Saturday, February 4, 2006 c:/wklylt6.6wc12F\*

 (2006 NHN&WR letter/story/poem/card # ?)

**Mid-Winter Report.**

(Alpha Betic Cut’n Dried Epistle)

February 4th is halfway through Winter, … sort of like Winter Hump Day. We’ve appended an ‘F’ to this filename\*. This is because it is only going to family, not all NHN&WR subscribers. In the past we have just used a regular sequential number, but this has led to, … “*Hey, We didn’t get letter # such and such.”* Golly, … sometimes we wonder if people read these things, and then inquiries re a missing letter #.

·        Abstinence.
 Day 45 of 69 and counting. It is very difficult to apply ourselves to the wine category sans sampling.

·        Art.
 Watercolors are set up in the cellar. No pictures have been painted as yet. (But we’ll get to them Heidi.) We are considering one of those garish ‘Age’ posters for the front lawn this Spring. Probably could be categorized as art, … you’ve seen them. *“Guess Who’s Eighty Today!”* Have done some ‘Pen & Ink’ work. See WBCA .

·        Crossword Puzzles.
 We’ve always done them, but have increased crossword time since we read they are beneficial in delaying Alzheimer’s.

·        Dog.
 Have put our names in at the Ottawa Humane Society and filled out an application for *“Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue”*. A new dog should come to fruition by Spring.

·        Fitness.
 No problem. Exercise (Formal/Informal, i.e.: Lucile/Ken (( Ken would go with Lucile to her class, but then he would have to be nice to people.)) and walks well along.

·        Gamesters.
 Big problem. Took the Scorer Responsible for the last contest 8 months to publish the results. Perhaps should say *“Responsible Scorer”* then could add it to ‘Favorite Oxymoron’s’ like *“Military Intelligence”.* The two Gamester Flagship contests are on the horizon; ‘The Masters’ and the ‘NCAA Dances’

·        Health.
 Nothing life threatening. Some concern about that memory thing, uh, … uh, … oh gosh what’s the name of it anyway? Think we already mentioned it once. We’ll go back and look. Yes, Alshymer’s. Ooooh, not spelled right, how did we spell it before? Can’t remember. Good grief, let’s go to the next category.

·        Music.
 Have stumbled through *“All The Things You Are”.* It’s in four flats. Haven’t had the guts to try *“Smoke Gets In Your Eyes***”**. Starts out in three flats and changes to five sharps! Course 5 of anything isn’t too bad, … if you are anywhere near a black key play it. Ken needs music. Lucile plays better without it.

·        NHN&WR.
 Five letters in the queue with a new Canine Editor due to report shortly. We should be okay here.

*·* Reading Program.
 Read: ‘Ulysses’, James Joyce. (Ken Advised Lucile to skip this.)
 ‘The Great Gatsby’, F. Scott Fitzgerald.
 ‘Lolita’, Vladimir Nabokov. (Lucile told Ken to skip his.)
 ‘Grapes of Wrath’, John Steinbeck.
 ‘Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man’, James Joyce.
 Reading: ‘Under the Volcano’, Malcomb Lowry.
 ‘To the Lighthouse’, Virginia Woolfe.
Kind of struggling through the first few books on our list. It seems that if you want to author a classic novel, just write about a dysfunctional drunk with a few deviate sex inclinations in a language no one can understand. Even James Joyce’s spouse Nora asked him*, “ Why don’t you write a book people can read?”*

·        Sociology 101. On page 123, book 1.

·        WBCA.
 This is the Westboro Beach Community Association. Westboro Beach is our intra-Ottawa locale. At the direction of the Association’s Chairman we have been drafting a paper which presents 5 scenarios for use of the Green Space in the immediate neighborhood. Like NHN&WR, Ken is writing, Lucile is correcting. (Obviously, Lucile has the harder row to hoe.)

·        Wine. 122 bottles aging in the cold room. 30 more fermenting. Don’t know if the last 3 batches are any good. … (See first bullet.)
Lucile & Ken, Ottawa.