



Christmas 2005

The Dobbs Family Newsletter

90 South Mill Drive, South Glastonbury, CT 06073

Following A Year of Major Events

2004 was a year of major events for each of our children. 2005 was a year with somewhat less frenetic activity.

Kate and Andy



Since their marriage in 2004, Kate and Andy have made their home in Virginia Beach.



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. Several years ago, she started a part time Master's degree program at the Virginia Tech's satellite campus in Hampton Rhodes. We recently had the pleasure of traveling to Blacksburg, VA for the commencement ceremony. Her formal degree says Ocean Engineering. Last year the couple acquired an Old English Mastiff puppy that is now nearly fully grown. She weighs about 180 lbs. and has won prizes at some local dog shows.



John works in NYC



Last year John graduated from Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY, and still lives nearby in Mineola. He commutes daily to Manhattan for work. He had a concentration in human resources in college, and he has been applying that in his work.

He recently changed employers to gain some different experience. He now works for Reuters in midtown and will concentrate on benefits analysis. He still has Bailey, a now nearly fully grown beagle.



Laura continues at PAS



Laura is now a junior at Portsmouth Abbey School. She is regularly on the honor roll and participates in a number of clubs. We were pleased to celebrate her 16th birthday last December 27.



This calendar year started out with Laura playing center forward on the school's varsity hockey team. During the sport tennis, claims most of current fall, she now that



spring, her was varsity which she she likes the her three sports. In the played soccer, she has mostly recovered from the tendonitis that kept her out much of the prior year's season. She recently had to decide whether to return to hockey for the 2005-6 season or to try something new. She decided to get in shape for tennis.



Big deal events during the year were the prom and getting her driver's license. She also was a Leader in Training (LIT) at The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, where she previously had been a camper. For the balance of the summer she had a job at the local Coldstone Creamery.



Greg Continues Research 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 recently got a small contract from ASHRAE to develop a professional development short course on protecting facilities and HVAC from terrorist events. He will probably get to give it at future ASHRAE national meetings. Some of these involve collaborating with Carnegie Mellon University, which means occasional trips to Pittsburgh. During the year he received another patent award and a UTRC outstanding service award.



He still volunteers some time at Hartford Hospital but most activity this year continues to be with the Knights of Columbus who run a snack bar and beer kiosk at Rentschler field. The moneymaker of the year for charity was the Rolling Stones concert. He is still the webmaster and secretary for the Dartmouth Club of Hartford and the webmaster and building chairman for South Mill Village

Association. For the second year in a row he placed in the two-mile Nayaug kayaking race held every year on the Connecticut River in South Glastonbury.

Mary Continues School and Volunteer Work

Mary worked part time in the spring as a Job Coach again this year, for the Glastonbury school system. In the fall she switched to a full time position for West Hartford in which she is a Teacher's Assistant in the



morning and a Job Coach in the afternoon. She enjoys working with the special education students. In her free time she continues to volunteer at Hartford and St. Francis hospitals. She is also part of a women's Bunco group.

Travels

Greg had business trips to Denver, Orlando, Pittsburgh, and Washington DC. In May we travelled to San Diego for a wedding and in June we travelled to New Jersey for Greg's high school reunion. In the summer we toured the finger lakes region of New York and the Chautauqua Institute while visiting friends. We also visited Kate and Andy in Virginia Beach several times during the year. This year is also memorable for several enjoyable extended family birthdays and graduations, and a recent bridal shower for our niece.



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, mary@dobbs.net, kdobbs1@cox.net, jqdobbs@gmail.net, and laura@dobbs.net. We hope to hear from you.

Wishing You All the Best,

Mary, Greg, Kate, John, and Laura



Where's Waldo?