



Christmas 2009

The Dobbs Family Newsletter

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It was a quiet year in ~~Lake Weebegone~~ South Glastonbury in 2009, but despite all the economic chaos and furlough days there were some bright spots. Many of our family photos get posted on our photo website at <http://www.dobbsfamilyphotos.com> and we promise to try to keep the family webpage at <http://greg.dobbs.net> a little more up to date. We've discovered many family members on Facebook and Greg keeps his professional LinkedIn (<http://www.linkedin.com/in/dobbsgm>) and Naymz (http://www.naymz.com/gregory_dobbs) profile-pages up to date. While we've looked at Twitter, we aren't really Tweeting people yet. We all try to keep up with the continuous flow of e-mail and all of our cell phones have text messaging. So with all the opportunities for continuous information flow through current social networking media this newsletter is undergoing some of the changes that are happening to all print media. Many of you may get a pdf in lieu of a hardcopy. We haven't yet thought of a Kindle or Nook edition.



We had a good Christmas in 2008 although due to Andy's work schedule we were only able to see Kate, Andy, and Sarah in Virginia Beach after Christmas. We also made short trips to see them around Easter time, late summer, and for Halloween. Hence, we've had some great opportunities to see how fast Sarah is developing. We took her on a daytrip to Kitty Hawk and went to the ZooBoo. Kate and Sarah were also able to visit us in the Fall.



As has been our recent custom, we spent two days on Memorial Day helping with some of the logistics of AngelRide (<http://www.angelride.org>). Mary helped with registration and Greg photographed the happy but exhausted riders at the finish line. Great weather and a record number of riders led to the event raising about \$400K for the Camp in a Suitcase program. We did much the same during a very rainy fall day at an inaugural, shorter event that despite the drenching was also quite successful (<http://www.teamholeinthewall.org/campchallengeride>).

Laura seems to enjoy St. Lawrence University more and more each year. She founded an on-campus group called Lettuce Turnip the Beet (Get the yolk?) (<http://www.stlawu.edu/green/lettuce-turnip-the-beet>) that tries to raise consciousness about sustainable foods on campus. She won an internship to stay in Canton during the summer and create the first organic vegetable garden for the University. She also helped take care of some of the lambs. Who would have guessed that a suburban kid would get interested in agriculture. Dad and Laura made a trek to see Niagara Falls as the family was last there before Laura was born. At the end of the summer, we visited Canton again to see the results of her effort



The big news of the year is John's engagement to Nicole Margagliotta. He popped the question in NYC and they surprised us with the announcement when we met them for dinner shortly afterward. We had a chance to meet her family at an engagement party for the immediate families in New Jersey. Despite the downpours we had a great time. An April wedding is planned. We also had a chance to visit them for a great Thanksgiving dinner in NJ.



(<http://weddings.theknot.com/ourwedding/NicoleMargagliotta&JohnDobbs2010>)

Another big family event during the year was Arielle and Mike's wedding on Long Island where we got to see many of the Dobbs'. Under sadder circumstances, we saw many of them again at Aunt Margaret Mary's funeral. She was the last of her generation and we will remember her fondly.

Travels were more limited this year. Greg spent some time in Chicago and Louisville at technical conferences and Mary was able to do some touring of Kentucky. The area was quite a change from the far west trip of the prior year.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season. Please contact us if you are in the area.

Mary, Greg and Laura