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## Genealogical Queries

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# 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.

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## Samuelsdotter, Samuelsson, Ersdotter, Nilsson, Olsson

My *farfars mor*, Ål Stina Samuelsdotter, lived out her entire life in Dala Järna, (Dala.), Sweden. Not so her mother and three younger sisters.

Sister Ål Carin, with husband Fall Olof Nilsson, immigrated to Valparaiso, Nebraska, in 1879 where she lived out her life as Carin Nelson.

Youngest sister, Ål Lisa, with husband, Zachris Olof Olsson, joined Carin in Nebraska in 1881. Sometime before 1884, Lisa and Olle left for Deer Island, Oregon, with daughter Annie Christina. Lisa and Olle died very young leaving behind four children who were raised by other families.

Sister Ål Anna, with husband Östa Lars Olsson and five children, went to Merrillan, Wisconsin, in 1883. They lived out their lives and are buried there as Lewis and Anna Olson.

I have been able to find a great deal of information about these four sisters but am left with one mystery. What happened to their mother, Länsmans Anna Ersdotter? As a sixty year old widow (born 12 March 1822 in Järna), she accompanied Lisa and Olle to America in 1881. Travel records show her leaving with them from Kristiania, Norway, using the name Anna Erikson. Did she stay in Nebraska with Carin? Did she move on to Oregon with Lisa? Did she go up to Wisconsin and join Anna there? Did she re-marry? Did she return to Sweden? I have researched all of these possibilities without an answer.

Swedish records show no evidence of her having returned there. Latter Day Saints records contain quite a bit of information about all five of these women, including an unconfirmed date of death for Länsmans Anna of 22 Sept. 1884. The contributor of that information is not identified and Anna's place of death is not given.

My father was Pell Lars Herman Samuel Samuelsson. He left Järna for Jamestown, NY, December, 1922. I am hoping that someone can help me find his *farfars farmor*.

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1274

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## Grill, Griht, Ogren

I am seeking information on my great-grandmother, Nellie Louisa Grill, daughter of Nils and Hannah Green, who came to America around 1871. I would like to know about where in Sweden she was born and lived.

Nellie may have had relatives in New Sweden. My father spoke of visiting an Uncle Nils who lived on a farm. Nils and Margareta Hanson Grill arrived in New Sweden in 1871 with their daughter, Hannah, who was born in Sweden in 1870. They were members of the New Sweden Baptist Church in New Sweden and later moved to the Covenant Church when it was formed. They had a farm on Tangle Ridge Road in Perham. Nils, Margareta, Hannah, Nils Jr., born in 1872, in New Sweden and his wife, Louise Ogren, are buried in Lot #18 in the New Sweden Cemetery.

Nils Jr. married Louise Ogren in 1903. She was the daughter of Carl/Karl and Louisa Johansson (Johnson) of Caribou, Maine, who arrived in 1871. Louise had a brother, Charles, born in Sweden in 1869, and sisters, Josie, born in Maine in 1872, and Emma, born in 1876.

The *Emihamn* database shows that Nils Griht (!), age 44, wife Margareta, age 35, and daughter Nilla, age 11, all from Kristianstad, all left from the port of Göteborg with tickets for New York on 6 May 1871. Unfortunately they could not be found in the Kristianstad records, but maybe that means Kristianstad *län*, a much bigger area.

I would appreciate any information which would help me find about Nellie Louisa Grill when she lived in Sweden from 1858 to about 1871 and in New Sweden until 1880.

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1275

## Svensdotter, Jonasson, Månsson, Andersdotter

1. When and where did Marie Katrina Svensdotter die? She was born 7 November 1842 in Vittaryd, Kronoberg. She married Bengt Magnus Jonasson 13 July 1866 in Tannåker, (Kron.). She and Bengt Magnus had eight children between 1867 and 1885 all born at Guddarp, Berga, (Kron.). Five of these immigrated to the U.S.A. Bengt Magnus died 8 January 1909 in Berga. In 1921 Marie Katrina moved from Berga to Fleninge (Malm.). That is the latest information I have on her and I do not know what surname she was using at her death.

2. When and where was Harald Månsson born and who were his parents? On 21 October 1759 he married Elin Andersdotter in Berga, (Kron.). They had 6 or 7 children between 1763 and 1780 all born in Vittaryd, (Kron.). Harald died in January 1799 at Hult, Vittaryd, at 66 years of age which means he was born about 1730-1735. His wife, Elin, died at Hult, Vittaryd, on 9 July 1805.

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1276



*Thinking of all the household utensils in the estate inventories, there are quite a number of them in this kitchen, which is in the local museum in Rämmen (Värm.). There are the four straightbacked wooden chairs around the round table. On the table we have a tray and a coffee grinder. On the wall there is a spoon rack, where the family put their spoons after every meal. We have three kerosene lamps, which puts the date of the kitchen to about 1875. By the stove we find a baker's peel and a wooden churn. There is no iron stove, so the open fire was set on the iron hearth and the food was cooked in the three-legged pots. The oval door at the back of the hearth is to the oven. On the hearth you also see the special iron for making small round pancakes (plättar). There is also a copper coffee pot on a three-legged stand. On top of the hearth (spiselkransen) you can see the round tool for baking hardtack. Behind the door to the left you can see the handle of a special rolling-pin (kruskavel), also for hardtack.*