

Groundhog Times

February 2, 2004

Volume XVI

Spring Edition

Whirlwind circuit of France

In January we spent 2 weeks in France. We just missed being there on Groundhog's day. We spent a week in the town of Angoulême, north of Bordeaux. While my brother, Nathan attended a comics convention, his wife Susan, Ruby and I did some exploring of the country side. Highlights of the trip include an excellent little farm house hideaway, with croissants delivered to the door, visiting a house in Poitiers where my grandfather stayed during WW1, our car getting hit by a deer, visiting our friend Françoise Puech in her new house, spending a day on a Mediterranean beach, a



wonderful visit with friends of Nathan, Gino and Annique in a tiny little town in eastern France, and a visit with our foreign exchange student, Thomas Mir in Paris. For more information see the link in the Personals section on the back page.

Paid advertizing



Society News

Seen in Seattle this summer were dashing jet setters, **Dan and Jen Czaja** on their whirlwind west coast trip.

Geographical conferences may sound like a snooze, but this year **Andrew Czaja** stirred things up by appearing at the conference and at

the home of David and Ruby. Also seen, **Mark and Brenda Smale** wowed them at the Four Seasons. Brenda made a return visit with **Kelsie, Chaz and Aurelie**.

The **Mullins** sisters and their mother **Nova** came for Thai, Susan is not a soup person, but she found the Seattle fare to her liking.

Happy Cat

Our neighbor's cat Fila fled from their new dog, spent a season in our garden then on our front porch, and has now officially taken up full time residence in our house. She's a wonderful little tuxedo kitty and fond of playing, sleeping and watching cat TV (the garden window).

House project Hog's most of vacation

During the week off that we had between Christmas and New Years, we spent most of our time building some new kitchen cabinet doors and painting the other cabinets to match the clean new ones. It was way too cold to be outside in Seattle anyway.



Ground Breaking

The old barn at the home-
stead in Cromwell, CT came
down in October (it rested on
the brownstone wall above).
A new concrete foundation
was poured just recently. Our
contractor is hoping for an
April completion date.

Ruby's Day on stage

Ruby continues with her
voice lessons and even sang
to a restaurant full of people
along with the rest of her
fellow students.

Personal Ads

For more info on our news articles, see:
<http://members.aol.com/davidbutlr> and
 click on the link for France 2003 or
 Main Street Cromwell.

You can visit the Butler family website
 at <http://www.cromwellbutlers.com>

Email us at: DavidButlr@aol.com or
RLSmale@aol.com

French Reading club Tuesdays at 6:30,
 ask for Pat, Sue or John.

Nos amis Français. Désolé mais je ne
 peux pas traduire tous les mots de
 cette carte.

Health&Medicine

Modern advances in dental techniques were tested by David this year. A tooth was removed and replaced with an implant.

Meanwhile, studies that we have undertaken have shown that the glasses sold at most pharmacies are a great way to put off a trip to the eye doctor.



Across

1. Feeling good
3. What you stand on
6. Rose ___

Down

1. Pig
2. 16 ounces
4. David and ___
5. 24 hours