



# THE ENIGMA

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OCTOBER 2019 • THE NATIONAL PUZZLERS' LEAGUE • EST. 1883 • NO. 1380

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## BOARD BITS

### From the Editor

If you're reading this notice in the Enigma that came in the mail, you will have noticed that a card containing the annual ballot came in the same envelope. If you're reading this on a copy you got online because you don't receive a mailed Enigma, your ballot will have been sent to you separately. In either case, please circle your choices (and/or write in your candidates) on the card, stamp it, and put it in the mail.

Remember you can vote for two Secretatry candidates. The deadline for your postmark is November 24, to give me enough time to collate the results for the December issue. If you need a new copy, let me know at [editor@puzzlers.org](mailto:editor@puzzlers.org) and I'll send you one. Remember, one to a Krewe-stomer.

Based on a suggestion received by the Board, the deadline for mailed solutions has been changed from the date solutions must be received by to the date solutions must be postmarked by.

## CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

16: LA Puzzle Party,  
Burbank, CA

23: NYC Minicon,  
New York City, NY

### JANUARY

17-20: MIT Mystery  
Hunt, Boston, MA

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## SEPTEMBER ERRATA

The enumeration for #44 should be (9, 6).

TWO in #73 should be tagged "not MW".

In #75, the italicized item in the enumeration should contain \*6 and \*3 instead of the ^'ed version of those numbers.

#90 is a repeat of August #57 and won't be included in the solution statistics.

The Puzzle Note for X-9 is actually for X-1. Crax has asked to extend that note to read: "We (Crax and Trazom) were inspired by Cryptictionary 2017 by 530nm330Hz and Tortoise, presented at BeaCon (Boston, 2017), not at Milwaukee, and based on an instance invented by nmHz for a Boston mini-con the year before."

## NEW MEMBERS

Lorna Gabby, PO Box 185, New Brunswick NJ 08903-0185

**Index:** Justin Ladia, 130 Beliveau Rd, Apt 814, Winnipeg MB R2M 1S7, Canada, [index@puzzlers.org](mailto:index@puzzlers.org)

Itai Pines, 16228 NW Barkton Ct, Beaverton OR 97006-7626

**playethic:** Pamela Purpus, 8912 Jules Ln, Indianapolis IN 46278

Richard Stroker, 300 Basinghouse Rd, Columbia SC 29212, has been given a gift membership by his son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Alana Stroker.

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## CHANGES

**A-Plus:** Paul Kornbluh, 1735 Chislett St #2, Pittsburgh PA 15206

**coop:** [coop@puzzlers.org](mailto:coop@puzzlers.org)

David Oberman, 455 W 200 N, Salt Lake City UT 84103

**Plus One:** Nicole Kornbluh, 1735 Chislett St #2, Pittsburgh PA 15206

**Stitch:** Steve Wilson, 2941 NW Ashwood Dr, Corvallis OR 97330, [stitch@puzzlers.org](mailto:stitch@puzzlers.org)

**Teddybear:** [teddybear@puzzlers.org](mailto:teddybear@puzzlers.org)

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## REJOINING MEMBERS

Vijay R, 3005 Chapel Ave W, Cherry Hill NJ 08002

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### National Puzzlers' League Board of Directors

Jeffurry, President | yodaughter, First Vice-President | B-Side, Second Vice-President  
Expelliarmus, Secretary | \$8.90, Treasurer | Teki, Editor | Willz, Historian

*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, \$8.90, Katie Hamill, 6 Williams St, Arlington MA 02476, [treasurer@puzzlers.org](mailto:treasurer@puzzlers.org). PayPal payment is accepted using [treasurer@puzzlers.org](mailto:treasurer@puzzlers.org). Back issues are \$1.50, from the editor. **Web contacts:** To create a [puzzlers.org](http://puzzlers.org) alias or join the npl-folk list: [postmaster@puzzlers.org](mailto:postmaster@puzzlers.org). To report website problems: [webmaster@puzzlers.org](mailto:webmaster@puzzlers.org). To obtain a username/password: [treasurer@puzzlers.org](mailto:treasurer@puzzlers.org). **Submitting materials:** Send extras to ☞ (VROO), Bruce Leban, 13816 NE 36th PL, Bellevue, WA 98005, [extras@puzzlers.org](mailto:extras@puzzlers.org). Send forms to JO THE LOITERER, Julian Ochrymowych, 35 Smithfield Court, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, [forms@puzzlers.org](mailto:forms@puzzlers.org). Send cryptic crosswords to XEMU, Guy Jacobson, 4 Adrian Ter., Bridgewater, NJ 08807, [cryptics@puzzlers.org](mailto:cryptics@puzzlers.org). Send cryptograms to LEXMAN, Alex Kolker, 6025 Lakehurst Drive, Davenport, IA 52807, [crypts@puzzlers.org](mailto:crypts@puzzlers.org). Send flats to BTNIRN, Sandy Kutin, 16 Magnolia Ln, Princeton, NJ 08540, [flats@puzzlers.org](mailto:flats@puzzlers.org). Send convention material to T MCAY, [conprogram@puzzlers.org](mailto: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](mailto:editor@puzzlers.org).

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RESIGNED / REMOVED

Brian Blankstein; MaryPat Everist (catweb); Teagan Hart (Hafez)

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LA PUZZLE PARTY — BY BLUFF

We met at a new venue in Burbank and tackled games/puzzles from Sriracha, Vivian L, Michael S, Jigsaw and Kudzu. We missed those of you who were not able to join us. The next gathering is scheduled for Saturday, November 16, at noon. We considered three venues: 1) the new site where we met; 2) the Center For Inquiry; and 3) a classroom within the campus of USC. We debated (English parliamentary style) the pros and cons of each, and by a significant majority opted to return to the (VFW Post) Burbank site. Please mark your calendars now for November 16 and look for the first update in mid-October. Be well, Bluff (805) 499-1880

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OCTOBER PUZZLES

1. In a bigram switchback, the first bigram is changed and the remaining bigrams are reversed. Cuewords are exemplary.  
18, 31, 61. Combinom: Ai/Witz
  21. The signature line is not rubrical, just a note on a coincidence.  
25, 42. Combinom: Groucho/Firetruck
  29. In a Successive Consonantcy, each consonant is advanced in the alphabet (wrapping if necessary); vowels may change.  
Example: zebra, because, cadet.
  - 43, 79. In an Order Takeout Charade, concatenate all the initial answers, then perform an order takeout to form the final word or phrase.
- F-5. This is not a Guide form. This form consists of a pyramid whose longest entry is 13 spaces, and an inverted pyramid whose longest entry is also 13 spaces. The last seven spaces of the pyramid overlap with the first seven spaces of the inverted pyramid, making one long entry of 19 spaces. Still confused? Just see the online grid.

*(E-2 and E-3 are described on the continuation page.)*

E-7. In an Alternating Anaquote, a quote is split alternately into N-grams of two different lengths. The N-grams of each length are then grouped and given in alphabetical order. As an aid to the solver, the first N-gram comes from the first group displayed.

*(continued on p. 27.)*

## THREE SIMPLE RULES TO CREATING HARDER CRYPTOGRAMS — BY LEXMAN

While I now have a nice backlog of cryptograms — enough to keep the back page filled for several years, I have been running low on the more difficult (C-6 or C-7) level of puzzle.

Fortunately, constructing difficult cryptograms is not actually all that difficult. It is one of the types of puzzle that is easier to create than it is to solve. Here are a few tips:

1. Use long, full words: Words like “a,” “I,” “the,” and “that” stand out like sore thumbs in cryptograms. It’s best if you can have no word in your puzzle shorter than six letters. The longer the word, the harder it can be to figure out where the vowels and consonants are.

It is not that difficult to construct a sentence made up of only long words and still have it make grammatical sense. Last February, I presented the following summary of *Romeo and Juliet*: Interfamilial infighting overcomplicates romantic overtures, matrimonial aspirations.

2. Use isograms: Any apparent pattern you present to your solvers is a potential entry point into the solution. You’ve given away something of the structure of the word.

For example, even if the construction ABCCBD could represent one of several possible patterns (like “better” or “follow” or “ballad”), the seasoned solver will know right away that “B” is most likely a vowel and “A,” “C,” and “D” are almost certainly consonants.

To give the solvers a construction like ABCDEFGHI, on the other hand, is to present them with an impenetrable wall: the only way to identify the vowels and consonants here is by comparing this word to other words in the cryptogram.

3. Find words with unusual letter placements: instead of “forbidden” say “taboo,” instead of “throat” say “larynx,” instead of “dinosaur” say “pterosaur” (or, better yet, “archaeopteryx”).

And don’t feel the need to overdo it here: not every word has to be a weird one. The best red herring in a cryptogram is when eight other words in the puzzle convince you that T stands for I, but you start doubting yourself when you notice that there are two other words in the puzzle that end with that same T (which, after you solve the puzzle, turn out to be “broccoli” and “origami”).

No need to go for the obscure words here either. It’s much more fun to give the solvers an odd letter pattern that ends up being a plain old 11C word (for example: “colonel” or “pharaoh”).

I would appreciate more cryptogram submissions of this caliber and am glad to coach along anyone who wants to try but doesn’t know where to start. Contact me at [lexman@puzzlers.org](mailto:lexman@puzzlers.org).

# 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 November 1, 2019, to QUICKS?LVER (solutions@puzzlers.org) or mail to LIRATH, Eric Suess, 1901 Parr Rd., Pocatello ID 83204. All lists must be postmarked by November 30, 2019.

1. BIGRAM SWITCHBACK (10, 5 5)  
(ANCHOR = 10 = NI3, SCORCH =  
not quite MW usage)

Dance through your tidy lines of trees  
Where I wait for you in white.  
Dance through the hum of honey-drunk bees  
In the dappled afternoon light.  
Dance through the summer-scented  
lea,  
Dance where the peaches bob and  
sway,  
Dance to me on our marriage day.  
And kiss me gently, gently.

And now we're wed oh love, sweet love.  
'Neath fruit-laden boughs that bend  
above,

Dance, my ANCHOR, with me,  
The SCORCH with friends and family.

Dance through the room with your  
hand in mine,  
And laugh as the fiddle plays.  
Dance through the couples whose  
fingers entwine  
And promise me all your days.  
Dance through our parents' upheld  
hands,  
Dance encircled in loving bands.  
Dance with me as your heart demands,  
And kiss me gently, gently.  
=SPOON, Kirkland WA

2. BEHEADMENT WNFR (\*5)  
(\*5 = not MW)



=SRIRACHA, Huntington Beach CA

3. PALINDROME SUBSTITUTION  
(\*6, ^2 ^2 ^4) (neither MW)  
(clued in order)

In “Loch RESET”, the singer tells his  
sweet  
He'll take the low road so the two can  
meet.  
In *ROOT*, the heroes say to heed your  
heart;  
The high road leads the two of them  
apart.  
=Alf, Amherst MA

4. LETTER BANK (7, \*10, 5 5, 8 3)  
(SAMITE, TAI'S TEAM, TIA'S  
MATE, TAME SITE)

(TAI'S TEAM = online MW,  
uncapitalized in NI3; TAME SITE  
= NI3; TIA'S MATE = not MW)

Our reception on Thursday was  
SAMITE and warm,  
And then Saturday morning we started  
the Game,  
Where at one point we sheltered  
ourselves from a storm  
(And completed a meta) within an old  
TAME

SITE that once rolled on tracks, and  
much later faced creatures,  
Perhaps just as squamous as members  
of TAI'S

TEAM (like gators) or rugose as  
Ruffles, whose features  
Were hidden in darkness except for  
their eyes,

And did many more cool, puzzling  
things—getting sounds

For each answer, purporting to be  
TIA'S MATE,

From the college's station. In short, we  
had mounds

Of mysterious fun—Miskatonic was  
great!

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

5. WORD DELETION (\*5 \*2)

The desert is no place for bugs.

No IN is ever OUT in HUGS.

=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

6. ALTERNADE (7)

Hoarse, I'm dragging a FOUR down  
Along the Luby's line this summer.

I grunt, in a SEVEN voice,  
"It's great to have a lot of choice."

It's too THREE out. What a bummer.

I must leave this Texas town.

=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

7. TERMINAL ROTATION  
(5, 5, 5, 5) (DO, RE, MI, FA)

I have the day off (I've broken my arm),  
So I'm wearing a FA, but I'm off  
To the park, where I'll bask in the sun  
and watch

The joggers, the children, the toff.

The homeless, the drifter, the MI.

Silver rattles RE from the DO  
As nursemaids pass by. Sit and watch

The pigeons, the dogs—quite a show.

=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

8. FALSE PAST TENSE (4, 4)  
FALSE PARTICIPLE (4, 4)  
(same SING)

The marketers SANG over  
Every SING poached in red wine

With candied ginger in a clover,

Gorgonzola spread out fine.

"The people like food SUNG.

If it's perfect, they'll pay lots.

They purchase with their tongue.

For our next pic: tater tots."

=FIRETRUCK, Kirkland WA

9. FOURTH-LETTER CHANGE (7)

Someone now STOREs the condo next  
door;

Before, there was nothing to see.

But now we can watch as she dances  
disrobed;

She sure isn't STONEd, she's just free.

=WITZ, Vancouver BC

10. ENIGMATIC REBUS (10)  
(rubric contains NI2 material)

ABiLdEa

I injured my knee.

Please don't let it be

THE RUBRIC WE SEE.

=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

11. TRANSPOSAL (\*5 \*4, 9)  
(PELOSI = not MW;  
PILOSE = inferable, NI3+)

"Send her back!" shouts the president  
when he can see  
Congresswoman \*PELOSI's around.  
If that's the discordant tone in our  
country,  
Then we need a much more PILOSE  
sound.  
=SLIK, Renton WA

12. OVERLOADED SPOONERGRAM  
(6 4; 5, 5) (6 4 = part of MW phrase)

Our wedding's ruined,  
But this vista's pretty sweet.  
Look on the ANSWER.  
=LINKO, London UK

13. OVERLOADED MYNORETEH  
(10, 4 4 '2)

One coder's in a giant city.  
One is further out a bit; he  
Works within a cut-off group  
That's never really in the loop,  
Unlike the first—now that's the way  
You like your coders working, eh?  
But if you cannot make that cer-  
Tain one who works where you prefer  
Rewrite your apps to run on Macs  
Then let the one in the RELAX.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

14. MUTATION (\*6 \*9)

I'll let you alone now to work this one  
out.  
I'm sure that you'll ace it, of that I've  
no doubt.  
An ad on the net might just help you go  
forth:  
NICE CANADA REBUS is called "She  
the North".  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

15. TRANSDELETION (7) (FIVE = \*)

If you're solving a ^SIX flat,  
SEVEN what composers think.  
"Is 'FIVE' a New England state,  
Or ship's FOUR from '98?"  
Try to spot the hidden link—  
Answers can be found like that.  
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

16. HETERONYM (6, 2 4)



=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

17. PHONETIC WORD DELETION  
(7, 4, 4)

Judge Judy takes no lame excuse;  
She shows less OUT than even Zeus.  
Her court deals not with homicide.  
Does she show ALL? Well, you decide.  
Her judgments often order cash.  
She wears her IN with great panache.  
=LAGLEEDA, Mansfield OH

18. LETTER BANK (8, 14)

I'm on STRESS; need info now  
To choose a REST: which course, and  
how?  
=AITZ, Charcouver VC

19. LETTER BANK (9, 8 9, 8 10) (same 8)  
(MERV NO = NI2; NEVERMORE,  
REMOVE NO ORE = inferable)

From my desk this misbehavin' sly  
burlesque on Poe's "The Raven":  
Ucaomihesque and slightly craven, 'tis  
a flat he should adore.  
Bust of Pallas in a mansion  
notwithstanding, what's the chance on  
Eight beats landing balanced scansion  
best described as NEVERMORE?  
Cut in half, REMOVE NO ORE.  
Only this? No, something more...

What potentially sounds "Kevin"?  
Existential views of heaven?  
Differential in base seven?  
Mating rites of albacore?  
U-man questing makes me sore,  
Manifesting something more...

Spinal column pain sensations beckon  
solemn explanations.  
Quoth my doctor, "Operations reckon  
hurt forevermore.  
Open the canal surrounding, with a  
MERV NO; thy astounding  
Pains deserve no more expounding.  
Thus 'tis done and that's the score."  
Lost my nerve hence then forswore.  
Uc pastiche, I'd pen no more.  
Far I swerve from lost Lenore,  
To and fro from... NEVERMORE!  
=BARTOK, La Habra CA

20. FOURTH-LETTER CHANGE (8)  
(NICE = inferable, NI3 usage)

Hang weights on a wire,  
Across a block of ice.  
Make sure the air is drier  
And NICK the temp, precise.  
That's all it will require  
To make the wire slice  
But leave the block entire—  
The ice will quickly NICE.  
=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

21. METATHESIS (8)

To India the Beatles went  
And on its droning Eastern strings  
Young George became a decent GENT  
While mordant John remained a  
SINGS.  
(George had of course been there before,  
When John filmed *How I Won the War*.)  
=(LET IT) BEYOND, Chicago IL

22. LETTER BANK (8, \*13)

The Yankees don't have facial hair.  
The Boston Red Sox often do.  
Allowing EIGHTs at home is fair.  
They slug the ball in THIRTEEN, too.  
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

23. PALINDROME DELETION  
(\*3 \*4)

The storm's fast approaching,  
And I'm on board ship.  
The wind is now howling;  
The sails start to rip.  
I'm tied to the main ROE  
Lest I lose my grip.  
I'm wearing a ROTATE  
In case we do flip.  
My life's worth preserving!  
Why'd I make this trip?  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

24. TRANSDELETION (5)  
(one step is a curtailment)  
(THREE = NI3, NI2 usage)

Sometimes names seem suited  
To the work that people do.  
I'm thinking an example is  
A THREE within the Krewe.  
Could it be a FOUR that our  
Eight Dollars, Ninety Cents  
Should be the best to handle FIVE?  
(Or does that make TWO sense?)  
=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA



# 25. PROGRESSIVE TERMINAL DELETION (7) (ONE = \*)

The score ONE have to ALL is set—  
my rival's round is through.  
My tee shot FIVE a branch, but, still,  
the green is reached in two.  
The long putt THREEs the cup, with  
just a tap-in left for par.  
It falls. My caddy hugs me. "Well  
done, champ! You're quite a star!"  
=TIREMARX, Kirkside Park WJ

# 26. LETTER BANK (8, 12)

Patricia raced atop her horse.  
The dust blew in her eyes.  
That TWELVE became an EIGHT,  
but still  
her goal remained the prize.  
=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

# 27. OVERLOADED DROPOUT (6, 4, 5, \*5)

Said Arthur's father, prone upon  
The ground, "I know Gorlois has gone  
Towards *there* because I've chanced to  
spot an  
Isolated thread of cotton  
(Tightly twisted) from his shirt,  
While stretching out upon the dirt.  
I'm some detective, huh?" (No bit in  
All the ancient lore of Britain  
Matches this—the famous day  
That GREAT PENDRAGON showed  
the way!)  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

# 28. WELDED TRANSPOSAL (3 \*5 \*4) (\*5 \*4 = not MW)

LeBron took his talents away from  
Ohio;  
His run with ALL BALL added  
"champ" to his bio.  
=BEYOND, Chicago IL

# 29. SUCCESSIVE CONSONANTCY (6, 7, 6)

The PR firm's ONE has a tricky job,  
Showing that the TWO's not in the Mob.  
His reps change society's point of view,  
THREE their concept of the wrong  
they do.  
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

# 30. DROPOUT (6, 6, 5, 7)

We THREE not the scene was black  
and white  
(We knew no better then).  
The FOUR was still most striking and  
The tender TWO, a ten.

I hope I've got this dropout right.  
If not, Btnirn will ONE.  
He'll save it if at all he can—  
Ofttimes it's what he's done.  
=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

# 31. LETTER BANK (7, 7 8)

Cryptic crosswords have earned their  
name.  
For many, they're too cryptic, still!  
Brief guides to solving them abound,  
But rarely do they fill the bill.

When in a teaching role you're SET,  
Take filled-in grids with clues beside.  
Break each apart, and strip it down;  
Learning by TESTing's well applied.  
=AITZ, Charcouver VC

# 32. PARTIALLY OVERLOADED CHARADE (10) (NI3) (FOUR = abbr.)

ALL AND TWO my wish to be  
THREE \*F\*O\*U\*R,  
I'm learning all about ONE canker  
sore.  
=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

33. PHONIGMATIC REBUS  
(2 3 4 3 2)

Vampire

There were twenty-four times when  
we field mice played feeling-  
ful punk-inspired music while sipping  
Darjeeling.

We know what occurred at the last  
one (omega);

On number fourteen our recall,  
though, is vaguer.

Ohm's law (that, when in proper  
units, conduc-

Tance times gap in potential gives  
current) has stuck

In our minds as one topic discussed,  
but that's all

We remember COUNT DRACULA  
GIVES US THE SOL.

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

34. CONSONANTCY (10, 5 3)  
(TWO = 5 3 = not MW)

ONE that safety is essential.

No injury's inconsequential.

Watch your fingers. You should learn

That even TWOs can cause concern.

=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

35. LETTER BANK (4 3, 9, ^2 ^4 2 ^3)  
(STOP, TOSSPOT = not MW)

My friends all love to STOP about

signs found beside the road,

Like "TOSSPOT", "Yield", "Speed

Limit", and "Stalled Cars Will All

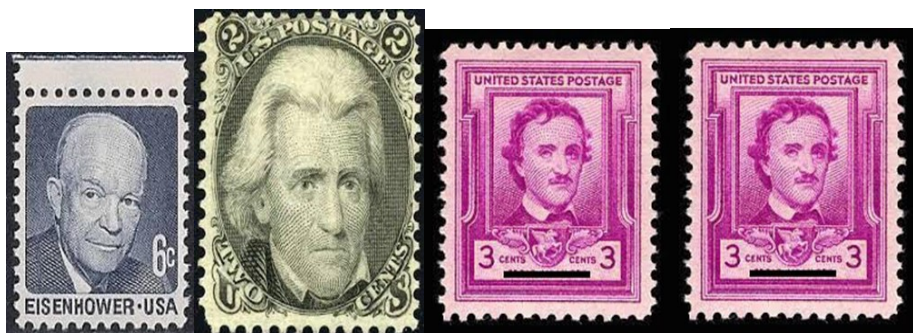
Get Towed".

But then a new friend came who never  
quite took Driver's Ed,

And when the SPOTS girl joined us,  
well, the end was very dead.

=FIRETRUCK, Kirkland WA

36. PHONIGMATIC REBUS (\*1 3 6) (ORACLE)  
PHONIGMATIC REBUS ([3 5], 4) (AURICLE) (same reading)



Kingmaker: My power is great.

ORACLE our grand potentate

And replace him with just a decree.

The pretty girls all flock to me.

Paparazzi? Well, come here and see.

With my AURICLE for you—of course!

We even look good on a horse.

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

## 37. ENIGMATIC REBUS (\*8)

LL

“Who’s number one producing  
pumpkins?”  
(Question 6 in Learned League.)  
I lack the ken of country bumpkins.  
Still the question does intrigue.  
I draw upon my foodie lore  
(A whiz at all things vegetative),  
Winnow options down to four,  
Methodically deliberative,  
Then to two, but here I’m stuck:  
A fifty-fifty chance remains.  
There’s naught to do but trust to luck:  
I toss a coin and type in “BRAINS”.  
=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

## 38. CHARADE (11)

It seems to me  
That ONE our THREE  
Most pols aspire  
To flaunt ENTIRE.

Our voters TWO  
It too, they do  
The selfsame thing:  
Let anger ring!

It’s not a path  
We’ve always trod.  
Some give and take  
Once they’ve the nod.  
=EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

39. CONSONANTCY (7, \*3 \*6)  
(LONG = not MW)

Maybe not famous like Fenway or  
Wrigley,  
But still SEVEN in its own fashion,  
THREE SIX is the place you can go in  
Vancouver  
For those who have real baseball  
passion.  
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

40. OVERLOADED CONSONANTCY  
(3 \*7, \*10 \*1) (3 \*7 = findable)

Unlike his successors, one emperor  
ruled  
(Until 395) both the West and the  
East—  
Both, say, Etna’s great isle, where the  
Cyclops was fooled,  
And the isle where his hoodwinker’s  
wanderings ceased.  
(Yes, Sicilia and Ithaca count, to those  
schooled  
In the lore of the ancients, as islands  
of FEAST).  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## 41. ENIGMATIC REBUS ([7 6])

dopili

They’re playing DOPILI once more.  
He had that job, two times before.  
They’re playing DOPILI again.  
Those pols keep switching, who knows  
when?  
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

42. PARTIALLY OVERLOADED  
DOUBLE-CROSS (\*6, 3, \*5, 4)

Did SIX AND FIVE for real go try  
To annex Nuuk? It’s true!  
And not to have on FOUR, but buy!  
They’d THREE off Tórshavn too.  
=GROUTRUCK, Cliffland NA

43. ORDER TAKEOUT CHARADE  
(4, 4; 5)

The Brits’ play was a huge Broadway  
ONE.  
I would not give a TWO for its run.  
All their actions were off. (A bar jinx?)  
But their speeches were ALL (due to  
drinks).  
=COUSIN JOE, Cleveland OH

## 44. WORD DELETION (10)

I moved to Charleston, hoping I  
 Could live ENTIRE (at worst, nearby).  
 Alas, I couldn't pay the freight,  
 So now I seek a different fate—  
 One not involving boats at all.  
 Instead I will attempt to wall  
 Myself away with frames and vines.  
 (I will not, though, be making wines!)  
 Instead I'll just be OUTing out—  
 Behind my IN or thereabout.  
 =EARL E. BYRD, Aiken SC

## 45. FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (6)

The town hosts a mixer each Saturday  
 night  
 For those with no husband or wife.  
 Those who are WEIGHT are  
 encouraged to HEIGHT,  
 And perhaps find the love of their life.  
 =A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

46. EXTENDED INITIAL-WORD  
SUBSTITUTION (7, 4, 4, 7, 4, 7)

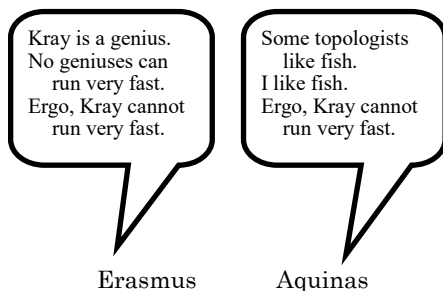
Long before my Dad's Dad earned his  
 ONE,  
 His life's FOUR was to write down  
 great stories.  
 He would pace with a handful of TWO  
 Until he could bask in plot glories.  
 While sometimes he might THREE his  
 target,  
 Gramps would focus his thoughts on a  
 goal  
 And never FIVE on an idea,  
 Since his SIX deeply burned in his  
 soul.  
 =COUSIN JOE, Cleveland OH

## 47. CHARADE WNFR (13)

"I declare, what keeps you and me  
 together is..."  
 =LIRATH, Pocatello ID

## 48. PHONIGMATIC REBUS (6 1 4 14)

enclosure



If we examine the stats and some  
 metrics,  
 Folks who like salmon, perch, sprats,  
 and some flounder  
 Aren't quite Rhodes Scholars of drawn  
 dialectics.  
 Deep thoughts are stallers upon which  
 they founder.  
 Sketch just a hint of such critical  
 thinking,  
 Well schooled by dint of pulpitical  
 reason.  
 MÖBIUS STRIPPED understand  
 without blinking.  
 Send as post script—oh, and sand eel's  
 in season.  
 =BARTOK, La Habra CA

49. LAST-SOUND CHANGE (4 3, \*7)  
(LEAF = \*7 = not MW)

America's a true car nation  
 (No, not a flower, pink or red);  
 The auto business is a LEAGUE;  
 Consistent profits are widespread.

Japan has many big-name brands:  
 Toyota, Nissan, Honda (top three),  
 But Nissan seems to have gone  
 "Rogue";  
 Its LEAF's a compact SUV.  
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

50. OVERLOADED SPOONERGRAM  
(5 3 7, 4 3 8) (3 does not change)

Disaster attended my recent  
performance  
At Tongue Usage Nationals  
twenty-nineteen.  
I'd slept on my talents—they'd lapsed  
into dormanc-  
Y. Now I'd been lapped by those  
lappers more keen.

Fighting my hardest, I just topped the  
table  
Leading the pack as we entered Round  
Ten.  
This was the final, for those who were  
able—  
The one that would sort out the boys  
from the men.

Slathered in relish from feet up to  
heads  
Were the people in lanes who would  
make up the course.  
Prone, upright, seated, some lying on  
beds—  
All of them covered in barbecue sauce.

I took off as soon as the starting gun  
sounded  
To lingual gymnastics—my tongue  
was a blur!  
I felt like my fears for my form were  
unfounded.  
I finished the course before him, them,  
and her.

Alas! I had rushed, made a fatal  
omitting—  
A rookie mistake that would cost me  
my trophy.  
I started off well—tongued the folk  
who were sitting.  
But slipped at the end. I just failed to  
BOTHY.  
=LINKO, London UK

51. CHARADE (10)

“Will you be in MALACHITE  
For the Prince's Royal Ball?”  
“My schedule is very tight.  
I'll come, but not for long at all.  
Arrive by nine, then HITE MA LAC.  
By midnight I'll be heading back.”  
=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

52. TRANSPOSAL (10, \*4 \*6)  
(SAL COLE = \*4 \*6 = findable)

Cataracts can cloud one's sight,  
But some are sights worth seeing.  
LOCALES attract the tourist crowd,  
And many an outdoors being.

Did SAL COLE have such sights in  
mind  
When he made jazzy piano rolls?  
He surely wasn't misbehavin'  
When he wrote blues about some  
shoals.  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

53. LETTER BANK (4, 7)

Lettuce is a SHORT we eat.  
With LONG (from chickpeas), it's a  
treat.  
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

54. QUADRUPLICATION (3 3 4 6)

When VHS was king, the folks with  
cats  
Recorded hours of footage of their eyes  
Aglow, as each contains a membrane  
that's  
Reflective; but since no such tissue  
lies  
Within a chimp (say)'s peepers, never  
did  
You see a person with a GIANT  
SQUID.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## 55. ENIGMATIC REBUS (3 ^3, 2 6)

38 2 or 6 10

Our leaders do each other's hair.  
 How fine they look! The public stare.  
 My brother Bill does Momma's curls,  
 While Momma fashions all the girls.  
 And I, THE ANSWER HERE  
     combined

With critic—that's my role, defined.  
 =NEWROW, Brookline MA

## 56. REPEATED-LETTER DELETION (\*7)

Egg rolls are a type of SEVEN food,  
 But be careful with the sweet and sour.  
 SHORT get messy—sloppiness is rude.  
 Dirty mugs turn dispositions dour.  
 =BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

## 57. WELDED TRANSPOSAL (10, 12)

The WELDED TRANSPOSAL, will  
     always be here,  
 An insult to God and to all we hold  
     dear.  
 =WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

58. LETTER BANK (6, \*10)  
(LONG = not MW)

*Give me your tired, your poor...  
 The wretched refuse of your teeming  
     shore.*

This is America at its best.  
 Along came LONG and added the rest.  
 As long as they are rich and white  
 We'll take 'em with so much delight.

This White House is running amok  
     everywheres.  
 Like electrons set loose from some  
     SHORT with no cares.  
 =R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

59. PHONETIC FALSE QUADRUPLE  
(3, 7) (stress shifts)

Ten prophets are EIGHTing  
 (And therefore awaiting)  
 A profit of for-  
 Ty TWO each, and no more,  
 So the total will be a  
 Full twice-two rupiah,  
 Or ringgit or yen  
 (But which one, they don't ken).  
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

60. LETTER BANK (10, 12, 8 4'4)  
(TEN HERE = inferable)

This tiny place where our wee river  
     meets the rushing sea  
 Has an old TEN HERE theater that  
     involves some clown, and he  
 And Scaramouche have love and loss  
     and love and loss once more.  
 I never knew FOUR SQUARED could  
     be so FOUR PLUS FOUR PLUS  
     FOUR.  
 =FIRETRUCK, Kirkland WA

61. OVERLOADED CONSONANTCY  
(8, 8) (one = NI3)

Numbers have values; letters do too.  
 All have neat shapes, both angles and  
     curves.  
 I've studied each and connections  
     between.  
 I learned, by degrees, about classical  
     SERVES.  
 =AITZ, Charcouver VC

62. OVERLOADED SECOND-TO-  
THIRD CHANGEOR (6)

If you want to make sure  
 That I'm really in stir,  
 Then come see me in JAIL—  
 And before I make bail.  
 =BEYOND, Chicago IL

### 63. PARTLY REVERSED CHARADE (10) (THREE = NI3)

Chop up the veggies, then add in the  
spice.

This makes THE WHOLE THING,  
something quite nice.

A flower for décor—an OWT would  
work well.

Now snap a FIRST WORD. This dish  
you could sell.

Lastly you walk a short way, say one  
THREE.

Thus you contribute to the block party.  
=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

### 64. PHONETIC CONSONANTCY (\*7, \*6) (\*7 = non-MW usage)

To end a trip that was the best,  
I went to Heathrow, flew out West  
To ONE, then in a rental car  
I drove a while, but not too far,  
To reach the border; 'twas not hard,  
Since I just flashed my Nexus card,  
And I was back in TWO, my land.  
Hoorah for that! Give me a hand!  
=ANDREAS, Vancouver BC

### 65. LETTER BANK (7, 8, 11) (CUTE AS A BUTTON = 11 = online MW)

I just saw a CUBAN STONE mutt in  
The pet shop, with chocolate fur.  
They say it's a CUTE AS A BUTTON,  
But I think it's more of a cur.  
(For punishment I'm quite the glutton—  
These rhymes are AT BOUNCES, fer  
sher.)  
=ENDGAME, Portland OR

### 66. FALSE QUALITY (6, 9) (LURID, LURE)

The '20s, they were  
A LURID of LURE.  
=TRAAL BY FIRE, Kirkford WJ

### 67. DELETION (7)

I can't go to my boyfriend's house  
Because of Daddy's SOONING.  
He said he'd take away my phone  
Each time he caught me SPOONING.  
=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

### 68. LAST-LETTER CHANGE WNFR (\*6, 6)

Muhammad wore a sheer cotton robe...  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

### 69. FOURTH-LETTER CHANGE (\*5, 5) (PROFESSOR = \*5 = not MW)

PROFESSOR Anagonye teaches  
ethics. On one date  
He cooked a ton of bean stew (which  
he'd purchased by the crate).  
He added lots of candy and then served  
it on a plate.  
The PROCESSOR was awful, but the  
episode was great.  
=530nm330Hz, Newton MA

### 70. CHANGE OF HEART (5, 4, 4, 5)

Last week I was having a B D,  
Set to C, in the dumps, and depressed.  
Today, informed of a whopping raise,  
All has changed. I'm throwing a D.  
In my best shoes and frock I'll be  
dressed.  
I'll buy cake, punch, and ice cream (five  
As).  
=A. CHEMEM, Chesapeake VA

### 71. OVERLOADED METATHESIS (4-3, \*7) (\*7 = not MW)

Did Trump get a new dog,  
Or did he just draw one?  
It's real? It's imagined?  
Indeed, it's a HOMERUN.  
=DRAUK, Midland MI

## 72. ENIGMATIC SUBER (6)

My love of all things mathematic  
 Made me want to buy a GRAPH.  
 It's quite a complex operatic  
 Managing a thousand staff!  
 =LEXMAN, Davenport IA

## 73. SPOONERGRAM (3 6, ^4 ^5)

Coop has new facelifts applied  
 Via Black Lodge voodoo doll?  
 I don't remember PERRY CHAID  
 In *CHERRY PIED* at all.  
 =FIRETRUCK, Kirkland WA

## 74. TRANSPOSAL (5)

All hurlers ONE the ball.  
 There's just one little hitch:  
 To be TWO much at all,  
 They have to learn to pitch.  
 =BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

## 75. OVERLOADED TRANSPOSAL (7)

My BMI  
 Is kind of high.  
 Does it imply  
 My OVERLOADED?  
 =WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

## 76. HETERONYM (\*1\*5, 3 \*1'2)

Choose a favorite SINGLE play?  
 Out of many works of note,  
 "Long Day's Journey Into Night"  
 Is the DOUBLE give my vote.  
 =530nm330Hz, Newton MA

## 77. PALINDROME (3 \*6)

You know how many BOB will get  
 When Norsemen on the internet  
 Put up the Latin text of *De*  
*Re Publica*? Not one, I'd say.  
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## 78. TRANSPOSAL (13)

Are you a fathead?  
 (I'm not being rude.)  
 Your cranial girth  
 Seems huge when it's viewed.  
 Let's use a LARGE tool  
 To gauge magnitude.

Are you a gasbag?  
 With oil, not talk.  
 The former's refined;  
 It makes the world rock.  
 The REGAL biz is  
 Sure chockablock.  
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## 79. ORDER TAKEOUT CHARADE

(4, 4, 3, 3; 6)

She FOUR from life; it seemed her fate  
 To be unpleasantly overweight.  
 At the end of her ONE, she felt lost.  
 But she fought those TWO at any cost.  
 Neither hard work THREE time  
     changed her call.  
 Now she can stop to enjoy her ALL.  
 =COUSIN JOE, Cleveland OH

## ANAGRAMS

## 80. GIN ONER (\*)

=AROUND EVE, Chicago IL

## 81. MAIM TASKS—EEK! (4 8)

=AROUND EVE, Chicago, IL

## 82. O, CHURNED AIR, RAIN (^9 \*6)

=LEXMAN, Davenport IA

83. KEN, ACT, SWAPPED BEST FOR  
WORST. O! ("3 4 7, 3 5 4")

=raw, Ogdensburg NY

84. HINT: A RAIN HARMS; RUINED  
ABACO, EH? (^9 \*6 2 3 \*7)

=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL



## AMBIGRAMS

85. SHARES RATIONAL KARMA  
(^7 \*6 \*6)

=R/EDS, Ste Anne de Prescott ON

KU-1. THRONE NABBER, 'K?  
(\*4 3 ^6)

=millirem, Portland OR

## FORMS

### F-1. RECTANGLE

Across:

1 Violently ruin the snarl? (definitely not MW)

2 Navy weatherman

3 Job at an old house

Down:

1 Conflict

2 Arikara

3 Enterprise risk management (Wikipedia)

4 Dove sound

5 King's gambit declined (Wikipedia)

6 Cornish prefix meaning *town*

7 Indian mulberry

8 Confounding organization (not yet MW)

9 Clarified butter in three consecutive letters

10 Cariou, Dawson or Deighton

11 Work unit

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

### F-2. CRYPTIC SQUARE

(clues listed randomly)

Done by alien way out there

Cracked the cover of big dictionary  
captivating author

Most unusual piece of wood destroyed

I am one bucking societal breakdown

Caribbean island also includes base

First in intelligence in class!

=FRAZ, Toronto ON

### F-3. PYGMY HOURGLASS

Across:

1 Plaited: obs.

2 Hungarian Nobel chemist  
(1885-1966)

3 Occurrence

4 Catalan muralist (1874-1945)  
(Wikipedia)

5 Scrap

6 Three fundamentals?

7 Particle

8 Check

9 *Cantique de Jean Racine* composer

10 Made of spun wool: rare

11 Crème brûlée or the like

Down:

1 Heavy variety of H

2 The

3 Diatonic notes

4 Coronaviral ailment in a 2003  
outbreak (Wikipedia)

5 Harmonious

6 Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera of  
1877 (Wikipedia)

7 1 Across and 11 Across, to each other

8 Upset

9 Thrilled

10 Fast plane

11 Exclamation expressing assent: dial.

12 Penny

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

### F-4. DOUBLE SQUARE

Across:

1 Cease

2 Call for

3 Unit of land area

4 Christmas

Down:

1 Length of time

2 Mexican snack

3 Monster

4 Rind

=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

### F-5. OFFSET FUSED PYRAMID AND INVERTED PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 \_\_\_\_ Everett Koop
- 2 Minnie Mouse accessory
- 3 Leaves nothing to the imagination
- 4 Coraline's "Other Mother" and others
- 5 Create through treading repetitively  
(11C-findable)
- 6 Yukon and Nunavut, for two
- 7 Old-time NBC radio program set at  
a famed terminal (Wikipedia)
- 8 Robotics kit items
- 9 Harp on, perhaps
- 10 Spiffs up a sedan
- 11 "Man or Muppet" singer Jason  
(IMDb)
- 12 Bob and weave?
- 13 \_\_\_\_ Sprague de Camp

Down:

- 1 \_\_\_\_ Gordon Liddy
  - 2 POTUS 26 initials
  - 3 Lillie with a Tony (Amende)
  - 4 Capital home of the Zytglogge clock  
tower
  - 5 Lengthening shadow?
  - 6 Thrifty rental in Monopoly
  - 7 Valentine-shaped
  - 8 Clue cards
  - 9 Mycroft, vis-à-vis Sherlock
  - 10 Unlike Bond's martinis
  - 11 Film noir parts
  - 12 On the schedule
  - 13 Memorable literary ring bearer  
(Wikipedia)
  - 14 Royalists
  - 15 Even slightly
  - 16 Little squirts
  - 17 Bring to a boil?
  - 18 Android, e.g.
  - 19 \_\_\_\_ C. Wyeth
- =al dente, San Jose CA



### F-6. RELATED DOUBLE SQUARES

A.

Across:

- 1 Ancient marketplaces
- 2 Type of hors d'oeuvre
- 3 Lout
- 4 Descriptor of a kingdom, emirates,  
and states?
- 5 Lead astray
- 6 Chalk remover

Down:

- 1 Indict
- 2 Accumulate
- 3 New York Indian
- 4 Rodent genus with a very apt name
- 5 Individually
- 6 One who issues

B.

Across:

- 1 Having grandeur, for part of the  
year?
- 2 Non \_\_\_\_ (without excess)
- 3 Fairy king
- 4 With 4 Across in A, one of a group  
whose founding is observed on  
October 24<sup>th</sup>
- 5 Isolate
- 6 Alcove

Down:

- 1 A congregant on Yom Kippur
  - 2 Suave
  - 3 Relating to black magic: archaic
  - 4 Get out of bed
  - 5 Thread holders
  - 6 Weights in multiples of one million  
grams
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC



## F-7. PYGMY HOURGLASS

Across:

- 1 Musical
- 2 Affirmation
- 3 Rhapsodized
- 4 Snow transport
- 5 U.S. Cabinet department
- 6 Female relative
- 7 Ink, colloquially
- 8 Reuben's home?
- 9 Actress Thomas (Amende)
- 10 Die
- 11 Male relatives

Down:

- 1 12 Down, for example
  - 2 High school class
  - 3 Plan
  - 4 Smidgen, perhaps
  - 5 Brief
  - 6 Confection no longer made from the plant it's named after
  - 7 Assessments
  - 8 Darling
  - 9 Outstanding
  - 10 Male relative
  - 11 Springfield is its cap.
  - 12 100
- =LEXMAN, Davenport IA

## F-8. SQUARE

- 1 "The radical notion that women are people"
  - 2 Vanish like vapor
  - 3 Large, brightly-colored kerchiefs, often worn as turbans
  - 4 Like *Friends* or *I Love Lucy* (not MW)
  - 5 Nonalcoholic malt liquor
  - 6 Like your passport vis-à-vis you? (not MW)
  - 7 When we meet Hamlet (not MW)
  - 8 Where sailors eat (NI3, 11C-inferable)
- =JABBERWOCK, Portland OR

## F-9. PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 Type of chip or engine
- 2 Gullet
- 3 Tax of a tenth
- 4 Wading across water
- 5 Death due to faith
- 6 October 5<sup>th</sup> worldwide celebration of pedagogues (Wikipedia)

Down:

- 1 \_\_\_\_ square or \_\_\_\_ cell
  - 2 Medical examiner
  - 3 Federal Aviation Administration
  - 4 Ancient metal collar
  - 5 Gaiety
  - 6 Coloring agent used in liquor form
  - 7 Revolve rapidly with a particular sound
  - 8 Means justification, sometimes
  - 9 Supreme reality
  - 10 Million years ago
  - 11 Vertical axis in Cartesian coordinates
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-10. RECTANGLE

Across:

- 1 Clever scheme to outwit
- 2 Bitter or sweet, or bittersweet treat!
- 3 Ulster Protestants
- 4 Somewhat swollen

Down:

- 1 Money paid
  - 2 Going from one side to the other
  - 3 Wander
  - 4 Spots for teens
  - 5 Dresses (up)
  - 6 Guinness or Baldwin
  - 7 Ready to proceed
  - 8 A giant: obs.
  - 9 Result, object or agent: suffix
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-11. CRYPTIC SQUARE

(clues listed randomly)

Correctly, Edna did extra (2 wds.)  
 Republican riles up NHL franchise  
 Showed off dear cuckoo in bachelor's  
     home  
 Strip east entrance to park in Sunday  
     excursion  
 Panda cavorts behind Greek family man  
 Better drug ape for treatment  
 Russo hugs depressed retro TV actor  
     (2 wds.)  
 =FRAZ, Toronto ON

## F-12. DOUBLE SQUARE

Across:

- 1 Rather lurid
- 2 Capital of Norway
- 3 Notary stamp
- 4 Tug

Down:

- 1 Like an optimistic view
  - 2 Not in port
  - 3 Family
  - 4 Egg yellow
- =BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

## F-13. PYGMY HOURGLASS

Across:

- 1 A swelling of tissue
- 2 *Grey's Anatomy* network (Malin)
- 3 Element 34
- 4 Fish rudder
- 5 What you usually find at the bottom  
     of this shape

Down:

- 1 British coin
  - 2 F in C
  - 3 Part of a sink
  - 4 Part of a sink (online MW)
  - 5 Host
  - 6 British coin
- =LEXMAN, Davenport IA

## F-14. PYRAMID

Across:

- 1 A unit vector
- 2 Opening of the Lord's Prayer
- 3 Treble staff symbol
- 4 Mud packs, for example
- 5 Position in life
- 6 Fall feast holiday features

Down:

- 1 Hydrogen isotope
  - 2 Without date
  - 3 Equivocation
  - 4 Departure area
  - 5 Come to mind
  - 6 Descriptor of a calendar introduced  
     in 46 BCE, the Year of Confusion
  - 7 Rope with, or without, a noose
  - 8 Parisian policeman
  - 9 Sunny tone?
  - 10 Originally called
  - 11 Satisfactory
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

## F-15. RIGHT RHOMBOID

Across:

- 1 Homophone of the *A History of  
     British Birds* author (not MW)
- 2 Homophone of gloom (not MW)
- 3 Homophone of a sequence
- 4 Homophone of the Chief Justice for  
     the Dred Scott case
- 5 Homophone of rough-sounding

Down:

- 1 Henry
  - 2 Homophone of company's number, in  
     a phrase
  - 3 Homophone of actress Deborah
  - 4 Homophone of Thalia, for one
  - 5 Homophone of an injury from  
     exposure to heat (NI3)
  - 6 Homophone of spoon-bender Geller
  - 7 Suffix for study or skill
  - 8 Abbr. for check
  - 9 Homophone of actor Danny
- =AI, Charlottesville VA

F-16. RIGHT WINDMILL

EXTRAS

1 Cambridge cleaning women  
 2 Tall wading bird  
 3 Final part  
 4 Seat weaver  
 5 What Roald Dahl taste-tested at  
   Repton, his childhood school (it's  
   celebrated with a national day on  
   October 28<sup>th</sup>)  
 6 On the side of the heart  
 7 Entertainment enclosure  
 8 Synonymous man?  
 9 Drum  
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-1. ANAQUOTE

(2 3 3 1 7 11, 2 9 8, 3 1 11 9,  
 3 3 2 3 1 8 2 3. \*7)

ABL ALI ANA DAC EDE EIN ELI ENT  
 ERT EVE EYO FET FOR GEN ICL IFI  
 IFY ILE IME LEP NGU OFJ OGO OPH  
 OUA OYL RBI REA RER TAN UAR UIN  
 UTH VOR

=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-2. STEPPED VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (2 3 3 2 9 11 2 3 8 3 12 2 3 4 9. \*1. \*7)

A A B B D D E I N N R T A A E E F F I K L S S T  
 N S N T S S E S H I C O A I H N E M C R D A N G  
 T I N I I R T C E C S Y O V N C E E N T C E E N  
 B D I L A M C T R R E B

=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

E-3. STEPPED VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (3 8 2 5, 2 3 4, 7 2 3 5, 6 6 2 4. \*6 \*6)

A E E E H H L N P T T E E H I I N R S T T  
 T M O R E I O T S H I E T N C N O H G O U  
 I I A M H G K T N C S O T A M E E H L F G  
 W C G R O N E A O E Y

=, Bellevue WA

E-4. ANAQUOTE (\*1 4 6 10 9 4 \*1 4 7 2 3. 4 2 3 4 3 2 4 8. \*1. \*5)

ALL CED CON ECO EDE ELY EPR ESS  
 GAS GAT HIN IMU MAK MAT MEI NOT  
 NOW NTI OGR ONL SIS STB THA THE  
 THI TIK VIN YTO YWA

=DRAGONFLY, Bellingham WA

E-5. ANAQUOTE (2 2 1 6 6 4 10 2 2 13 10 2 8 4. \*7 \*1. \*10)

ANI ATI BLE CRE CTS DOM DOU GLA  
 HAT IEN ING ITI NDI NES NSA OFS  
 OMM ONN ONT OTI RAN RED SAC SIS  
 SPE SRH TAD TER TOF VEA

=WITZ, Vancouver BC

## E-6. VERTICAL ANAQUIP (2 3 6 2 7 6 2 \*7 (^9 ^7 2 ^7) 3 10 5?)

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

## E-7. ALTERNATING ANAQUIP ("2 3 5" 4 2 3 2 3 8 6 2 4 2 \*7.)

CAR DON EON FTH LLE MUS NBR NGS REA STT TOU  
 AI CH DI EO ES HI IE OT TB TO  
 =DRAUK, Midland MI

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MAY SOLVERS

The May 2019 *Enigma* had 62 flats, 7 forms, 7 crypts, and 8 extras. 32 solution lists, representing 69 solvers, were received.

DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUgame?, /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/Randiman/YoMama, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Loki-5, Philana/Mercury, and Witz/Andreas had completes. Alice/A-Plus/Hot/Ming had a flat complete.

Welcome, new solver Randiman {after 30 years of membership}!

Accepted: 28-CLEAN GROWTH for WRONG CHALET (3); 38-PEDANTRIES, PEDESTRIAN (4) and PLATITUDES, STIPULATED (3) {the intended sol was actually BANALITIES, INSATIABLE}. Not accepted: 11-STAPLE for PLATES (2); 22-F/S/R/L-INGER; 24-ROWDIER, WORDIER, WORRIED (2); 27-ICONIC for UNIQUE (3); 35-APHORIST [a P ho, R is T] and PUTTERER [put T ere R] {readings explain only part of the rubric}; 49-STOCKIER for CORKIEST.

—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS SOLVED (\* = complete): Ajde 11/0/\*/5. Alice/A-Plus/Hot/Ming \*/0/0/0. Around Eve/Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 61/\*/\*/\*/. Art Brut/DtheW 54/\*/\*/7. Badir 32/3/6/0. Barkis/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 53/\*/\*/\*/. Clio 48/\*/5/5. Deansk 61/\*/\*/\*/. Dischorran 61/\*/\*/\*/. Dragonfly/Libra/Paragon 55/\*/\*/\*/. Drauk 41/\*/\*/\*/. Dye Key 41/\*/\*/6. Endgame/Jabberwock/millirem/Melete/Nom 59/\*/\*/\*/. Frampold 58/\*/\*/\*/. KayZero 46/0/0/0. LaDiDa/Glee 48/\*/\*/\*/. Linko 40/\*/2/1. Lyric/Munro 53/\*/\*/\*/. Newrow/Jerg 55/\*/\*/\*/. NJ Ninja

30/\*\*/?. Pebbles 54/\*\*/?. R/EDS 60/\*\*/?. Treesong 58/\*\*/?.  
Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 57/\*\*/7.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: FLATS:  
1-25/1, 2-30/6, 3-26/3/1, 4-28/3, 5-31/1, 6-28/2, 7-25/4, 8-31,  
9-29/8/2, 10-27/2, 11-28/1, 12-30/5, 13-24/5, 14-27/1, 15-32,  
16-30/4, 17-27/3/1, 18-32/1, 19-31/1, 20-29/5, 21-21/4/1,  
22-26/5, 23-30/4, 24-22/3, 25-28/1, 26-32/4, 27-26, 28-27/5,  
29-17/2, 30-29/1, 31-32/1, 32-25, 33-28/2, 34-29/1, 35-16/2,  
36-25, 37-30, 38-30/3/1, 39-21/6/1, 40-31, 41-31/2, 42-29/1,  
43-31/8, 44-29/1, 45-28/6, 46-32/4, 47-16/1, 48-32/1, 49-28/1,  
50-32, 51-25/4, 52-28/1, 53-30/13/1, 54-20/4, 55-26, 56-22/2,  
57-20/2, 58-28/7/2, 59-29/2, 60-20, 61-31/9/1, 62-32. FORMS:  
1-28/7/1, 2-29/1, 3-29, 4-28/2, 5-28/1, 6-29/1, 7-28/2. CRYPTS:  
1-30, 2-30/1, 3-28/3, 4-29/15/8, 5-28/3, 6-29/2, 7-28/1. EXTRAS:  
1-27, 2-26, 3-25, 4-28, 5-28/1, 6-28/1, 7-26, 8-27.

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 33, 53, 58!. Anomaly 9!, 51, 53, F-1,  
F-4, C-5. A-Plus 20, 22, 28, 44. Badir 7, 35, 39, 43, 61, C-4!, C-5.  
Barkis 9, 17, 21, 28, 53, 58, C-4!. Deansk 21, 22, 23, 43, 54, 58.  
DelphiRune 22, C-4. /dev/joe 20, 30, 46, 54, 58!, 61, F-1, F-4, F-5.  
Dischorran 4, 24, 42, 45, 51, 56. Donimo 2, 3!, 9, 20, 51, 57, 58,  
C-4. Dragonfly 9. 10, 23, 28, 38, 53!, C-3. Drauk 48, 61, C-3, C-4!,  
C-6. Endgame 4, 10, 13, 20, 29. Frampold 2, 3, 12, 20, 26, 33, 39!,  
43, 46, 53, C-7. Geneal 13, 38, 39, C-2, C-4. Hot 9, 28, 53. Jabberwock  
3, 6, 39, 45, 54, F-1, F-2, F-7. Jo the Loiterer 12, 16, 22, 43, 52, 57,  
61, F-1, F-7, X-5. KayZero 13, 39, 58. Linko 6, 13, 23, 34, 38!, 41,  
43, 59. Lyric C-4!. Mercury 16, 19, 25, 26, 31, 35, 46, 53, 61, C-3.  
Munro 21!, 56. Newrow 2, 7, 9!, 17, 53, F-1, C-4, X-6. NJ Ninja 5,  
12, 18, 26, 41, 43, 46, F-1!. Noodle Noggin 2, C-4. Pebbles 2, 4, 22,  
45, 51, 61!. QT-Oh 12, 13, 24, 28, 45, 53, C-4. Quicks?lver 16, 21,  
45, 61, C-4, C-6. R/EDS 7, 29, 43, 58, 61, F-1, C-4!. RUgame? 23,  
53. Treesong 1, 7, 12, 17!, 24, 39, 49, 53, 61. Tyger 14, 53, F-6,  
C-4!, C-5. Witz 9, 26, 45, 53, 54, 59, C-4!. Wordsmix 2, 9, 11, 16,  
43, 47, C-4!.

## SEPTEMBER HINTS AND OCTOBER EASY LIST

October Easy List: 24, 45, 56, 62, 76.

65. Yes, the punctuation is correct.

36. THREE is a less common derived form of a common word.

11. Both the 3 and the 4 are NPL usage.

September Hints:

## AUGUST SOLUTIONS

1. Ross's seal, roseal 2. for certain, refraction 3. pearl, parallel 4. viper, reprieve 5. Puritans, Rasputin 6. c[ur(mud)ge]on 7. counties, necessitous, constituent 8. supper, slower; dinner, doubter 9. rating; Tri, Tri Again 10. Snyder's, dryness 11. mantle, mental, mantel, lament 12. LAsT, COin, NiChE 13. to(i)let 14. upon, sold, store, curator, iconic, issue, elites, pooch, avenue, sized [Spanish numbers: uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez] 15. haughty; ought, he 16. amors ex DC in 2021 [a Morse X (=...), DC (=600) in 2021] 17. doe, dough 18. are, be ["R & B"] 19. levi-g/t-ate 20. c(itati)on 21. meat eater, meteor KU-1. DOGma (majority rule), Pine (new moon), LEan (anchor bend) 22. fibber, fiber 23. opiate; oat, pie 24. Jordache, DoorDash 25. misanthrope, one man's meat is another man's poison 26. loftier, Trefoil 27. decorating, tridecagon 28. canniness, canines 29. improv(is)e 30. Edgar, egad; Degas, egad 31. w(rapar)ound 32. prose, repossess 33. broad, bird 34. pinnacle, pinochle 35. f/d/H/y/l/s/b-awn 36. impression, permission 37. Candidates' Night [C and I, date, S nigh T] 38. wedding, winded, widen, wine, new, we 39. diner, reindeer 40. PROve, TOre, TYro, PEter 41. amaryllis 42. rewind, "Red Red Wine" 43. Wild West Show, dish towels 44. emoji, OMG 45. tarp 46. horseshoer 47. boOK, boNE, boIL, boDE 48. gra(de le)vel 49. maxim, axiom 50. surprise, supplies 51. andouille, ennui 52. eidolon; noli, ode 53. pat: own no-tap 54. p(refer)ence; pence, Pence 55. I, c[ho(cola)t]e 56. co[m(pet)en]t 57. vis-a-visness; Visa Venus 58. leeward, lewder, elder, leer, ere; seaside, disease; oceanic, cocaine 59. raiment, entertainment; garment, anger management 60. renovation; aver, notion 61. po(ssess) 62. bag, baguette 63. party line, interplanetary 64. stun 65. Geodude, good day 66. mocha, macho 67. aimed, media 68. wavy, anchor, war, anchovy 69. gerbil, biloba, Obamacare, Macarena, nabobs, bobsled, Ledger 70. Venus, parvenus; lance, parlance [a la boil/parboil] 71. hinge, oohing, aahing; grease, ease out; grout 72. Ayers, years 73. manticore, reaction time 74. i/a-cumen; ic-u/e-men 75. Hadestown 76. graphic designer 77. it is all smoke and mirrors 78. tessellation 79. "enemy of the people" 80. "failing New York Times" 81. "no collusion, no obstruction" 82. this statement is false 83. Hercule Poirot

C-1. I've started investing in stocks: beef, chicken, vegetable. One day I hope to be a bouillonnaire.

C-2. "What kind of hybrid creature do you get when you cross a tusked and a horned pachyderm?" "Elephino!"

C-3. Consider the two places folks go after dying. No wonder Stanton said of Lincoln, "Now he belongs to the aitches."



C-4. Hank Aaron reached three thousand hits after seventeen years, yet golfers can get there in an afternoon.

C-5. As punishment for committing serious double felony, semicolon receives two consecutive sentences.

C-6. Troubling orthoepical enigma: One of the U's in "vacuum" is silent, and we will never know which one it is.

C-7. How hampered, huddled hens hurt! Happy healthy hens haze huge hundred-hectare homes, hardly hear hatchet.

E-1. The stupidest virus is cleverer than the cleverest immunologist. Klein

E-2. Gerontocracy is rule by people who insist on turning the peak of their career into a plateau. Andrew Ferguson

E-3. It is the quality of one's convictions that determines success, not the number of followers. Remus Lupin (as told by J. K. Rowling)

E-4. Amusement is one of the fields of applied mathematics. William F. White

E-5. The fragmentation of shared knowledge into personalized truths began centuries ago; digital technology has merely speeded it up. Damien Thompson

X-1. Answers in clue order: alerts, audiobook, bed linen, candidate, daubed, deal, elfish, evince, fooled, Gurkha, hard nuts, hedonist, in order to, irks, jerkin, knotty, licked, manor, Mojave, negligee, next to, on-dit, opposite, peril, quanta, railer, runproof, second, squawk, stanza, ta-ta, tree trunk, unreel, viol, writhe, xeric, yogis, zaxes.

Across in entry order: squawk, stanza, Gurkha, deal, candidate, on-dit, railer, hedonist, daubed, yogis, manor, unreel, opposite, jerkin, xeric, tree trunk, viol, knotty, elfish, fooled.

Down in entry order: second, quanta, audiobook, writhe, ta-ta, negligee, zaxes, alerts, hard nuts, bed linen, in order to, runproof, Mojave, next to, evince, licked, peril, irks.

X-2. Across: Democratic, Idaho, BB gun, al dente, editors, vacuum, Earth, ad lib, all set, bologna, lanolin, Elgar, gusto, boysenberry.

Down: dice, Mali, Colombo, ages, tuners, into, doodad, Seth, realign, clingy, tenet, addle, halo, boas, geese, ahoy.

Successful solver: Boulder doubler.

F-1.

TAME	YOKE
ARES	ODIN
MEGA	KILO
ESAU	ENOS

F-2.

ASSUME  
SNIPER  
SIESTA  
UPSETS  
METTLE  
ERASED

F-3.

P  
 A S  
 P A R A P E T  
 S A L A M I  
 P A P A L  
 E M A I L S  
 T I L L E R S  
 S R  
 S

F-4.

P  
 O Y  
 P O T O M A C  
 Y O U A L L  
 M A N T A  
 A L T A R S  
 C L A R I T Y  
 S T  
 Y

F-5.

SHRIMPPOBOYS  
 FEDERALAGENT  
 POLICEREPORT  
 LOVEONESWORK  
 NELL DEEP  
 TASK SCAT  
 PERK KUHN  
 NOAH SEEK  
 CROSSTHEROAD  
 LAWPROFESSOR  
 RACETO THETOP  
 BATHROOMSINK

F-6.

SMART  
 NEWER  
 ITALY  
 PARIS  
 ELECT

F-7.

PLAGAL  
 REVILE  
 OTELLO  
 LONDON  
 EUGENE  
 STERES

F-8.

R  
 E F  
 R E L A C E D  
 F A C I L E  
 C I V I L  
 E L I C I T  
 D E L I V E R  
 T E  
 R

F-9.

WHISPER  
 HITHERE  
 ITSOPEN  
 SHOOTAT  
 PEPTIDE  
 EREADER  
 RENTERS

F-10.

SHAFT  
 HELLO  
 ALIEN  
 FLEET  
 TONTO

F-11.

TASER  
 AMENE  
 SEXES  
 ENEMA  
 RESAT

F-12.

CAROB  
 ABATE  
 RASTA  
 OTTER  
 BEARD

F-13.

VESTAL  
 EUCHRE  
 SCLERA  
 THESIS  
 ARRIVE  
 LEASED

F-14.

EASED  
 APPLE  
 SPOIL  
 ELIOT  
 DELTA

## F-15.

S  
E L  
N I E  
S A R A  
E M M E T  
Apt word: SESTET

## F-16.

A .  
NDAK  
ERLE  
LEBO  
SDAK  
OGPU  
NEAK  
B .  
MINN  
ALAE  
CLRO  
LIRP  
ENOL  
IOWA  
SIES  
HSRM

## F-17.

NEMO  
EDAM  
MADE  
OMEN

## F-18.

SERE  
HAIR  
USER  
TENS

## F-19.

NOEL  
OGRE  
ERGO  
LEON

## F-20.

M  
A G  
M A C A D A M  
G A R A G E  
D A R E D  
A G E N D A  
M E D D L E D  
A E  
D

## X-1.

SQUAWKSTANZA  
EUGURKHADEAL  
CANDIDATEGXE  
ONDITBRAILER  
NTROHEDONIST  
DAUBEDNYOGIS  
MANORLUNREEL  
OPPOSITEDEVI  
JERKINSXERIC  
AROTREETRUNK  
VIOLKNOTTYCE  
ELFISHFOOLED

## X-2.

D	E	M	O	C	R	A	T	I	C
I	D	A	H	O	BB	G	U	N	S
C	OO	L	A	L	D	E	N	T	E
E	D	I	T	O	R	S	E	O	T
V	A	C	UU	M	E	A	R	T	H
A	D	L	I	B	A	LL	S	E	T
DD	H	I	B	O	L	O	G	N	A
L	A	N	O	L	I	N	EE	E	H
E	L	G	A	R	G	U	S	T	O
B	O	Y	S	E	N	B	E	RR	Y

PUZZLE NOTES, *continued*

E-2, E-3. In a STEPPED VERTICAL ANAQUOTE, a quote is written on three and a half lines to create roughly an equal number of three-letter and four-letter columns. Each column (treated as a unit) is sorted with the other columns of that length. For example:

STEPPED VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (5 9, 3 4 2 1 5 2. \*4)

L R T U Y D E N O W  
L F R U T I N M E H  
A O D F C D I L I H  
D Y S O A

## CRYPTOGRAMS

C-1. Full of starch.

yodaughter, Houston TX

XTWN VF PFJ AWOOW OWUP MWCIWHFF? W  
 GFJAT GFNWNF. XTWN VF PFJ AWOOWC  
 ZEZHPVWP GFNWNF? W AFYYZCNWNFH.

C-2. Work ethic.

BEYOND, Chicago IL

NDRCRARL \*W'B KDICXRV, \*W LRJMZ, "WK'O KDR  
 MRIOK \*W QIC VP." (\*W FRCLIMMZ JLRURL KP  
 VP KDR MRIOK \*W QIC VP.)

C-3. Spin the bottle.

WITZ, Vancouver BC

UMFLJ HDBGYL: FP FCUDLX'J YLGLXBUMCG DBV  
 FMTNFLG. FP HDMTVXLG'J YLGLXBUMCG DBJ  
 TBHUBUMCG HCGJQTUBGUJ.

C-4. raw's Second Law.

raw, Ogdensburg NY

AFU EPVU CWXUTG DZTWIVZAUJ AFU  
 WXLAVYEUXA AFU FZVJUV GPY FZSU AP MWDM  
 WA WX PVJUV CPV WA AP KPVM.

C-5. Salvation.

See note.

GENEAL, Providence RI

SECTIONAL NR ACV ALMP ZAMNONTIM RIDSOP.  
 ACORNES AD OJNR IVY IMM NR ESMCWS. \*JAVITS  
 \*KILL, \*ILONATJ ^ZVSRNESLO

C-6. Ex-pun-ged.

See note.

RIDDLE, Santa Rosa CA

EIDYP \*MVQVAX YWHFZNYN EVAPJ AIDY DVJJVAX  
 ENZD LZOA NYXVJLYN. FZGIF ZEEVGVIF BIP  
 LIQYA \*FYVE ZEE BVJ GYAJTJ.

C-7. Animal alliterates.

NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

ZRJWQWRV ZWBWPWYO ZYVJGQR: ZGVVA  
 ZYGV-ZYYPSN ZWSON ZWONM ZYCQ (ZRDYVWPS  
 ZYYN), ZQSSM, ZSRMPM, ZYWQWOF ZRVJSV.