



Christmas 2007

The Dobbs Family Newsletter

90 South Mill Drive, South Glastonbury, CT 06073

In contrast to 2006, 2007 was a year of big events. Congratulations to those of you who have automatically gone to our website <http://greg.dobbs.net> to read this annual issue without waiting to get it in your holiday card.

Sarah Arrives Unexpectedly



The big news from late last year was that Kate and Andy's family was about to expand even more. We knew three cats would have to with a new arrival--Kate was February, they came up from Beach to attend a baby We had an impressive friends in attendance. About event, Kate had some labor

hospital to get checked out. To everyone's baby was born just after six p.m., about three about three months in a nearby NIC unit with Andy commuted to Virginia for his biweekly travel, she was moved by air ambulance to a at home and resume work. Sarah's early life read more about it and see many cute

<http://www.babyjellybeans.com>. You may have to ask us for the password. Sarah Terwilliger was only 2 lb 14 oz. at birth, but she is now making good progress at about 15 lbs. This summer she got a big party when she was baptized. We really enjoyed the time we were able to spend with her then and over Thanksgiving. Our first grandchild!



that the two dogs and share some space due in May. In their home in Virginia shower at our home. showing of family and halfway through the pains and left for the

surprise, the contractions were real and her months premature. Sarah Elizabeth spent Kate and sometimes Andy living with us. week work shifts. When Sarah was able to NIC unit in Norfolk and Kate was able to live was quite a journey and you may want to pictures of her at her website:



John Moves to London

In 2006 John had switched employers to go to work for Reuters in midtown Manhattan. He had a neat pad in Hoboken. However, midyear Thompson purchased Reuters and the two companies began to merge their operations. John was offered a move to Reuters' head office in London for an unspecified period. Further realignment of the two companies' operations may occur, so we don't know what the longer-term future brings. However, for right now he has a flat in central London and rides the tube to work and is eating pub grub. His beagle, Bailey, is spending some time enjoying the good life in New Jersey with a friend of John's and is anxiously awaiting John's return. John has spent some time touring, revisiting the sites he saw when he was three and we were living near Oxford.



Laura Graduates from High School

Laura had her 18th birthday last December 27 and then completed her senior year at Portsmouth Abbey School. She graduated on a beautiful day in June. She had a great senior year with good academics, doing community service, playing girls squash in the winter, and being co-captain of the co-ed tennis team in the spring. We celebrated with a graduation beach party in Newport for her friends and another in Glastonbury for family.

She and mostly Dad spent a lot of quality time together this year visiting many colleges and universities. Large/small, urban/rural, religious/secular, near/far... You get the idea. One of the prime criteria was the existence of a squash team, which narrowed the field a bit. The winner was St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY, north of the Adirondacks near the Canadian border. She now has the top-rated parka that L. L. Bean makes.

After the graduation festivities we spent some time in California. Dad had a conference in Long Beach and Mom and Laura got to know that area while he worked. After Mom had to return home for work, Dad and Laura headed for Yosemite, Monterey, Big Sur and San Francisco as a post-graduation tour.



At St. Lawrence, Laura managed to get a single room and she enrolled in four courses that are of high interest to her. We saw her on Family Weekend when the Adirondacks were in their full fall splendor and again at home on mid-semester break and Thanksgiving. She came to our area again to represent St. Lawrence at a sustainable foods conference at Yale and to play squash in a tournament at Wesleyan, winning her first intercollegiate match. We are getting quite familiar with upstate New York's highways

and byways.

Greg Continues Research Work



Greg still works for United Technologies Research Center doing mostly applied research and product development. Indoor air quality and green buildings are focus areas. He is active on several ASHRAE society and technical committees and continues to teach a professional development seminar he developed for them on HVAC security. He presented technical papers at a conference in Dallas, two conferences in Beijing, and one in Baltimore. The China trip was his first visit there and it included a stop at the UTRC office in Shanghai. There was

some time for sightseeing. In Beijing he visited the Great Wall, the new Olympic Park, Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City. He also saw a full day of major tourist spots in Shanghai and rode the 300mph Maglev train.



To celebrate turning 60, Mary gave him a surprise party at the Rusty Scupper that was attended by many family and friends. He still volunteers at Hartford Hospital and again helped the Knights of Columbus run a snack bar at Rentschler field raising money for Special Olympics. It was harder this summer to find time to kayak, but he still entered the annual town race.

Mary Continues School and Volunteer Work

Mary still works for the West Hartford school system. She is a teacher's assistant part of the day and a job coach at other times. 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 a member of our Parish Council and the Pro-Life committees. In her spare time she plays Bunko with a group of women.



Travels



The California trip was the only major trip this year. Instead, of a longer vacation, we made several short trips to Virginia to spend time with our new granddaughter. We recently had the good fortune to help Greg's Uncle Bill celebrate his 90th birthday in Florida. He is quite active, swims daily, lives by himself, and still drives. Wow!

All of us can easily be reached by e-mail at greg@dobbs.net, mary@dobbs.net, kmajt@cox.net, john.dobbs@gmail.com, and laura@dobbs.net. We hope to hear from you.

*Wishing You All the Best,
Mary, Greg, John and Laura*

