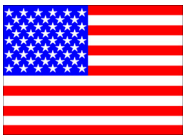


News from Cluster Correspondents . . .

I am pleased to present information that was sent to me over the course of 1997 and, in particular, two reports that came as a result of my request for cluster correspondents which appeared in the last edition of **SANOMA MAUKONEN**. Below is a report from Florida. On pages 2 and 3 are items from **Maukonens** in Finland and on page 4 is some news from Canada.

Even if you don't feel you have anything to "report," why not send a family photograph for the next issues? Be sure to provide the names of the people shown in the picture.

I wish you and yours a most blessed Christmas and a prosperous 1998!



Florida Maukonen Update

by Donna Maukonen
(Sanford, FL)

Cooler weather and the arrival of "snow birds" announce the coming of Fall to the "Sunshine State." Jean is glad for the lower temperatures, as this makes for more comfortable gardening weather and sweetens the fruit on her citrus trees. Doug and Ann's family have recently moved into a new home. Doug is working on plans to remodel the home to make it "theirs." Doug and Ann's daughter, Alexia, is pursuing a degree in anthropology at University of Central Florida. Ann is continuing her studies at Rollins College and plans to graduate this Spring. Marcia will be moving to Gainesville to attend University of Florida this Spring. We are going to miss her, but wish her the best and hope to see her often on weekends. The education bug sure seems to have bitten this family – Jean taught in public school, Alexia, Marcia and Ann continue their studies, Ken and Chris both work at local colleges (Valencia Community College and University of Central Florida, respectively), and Donna works at Ligonier Ministries, a Christian educational ministry.

After a quiet and enjoyable Thanksgiving weekend, flurry of Christmas is now upon us. Christmas day usually finds us at one of the family's homes for dinner, fellowship and gift giving. Christmas greetings to all our fellow **Maukonens**, along with the best wishes for a bright and happy New Year. My personal prayer is that you will find time this month to reflect upon the meaning and message of this season.



My Climbing Trip to Norway

by Sami Maukonen and Jari Uusikivi

Finally the day! Almost a month I had worked like crazy with my studies in order to get enough time for this climbing trip to Norway. This was our second trip to Lyngen which is about 100 km northwest from the "arm" of Finland. It's a perfect place to climb snow, ice and rock. After 20 hours of driving and almost 1300 km later we arrived to Lyngen. First we had to put our base camp to about 500 meters. Mountains in Norway always starts at sea level and while it is -20°C up on the mountain, the sea doesn't freeze and local fishermen are fishing even at winter.

It took all the day to carry all our stuff to base camp which was about 5 km from the road. The snow was very soft and wet and pulling the sledge was really hard. Luckily we found some water so we didn't have to melt all our water from snow. The time was after 01.00 a.m. when we were ready to get into our sleeping bags to get a short sleep.

Our awakening was at 05.00 a.m. After breakfast, we arranged our climbing stuff and started our hike to the peak. It was to be Goverdalstinden, a 1420 metre high, snowy mountain just beside our camp. The first 500 metres was pretty easy even if the snow wasn't very good and we couldn't put in any *pros*. After the start the route went on a big glacier. However, the previous night we had heard some *seracs* fall down and therefore we decided not to go on it even if that meant softer snow and more work.

Slowly we were getting higher and higher and at the same time the route became steeper and steeper. Before turning on the last section the *couloir* was inclined well over 50° and we were running out of time. After a little conversation, we decided to go on and I started to struggle against the powder. About an hour later, we were finally on top! Because we were late about our schedule and the route up here came all the way in a cold and shadowy north face we didn't mind a lot about the views. After a few photos, we started to descend.

It was getting dark and we had been nearly 12 hours on the route. We were worried about the last section where it was impossible to put any *pros*. *Soloing* at night was not what we wanted and we descended as fast as possible, sometimes sliding backwards braking with axes, sometimes taking huge steps down. It was totally dark when were on glacier.



Jari Uusikivi

Times when the temperature changes rapidly are the worst to be on a glacier because then the extensions release and *seracs* falls down. But another alternative was *soloing* the first section. We decided to take a lesser risk and stay on the glacier. We descended fast and hoped all the time that no *seracs* would fall. It was nerve-racking. About 10.00 p.m. we were down and safe. When we arrived base camp, I was so tired that Jari had to do the "dinner" and bring it to me to tent. We



View from the top of the 1420m high Goverdalstinden

Here are some special words that appear in his report:

pro = to secure your climbing with different kind of stuff like nuts and snow anchors

solo = climb without the use of *pros*

serac = large ice block which falls down on the side of a glacier. It could be as large as one family house.

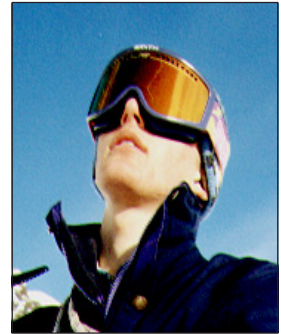
couloir = an Alpine gully

didn't talk about our climb. Both of us were just happy to be down here. Just before we fell asleep, we decided to change our plans and take the next day off and sleep long. And that's sure what we did.

Best Christmas wishes to everybody!

P.S. Remember that the real Santa Claus comes from Finland!!

Sami Maukonen



Editor's Note: Sami invited me to modify his story but little change was needed. The account of his climbing trip appears much as it appeared when first e-mailed. Well done Sami!



To: maukonen@itcanada.com

From: Johanna Maukonen

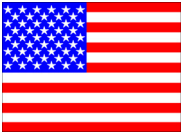
From - Tue Jul 08 20:12:31 1997

Dear Bret, Thanks for your E-mail! I already knew about your newsletter and the clusters of *Maukonens*, since you have been sending information to my husband Marko *Maukonen* (who also works at VTT). We got married last August, so at the time you sent him the first E-mail, my E-mail address was still Johanna Toivari (Toivari was my maiden name, and some of my second cousins live in Canada). I've also visited Sault Ste. Marie, Canada but only for a couple of hours during my foreign exchange year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1986-87).

From - Sun Jul 13 19:51:26 1997

Marko's parents live in Jyväskylä and their names are Seppo and Maija-Liisa. I'm not sure whether they have E-mail or not, but Marko has shown them all the newsletters you have been sending us, so they are aware of you. Marko's older sister Marjaana has also heard of you.

Best regards, Johanna Maukonen <Johanna.Maukonen@vtt.fi>



A Letter Sent from Ohio

by Marilyn Rhinehart
(nee Roberts)
(Olmsted Falls, OH)

July 15, 1997 . . . my grandfather was Otto *Maukonen* and he had two children: my mother, Olive *Maukonen* Roberts, and my uncle, Edwin *Maukonen*. They were from Conneaut, Ohio. . . I've always been proud of my Finnish heritage and the *Maukonen* name.

Marilyn has 4 children and 5 grandchildren. She grows and sells cut flowers and herbs from her garden to local florists.

"Thank You!"

We want to thank Agnes ("Daisy") *Maukonen* (Severn Bridge, ON) for sending a generous gift which is to be applied towards the expenses of the 1998 *Maukonen Get-Together*.

PLEASE REMEMBER . . . send some indication of *your* interest in time and location for such an event.

Thank You to those who have already returned their sheets in response to that request!



News from British Columbia

by Jackie Azar (nee *Maukonen*)

In January, Jackie retired from her position at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. At the same time, she moved to the "west end" of Vancouver to a place near her eldest daughter, Linda. Another daughter, Heather, continues to work at BCIT and is living in a apartment in Burnaby near her sister, Carolyn. Jackie is far from being retired. She works, on a part-time basis, with a condo management company. As part of her leisure time, she follows the activities of the Toronto Blue Jays (*yeah!*) and the Vancouver Canucks as well as being an avid fan of car races.

Subject: Hi from B.C. from Dave and Nancy *Maukonen*

Date: Tue, 17 Jun 1997 08:19:09 -0700

Hi Bret, We just received your newsletter and thought that we would write a note to say "hello." Our move from the maritimes went very well and we all love it here in the Comox Valley [now relocated]. My wife, Nancy, and I have two daughters named Kristin and Brittany ages 6 and 4. They keep us busy with their social lives as well as our busy schedules. Although we will be unable to attend the *Maukonen* Reunion in July, we wish to say "hello" to all the other *Maukonen's* throughout the country. It was lovely to receive the invitation and maybe we will be able to attend another wonderful get together in the future. Take care. We look forward to hearing from you again. You can also publish our e-mail address in the newsletter. "Dave *Maukonen*" <ronin@rttinc.com>

SANOMA MAUKONEN is a newsletter ("tidings") for all bearing the family name "Maukonen" and is generated by Bret *Maukonen* ♦ 72 Michael Drive North ♦ Port Colborne, ON ♦ L3K 3C5 ♦ CANADA 905-834-7454 e-mail: maukonen@itcanada.com.