

# Finally, En Plein Air

## Carol breaks out the pastels and paints a castle

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Today we got one of the things we came for – a chance for Carol to exhibit painter behavior. We had visited Montclera Chateau earlier (Carol rang the bell) and it looked like the perfect spot for her first outside adventure with her easel. Tuesday was partly cloudy and in the low 60s, so we trekked to the spot and got her set up along the side of the road. Bob did a little radioing and authoring of this newsletter and kept an eye out for archers with crossbows.

### Carol en plein air



The Montclera Chateau was built in the 15th Century as one of hundreds throughout France to fortify itself against invaders, mostly from England. All this one needed was Rapunzel letting her hair down.



Chateau Montclera

### The Martyrs of Fraysennet

Fraysennet-le-Gelat is a small town near Carol's painting site that had been the victims of the horror of Nazi barbarism in 1944 when a group of local young men were shot for being a part of the French resistance. This memorial, in front of the local church serves as a solemn reminder. The interior of the church is somewhat unique being painted all white inside opposed to the usual darkness that one encounters in many of the local churches.



### Madame Maurat's Kitchen

We asked a couple of local Englishmen where we could have lunch. They replied "Madame Maurat's is the place, but hurry or you'll miss it." So, off we went to a small village 2 km up the road and found her restaurant nearly filled with customers. Madame Maurat has been serving the locals and the tourists here for over 40 years on the lunch hour. There's only one menu – in our case, squash soup, hard boiled eggs and cabbage, lamb chops and pomme frite, peas, a cheese course, and lemon or black currant sorbet. House wine complimentary. Don't think about eating the rest of the day.

