



March 2018

The National Puzzlers' League

#1361

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

Not much to report personally this short month, most of which I've spent fighting some low-grade infections (the annual flu, I guess, and some other stuff). There has been some discussion about cleaning up and clarifying the rules and names of various flat types. More about this as the process progresses.

WISCONSIN CONVENTION

The 2018 Convention will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the Intercontinental Hotel. It will take place between July 12-15 and will be hosted by WXYZ. The convention fee has not yet been determined, but should be about \$300. Hotel information, including room booking, can be found using the url: <http://bit.ly/2noMqrU>.

CALL FOR THIS CON'S IN WISCONSIN PROGRAM PROPOSALS by WILLZ, FRAZ, RUBRICK and T MCAY

This Con's in Wisconsin...or it will be by the time the Krewe meet in Milwaukee for the annual convention of the National Puzzlers' League. July may seem a long way off, but the official program committee is already organizing activities for the con. This is where *you* have an opportunity to participate! Please visit the new Official Program page on the website then contact the committee with your ideas!: <http://con.puzzlers.org/info/official-program> and conprogram@puzzlers.org We need a program that represents our diverse and imaginative organization and welcome input from both new members and those of long-standing. Help us make our convention a success!

LA PUZZLE PARTY — by BLUFF

Our next gathering, as planned, will be on Saturday, March 10, starting at noon. It will be at our new home at the Center For Inquiry. They are still receiving bids for the proposed reconstruction, and thus we are assured to find the meeting area as we left it in January. Please let me know if you are planning to attend and if you are bringing anyone new.

Regards, Bluff (John Suarez) (805) 499-1880

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The ENIGMA (ISSN 1932-4448) is the monthly magazine of the National Puzzlers' League (<http://www.puzzlers.org>), a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1883. Membership dues are \$23, including a subscription to *The ENIGMA*; \$30 for overseas airmail; \$30 for large print (North America only); and \$15 for members not receiving printed issues. Send dues (in US funds, payable to the National Puzzlers' League), address changes, and requests not to mail printed copies to the treasurer, MERCURY, Joseph J. Adamski, 2507 Almar St., Jenison MI 49428, treasurer@puzzlers.org. PayPal payment is accepted using treasurer@puzzlers.org. Back issues are \$1.50, from the editor. **Web contacts:** To create a puzzlers.org alias or join the npl-folk list: postmaster@puzzlers.org. To report website problems: webmaster@puzzlers.org. To obtain a username/password: treasurer@puzzlers.org. **Submitting materials:** Send extras to ☞ (VROO), Bruce Leban, 13816 NE 36th PL, Bellevue WA 98005, extras@puzzlers.org. Send forms to JO THE LOITERER, Julian Ochrymowych, 35 Smithfield Court, Basking Ridge NJ 07920, forms@puzzlers.org. Send cryptic crosswords to XEMU, Guy Jacobson, 4 Adrian Ter., Bridgewater, NJ 08807, cryptics@puzzlers.org. Send cryptograms to LEXMAN, Alex Kolker, 462 47th Ave, East Moline IL 61244, crypts@puzzlers.org. Send flats to BTNIRN, Sandy Kutin, 16 Magnolia Ln, Princeton, NJ 08540, flats@puzzlers.org. Send convention material to T MCAY, conprogram@puzzlers.org. Send articles and anything not covered above to the editor, TEK1, John McNeill, 6501 Brush Country Rd. #106, Austin TX 78749, editor@puzzlers.org.

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RESIGNED/REMOVED

Richard Belec (Versicolor), Carolyn Benoit (Montague), Erik Brisson, Hannah Goodwillie, Paul Hlebowitsh (FLEB), Peter Laberee, Richard Sullivan (Apri)

FEBRUARY CORRIGENDA

In #42, WRATH is not MW.
X-5's header is on a previous page. It is a KNIGHT'S TOUR CRYPT.

MARCH PUZZLES

- 1. Combinom: Groucho/Firetruck
- 3, 9, 18, 31, 43, 55. Combinom: Scarab/Earl E. Byrd
- 6. Stress shifts.
- 14. In an enchainement, one type of money is changed to another. Both must appear in the "money" table in 11C.
- 15. In a Hutto Transdeletion, the solution word or phrase has every possible pair of letters deleted, and each time the resulting set of letters or its transposals forms another word.
- 17. Welcome, new composer Shmendrick!
- 32. In a QAAQESQ flat, instances of "qu" in the solution words are replaced by "q." The enumerations reflect this letter loss.
- F-10. The first word in the title is INVERTIBLE.



FEBRUARY HINTS AND MARCH EASY LIST

30—Consider the other-handedness of our acronym.
X-4. For an easy start, this one sure ends hard! The final answer involves an Enigma-related word.
March Easy List: 4, 12, 24, 34, 35, 45, 55, 62.

PENETRALIA

Solution words and phrases not found in 11C (11th Collegiate) are labeled for the most recent Merriam-Webster dictionary in which they appear: 10C, NI3, NI2 Addenda, or NI2, or, failing that, RH2 or 12W. Non-MW words are noted. "+" signifies foreign, slang, dialect, obsolete, archaic, and the like. Capitalized words get a "*". Words that are capitalized (as in names, titles) but normally uncapitalized with the same usage get a "^". Enumeration for MW phrases is [bracketed] in anagrams and flat types where non-MW phrases are allowed, to wit: spoonergrams, mutations, palindromes, rebuses, heteronyms and homonyms, welded flats, variations on these types, and flats labeled "freewheeling."

Send your solution lists after April 1 to QUICKS?LVER (solutions@puzzlers.org) or mail to LIRATH, Eric Suess, 1901 Parr Rd., Pocatello ID 83204. All lists must be received by 11:59 p.m. PDT on April 30.

1. ITALIAN-STYLE DOUBLE-CROSS (3, *7, *4, *6) (*4 = not MW; NPL usage)

The	The	The	The
Eye:	Vice:	Max:	Start:
It's	A	It'll	It
Been	Peanut	Cook	Isn't
Long	Farmer	The	Fair
Since	Spits	Best	Of
I	(Away	Meal,	Face
Saw	From	Sir,	Time
It.	Folks,	And	At
Why'd	Not	Prove	The
I	On	That	Office.
Pick	The	I'm	Dumb
The	Fritz).	A	Rat
Shortest		Kitchener.	Race!
Straw?			

=GROUTRUCK, Cliffinville NA

2. PHONETIC TWO-WORD DELETION (6-4, *1, 3, '5) (RAW NONANE = not MW) (can be sung)

This is a half-day night (with silent H and G and AWN)!
This is a half-day night (RAW NONANE stretch 'twixt dusk and dawn)!
I would REIGN less, and I OWN that three months hence I'll intone
An ode to summer's light.
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

3. DELETION (7, 2-4)

Young Johnny was a TWO-FOUR guy.
He planted SEVENs far and nigh.
He didn't earn a cent of pay,
But yet he did it anyway.
He did it so that folks could see
The pink, the white, and greenery
That brighten up our lives in spring.
His toil was thus a selfless thing.
=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

4. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL (9, 3 6) (3 6 = not MW)

"Did you see that beauty walking the dog next door?
"What an exquisite face!"
"If she lives there, why have we not seen her before?"
"Isn't she just the LACE?"
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

5. FREEWHEELING REVERSED DELETION (*5, 1 3)

Does bad verse count as liteRAture?
Does "LATE" have dictionary nature?
(Do canines with that word tacked on belong in any lexicon?)
"Mu" is how I answer these
While munching Brie and EARLY cheese.
=TREESONG, West Chester PA

6. FREEWHEELING SEVENTH-SOUND CHANGE (8, “4” 2 4) (clued in order)

Do not call me “señorita.”
 “Mademoiselle”? Another CHEETAH.
 Now *this one’s* got a certain ring,
 So please call me THE OTHER
 THING.
 =AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

7. MULTIPLE REPEATED-LETTER DELETION (8)

This verse is terse, it’s simple, and it’s
 certainly not LONG.
 That’s where I’m SHORT, and when
 you solve, you’ll see that I’m not
 wrong.
 =R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

8. ENIGMATIC REBUS (3 2? *5 2 5? 1 3? 3?) (3 = part of + phrase)

Purim

This March, at one *simcha* where
 drinking’s the rule
 (Deliverance being the theme), if some
 fool

At your fete uses glasses for white
 wine for red,
 Do not scream. Who’d react to that
 simple *faux* SAID?
 No, that guy over there, or some mutt,
 or the fellow
 Who co-reigned with Marcus Aurelius
 (yellow-
 Green chlorine and barely-blue ozone
 concealing
 His body) would not. It’s not beer—
 don’t start squealing!
 Lean back, and eat flatbread, and
 drink your fourth cup
 (Which may make you mix names, or
 some parts of them, up).
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

9. CHANGE OF HEART (8, 4, 7, *5)

In nineteen hundred eighty-one,
 STAR-FIVE’s last year on earth was
 done.
 Extremists didn’t just yell, “FOUR!”
 And shoo the old guy out the door.
 Nor did they offer up an EIGHT
 By which he should expatriate.
 Instead they simply snuffed him out,
 An act which left the world in doubt:
 How might his SIX-PLUS-ONEing
 years
 Now be recalled—with bile or tears—
 Had he been left to live out life
 Instead of having died midst strife?
 =SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

10. WELDED LETTER SHIFT (9 5)

Complacency and laziness,
 Entitlement and sloth.
 Their cushy jobs make them a mess:
 What sins do SEETHE AND FROTH?
 =FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

11. PHONETIC REBUS (7)

FND

The man has land and power too,
 And lots of formal schooling.
 This ANSWER lives beside the sea
 Where Erdogan is ruling.
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

12. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (8)

I’m sure this UK scene’s untrue,
 For these are things they’d never do.
 “I’d be a DAN,” the young gent said.
 “What must I pay to get that title?
 I’d like some CAN.” “We’ll give you
 none.
 You pay full price. And that is vital.”
 =ANDREAS, Vancouver BC

13. LETTER BANK (4; 7; “^5, ^5, ^5”) (SWINE, WEE INNS, NEW WINES)
(NEW WINES = not MW)
(Can be sung to the tune of “Way Out ^SWINE (On ^SWINE End Avenue)”)

Git along Mr. Rodgers, and your partner Hart;

I want a song that’s a lot more tart:
Stephen Schwartz’s “SWINE End Avenue”!

It is in *The Magic Show*, before NEW WINES

(Which claims revenge tastes like, say, Red Vines)—

Stephen Schwartz’s “SWINE End Avenue”!

Keep all your paeans to the founts at Radio City;

They, at their WEE INNS, douse you less than Cal’s self-pity!

One song I’ve got is sure to be replayed:

That *cri de coeur* by a wizard’s aide,
Stephen Schwartz’s “SWINE End Avenue”!

Yippee-yi-yay!

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

14. ENCHANGEMENT (2 4 8, 6 6)
(see note)

The Barbie-lover gathered much
About that storied lass.

My job: to sort that mountain
through—

A messy giant mass.

In NUMBER ONE,

I’ve just begun.

I’ll make an oniony salad first.

Ingredients of late

Have not been of the best (nor worst)

But TWO are now first rate.

I munch and grin—

I shall dig in.

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

15. HUTTO TRANSDELETION (5)

This food is too artisanal.

Annatto extract on 3/4?

And “blackened” means 1/3. And full
Of caraway? I don’t want more.

2/3 3/5-1/3d 3/4...

Uncool! It’s not 2/5, I think.

And lemon1/5 syrup? Snore!

(Cured by the sun’s 2/4s)? The stink!

This 4/5 of food, 1/4, true,

I’m not ALL for it this 1/2!

=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

16. SPOONERGRAM ([*4 *4], 5 4)

When that crackpot on my floor

Came a-banging on my door

With a “photo” from *FOUR *FOUR

Proving only he’s a bore—

Past that not a smidgen more—

“You are the monster,” I swore,

“What are you bugging me for?

From now on you must FIVE FOUR!”

=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

17. FOURTH-LETTER CHANGE (7, 3 4)
(PROTECTED = 3 4 = findable)
SECOND-LETTER CHANGE (6)

I see a strange show

With granddaughter in tow.

The critic PROJECTED

The film’s for PROTECTED.

But to my surprise,

What should have been FLIES

Turns out to be FRIES.

=SHMENDRICK, Chino CA

18. CONSONANTCY (5, 5-3)
(LENGTHY = findable, NI3)

Men on first and second base,

Hard ground ball to short.

LENGTHY choice of where to BRIEF.

What a crazy sport!

=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

19. LETTER BANK (*6, 11)

LINES was a mathematician of note;
A radical too, and with radical roots.
He died far too young, the result of a
duel.

He should have just stuck to cerebral
pursuits.

The theory developed and given his
name

Was incomprehensible, as judged by
some.

Math's a religion and makes some
ecstatic,

But to bouts of ILLNESS, he did not
succumb.

=WITZ, Vancouver BC

20. PHONETIC WORD

SUBSTITUTION (5 3, 2, 4, *4 *7)

(A = NI3, non-MW usage)

(can be sung)

"On the day I was born, said my
father, said he,"

Sang Petula Clark's lass of her dad,
played by D,

"Tis a rhyme for your lips!" (Did her
mom, when he did,

Utter "B!" to prevent him from waking
the kid?)

"Look, look, look to the rainbow!"

(Meaning the hues seen in unstuffy A!)

"Look, look, look to the rainbow!"

(Wet A, and not dry as C, I should say.)

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

21. TRANSPOSAL (5 2, 7) (clued in
order) (5 2 = inferable, online
11C-findable)

You'll wait many a minute

For what's in the pot to grow

If each with some hand in it

SAW ROPE only REAP SOW.

=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

22. DELETION (9) (STEW, SEW)

DELETION (8) (OLD, NEW)

POPOVER (6) (ONE, TWO)

(Firm reply to Jan #42)

I hate cannibals more than, say,

buffalo STEW,

So all of my bones are completely taboo,

And that OLD my ONE and my SEW

and my NEW.

So don't look at me. Go eat barley or

TWO.

=TREESONG, West Chester PA

23. CONSONANTCY (6, 5, 6, 7)

Family reunions, they used to be fun

Back in the old day, our day in the sun.

For weeks ahead the ladies were cooking

Mountains of food, starring Aunt

Kate's ONE pudding.

Hamburgers, cookies, cakes, cola, and
beer

Nettle tea also (though that's rather
queer).

Sylvester, he fiddled so we could all
dance—

TWO in his pocket, left nothing to
chance.

But those days are gone as the new
generation

Has no interest, no THREE to come,
no motivation.

Family reunions' demise we deplore.

It's with sadness we see the family

FOUR.

=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

24. PARTIALLY REVERSED
CHARADE (6)

A bumper sticker on a car

Declares, "Peru NAPS NED." That's far,

But maybe they will reach that land;

That auto isn't frail, it's SPANNED.

=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

25. LETTER BANK (8 3, 11 5)

So easy an arc the shark does trace—
The radius maintained with grace—
As if some MELLA keeps it awheel;
There's none, of course—just thank
the MEAL.

=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

26. HOMONYM (*6-2-3-4; 3 4, 4 3)
(clued in order)

A stoner hangout, "Sharks That
Glow,"

Had quite a pickle long ago.
Their outside sign was dark at night.
Dilated pupils missed its sight!

Their manager: "My greatest fears!
Without some cash, it'll be arrears!"

I heard, and had some tubes and air
And rigged a toothy smile there.
Some stoners stared, and hypnotized,
They came and spent. Boss was
surprised!

"You're such a DUDE and saved my
bar!

How did you make folks come from
far?"

I said, "I made your shark's DEWED
fans

Could see your sign and make booze
plans!"

=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

27. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL
(*7'1, 8) (both inferable)
(can be sung by Og the leprechaun)

In DC,
That augustesque, greatlike,
White House stood
In '22.

Warren G.,
All Head-of-State-like,
Lived there—it
Was (sort of) BLUE.
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

28. REBUS (5 3 5)

HYGGE

Hygge means, in Denmark's land,
True coziness, with warmth imbued.
Thoughts of doom and gloom are banned.
My hygge needs good Chinese food.
With wontons at the ready and
SOLUTION, I am in the mood.
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

29. PALINDROME DELETION (7)
(SHORT = NI3+)

I'm sitting here in my wee SHORT,
atop the adit's vent.
I sense a whoosh of firedamp. If so, it's
time I went
And found a place in nearby woods
where there's no poison round,
Unless I'm near some LONGER
WORD which is in hemlock found.
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

30. FREEWHEELING LETTER
BANK (6, *8'1) (*8 = Dec. Enigma)

B sitting in one of his A.
Hey, hot stuff, things going OK?
=TREESONG, West Chester PA

31. LETTER BANK (9, 4-*11)

Jerusalem and Donald Trump were in
the news last year,
And, sadly, in a largely vitriolic way,
we fear.
In Arab lands the "pres" was deemed a
reprobate or worse,
And he was also called a "NINE,"
quite clearly as a curse.
Alas, it wasn't Trump alone at whom
the barbs were hurled.
A wave of FOUR-ELEVEN spread like
wildfire 'round the world.
=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

32. QAAQESQE REVERSED
PALINDROME CURTAILMENT (8)
QAAQESQE PALINDROME
DELETION (8)

It's not DO good ODASSA
When you gloat each time you mate.
You'll lose DEN friends on their loss, a
Truth since DE QEEN. Meek is great!
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

33. PALINDROME (3 3 4 8 6 5)
(8 = NI3+)

The members of the crew aboard a
frigate are conspiring
To get some leave time. Some com-
plain of aching backs, inquiring
If they might get some R and R, while
others moan with colic
And make a show of running to the
head. These diabolic
Maneuvers work to varying degrees.
Though each man cites
A different ailment, those who stagger
from the DOLOMITES
Physicians send them home to rest.
This ploy is most effective
(Convincing acting, forceful words)
and thus meets the objective.
=QT-OH, Acton MA

34. PHONETIC DELETION (6, 6)
(clued in order)

The policeman, while on his
APPEASE,
Searched for breakers of THE SEIZE.
=A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

35. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (6)

I left the FUZZ.
That's what one does
When soup's as BUZZ
As their soup was.
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

36. OVERLOADED WORD
DELETION (*4 *5) (can be sung)

Addison's town!
Come down to Addison's town!
It's really many cities in one
Huge gem whose blessings teem by
the ton!
See all those SOLs 'neath Florida's
sun!

Town with soul,
And burg with malls!
Metropole
With concert halls!

Addison's town!
That multi-town of renown!
If you don't grab its gifts you're a fool!
Mr. Mizner has carved this jewel!
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

37. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL (8)

Some just won't be contained
By the norms of the people.
They bust their way on through,
Those you'd call ON STEEPLE.
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

38. FREEWHEELING PHONETIC
BEHEADMENT (5 1 4, 8)
(can be sung)

Once I built a startup, made it shift
Every last I'VE WON FOR.
But my business model was a gift.
Warden, can you FIVE ONE FOUR?
=TORTOISE, Somerville MA

39. TRANSADE (4, 5, *9)

My goodness, this Catalan
Seafood is grand!
The CAS NEND's sufficient
To keep me in SCANNED.
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

40. OVERLOADED LETTER BANK
(4 4, 11, 6 6) (4 4 = not MW)

Once the stuff precipitated
On a photographic plate'd
Broken down (in brine) again
To ions, in a basin, then
The basin used was shoved aside
(Its base was smooth enough to glide)
With no more thought to any of
The stuff that had been NAMED
ABOVE.

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

41. PHONETIC DELETION (7, 7)

Each Jewish holiday has food,
A special recipe to share.
At Hanukkah it's fried food time;
On Shavuot there's dairy fare.

Two holidays one month apart
Are miles apart in scope and size.
Three-cornered treats at Purim time
Are once-baked; twice would not be
wise.

These pastries (not BEDs) won't be
seen
At seders where "No Leaven" rules,
But beef is served in many homes.
It's a well-cooked BREAD that causes
drools!

=WITZ, Vancouver BC

42. LETTER BANK (*1, *5; *4 *5)
(neither MW)

Careers spent on the ice
Can make you rich and famous.
THE SHORT ONE shows a star
Some thought an ignoramus.

But lesser lights can also
Earn quite abundant bucks.
Take LONG ONE, whose career
Took off with the Canucks.
=ENDGAME, Portland OR

43. INITIAL WORD SUBSTITUTION
(7, *3, 3, 7) (TWO = non-MW
usage; THREE = part of + phrase;
FOUR = var.) (can be sung to the
tune of "Do-Re-Mi")

ONE, a knife, a heavy knife,
TWO, the iTool some adore.
THREE, a word to follow "id,"
FOUR, a fan of art and more...
=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

44. LAST-LETTER CHANGE (4)
HOMONYM (5)

The grammar teacher—oh, what a
GUEST!
She docked some points on a friend's
test.
She said OAT OAT "OAT"
OAT OAT "OAT"-lover wrote
Was a rather poorer choice OAF
"GUESSED."
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

45. DELETION (10) (can be sung)

It was a fast machine.
He kept her motor clean.
It was the best damn auto
That he'd ever seen.

He went out for a drive
On the southbound DEPRIVE
To meet with a lawyer
At 8:45.

He is making a plan,
The best that he can,
To protect his loved ones once
He was an old man.

After that small chore,
DERIVE no more—
His family cared for—
Back to his car door,
And he drove it all day long!
=A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

46. HOMONYM (4, 5)

Some Enigma terms challenge my brains.
 I'm LASTed, so slow are my gains.
 (Good heavens, I've tried.)
 I FIRST in our Guide,
 But the WNFR mystery remains.
 =A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

47. PHONETIC CURTAILMENT
WNFR (6, *5)

Compound produced by fasting in
 Ecuador...
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

48. FALSE GENRE (4, 6)

I wrote a poem for my love
 But it did not impress.
 I took it to a publisher—
 I thought it would redress
 The hurt I felt from her rejection
 if I were to get
 Some payment for the work that cost
 My blood and tears and sweat.
 And though they paid me for my
 verse,
 I'd hoped it would be more.
 They pressed the AFT sum into my
 BEFORE and shut the door.
 =QT-OH, Acton MA

49. FREEWHEELING LETTER
BANK (*1 3'1 4, [3 11], [8 9])
(PHONETICS, TONIC SHOPPE,
OPINE ON SCOTCH)

Bulky, awkward, boxy,
 This TONIC SHOPPE one deems
 Far from something foxy,
 But cooler than it seems.
 One could sweat aesthetics,
 Like some OPINE ON SCOTCH.
 As I sweat PHONETICS—
 Let's turn 'er up a notch!
 =AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

50. MULTIPLE REPEATED-LETTER
DELETION (13) (*FEW = abbr.)

Do not take your basement for granite;
 Save it all from the danger of *FEW.
 Cut it off from the rest of the planet
 With plastic (LONG, three C's, not
 two).
 =A-PLUS, Pittsburgh PA

51. LETTER BANK (*6, 9, *4 *5)
(CROCE = *4 *5 = not MW)
(could be sung by CROCE on
Broadway)

How are things in Glocca Morra?
 Is that little brook still little, or
 Is the CRORE of water in it now
 More vast than that in (say) Angola's
 CORE?
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

52. DOUBLE CROSS (8, 5, 5, 8)
(GUESS = first 8)

I want you to sit here and GUARD
 As I soak some CHARD in this
 CHESS
 And use it to stuff this whole GUESS.
 I'll grill it until it's quite charred.
 'Twill be bitter and yet somewhat
 sweet;
 A weird yet gourmet piscine treat.
 =TEKI, Austin TX

53. FREEWHEELING ORDER
TAKEOUT (5 4: *4, 4) (RIGHT, RIT)
MULTIPLE PALINDROME
DELETION (*4, *6; *1*1)
(BEHEAR, BAR) (BEHEAR/
RIGHT is overloaded)

When you're in Lake Tahoe just RIT
 up your BAR
 And head off! BEHEAR/RIGHT. It's
 not very far.
 =NEWROW, Brookline MA

54. DELETION (*5, 4) (*5 = not MW)
(follow-up to Feb. 22)

The Eagles fans at last could cheer
When leader JEVER quashed the
JEER.

=AROUNDEVE, born and raised in
Philadelphia, PA

55. PHONETIC FALSE AGENT (4, 5)

A grave robber, Stan,
Dug up an old man
Who'd been wrapped in an asbestos
shroud.

He failed to find treasure,
And midst his displeasure,
He ravaged and bellowed aloud.

He found not a tuppence
And got his comeuppance:
Years later he died of a FIVE.
If not for the FOUR
He'd defiled as he swore,
He would probably still be alive.
=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

56. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (7) (NI3)
ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (7) (A = NI3)
TELESTICHAL ENIGMA (8)
(B = var.)
TELESTICHAL ENIGMA (6)
(A=+)

A. One error near the lake below:
The helmsman's launch with piccolo.

B. Into water, bless this deck.
Synopsis's writ with dye (dry prec.)

C. Ne'er take the way a stitch saves,
see
A jerk steals what belongs to she.

The instruments went bad, I think,
Which caused the ship to leak and
sink.
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

57. FREEWHEELING
CONSONANTCY (4 1 5, ^5; 6 9)

Sir This and Sir That came in once to
dine.
(Oh God, how I hate gentility.)
They disliked the seating, insulted the
wine,
And tipped poorly for nobility.
When tonight they returned—those
high-bred swine!—
I knew they'd test my civility,
I racked my brain for a welcoming line,
And found the choicest of my ability:
I smiled, said "SNEAK!" and snuck
out to play SNAKE.
(A ballsy move, sure, but I felt like a
break!)
=BAD ANGEL, Santa Cruz CA

58. LETTER BANK (7 3, 10 5)
(7 3 = NI3)
TRANSPOSAL (4, 4)
(re Jan. #56)

Dear R/EDS:

Prepare a salad feast
And spice it up with tangy EAST.
Add some ONE, and after food,
See the zoo. Get in the mood.
Greet the peccary with a wave
Have a sociable conclave.
When he waves his hoof at you,
He'll use his pecs and his TASTE's (TWO).
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

59. OVERLOADED LETTER BANK
(4, 8) (can be sung)

"I see by your OUTFIT that you are a
cowbee,"
I said to the bug leading Bossy, and that
Made both of her feelers perk up; they
could now be
Perceived ten miles off, 'gainst her
ten-gallon hat.
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

60. ENIGMATIC REBUS

(3 *5, 2, 5, 3 *4 3) (rubric contains abbr.) (*5 = not MW)

experimenter

Haggard as he was, his songs
Were sometimes just experiments.
From outside old Muskogee, throngs
Brought love and hatred sentiments.
A tribute song to him should try
To stay away from grasslike plants,
And also from commercials (sigh),
And Bamakoan crimes with pants.
Outside, it seems he tried a lot.
But SOL songs won't be right (or pot).
=FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA

61. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL
(7, 3 4)

I let the thronging public buy
The peaches that I put in these
Glass jars at no expense, and high-
Price IPO securities;
Though *both* are not good sellers, I
Sell all the stuff I can NOT FREEZE.
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

62. FALSE PLURAL (3, 2)

Hop aboard the swinger ONE.
If you're TWO it's twice the fun!
=BAD ANGEL, Santa Cruz CA

63. WORD DELETION (7)

In her little red TOTAL,
Into woods, into danger,
She, basket on IN,
Had no fear of a stranger.

To Grandmother's cottage,
Where soon there were doubts.
These doubts were confirmed.
Wolves are surely not OUTs.
=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

64. TRANSPOSAL (*5, 5)

(*5 = online MW, 11C-findable)

The sign at ONE's ANOTHER reads:
"I host all those with hosting needs.
Only such folks does my inn keep."
Fine for me, but where does ONE sleep?
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

65. OVERLOADED PALINDROME
BEHEADMENT (7)

Do the things in my flats cause
destruction? Perhaps.
Even so, if they do, I will still write in
CAPs.
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

66. LETTER BANK (7, *6 *5)
(LONGER = not MW)

Higgledy piggledy,
LONGER the builder man:
Broker of power (so
R. Caro thought).

NYC racketeer
Undemocratically
Acted less statesmanlike,
More like a SHORT.
=LINKO, London UK

67. OVERLOADED IDENTITY
HOMONYM (4)

A bridge-playing rodent?
That sounds quite absurd.
All tricks or crop damage
Is a trait of a WORD.
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

ANAGRAMS

68. MR. PRESIDENT: "TD OFFER
STATUS THAT'S ON U.S."
(*5'1 5 ^5 2 3 ^5" 7)
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

69. MUST A NASTY CA RAIN = BAD
BOULDERS? (*5 *7 *6 9)
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

70. BOUND TO (2 5)
=AROUNDEVE, Queens NY

71. WHO PUSHING DOPE, ONLY
NOT TRY. UG! ("3'1 3 4 2 4 3 6")
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

72. TOIL, 'N' NPL MEGA FEAT CAME
(2 *6 4 8)
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

73. NO HAM, MADAME (1 *10)
=N, Cambridge MA

74. TUNING, THEN CAR'S BEELINE
MOTION (3 8 10 6)
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

AMBIGRAMS

75. FLAUNT MRS. PLEA: "I'M
OUT!" (*7 *5, *1*1*1*1*1*1)
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

FORMS

F-1. VWLLSS RCTNGL

Across:

- 1 Full surname of the painter of *Los caprichos*
- 2 Mannerist painter known as Il Furioso
- 3 He painted *Impression, soleil levant*
- 4 The "Michelangelo of Caricature"

Down:

- 1 Trickster's triumphant cry
 - 2 Cosmetic ingredient
 - 3 French department whose name means "golden slope"
 - 4 Not packing heat
 - 5 Klaproth named this element
 - 6 Sculptor's work collection
- =AI, Charlottesville VA

F-2. SQUARE TETRALOGY

A. VWLLSS DBL SQR

Across:

- 1 Italian port, to the natives
- 2 Prepare a grape (with difficulty) for serving
- 3 Larval crustaceans

Down:

- 1 Like kissing and boxing, usually
 - 2 Kind of book, menu or fly ball
 - 3 Site of Europe's largest flea market
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

B. VWLLSS VRGRM SQR

- 1 City across the Hangzhou Bay from Shanghai: var.
 - 2 For whom one should win one (Wikipedia)
 - 3 Major business expense
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

C. VWLLSS BGRM SQR

- 1 In a manner unlike John or Paul or John Paul (MW-inferable)
 - 2 Like a classroom in a measles epidemic (two possible readings)
 - 3 _____ Park, Brookfield VT (Wikipedia)
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

D. VARIOGRAM DOUBLE SQUARE

Across:

- 1 Judges' benches
- 2 Málaga community
- 3 Oater staple
- 4 Suffix meaning "gardens" or "groves"
- 5 Lariat

Down:

- 1 Toroid roll
 - 2 Soft tawed leather
 - 3 Puzzle
 - 4 Stuffs
 - 5 Right of final decision
- =NEWROW, Brookline MA

F-3. VWLLSS RCTNGL

Across:

- 1 Artist who famously said "I do not seek. I find."
- 2 Painter of *The Streetwalker*
- 3 First Western artist whose biography (by Vasari) was published while he was alive
- 4 Painter of *Landscape with Psyche Outside the Palace of Cupid*

Down:

- 1 It flows into the Chesapeake Bay
- 2 Sponsor of *The Shadow* on the radio (Wikipedia)
- 3 Assailed with stinging words
- 4 *Hercules and the Hydra* artist, whose father sold poultry
- 5 Employee at Christie's
- 6 Subject of Rembrandt and Eakins paintings
- 7 Painters Antonello da Messina or Renato Guttuso, by birth
=AI, Charlottesville VA

F-4. DOUBLE INVERTED LEFT HALFSQUARE

Across:

- 1 Intersection of the celestial equator and the ecliptic
- 2 Early animal forms
- 3 Kendrick and Paquin
- 4 Simple gun
- 5 Bit
- 6 Information system
- 7 Light speed

Down:

- 1 Flexible
- 2 Southern flyer? (Wikipedia)
- 3 Entombed: arch.
- 4 Terrible ruler?
- 5 Naval air station
- 6 Forceful whirlwind
- 7 Unknown quantity
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-5. VWLLSS LFT HLFSQR

Across:

- 1 Linda Ronstadt's "Blue ____"
- 2 Intimidate
- 3 El Greco's town
- 4 Woolf novel
- 5 Loosening a vessel from anchorage
- 6 Contemporary of 7 Across and 8
Across, author of *The Book of the Courtier*
- 7 Renaissance man
- 8 Renaissance man

Down:

- 1 Enabler on the Silk Road
- 2 "Mr. Pocket Billiards" (Wikipedia)
- 3 One of the "Big Three" anchors (Amende)
- 4 Tax raised to pay tribute to Viking invaders
- 5 Jackson who won two of four Best Actress nominations (Amende)
- 6 Beersheba's region
- 7 Weill's wife and partner (Amende)
- 8 He said "Books are not made to be believed, but to be subjected to inquiry"
=AI, Charlottesville VA

F-6. LEFT WINDMILL

- 1 What March comes in like, it's said
- 2 Facts and data
- 3 Eliminates, gangster-style
- 4 It usually won't flare by itself
- 5 Hayworth, Moreno or Rudner
- 6 Express checkout unit
- 7 What March goes out like, it's said
=JO THE LOITERER, Basking Ridge NJ

F-7. TRIGRAM SQUARE

- 1 It has changing needs? (not MW)
- 2 Pass through, as boiling water through coffee grounds
- 3 A little something
=al dente, San Jose CA

F-8. PENTAGON VARIANT

Across:

- 1 Gram-positive cocci
- 2 Phone response
- 3 Hue place
- 4 Cause a wide part in: rare
- 5 Majority
- 6 Young's modulus

Down:

- 1 Reza Pahlavi, for one
- 2 Tapeworm: var.
- 3 Fee for cloth measurement
- 4 See 5 Down
- 5 Followed by 4 Down, apt sports term
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

F-9. LEFT WINDMILL

- 1 Distant
- 2 Chinese fruit or African antelope: var.
- 3 Huge space or quantity
- 4 Scarlett or Maureen
- 5 Skill-testing event (not MW)
- 6 Abrasive mineral used on a board
- 7 Inert gas
- 8 Flavor
- 9 Asian starling
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-10. NVRTBL VWLLSS PRMD

Across:

- 1 (or 4) A mayonnaise
- 2 (or 3) Attractive person
- 3 (or 2) Small Italian restaurants
- 4 (or 1) Three-word pseudonym (NPL)

Down:

- 1 Crested bird
- 2 Extreme
- 3 Cheer: var.
- 4 Young
- 5 Fighting at close range
- 6 Roman goddess
- 7 Field
=MR E, Portland OR

F-11. SQUARE

- 1 Wisin & Yandel song, from their *Pa'l Mundo* album (Wikipedia)
- 2 Many Israeli Christians, stemming from an ancient Semitic people
- 3 Some Nigerians
- 4 Walk
- 5 Orange-red minerals consisting of arsenic sulfide
- 6 Something not often found
- 7 Quickly (11C-findable)
- 8 Levies
=JABBERWOCK, Portland OR

F-12. SQUARE

- 1 Mystic, maybe
- 2 Love
- 3 Dead duck
- 4 Liquid hydrocarbon (CH₃)₄C₁₀H₈
- 5 Dwarf planet
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

F-13. PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 Game
- 2 Old space station
- 3 Animate
- 4 Cylindrical diameter
- 5 Pacific islands
- 6 Ski, skate, and slide sport spot of note (Wikipedia)

Down:

- 1 Weight
- 2 Half of a reduplicated interjection
- 3 Bee follower
- 4 *Symphonie espagnole* composer
- 5 Lombardy capital
- 6 Proposing, as a toast
- 7 Ancient stringed instrument
- 8 Delicate: dial.
- 9 Creek
- 10 Year
- 11 Gravity
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-14. SQUARE

- 1 Conclusion of a rave review? (not MW)
 - 2 Russian tennis star (Wikipedia)
 - 3 Small guitars, originally from Portugal
 - 4 Rat race location?
 - 5 Alcohol obtained from white
snakeroot
 - 6 Hermit's desire
 - 7 A fair bet (though it sounds
contradictory) (not MW)
 - 8 Without respite: archaic
- =JABBERWOCK, Portland OR

F-15. BIGRAM SQUARE

- 1 Yellow fruit
 - 2 One of two things that many people
walk on
 - 3 Green vegetable
- =LEXMAN, East Moline IL

EXTRAS

X-1. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE
(13 3; 3'1 3 2 3. *5 *2*7)

A A C E I N N O P R R S T T
T T O F T F I D O N W P O U
D E E E E S N L E N L E R G
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

X-2. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE
(7 3 8 4 4 3 10 2. *7 *6)

A A C C E E E K K O P R R S S T U Y
E H E S E H T E T M T A L L V T H A
I S C A T O N A G H E S S L R V E K
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

X-3. ANAQUIP

(2 8 8 2 10 2 2 6 2 2 3 4 8 6 2 5 12.)

ANN ATI BET CLE ERS ERY ETO HEM
HIP HIP ISM MYG NDS NEV NGP ONI
ONS OST OYI REA REL RIE SIR STA
TES TOB TOF YDE
=TYGER, Hoboken NJ

X-4. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (3 4 4 3 3 2 8 5 4 3 4 4 3. *6 *7)

D F H I I L N N O O O O S S T U U W W Y Y
D A T E K G E N H I M W I T E H M D N I N
R T U F W O A S F E G R T E N E O T B E U
=℥, Bellevue WA

X-5. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (8 5 4 4 3 5 4, 3 2 3 4 2 3 4. *5 *4)

A B E E E E G G H H I M N O P R R S S T V
T H A G S T C R E U N O G L A I L H T B I
D N A T S N N O G G O L H E O N N O O O E
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

X-6. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (7 7 2 1 8 10 8 2 2 6 4. *4 *11)

A C D D E E E H I I N N N O P P R S S S S U V Y
R N E T A E Y I I O C D E T E L N E F I N E N N
I S K G S N A U S E R L N A Q M K I L I D E W A
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

X-7. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (2 7 5 4 4 10 2 4; 4 4 3 9 4. *1. *9)

A A C C E E E E I I I M N N N O R S S T T T W W
H H P T A D E E G P R O D I S O V S Y A E S H N
O P G T C I E T T O T H T R F T H S A E R N T T
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

ONE TO CELEBRATE PEN GWYN**X-8. GERMAN SAUSAGE**

- 1 Catch wrongly aurally
 - 2 Gemstone measure
 - 3 Aldous Huxley's ____ Hay
 - 4 Dogs like cockers, papillons and springers
 - 5 Precarious in nature
 - 6 Write stories with morals (British spelling)
 - 7 One who cuts excess glaze from tile (NI3)
 - 8 Survivor-take-all scheme
 - 9 Kind of transport to and from a neuron's cell body
 - 10 Business amalgamation
 - 11 Cheapest airline fare
 - 12 They may be interwoven
 - 13 Wanders around on foot
 - 14 Miss Marple's flashlight
 - 15 Birds used to promote Froot Loops and Guinness
- 1+2 Here be Pen Gwyn (*6 *6, NPL)
 2+3 Here be penguins (*10)
 3+4 Daydream (6 2 *5, 11C-findable)
 4+5 Rorschach inkblots, for one (11 4)
 5+6 Emma Lazarus wrote of it as "The New Colossus" (^6 2 ^7)
 6+7 Lepidoptera with wings resembling dried or dead foliage (4 11)
 7+8 Documentation outlining unfinalized agreements (6 2 6)
 8+9 !!! (11 6)
 9+10 Polygamous unions of the Oneida Community (7 9, NI2)
 10+11 Ambulance's destination (9 4)
 11+12 Up-and-coming burglar? (6-5 3)
 12+13 Old Glory (^5 3 ^7)
 13+14 Unreasonably high, like usurer's borrowing rates (13)
 14+15 A stock-market speculator's aggregate record of sales (5 7, NI3)
 15+1 Magellanic and Humboldt penguins, geographically (*5 *9)
 =JO THE LOITERER,
 Basking Ridge NJ

**X-9. ORDER IN THE COURT
by FIRETRUCK, Woodinville WA**

Someone has messed with this cryptic, and subsequently a handful of the down answers need to be entered in a special manner. These answers, taken in order, form a cryptic clue that identifies the six-letter culprit responsible; solvers should submit this with their solution.

Across

- 1 Acidic, dry, effervescent beginnings, sweet liquid ending (3) (*suffix*)
- 4 Air Force replacements for the beginning of disorganized mess like flags in the wind (8)
- 11 Fruit drone goes through Georgia (5)
- 13 Get rid of terrible offal—do (7, *hyph.*)
- 14 Bench with group of smart people having no name (4)
- 15 Satirical website with a constant internal viewpoint (7)
- 17 Hatred of a rain cloud without bottom (6)
- 20 Gallium (II) sulfide's phase of matter (3)
- 22 For instance, area containing India! (4)
- 23 Pooh's friend starts to run opposite Owl (3)
- 24 Insanity, oddly, fails to be shortened (4)
- 25 Understand most of clog (3)
- 26 Nikolai Virta, in retrospect, hides things that are not important (6)
- 28 The author's eating a bivalve, ignoring old *Enigma* (7)
- 32 Meat: ignite with liquor, burning off the ends (4)
- 34 Month with free guy in a red suit (7)
- 36 Oh—like zero! (5)
- 37 Dad's pop: "kick butt!" as Spooner might say (8, 2 *uds.*)
- 38 Hot tub produces a bit of heat (3, *abbr.*)

16 Lab assistant's exactness beginning

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Return Spaniard's love with a bouquet (5) | to go (4) |
| 2 Protection fee—send frantically (7) | 18 Don't start to get rid of egg (4) |
| 3 Santa's helper is your own person, unmasked (3) | 19 Heather has IV put in quick (6) |
| 5 Trick blank eyes looking within focal length (4) | 21 Spirit enthusiast's in a swirling spray (7) |
| 6 Jumps! (last-second move in decline) (5) | 22 Surrounded by a little man standing on head without shoes (5) |
| 7 Revolution's root: lacking intellectual property (4) | 26 It's been done before: New York flees from chaotic entropy (5) |
| 8 Put demands on one on-demand vehicle (4) | 27 Mistreat a coach each quarter (5) |
| 9 First Lady's in the midst of high temperature (3) | 29 Dang it, pick up your butt and go away (4) |
| 10 Adult involved in raising young animals (6) | 30 Ultimately not a clever person! (4) |
| 12 Subject is not a good guy (5) | 31 Say you'll log during the winter (4) |
| | 33 One currency in Macao is upside-down eggs (3) |
| | 35 Key thing you can put your drinks on (3) |

[illegible]

X-10. A LESSON IN QUANTUM PHYSICS — by LEXMAN, East Moline IL

Since the NPL is, at its heart, an educational nonprofit institution, I present here my first in a proposed twenty-four-part series of cryptic crosswords that are designed to instruct as well as entertain.

Lately, I have been reading the works of all of the great minds in quantum physics (Bohr, Chopra, Bellisario). Basically, quantum theory discusses the strange and counterintuitive ways in which matter and energy behave at the sub-atomic level. This cryptic crossword illustrates three basic principles of this scientific theory.

1. **HEISENBERG’S UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE** – This principle states that you cannot simultaneously measure a particle’s position and its motion. This puzzle embodies this principle. For the answers to each of the Down clues, you will know their position (where on the grid to enter them) but not their motion (whether to enter each answer from top to bottom or from bottom to top). Contrariwise, for the Across clues, you will know their motion (you enter all of the answers from left to right), but it is for you to determine their position (which clue corresponds to each Across entry in the grid).

2. **DUALITY** – Quantum physics states that, at the subatomic level, it is possible for something to be in two different states at once. A photon, for example, is simultaneously both a particle and a wave. Another example familiar to the layperson is Schrödinger’s Cat: that, until you open the box, the cat is both alive and dead.

In the same way, my puzzle is actually two puzzles in one, one superimposed (or, as quantum physicists would put it: “superposed”) over the other. The cryptic clues will help you fill in the white squares, but, for the second puzzle, letters must go in the shaded squares as well. It is for you to find the second, hidden puzzle and determine which letters go where.

Fortunately, you have some help:

3. **QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT** – Quantum physics states that, if two particles are linked in some way (for example, opposite spins) but the link contains a duality (that is: until they are measured, the two particles are spinning both clockwise and counterclockwise), whichever choice you impose on one particle will determine what you measure in the second particle.

In my grid, several squares are quantum entangled with one another (as indicated by the matching letters in the upper right-hand corner of those squares). Whatever letter you enter into one of these squares you will also enter in the other.

As I said above, it will be up to you to determine which letters go in the remaining shaded squares. I offer no other help here except to say that the addition of a few extra linear elements may help you see the second puzzle superimposed over the first.

Stay tuned for my next educational cryptic, which will teach solvers about the generals who fought in the Ottoman Empire’s army during the Crimean War.

Across

Sat awkwardly: surrounded,
constrained (NI3)
People like Mr. Beatty's revolutionary
home school
Retrospective: *Paintings in Sequence*
Sally's initially resistant to help
Translate verse into German in ar-
rangement of Verdi's *Requiem*

Down

- 2. Extra debt to stock exchange (5)
- 3. *Dragnet* is recast with big stars (3 6)
- 4. Tip of Africa and its islands (4)
- 7. Embellished in tabloid's review (5) (NI3)
- 8. Princess against alien? Plan to lose (4)

	1	2		3				
4								
5		B						
6						7		8 C
	A							
	B			9				
	C			A				
				10				

NOVEMBER SOLVERS

The November 2017 *Enigma* had 75 flats, 21 forms, 7 crypts, and 9 extras. [Flat 41 was redesignated as KU.] 30 solution lists, representing 62 solvers, were received.

BanterWeight/Dragonfly/Libra, DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUgame?, /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, LaDiDa/Glee, Philana/Mercury, Treesong, and Witz/Andreas had completes.

Welcome, new solver Bad Angel!

Accepted: 32–TURBANS for ARNAUTS; F-11–VARIOGRAM for BIGRAM (3). Not accepted: 30–NATURE, URATE, UREA for ZEUGMA, GAUZE, AGUE; 49–GATEWAY, GETAWAY [a metathesis rather than a transposal]; 51–RECOUNTING, COUNTERING (2) [not in shortest form]; F-11–TRIGRAM for BIGRAM (2).

—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS SOLVED (* = complete): Ajde 13/0/*2. Alice/A-Plus/Arachne/Hot/Ming 74/0/0/0. AroundEve 48/0/0/0. Bad Angel 20/4/0/0. Badir 55/13/*3. Barkis/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 73/*/*/* . Clio 58/15/0/0. Dischorran 74/*/*/* . Endgame 38/10/*5. Jabberwock 48/15/0/0. Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama 74/*/*/* . Linko 50/15/0/3. Loki-5 74/*/*/* . Lyric/Munro 74/*/*/* . Newrow/Jerg 71/*/*/* . NJ Ninja 47/18/6/5. Paragon 67/20/*/* . Pebbles 74/19/*/* . R/EDS/415 lb of snake 74/*/*/* . Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 72/*/*/* .

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: FLATS: 1–22, 2–25/9/1, 3–28/5, 4–27/1, 5–26/3, 6–24/1, 7–26/2, 8–28/4, 9–30, 10–23/1, 11–30/5, 12–26, 13–24/2, 14–28/2, 15–18/3/1, 16–21/10/1, 17–23/7, 18–30/5, 19–28/3, 20–27/2, 21–23/7, 22–27/5, 23–23, 24–29, 25–20/2/1, 26–28/7/1, 27–29/5, 28–18/3, 29–24, 30–26/4, 31–24/2, 32–22/2, 33–28/1, 34–30/1, 35–24/1, 36–27, 37–28/4, 38–28/2, 39–28, 40–29, 42–23, 43–30, 44–28/6, 45–22/4/1, 46–23, 47–26/2, 48–27/3/1, 49–22, 50–24/5, 51–21/2, 52–26/5, 53–25/1, 54–25/1, 55–28/4, 56–25/4, 57–26/12, 58–28/2, 59–26/3, 60–19/10/1, 61–27, 62–26/2, 63–24, 64–28/1, 65–27/3, 66–30/3, 67–29/1, 68–27/1, 69–26/2, 70–26, 71–30/6/1, 72–19/1, 73–26, 74–26/1, 75–27/1, 76–27/6. FORMS: 1–22/2, 2–24/16/3, 3–24/4, 4–25/2, 5–24/2, 6–22/3, 7–25/7, 8–27/1, 9–21, 10–24, 11–21/1, 12–24/2, 13–24/2, 14–26/2, 15–24/11, 16–24, 17–25/1, 18–25/4, 19–25, 20–26/1, 21–25/3. CRYPTS: 1–24, 2–24/1, 3–24, 4–24/2, 5–23, 6–24/5, 7–24. EXTRAS: 1–25, 2–20, 3–25/1, 4–22, 5–20, 6–20, 7–20, 8–22/3, 9–24/17/6. MISCELLANEA (* = not tabulated): 41–14, "NPL Membership Longevity"–*/4/2.

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 18, 30, 37, 56, 58, X-9. Anomaly 11, 26!, 48, 57, F-2, F-7, F-15, C-2. A-Plus 2, 17, 21, 60. Arachne 25, 28, 44. AroundEve 3, 7, 8, 19, 22, 25!, 48, 51, 55, 66. Bad Angel 48!. Badir 3, 17, 18, 26, 30, 44, 45, 52, 66, 67, F-2, X-9. Barkis 4, 50, 57, 60, 62, 71, 76. DelphiRune 15, 16!, 21, 27, 60, 76, F-15, X-3. /dev/joe 7, 11, 65, 66, F-1, F-2, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-14, F-17, F-20, F-21,

X-9!. Dischorran 17, 32, 37, 47, 57, F-15. Donimo 16, 19, 20. Dragonfly 2, 5, 33, X-9. Hot 30, 57, 58, 60, X-9. Jabberwock 2, 11, 16, 22, 31, 34, 38, 44, 56, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-14, F-15, F-18, F-21, "NPL Membership Longevity"!. Jo the Loiterer 16, 21, 26, 50, 56, 65, 69, F-2, F-3, F-11, F-13, "NPL Membership Longevity." LaDiDa 5, 21, 22, 50, 55, 57, 59, F-15, C-6, X-8, X-9!. Linko 2, 8, 17, 19, 26, 38, 44, 57, 59, 64, 71, 74, F-12, F-15, F-18, X-9!. Lirath 2!, 15, 28, F-2, C-6, X-9. Lyric 16, 27, 45!, 51, 71, 76, F-2, C-6, X-8, X-9. Mercury 8, 14, 18, 22, 26. Munro 28, 71!, X-9. Newrow 2, 6, 27, 52, 62, F-2!, F-6, F-7, F-15. NJ Ninja 8, 14, 20, 44, 47, 50, 55, 57, 59, F-2, X-9!. Noodle Noggin 27, C-6. Pebbles 11, 16, 17, 21, 37, 57, F-2, X-9!. QT-Oh 2, 45, 50, 52, 54, 57, 60. Quicks?lver 2, 5, 13, 16, 17, 30, 37, 45, 55, 60, 71, F-2!, F-3, F-4, F-7, F-12, F-15, F-18, F-21, X-8, X-9, "NPL Membership Longevity." R/EDS 2, 3, 13, 15!, 16, 26, 57, 60, F-2, C-6, X-9. RUgame? 11, 16, 32, 60!, 76, F-2. Treesong 3, 10, 16, 18, 22, 35, 57, 60, 65, 69, 71, 76, F-2, F-3, F-7, F-15, F-18, C-4, X-9, "NPL Membership Longevity"!. Tyger 21, 31, 52, 53, 56, 68, 72, 75, F-1, F-2, F-5, F-7, F-15, X-9!. Witz 3, 17, 21, 27, 44, 52, 57, 60, F-2!, F-15, C-4, X-9. Wordsmix 18, 26, 76, F-13.

DECEMBER SOLVERS

The December 2017 *Enigma* had 92 flats, 16 forms, 7 crypts, and 7 extras. 30 solution lists, representing 62 solvers, were received.

DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUgame?, Dischorran, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama, Philana/Mercury, Treesong, and Witz/Andreas had completes. /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom had a flat complete.

Welcome, new solver Drauk!

Accepted: 6–NOTABLE MANIFOLD; NOT ABLE, MAN, IF OLD for COMPLEX MANIFOLD; COMP LEXMAN IF OLD; 8–PANDA, HASTY, PASTA, HANDY (3); 73–SECOND OFFENDER [SECOND OF F, END ER]; 90–FITTER GOD, UM, PENCE [FIT T, ERGO, DUMP EN CE]; F-1–BOISTEROUS, SCAB for ROISTEROUS, SCAR (6); F-12–EFFACING for DEFACING (1) and CLAXONS for CLARIONS (1); C-2–additional requirement waived (12). Not accepted: F-15–SLT, VTPHT [SALTY, ?] for SLN, VTPHN [SALINE, VITAPHONE] (4). —QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS SOLVED (* = complete): Ajde 17/0/*/4. Alice/A-Plus/Arachne/Hot/Ming 91/0/0/0. AroundEve 44/0/0/0. Bad Angel 28/0/1/4. Badir 59/7/4/1. BanterWeight/Dragonfly/Libra 83/14/*/6. Barkis/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 77/*/*/*/. Clio 63/13/6/4. /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom */15/*/*/. Drauk 48/7/*/5. Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 89/*/*/*/. LaDiDa/Glee 72/15/*/*/. Linko 36/6/2/1. Loki-5 91/*/*/*/. lololo 37/0/1/2. Lyric/Munro 87/15/*/*/. Newrow/Jerg 82/*/*/*/. NJ Ninja 45/15/*/6. Paragon 62/14/*/*/. Pebbles 89/11/*/*/. R/EDS/415 lb of snake 89/15/*/*/. Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 85/*/*/*/.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: FLATS: 1–19/1,

2–29/3, 3–14/5, 4–23/7, 5–25, 6–18/6, 7–19/2, 8–26/3, 9–27/4, 10–23/5, 11–29/1, 12–19, 13–27/5, 14–24, 15–30/9, 16–22/8, 17–27/4, 18–22/1, 19–24/3, 20–18, 21–28/1, 22–23/1, 23–21/5/1, 24–22, 25–22/3, 26–15, 27–23/3, 28–26/3, 29–24/2, 30–22/9/1, 31–19/1, 32–27/8, 33–20/5, 34–17/2, 35–17, 36–30/1, 37–26, 38–28/4, 39–29, 40–20, 41–27/6, 42–25/2, 43–27/2, 44–22, 45–27, 46–28/7, 47–20/1, 48–24/5, 49–20, 50–24/1, 51–27/8/1, 52–23/2/1, 53–28/4, 54–29/3, 55–22/2, 56–15/3, 57–17, 58–27/1, 59–26, 60–28/3, 61–23/4, 62–29/8/1, 63–30/2, 64–24/4, 65–20/1, 66–19/4, 67–28/1, 68–24/2, 69–24/1, 70–21, 71–28, 72–29/3, 73–29/11/1, 74–29, 75–26/2, 76–27, 77–29/4, 78–21/2, 79–28/2, 80–21/4, 81–21/6/2, 82–30, 83–20/4/1, 84–23/2, 85–22, 86–29/2, 87–22, 88–23, 89–25, 90–13/1, 91–30/5, 92–25/1. FORMS: 1–24/1, 2–23/2, 3–22/2, 4–20/3/1, 5–25/4, 6–24, 7–22/6, 8–24, 9–24/1, 10–25/2, 11–22/1, 12–19/4, 13–18/2, 14–21/1, 15–18/3, 16–24/7. CRYPTS: 1–28/2, 2–24/3/1, 3–25, 4–25, 5–26, 6–24/1, 7–23. EXTRAS: 1–25, 2–20, 3–24/1, 4–26/6, 5–25/2, 6–23, 7–23/16/9.

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 2, 28, 32, 41, 62, F-16, X-7. Anomaly 10, 13, 15, 46, 51, 62!, 72, 78, F-1, F-5, F-7, F-16, X-5, X-7, C-1. A-Plus 3, 6, 27, 30, 41. Arachne 6, 16, 19, 23, 27, 33, 48, 78. AroundEve 6, 10, 13, 18, 48, 51!, 61, 72, 73, 75, 77, 84, 92. Bad Angel 73!, X-4. Badir 30, 32, 46, 61, 91. Barkis 4, 23, 30!, 32, 66, X-4. DelphiRune 7, 30, 51, 53, 54, 60, 64, 68, 73, 80, 81, 83, F-12, F-15, C-2, C-6. /dev/joe 9, 15, 17, 25, 42, F-2, F-3, F-5, F-7, F-9, F-13, F-16, X-7!. Dischorran 8, 28, 30, 33, 41, 50, 53, 80. Donimo 38, 43. Dragonfly 2, 4, 16, 23!, 29, 32, 53, 73, F-10, X-7. Hot 3, 15, 16, 17, 41, F-16, X-7. Jo the Loiterer 19, 51, 64, F-3, F-4, F-7, F-10, F-12, F-13, F-15, F-16, C-2, X-7. LaDiDa 4, 6, 10, 32, 38, 47, 48, 51, 60, 64, 73, 77, 81, 86, 91, X-4. Linko 8, 9, 15, 36, 41, 62, 66, 72, 73, 77, 79, F-2, F-14, X-7!. lololo 10, 11, 52!, 61, 67, 69, 73, 91. Lyric 25, 46, 51, 53, X-7!. Mercury 16, 54, 62, 63, F-5, X-3, X-4, X-5, X-7. Ming 3, 32, 54, 63, 83. Munro 52, 55, 65, 66, 81!, 86. Newrow 13, 33, 58, 62, 64, 66, F-4!, F-7, F-12. NJ Ninja 13, 15, 25, 42, 43, 48, 60, 62, 73, F-16, X-7!. Noodle Noggin 51, 73, 91. Papayagi 34. Pebbles 4, 7, 9, 17, 23, 28, 33, 75, 81, X-7!. QT-Oh 30, 32, 38, X-4. Quicks?lver 1, 3, 4, 6, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 34, 46, 51, 55, 62, 91, F-7, F-15, X-7!. R/EDS 6, 10, 29, 33, 56, 79, 83, 90, X-7!. RUGame? 15, 32, 61, C-2!, X-4. Treesong 3, 4, 16, 23, 27, 30, 31, 46, 48, 68, 80, 83!, 84, F-4, F-7, F-11, F-16, X-7. Tyger 9, 15, 38, 62, F-5, X-7!. Witz 2, 4, 13, 16, 30, 41, 46, 56, 73, 80, F-12, C-1, X-7!. Wordsmix 8, 15, 16, 30, 46, 56, 61, 73, 77, 81!.

JANUARY SOLUTIONS

1. buy you, bayou, Bayeux 2. oft (over D, ibis-toed) gets “yeah! *jolé* [‘of to Verdi (=de); bis, to edge(=at hem): T’s Y, E a hole] 3. *Thais*, Thai 4. is ex-teth Alfa relet tern-ear corms [I sextet; half are letter near C (= V, X) or Ms (note: the rubric was originally IIIII)] 5. Viola, Oliva 6. Brandeis, Brandies; Brandeis, raisin bread, Bernie Sanders 7. ceratopsid, tortoise-paced, Associated Press, corporate raiders 8. t(esse)ract 9. poke 10. decedent, went; decedent, cent 11. gambol, gamble 12. cata-t/l-onia 13. car-pen-try 14. my-enol-dunit [M, yen (=itch), old unit (=ell)] 15. pre-v/c-ious 16. lackluster; lust, lacquer 17. silhouette, hotel suite 18. culminate, nautical mile, multitentaculate 19. A-V node, odd and even 20. rug, rugged; rug, rugose 21. confine, consign 22. Tesla, layout,

YouTube, Uber, rtes. 23. primate's neigh, Burr's ["prime eight's (i.e. 19's) neighbors"]
 24. "Clair de lune," rule Iceland 25. ho(meow)ner 26. slyboots [S, L, Y; boot S]
 27. undercap, Upper Canada, dear Prudence 28. H(ar)(ar)e 29. main course, acrimoniousness, *Our American Cousin* 30. pop-adam 31. titillate, tittle eight
 32. chat line, technical, all the tea in China 33. He-brides 34. amide coursing
 35. smother 36. slack 37. doubt, redoubt 38. *The Star*, shatter 39. mistr(i)al
 40. catechism [cat (=sphynx); ec (=for example); H is M] 41. citation, station; citation, cetacean 42. brownie; brow, knee 43. ant, aunt; insect, incest
 44. strumpet 45. cara-m/v-el 46. manila, ale, manille 47. ganging, dredged, hashish
 48. league, guest, least 49. Merkel, Markle 50. dia(ere)(sis) 51. gent, urgent
 52. segregate, Easter egg 53. use Seuss 54. martial arts? extramarital sex
 55. now, Juneau [a la Tao/judo] 56. pec-carries 57. bias, inn, sad [B is in A and S]; ale, boy, an [A, baloney (=BS)] 58. animosity, Tasmania 59. thole, Thule; Qaa-naaq
 60. distraught [D is t, r, aught] 61. ro(b)ust 62. (car)d-(car)rying
 63. platitude 64. enumeration, mountaineer 65. oil patch, Capitol Hill 66. Istanbul, substantial 67. ward, war dance 68. escape PACs 69. Sandler, Ann Landers, Dardanelles 70. let, lot, loot 71. shortcut 72. responsibility
 73. discrimination 74. Charlie Rose

- C-1. Sadly, I am familiar with only twenty-five of the letters in the English language. I don't know why.
 C-2. Needed some change in my life, and so got a new job at the mint pounding out pennies. Just made cents.
 C-3. Intrepid Atlantic salmon traversing Panama Canal enter locks stage, becoming smoked Pacific salmon.
 C-4. Washington, D.C., escape room for Trump team: one hour to leave before Robert Mueller comes to issue subpoenas.
 C-5. Intellect and romance triumph over brute force and cynicism. — Craig Ferguson about Doctor Who
 C-6. Julia Roberts eats full pint of cauliflower, washed down with pulpy carrot juice and rye liquor.
 C-7. When each word must suit some daft four-rune plan, your task gets very hard fast. Just slog over this hump.

- X-1. I like to play chess with bald men in the park, although it's hard to find thirty-two of them. Emo Philips
 X-2. Princess Anna quotes: Do you want to build a snowman? This is awkward. The only frozen heart around here is yours.
 X-3. The two most beautiful words in the English language are "check enclosed."
 X-4. The generation of random numbers is too important to be left to chance. R. Coveyou
 X-5. The dictionary is never consulted in its entirety. Henri Bejoint
 X-6. It is the greatest story I've ever read. *Reading the Oxford English Dictionary*, A. Shea.
 X-7. When we die, we will turn into songs, and we will hear each other and remember each other. Rob Sheffield
 X-8. Introducing "lite" — the new way to spell "light," but with twenty percent fewer letters. Jerry Seinfeld

X-9. If the Earth gets hit by an asteroid, it's game over. It's control-alt-delete for civilization. Bill Nye

X-10. Politeness is to human nature what warmth is to wax. Arthur Schopenhauer

F-1.
APLOMB
PEORIA
LOHANS
ORANGE
MINGUS
BASEST

F-2.
ATRIA
TRUMP
LUMPS
AMBLE
SPAYS

F-3.
DRAWKCAB
HOROLOGE
OPERATED
WEAKNESS

F-4.
MARTIN
ARIANE
RIKSHA
TASTER
INHERE
NEARER

F-5.
LUTHER
URBANA
TBILLS
HALVAH
ENLACE
RASHER

F-6.
KINGJR
IBERIA
NEPALI
CRAFTS
JILTEE
RAISED

F-7. B
 E S
B E N E F I T
 S E R E N E
 F E A S T
 I N S E A M
T E T A N U S
 M U
 S

F-8. C
 PLA
 TROLL
 TWOSTEP
 PROBEAGLE
 CLOSEFRIEND
 ALTARSTONES
 LEGITIMISMS
 PLEOMASTIAS
 ENNISKILLEN
 DESTINATION
 SMILACINA
 SALTIRE
 SEINE
 NOA
 N

F-9.
 COFACTOR
 EPIPHANY
 LIVEITUP
 SEEDCASE

F-10.
 SPHINX
 CRIMEA
 HARMEN
 INSULA
 SCENED
 TELEDU

F-11.
 AA R O N B U RR
 EE G R A SS
 EE V EE
 II

F-12.
 SCRBJ scrub jay
 CMNCH Comanche
 RNVTN renovation
 BCTRN Bactrian
 JHNNJMPPS Johnny-jump-ups
 MZ ZNN mezzanine
 PZ ZCT pizzicati
 PNCNZ pince-nez
 SNTZZ Santuzza

CRYPTOGRAMS

Edited by LEXMAN

C-1. Quality entertainment.

yodaughter, Houston TX

*E XTQI YFINPHV F IHMHSEQEBU KLBRLFC FABTI
IPH *FCHLENFU AHFSHL. EI YFQ IPH AHQI VFC
QPBY *E HSHL QFY!

C-2. Comedy star.

GRIDDLE, Santa Rosa CA

*ZUCAL'H ^XKALBDZ PQH UZATALQMMI VQMMD C
^XKD ^FUDX, QLC PQH ALXDLCD C XU CDFAVX
*CQLXD *QMATKADZA.

C-3. Irritating.

raw, Ogdensburg NY

*ZYXWVZV, UVYTS RQV VCYI BJVXRKJVZ RQVD
XJV, XJV YTZRYTBRYCVID GJXHT RA FVAFIV
WAZR XIIVJSYB RA RQVW.

C-4. Go Maroons!

GENEAL, Providence RI

LZZISWEE R WY IRK YWOK UKEWIMZB IZ
KQTFWIMZB IRWI STEELMARIMBA R WY IZ
WAUMFTEITUK. *UZSKUI *OWHBWUQ *RTIFRMBY

C-5. Aftermath.

A. CHEM, Chesapeake VA

VNEFYX ORINSRF IFFCZRV. MRNGWCI MRNIDV
BDX, ZCEDRNV ZCEDRWNDX VSILR, FEVR QGVS CV
BDINNRRWRJ. KIFJRW JCVIVNRF.

C-6. I used to live there.

NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

*QYXOYR XTQTUQ *XYKVUBNMMV PHX GND LYJV
GVUY OCY YRV IYTU IYTU. RNLERHKV XPYTMJ
QV: YP, OYY FUYXX.

C-7. Rubber match.

AOKKOEIDBKG = coinage

WITZ, Vancouver BC

SJVG AODGCOZ GCVA YJV AOQC GXC VOSBKG TXJ
OFXJVK TJACD, RCDIBDE GXC VOSCZGBU
AODBSZQOGBJD: AOKKOEIDBKG.