

## Värmlands Folkblad July 29, first page



There are about 2 000 relatives on Betty and Johan Anders branch in USA. 21 of them visited on Tuesday morning Gunilla Rosenberg's and Leif Jonsson's summer cottage in the middle of Borgvik Wood. There the amerikan's anmoder Betty was borne 1850. Foto: Håkan Strandman

## Far away guests on a relatives' meeting

– We love it. It is beautiful and the people are so warm and welcoming. We are treated like family, tells Cheryl Faustin who is so moved about coming into the cottage that she cannot held back her tears.

– It so overwhelming that it was precisely here that our grandmothers grandmother was borne, she said when she yesterday visited the cottage in Borgvik with 20 others.

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## Americans on relatives visit in Borgvik

**Borgvik was during Thursday visited by a gang of Americans who were there to see the cottage where their matriarch? Betty was borne 1850**

**– It feels like coming home, says Nancy Macintire while a teardrop is falling along her chin.**

21 Americans visited on Tuesday morning Gunilla Rosenberg's and Leif Jonsson's summer cottage, situated in the middle of the Borgvik wood. There the Americans' matriarch Betty was borne 1850. She emigrated later to Wisconsin in USA in 1881, together with her husband Anders Johan. The couple took the surname Blomberg and today there are something like 2000 relatives on their branch in USA.

– They think that the high point of the whole journey is to be able to come here to Betty's childhood home, says Gunnel Blomberg who lives in Hudiksvall, but has come to Värmland to guide the American relatives.



Neil Blomberg and Nancy Macintire lives in Minnesota also but feels at home in Sweden "It resembles very much on each other so it was not peculiar that a lot emigrated to Minnesota", says Neil Blomberg. Foto: Håkan Strandman

**It is thanks** to geology resurge, with Hans Forslund in frontline, which made it possible for the relatives to join across the Atlantic.

The Americans arrived to Sweden about a week ago and have since then been going around the country to see parts of their Swedish history, which is among other places found in Värmland.

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**They are all** curious on both relative's history and Swedish culture.



Cheryl Faustin and Caren Swanson. Thinks that the Swedes treats them as a family.

– Do you also have flower pots in the windows at your home? asks Caren Swanson me, and I answer yeas.

– I remember that my grandmother also had it, but there are no one else I USA

It must be something typical Swedish, says Caren Swanson.

The relatives I USA has in August every year a relatives meeting in the house that the couple Anders and Betty built when they came to Ogema in Wisconsin, USA. But sometimes the meet at other places as well – Ikea for example.

– We like shopping at Ikea. We have had swedish meatballs med lingonberries (written like that in the Swedish text), we really like lingon, says Cheryl Faustin.

The Americans continuing agenda for Värmland is among other things a visit to Fagerås old railway station where Betty and Anders and got on the train to go to the USA. They will also have a look at Edsvalla's railway bridge and Kil's church where the couple married.

– There we will have “swedish fika”, Neil Blomberg is laughing who has caught one of the most important Swedish words.

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Stephanie Blomberg (with the camera) is married into the Blomberg family but has herself relatives in Norway. ”This has inspired me to look more after my Norwegian relatives, so tomorrow we will go over to Norway and have a look, now when we are so close”, she says.

Foto: Håkan Strandman



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