



# Hart Walker Newsletter



Volume No. 2

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August 2005

## Great Ceremonial Strides !!!

Michael Huhn



Jacob Kasheta



Michael was in his cousin Chrissy's wedding at the Water's Edge in Westbrook, Ct. Per Michael's Mom...

"Michael was so excited to be a part of the wedding and took it very seriously...he felt so important to be part of her special day and he cried when he was standing up at the altar during the ceremony...I'm not sure why, but I think he could see other people were weeping and was very empathetic! The walker was such a wonderful way to enable him to participate and everyone there was extremely impressed and proud for him! It was a wonderful day and an experience no one will ever forget."

Jake was in his cousin Steve & Chelsea Morehouses' wedding on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Per Jake's Mom...

"Jake brought Chelsea and Steve together in 1999 when they attended a fundraiser for Jake. They felt he should be a part of their special day!! His sister Samantha was the flower girl."



## Shoes News

I am excited to report that I have found a contact that we can special order boots from year round. We can order Skechers or Timberland from a Skechers representative in New Jersey. They can ship them to you to make sure they fit, then you can send them to us for the caliper change and we will ship them back. Skechers will invoice us and we can invoice you for the cost of the boot/caliper change. Michael Huhn wears the Skechers boot and the cost is very reasonable for a good boot. If you need boots and are having a hard time finding them, send an e-mail or give us a call.

## Send Me Your Photos!!

On my To-Do list is to add a collage of photos on our Web Page. We have some great photos but would love to have as many as possible. They can be a single photo of your child in the walker, a family photo, your child(ren) with their friends, whatever your favorite photo is. You can e-mail them to me or mail them, I will mail them back to you after making a copy. Thanks!!

Mailing address: 689 Yalesville Rd.,  
Cheshire, Ct 06410

## Now...About John

Since this Newsletter was my idea, I can put anything I want in it, so, I thought you might like a little history on John.

John graduated from St. Lawrence University with a degree in Chemistry where he played 1<sup>st</sup> division hockey. From college he taught Chemistry/Trigonometry at Trinity Pawling but didn't love it. He loved being outside. He and a friend he met while teaching started a Landscape/Design company in Ridgefield Ct. (That's where I came in.) For fun he coached hockey for the High School, then a triple A traveling team from around New England. We were married in January 1989 (*off season of course*). We found out we were having our 1<sup>st</sup> son (not planned) on the day we closed on our 1<sup>st</sup> home. We agreed we would do whatever we could so I could stay home with our children. Let's say the Landscape business just didn't cut it. I became friends with a woman who's husband is a Prosthetist. John became interested in the idea of pursuing a career in the field of Orthotics and applied to The Newington Children's Hospital Orthotics program. He was accepted but needed some prerequisites, so he deferred his acceptance and completed the required Anatomy & Psychology courses. He did that while working and building a small cottage on our property so we could rent it along with our home. He reapplied to Newington and was accepted again. We found 2 good tenants for our properties and moved in with my parents because it was closer to Newington. For 2 people who seem to be able to plan so well, we weren't great on planning another pregnancy. Yep, we found out our 2<sup>nd</sup> son was gong to be joining us in the middle of John's schooling. We moved on the hottest day in August about 107 degrees, I was 7 months pregnant. To this day I don't know how John did it. He went to school full-time, (*continued on next page....*)

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worked a part-time job, managed to study into the wee hours, had a 3 year old, newborn and oh, and a tired, cranky, wife. Not only did he graduate, he graduated top of his class and received an award for his accomplishments. After another 2 years to complete a residency and internship John started working for the friend that introduced him to the field. John has always had a particular love for pediatrics, so when the opportunity came to be involved in the Hart Walker, he was thrilled! I am so proud of what he has accomplished and he has **never** complained. John is just that kind of person, who appreciates what he has, gives unconditionally and always has a goal to pursue. Our family is priority, even with the amount of hours he works, he manages to find time for all of us. Is he perfect? No, but who is? He is kind, considerate, selfless, empathetic, patient, to name a few, who needs perfect?

## Thanks for ALL you do!

We would like to take this opportunity to share our appreciation of all of you. We have tremendous respect for your ability to make sure your child/children's needs are met. Whether it be making sure one is at a baseball game while the other is at dance, while juggling work, household "stuff" (if I listed what THAT entails, we would all probably gasp in horror!), doctors appointments, trying to fit in some fun or down time is an amazing daily feat. All of your children are blessed to have you and we're sure you feel just as blessed to have them, (which doesn't mean some days you want to hide under a blanket and disappear for **just** 5 minutes.)

So, we would like to thank all of the parent's and guardians of the following children: Matthew Altan, Alexander Baird, Emily Ball, Nancy

Brewer, David Chelednick, Raphael Coelho, Jared Connolloy, Bryan Conway, Rachael Corrie, Alexis Delguidice, Josh Drown, Guilana Ficuciello, Daniel Hasselburger, Joseph Hines, Michael Huhn, Abbie Knowlton, Zakary Mahoney, Nelson Martin, Bradley Minotti, Amanda Parent, Deanna Penna, Timmy Rogers, Cassie Santore, Sean Stenglein, Kathleen Saunders, Sean Santori, Nicholas Seitz, Catherine Sullivan, Evan Sussman, William Trump, Christopher Vines and Sam Waz.

Please take a moment to realize how amazing you are and try to take a moment or two for yourselves.

## Keep this information Handy:

Clinic Dates for August through November 2005

**Saturday, August 6**

**Saturday, August 13**

**Saturday, September 10**

**Saturday, September 25**

**Saturday, October 8**

**Saturday, October 22**

**Saturday, November 5**

**Saturday, November 19**

\*Remember all Clinics are held at our Cheshire location, check out our website for directions or call us.

**Website:** [www.greatstridesforcp.com](http://www.greatstridesforcp.com)

**Phone:** 203-272-7862

**Fax:** 203-272-3834

**Look forward to seeing all of you again!**

**John and Chris Olin**