



# The Dobbs Family Newsletter

90 South Mill Drive, South Glastonbury, CT 06073

## *A Year of Major Events*

2004 was a year of major event for each of our children.

### *The Wedding*



Kate and Andy were married on a windy but beautiful day in April at St. Paul Church near our home in Glastonbury. Earlier in April, Kate had the usual surprise Wedding shower at the home of a friend.

During the festivities the out of town men batched it at our house, but a spy was able to get the photograph above. We can't say the wedding went



off without a hitch, since they got hitched, but the ceremony was great including the funny moment when Dad stepped on the veil by accident and the bride was literally unveiled for the rest of the ceremony. There are lots of photos and an internet link will be sent to those bold enough to request it. The reception was held at St. Clements Castle in Portland. It is a Dobbs family tradition to make a pyramid at family gatherings, and this reception was no exception. It's probably now in the St. Clements record books and revised rules. The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in the Caribbean.



Andy is the chief engineer on an ocean-going tug that operates out of New York. Kate still works for Norfolk Naval Shipyard as a naval architect and she has mostly completed a Master's Degree in naval architecture at Virginia Tech. The new addition to their family is an Old English Mastiff puppy that is evidently growing very fast.



### *Laura in Confirmed*

Shortly after the wedding, Laura was confirmed by the Abbot in a nice ceremony at her high school, Portsmouth Abbey. Some family and close friends were able to attend. The year started out with Laura playing center forward on the school's JV hockey team during winter term. Mom and Dad have lots of video to share on request. Laura found out that she really likes hockey and remembered quite a few of the skating skills she acquired before she did gymnastics. During the spring, her sport was tennis, which she claims she likes the most of her three current sports. There is no JV tennis squad so she had to make varsity or choose another sport. She made it! Her school has an interesting approach to science education; as a ninth



grader she took physics. This year as a tenth grader she has the really good stuff (chemistry). Her fall sport is soccer, which was interrupted this year by foot tendonitis. The injury didn't affect her skating and she just found out she made the varsity hockey team as a sophomore.

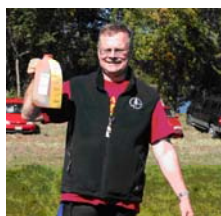
### *John Graduates from Hofstra*

John completed his final requirements at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY, and graduated a couple of weeks after Laura's confirmation. We are tremendously proud of his achievement. A few close friends of John and us were able to attend. The ceremony had the usual pomp and circumstance, but it wound up making the news for other reasons. The main speaker decided to use a captive podium for a diatribe against the Bush administration and the war in Iraq. Being within 25 miles of ground zero, many of the families seated around us had lost family or friends in the 9/11 attack. They were outraged enough by the speaker to disrupt his oration so significantly the President had difficulty controlling the proceedings thereafter. John has an apartment in Mineola and he and his roommate have acquired a beagle, Baily. He commutes to Manhattan where he works in the HR Department of Court TV.



### *Greg Continues Environmental Work*

Greg continues to work for United Technologies Research Center doing mostly product development. He still has DOE funding for energy recovery technology development and TSWG funding for protecting building airflows from chemical and biological contaminants.



He still volunteers some time at Hartford Hospital but most activity this year was with the Knights of Columbus who run a snack bar and beer kiosk at the newly constructed UConn football stadium near us. He is still the Dartmouth Club of Hartford secretary and webmaster. New this year is being the Buildings Chairman and webmaster for the condo Association. Kayaking resumed this year and Greg won second place in his age category in a race at the annual town event.

### *Mary Continues School and Volunteer Work*

Mary continues to work part time for the Glastonbury school system as a "job coach" for special education students enrolled in a high school work experience program. She also still volunteers at Hartford and St. Francis Hospitals.



### *Travels*

Greg had business trips to Anaheim and Nashville. In June, we travelled to Hanover for several days for Greg's 35<sup>th</sup> reunion from college. We also visited Kate and Andy in Virginia Beach, in the summer of course. We explored Williamsburg, Luray Caverns, and visited Greg's cousin Andrea's family in North Carolina.

Driving instructions to our home are on our website, <http://www.greg.dobbs.net>. All of us can easily be reached by e-mail at [greg@dobbs.net](mailto:greg@dobbs.net), [mary@dobbs.net](mailto:mary@dobbs.net), [kate@dobbs.net](mailto:kate@dobbs.net), [kate@dobbs.net](mailto:kate@dobbs.net), and [laura@dobbs.net](mailto:laura@dobbs.net). We hope to hear from you.

*Wishing You All the Best,*

*Mary, Greg, Kate, John, and Laura*

