



Watching Hannes development from small baby to running toddler was the highlight of 2007 for all of us, especially for the proud extra-moms Ronja and Linnea. However, there were also other highlights, here a small selection:

Animal of the year: Lovisa - our newest family member and the newly discovered species JaPeRoLiHaSe*

Golf course of the year: The Frisbee golf course on Maui is probably the most scenic of the world, unfortunately the holes (or better baskets) are quite far away from the tees, at least for Jan who had to rely on handicap rules to beat his brother. The rematch in Uppsala was a dead heat – after 58 holes Jan and Christoph had the exact same score.

Sports(wo)man of the year: This was a tough one with a photo-finish of five candidates: Hannes who showed goalkeeper talents already before he started walking. Petra and her impressive finish at the Österbylunken (an international - thanks to Hannah and Florian) 5K run. Ronja and Linnea still play basketball and Frisbee. Timely on Linneas 10th birthday, the team from Uppsala won a silver medal at the junior national championships in Gothenburg and a few weeks ago the team won their first tournament. Things did not go as well for Jan; at the nationals the Uppsala team (enlarged by Jan's brother Christoph as guest player from Hawaii) came first – when the other teams arrived shortly thereafter it turned out that most of them had a better day.

Number of the year: 1048, what else? Believe it or not, but Ronja is still 3827 days older than Hannes, which is the same as 10.48 years. The other unbelievable 1048 is Jan's start number for next years Vasaloppet; while finishing the 90 km cross-country skiing run was the aim this year, the main aim for next year is to combine the start number 1048 with a finishing time of 10 h and 48 min. Of course, this is in conflict with the fact that Jan is in the mid of his 40-year crisis and has to show that he still is in his best years getting better from year-to year.

Restaurant of the year: while there are split opinions in the family about McDonald, we all love Taco Bell. As there is no Taco Bell in Sweden we were looking forward to go there on our US trip. However, it was not before the last day of our trip before we finally managed to do so. In this way, we could enjoy some really good Mexican food along our way through the US.

Trip of the year: Hawaii-Oregon-Montana, we enjoyed (re-)visiting friends and places seven years after our US-year, and the hospitality of Christoph and Sandra, Ann and Bunt, our neighbor from 17th street Bew and Jerry, Ronja and Linneas pre-school teacher Ann, the unicycling Schwindt-family, Brian and Kendall, ...

Fruit of the year: Mango. Sandra taught us how to peel Mangos and Ann and Bunt supplied us with plenty of exercise material. Petra even learnt how to pick Mangos (and Jan how to catch falling Mangos).

Hikes of the year: Petrified trees, bison herds and lonely geysers in Yellowstone, mountains in Montana as well as water falls on Maui and in Oregon, only Hannes is happy that there is less hiking at home and he does not have to sit on his parents backs all the time.

Wedding of the year: in January we went to London for Hannah and Florian's wedding. Expectations were high after all the British romantic comedy films, but there was no runaway bride and no groom with a changed mind. At least, when the bride entered the church we surprisingly learnt that she was as pregnant as Petra was when we got married.

Water activity of the year: salt water: snorkeling on Maui, this was so much fun that it rather sad that next time we will visit Chris and Sandra in Hawaii Hannes will certainly be able to join us on the underwater family picture. Freshwater: rafting on the Yellowstone River with Brian and Eoin.

Gardener of the year: Juxel (Jan's parents Jutta and Axel), who helped to restore the garden in Mumsarby which had turned very green during our long absence.

Word of the year: "Hej", which is the only word Hannes is saying so far, but, combined with a smile, what more do you need to say to make friends?

Wish of the year: Seeing all of you (again) in 2008

God jul och gott nytt år! Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr!

