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Monthly Musings from the Peas
February 1, 2012 Vol.2 * No. 2

We will be sending you our literature on a monthly basis and we will be updating our contact list. So, if you want to make any changes, additions or deletions, please contact us at whirledpeasband@gmail.com.

WEEKLY GIG

We are regulars at Catherine Rooney's in Trolley Square, Wilmington. From 7:30 until 10 we perform every Wednesday. For info or menu, directions and so on www.catherinerooneys.com

PEAS MERCHANDISE

Peas shirts and all four of our CD's can be purchased at our gigs or by going on-line to www.whirledpeasband.com

WEBSITE

We are in the throes of revising our website with all the latest "bells and whistles" to keep you current and most importantly be informative to our listeners.

**PHIL - PENNSYLVANIA'S
 PUNXSUTAWNEY'S
 PROGNOSTICATOR**



Tomorrow at 7.20 am, this little guy is going to exit his burrow on Gobbler's Knob in front of

thousands of international fans. If he sees his shadow, brace yourself for 6 more weeks of winter. He'll speak to the Groundhog Club president in

"Groundhogese," a language understood only by the current president of the Inner Circle.

February 2nd marks the 126th anniversary of the start of this ritual which was brought to America by the early German settlers. It is based on the legend of Candlemas Day, which states, "For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day, so far will the snow swirl until the May."

However, there was an earlier reference to Groundhog Day dated February 4, 1841 and found in the diary of James Morris, storekeeper in Berks County, PA.

Last Tuesday, the 2nd, was Candlemas day, the day on which, according to the Germans, the Groundhog peeps out of his winter quarters and if he sees his shadow he pops back for another six weeks nap, but if the day be cloudy he remains out, as the weather is to be moderate.

As to the validity of Phil's prediction, his proponents claim a 75 to 90% accuracy of his forecasts. Canadians and the National Climatic Data Center rate his accuracy around 37 to 39%.

Besides weather predictions, some of Phil's other noteworthy highlights are:

...wearing a yellow ribbon to honor the American hostages in Iran (1981)

...appearing on the Oprah Winfrey Show (1995)

...during Prohibition, he threatened to impose 60 weeks of winter unless the embargo on drinking wasn't lifted

...traveled to Washington to meet President Ronald Reagan (1986)

...his prediction was viewed live on the JumboTron in Times Square (2001)

PEAS PONDERING

The groundhog is like most other prophets; it delivers its prediction and then disappears. ~Bill Vaughn

Winter is nature's way of saying, "Up yours." ~Robert Byrne

Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!" ~Robin Williams