and died 1944 Oct. 18 in Scarsdale, NY.

Anna Lovisa’s father was Johan (John) August Karlsson, born 1848 Oct. 9 in Applehult in Högsby parish. He left his family in 1882 and came to America. He is mentioned in his father’s obituary as living in Chicago in 1914. The parents of John were Carl Johan Nilsson (Nelson), born 1826 Oct. 9 in Granstugan, Mörlunda parish (Kalm.), who died 1914 Aug. 16 in Bishop Hill, Henry Co., Ill. His wife was Wendla Isaksdotter (Isaacson), born 1826 Oct. 15 in Frösökar backlight (Kron.), who died 1910 Jan. 18 in Chicago.

The Nelsons left Sweden 1888 Oct. 31 with tickets for Chicago. After the death of Mrs. Nelson her widower moved to Bishop Hill to live with his daughter Emelie Gustafva, born 1860 Jan. 5 in Applehult in Högsby, who had immigrated in 1888, possibly in the company of her parents.

Emelie had been married in Sweden, but her husband Karl August Petersson ended up in a mental hospital, and she seems to have got a divorce after her immigration. She remarried 1893 July 20 in Chicago to Elias (Eli) Larsson from Bishop Hill, and they became the great-grandparents of Bob Nelson.

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