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MAGAZINE

## HOT HUSBANDS

MEN WHO RENEW OUR  
FAITH IN LOVE & MARRIAGE

100 YEARS  
of the Charity Ball

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# Jimmie Johnson

The 33-year-old El Cajon native made *People* magazine's list of "Sexiest Men in the Fast Lane." Indeed, the three-time reigning NASCAR Sprint Cup champion has a loyal following of female fans. So what does his wife, Chandra, make of her husband's heartthrob status? "He's such a doll, I'm not surprised," she says.

Jimmie and Chandra were introduced by mutual friends in 2002. She was modeling in New York City; he was living in Charlotte, North Carolina (where Team Lowe's Racing is based). "We definitely had an instant attraction," says Chandra. After dating long-distance for a year and a half, Jimmie proposed during a ski trip to Colorado. "It was 9:30 in the morning, and we were skiing," she says. "I didn't expect it at all."

He continues to bring an element of the unexpected to their marriage, says Chandra. "He's incredibly romantic and is always planning dates and finding creative gifts," she brags. For her most recent birthday, Jimmie

surprised her with a DVD compilation of home video footage from her childhood. "He collected all of my old VHS tapes from my parents and had them edited down, set to music and put on a DVD. It was the most amazing video."

Jimmie and Chandra also share a passion for philanthropy. In 2006, the couple created the Jimmie Johnson Foundation to assist children, families and communities in need throughout the country. They annually host a charity golf tournament in San Diego, the most recent of which funded the construction of a Habitat for Humanity home in El Cajon. The couple recently pledged to build three more such homes, in addition to their support of various other charitable causes such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Besides racing champion and philanthropist, there's another title Jimmie would eventually like to achieve: dad. "Kids are definitely in the future," says Chandra.

MICHAEL J. LEBRECHT II/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED/GETTY IMAGES

