



HET RADSEL

april (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9)² • de Nationale PUZZELAARS League • Gevestigd 1883 • № 2×3×241

ACT 2, SCENE ii: FROM A BALCONY— by raw

KREWE But hark, what flaw through yonder *Enigma* breaks?
It is April's, and Ralf is the editor.
Avaunt, foul editor, and kill the envied complete.

BTNIRN O Olio, Olio, wherefore art thou Olio?
Deny thy fooling and refuse thy name,
Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my proxy,
And I'll no longer be an editor.

RALF What's in a Ralf? That which we call a flat
By any other name would vex as much.

yodaughter For never was an issue of more woe
Than this of Krewe and Ralf P. Olio.

R-1. OVERLOADED BEHEADMENT † R-3. FALTHE CATCHPHRATHE

(3, 7) (can be sung)

WNFR (*2 *4, 9)

Though some blood-hued prairie lilies
Do exist, right at the start
I will tell you I'm afraid that
To invoke them to impart
(Say) the info that I'm blushing,
Will confuse those unaware
They exist. That's right—it spooks me;
Please don't call me "lily-BEAR".
=RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

"I invented the Internet" ...
=RALF P. OLIO, Magical Horn IT

R-4. WORD DELETION

(8) (ROW = inferable)

The magician drew gasps from the crowd,
The audience ever so wowed
When a volunteer's head,
After moments of dread,
Was cut off and then magically ROWed.
=RALF P. OLIO, Eo MA

R-2. BILINGUAL WORD DELETION WITH LAST-LETTER CHANGE

(^3 ^4, ^4) (BRIE = non-MW usage)
(can be sung to the tune of "BROWNIE")

When I was just a little boy,
I showed mi madre how I'd spelled BRIE.
"Not with a K, and not with an A"—
She gave an OWN to me.

BRIE—Gruyère, Gruyère,
Manchego or Brie, or Brie...
=RALF P OLIO, Ister ME

R-5. FREEWHEELING

OVERLOADED REVERSED
MULTIPLE REPEATED-LETTER
DELETION WE NEVER
FINISHED READING

(12 10 8 8 8-6 8 2 5 8 7, 2)

...er, what? THIS?...
=RALF P. OLIO, Grand Seminary PK

R-6. HEART TRANSPLANT

(111, 10, 11, 110)
(no apology for using 110)

I was rushing to meet the imam at eleven,
But I saw her there standing outside of
the 111.

I came to a stop. I could not pass her 10,
And we ended up married—no lying, it's
true.

I missed my appointment, but our life is
glee,
And each day I am thankful that she and I
11.

=RALF P. OLIO, A Bar SC

R-7. ACROSTICAL LENIGMA

(10) (B = +, C = non-MW phrase)

- A. Literati who state, "This nice flat's
worth ten Delian
- B. Lepta (not named for hares' leaps done
so freely in
- C. Leas)" haven't checked; not one sou
should be spent

For some flat that gets Ls from two lines
of descent.

=RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

R-8. REBUS (2 5)

=RALF P. OLIO, Sad OH

R-9. TRANSPOSAL (4 8, 6 **3 **3)
(clued in order) (4 8 = not MW)**SEGREGATE (6)**

Young Oedipus applied his skill
At solving deep conundrums till
He shouted, "Man, I got it right!"
(The EASTER EGG in black and white,
So you can read the Sphinx's teaser.)
Snap! He slyly slew that sleazer!
Thebans crowned him king for life
With all the bennies—and a wife.

Disaster struck. A plague swept through.
He asked the gods, "What can I do?
ONE there some way to make it stop?"
He learned he killed the king, his pop,
And then he married Mom. Too bad!
Jocasta should have WHOLED the lad.
Poor Ed stepped TWO. He learned too
late

The tragic truth: you can't beat fate.
=RALF P. OLIO, See Our Eggs EH?

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R-10. ENIGMATIC REBUS WNFR

(4 3 3 7)

Of old, my canine did attack
 (Sic) characters quite strange or wack-
 Y, who had rented out a flat.
 That cur KER-SPLAT! Not even that...
 =RALF P. OLIO, 42.34N71.20W

R-11. PASTEOVER (4 4, 5 2) (FIRST = +)

Why does a Greek cross the road all
 alone?
 She looks for an outlet and SECOND her
 phone.
 =RALF P. OLIO, Exploding Cig AR

**R-12. FIRST-TO-FIFTH ELEMENTAL
PASTEOVER** (10, 8)

I drink coffee to DONE
 Myself—wakes me right up!
 While I hate to BEGUN,
 You should all have a cup.
 =RALF P. OLIO, I Got Questions CO

R-13. UNALTERED STATE (6)

(with a tip of the hat to Feb 40)

An archaeologist found out
 Just why a standing stone was raised,
 And wrote an ARGOT all about
 This ARGOT and its use, well phrased.
 =RALF P. OLIO, Ξ o MA

R-14. APPROXIMATE ISOMORPH

(*3, 10) (OLDIE = *3 = non-MW usage)

Could OLDIE measure up to Shakespeare,
 who
 Did use in many plays iambic NEW?
 If Serling spoke that way, would he avow,
 “You’re trav’ling through a mind
 dimension now?”
 =RALF P. OLIO, Jove DE

R-15. TRANSADDITION**TRANSADDITION GROUP**

GROUP (5, 6; 8, 5; *5’1, *7’1, 7, *7,
 8, *5, *1*1-6) (DEUX-A = +;
 TROIS-A, TROIS-G = inferable;
 TROIS-F = non-MW usage;
 TROIS-D = part of phrase)
 (one “transaddition” is an addition)

That movie that starred Miyaguchi,
 Mifune,
 Chiaki, Inaba, Shimura, Kimura,
 And Kato (whom that Kurosawa *auteur*, a
 Good while after TROIS-A long reign, cast
 as UNE-A,
 Swift swordsmen), one Briton (TROIS-G,
 unlike famed
 Brit Lord Nelson—young TROIS-B folks
 reared him before
 The great land whose ^DEUX-B Navy’s
 TROIS-C he wore
 Got that name) as a dino with
 goring-things named
 For Dumas’s Musketeers (though, say,
we’d call the bottom
 One “bottom”), Vergara (who’d cite,
 vocally,
 Books of Moses and Talmud, both found
 in TROIS-D
 Paper tomes with great UNE-B—TROIS-F
 never got ’em
 All clasped in her arms in one
 mulb’rry-bark heap),
 And DEUX-A who had learnt in eight
 seasons to strum
 Greek TROIS-E? *Seven Meet The*
Triceratops, Some
Legal Expert, And Musical Nags, Neats,
And Sheep!
 =RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

R-16. DRUNK HOMOPHONE WNFR

(11, *4 *6) (*4 *6 = not MW)

In the beer hall beneath Central Perk...
 =RALF P. OLIO, Rubio SD

R-17. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA

(6) (findable) (A, B = * phrases)



*A. d expressions,
pitchfork in between.
He painted them, a striking rural scene.



*B. e sign you've had
a sprain.
Drug that's in the cabinet stops pain.

At Starbucks, buy a nice big drink.
You deserve it, don't you think?
=RALF P. OLIO, Worn WE

R-18. OVERLOADED BREVIGRAM

(4, 4)

OVERLOADED BREVIGRAM †

(4, 4) (same second 4) (can be sung)

He plays the violin;
The middle two strings make a din
As he bows both of those,
Good and strong, twice as long
As a whole note! He plays (never using
Guitars that have pedals or choosing
A key without sharps)
Whole notes squared,
Line-girt, or paired,
With no use of HARPs!
=RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

**R-19. OVERLOADED MULTIPLE
BIGRAM BEHEADMENT**

(9) (9 = not MW)

One card short of a deck,
One egg shy of a dozen,
One day short of a week,
I'm still Livy's great cousin!

I extract the best ore,
And I swear it quite truly—
Formic acid plus more:
Just a rock and some DUALLY.
=RALF P. OLIO, Carig PH

**R-20. WELDED FALSE APT
PHONETIC TRANSADDITION
GROUP (7, 6, 4, 9)**

Ralfs aren't perilous—not for the Krewe.
Both FOUR solvers and vets can solve
TWO.

Once you've ONE upon each,
You'll find sols within reach.
(Even when some THREE's missing a
clue.)
=RALF P. OLIO, Birn TN

R-21. SINGULARITY

(3, 3) (clued in order)

FALSE PIG LATIN

(3, 3) (FUZZIN', AS IN FEY)

There's something sus about this pig.
I got her off my cousin.
He charged me one old coin from France.
Seemed worth it but it wasn'.
The way she walks is something strange
That sets my brain abuzzin':
Her front moves up by just three steps,
The rest moves up a dozen.
This AS IN FEY indeed is sus,
My pig bought for a FUZZIN'.
=RALF P. OLIO, Eo MA

R-22. FIRST-TO-LAST**CHANHELIOVER**

(6, *6) (neither MW)

No one drove in a B to the '18 premiere
Of Stravinsky's *Histoire du A* (*Tale of
the Trooper*),

For Nissan first sold cars called "Bs" in
the year

'34. (In a mere mundane changeover,
super-

Cool info like this isn't present, but
here,

With Apollo involved, every fact's
super-duper.)

=RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

R-23. PHRASE HOMONYM

(*5 2 3 ^5-4 5)

Our NPL roster lands early each year.

Aye, we get it in Feb. as a rule.

HURRY UP PLEASE ITS TIME

Perhaps it should come when some lilacs
are here?

I believe, though it makes me a fool:

"WASTE NOT WANT NOT" (in
rhyme).

=RALF P. OLIO, 42.34N71.20W

R-24. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (9)

- A. I stood in line. It seemed like days.
The sun beat down with heavy rays.
- B. Destiny my pain erased
As my new taxi gig I chased.
- C. Tobacco smokers make me sick.
My cab they aren't allowed to pick.
- D. Edicts I deliver just
To keep my cab from getting mussed.

Listen, pal! The bus is fine

For you. Call this your end of line.

=RALF P. OLIO, A Bar SC

ANAGRAM**R-25. AS NINE MUSES' PAPI, I'LL GO**

"ZOT" (*4)

=RALF P. OLIO, Macho WI

AMBIGRAM**R-26. (2)**

=RALF P. OLIO, Hel PA

RALFORMS**RF-1. DOUBLE HOLLOW DIAMOND****Across**

1 High-class

2 Intention

3 Added a dash of liquor to, as a punch

4 British author of *The Flatshare* and
The Road Trip (WP)

5 MA governor for whom a fictional
amphibian was named

6 Serbian city... or where to look it up?

7 About, re dates

Down

1 Blood group

2 Trip stage

3 Consumed

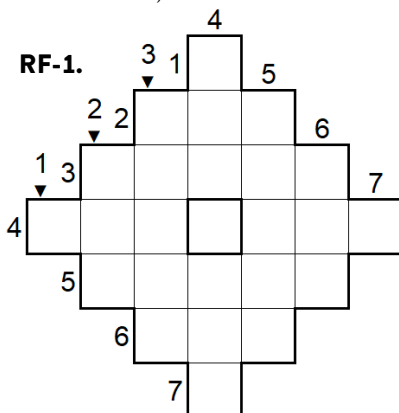
4 Good-tempered

5 Sweethearts

6 Uninteresting

7 Gym facility, with "the"

=RALF P. OLIO, Worn WE



RF-2. THIS WAY AND THAT
DIAMOND-HOLLOWED
SQUARE

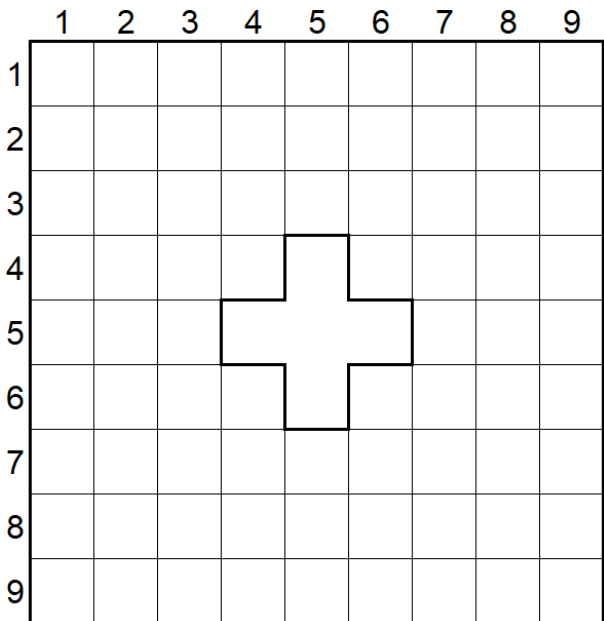
Across

- 1 selggig rof tsuJ
2 Subset of real numbers
3 “That’s not out of my reach!”
4 Sum and substance | Ox of India
5 DIY aid | Rx request
6 Concrete example? | Name of a Greek sea nymph
7 John Gotti’s sobriquet
8 yllaiuqolloc ,esuaponeM
9 suoitatnetso eroM

Down

- 1 Me, especially in April
2 Gross irreverence
3 ?evol ekaM
4 Bad spell | Lacking interest
5 Beaten punch? | Amazed cries
6 “Little” sister in *Hairspray* | Quipu user
7 Newer getaway car description, perhaps
8 eciovni ylhtnoM
9 Smart set
=RALF P. OLIO, Delta NE

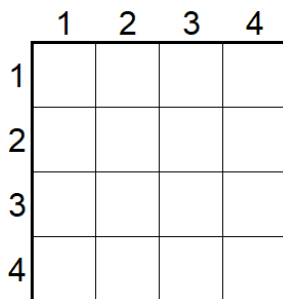
RF-2.



RF-3. VWLLSS SQR

- 1 Ct, n th stt jst nrth f rgn, brng th fmd rptd nm
2 Rsptrtr scs f mnt sz fr xchngng gss
3 Ngrn sttsmn nd fndr f th ctn Grp prt (Brtnnc)
4 Knd f mnns tht s pqnt
=RALF P. OLIO, Eo MA

RF-3.



CRYPTOGRALFS

RC-1. Something to say.

RALF P. OLIO, Queue OZ

MS ' E

EOXGPYQHMLPQJMHMESMYGUXMQHMCAYMAOE,
 GTGF SIAOJI SIG EAOFC AL MS ME
 EANGSIMFJ WOMSG QSPAYMAOE!

RC-2. Hint

RALF P. OLIO, Queue OZ

BOUEPCV WUACCJ ARKP, OPQAVLAC JMYKJ
 SJOHP PWRJC, JMYKJ MUVJ YJYJ KPSAM
 JMYKJ LCJQP ARKP SJOHP.

BOARD BITS

From Ralf P. Olío, Guest Editor

I don't have a lot to say this year, and Btirn told me to fill the silence by thanking people. That sounds like a good idea. So, I'm giving a shout-out to the editing team. Their noms (or, in one case, nicknom) are recorded in the grid below.

h t ī g æ r d i
 n a m s k e l
 ü m ē z r v h
 r i ə th ō j r
 v æ r t ò d ō y

CALENDAR

JULY 2025

17–20: SPAMCon,
 St. Paul and
 Minneapolis MN

WEEKLY

Tuesday: Games &
 Puzzles Night, Zoom

Wednesday: *Enigma*
 Cosolve, Zoom

From the Editor

Thank you to Ralf P. Olío for putting together this issue; the list of assistants can be found on page 10. Thanks also to raw for the Shakespearean intro and to yodaughter for the infusion of Dutch.

The puzzles in the “Ralf” section each have something strange going on; you’re welcome to send in solutions and kudos, but they will not be counted toward solving statistics. As happens every year, some of Ralf’s spirit spreads to the rest of the issue. Consider yourselves warned.

HAPPY KREWEVERSAARY!

45 Years: Mr E, Zonker

35 Years: Saphir

15 Years: David Bael, Which

5 Years: AthParth, Lady Mondegreen

SPAMCON UPDATE – B-SIDE AND WXYZ HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

It's time to make your travel plans for SPAMCon! This year's National Puzzlers' League convention will be held July 17–20, 2025, with a pre-Con picnic at the hotel Wednesday evening, July 16.

Our hotel block is already available for you to make reservations—go to <https://tinyurl.com/NPLConHotel2025> or dial 877-699-3216 and mention you're booking for "NPL Con 2025" to make these. Our hotel this year is the Courtyard Minneapolis Downtown at 1500 Washington Ave S in Downtown Minneapolis. Our room rate of \$159/night is good from Sunday, July 13 to the following Sunday, July 20th. Reservations close for our block June 20th—don't delay!

Registration is **also** now open at nplcon2025.wordpress.com. This year's Con fee will be \$315, which covers all meals (the picnic, Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and Sunday breakfast) and the program. Like last year, this rate is only good until June 15, 2025. After that point it will increase to \$350.

More details will be released in upcoming editions of *The Enigma* and on the Con website.

See you soon!

CONSISTANCE – JEFFURRY

The Consistance committee has made their decisions about which applicants will receive how much of a boost to attend SPAMCon in Minneapolis/St. Paul this summer. This year had the most applications yet, which made the committee's job harder than ever. Do you know how you can help out the applicants and make the committee's lives easier? Consider donating to Consistance through PayPal to treasurer@puzzlers.org or by check to Eight Ninety's home address. This way we won't have to worry about having enough funding for next year's applicants. Thank you.

WEB TEAM

Hi all, As you may recall from yodaughter's announcement in the January 2025 Enigma, we are reworking the NPL website. We want to prioritize the parts of the site that members think are most important. To help guide us, we've created a short survey, which you can take here: <https://tinyurl.com/NPLWebPoll>

The survey will be open until April 14, 2025. It's only six questions and should take about five minutes to complete. Thanks for sharing your thoughts.

If you'd like to be involved with helping to update the website, please reach out to webdevelopment@puzzlers.org. Note that you don't need to be tech savvy to help; we'll need writers, designers, people to test things, and so on. If you want to contribute, we'll find a way to use your skills.

Signed, the Web Development Team: ★Buck, 530nm330Hz, B-Side, Index, Jenergy, Jo the Loiterer, Nonelvis, Wild Rice, and yodaughter

NEW MEMBERS

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RESIGNED / REMOVED

Ellis-Fauve Barden-King, Riddhi Bhargava, David Dearmore, Wally Firlit (Xmas Tree), Rachael Groynom (Rock ★), Joel Jacob, Andrew McManus (Jeremiahs Johnson), Colm Molloy (Cromulent), Bruce Ryan (Suaku), Patricia Smith, Alan Stillson (Music Man), Kari Williams

FEBRUARY AFTERNOTES

E-4. Crax writes: The Guide cites “Mustang” as an example of a “not MW” brand name, since it is not literally a horse. However, online MW now includes “Mustang” (pronounced differently) as a geographical entry (you have to scroll down to see it), which means the car is now “non-MW usage”. Old tags (including in Guide examples) can be rendered incorrect by changes to online MW.

MARCH ERRATA

The solution to January C-6 was incorrect. It should have read: Study finds Bigfoot sighting frequency correlated with black bear numbers, except Florida locations.

APRIL PUZZLES

R-1 To the tune of "Yellow Rose of Texas".

R-18 To the tune of "He Plays the Violin" from the musical *1776*.

4, 9, 22, 26. Combinom: ManyPinkHats/Regards.

4. To the tune of "I Walk the Line" by Johnny Cash.

8. The triple-esses are not part of the rubric.

9. To the tune of "Lolly, Lolly, Lolly, Get Your Adverbs Here" by Bob Dorough (*Schoolhouse Rock!*).

22. To the tune of "9 to 5" by Dolly Parton.

26. To the tune of "Top of the World" by the Carpenters.

35. In a progressive alternade, two words are alternated as in a normal alternade, and the result is alternated with a third word to form a longer word or phrase. Example: *abhorrence; arc, he, borne*.

37. With apologies to Lionel Hutz.

E-3. Belgian Waffle: Clues are given in alphabetical order by answer. The upper left corner gives enumerations for two answers. Enter one of these in the remaining cells in the first row, with the letters distributed across the row, at least one letter per cell. Enter the other similarly in the first column. Enter all other answers in the remaining cells, one answer per cell, so that each of these answers is a transposal of the letters in the corresponding cells in the first row and first column. Answers may include capitalized words; capitalization is not indicated.

E-4, E-5. Vienna Sausage: A variation on the German sausage. Clues to a first list of answers are given. As in a German sausage, each pair of consecutive answers can be combined and transposed to form a second list of answers. Additionally, each triplet of consecutive answers can be combined and transposed to form a third list of answers. Enumerations are given for the third list.

F-4. This is a variogram square with an Aprilish title.

C-2. By Augustus De Morgan.

C-4. *NIGBQD *DGXLKK = not MW.

C-7. Welcome, new constructor Hoyt Arcane!

DRAMATIS APRILIS PERSONAE

530nm330Hz: R-10, R-23

8: R-26

al dente: RF-2

Axiom: R-4, R-13, R-21, RF-3

Btnirn: R-20

Cogito?: R-12

Craig: R-19

Crax: R-3, R-9, R-11

/dev/joe: R-14

ManyPinkHats/Regards: R-5

Mr E: R-2

Newrow: R-17, RF-1

Qoz: RC-1, RC-2

Rosebud: R-16

Scarab: R-6, R-24

Shad0: R-8

Ucaoiimhu: R-1, R-7, R-15, R-18,

R-22, R-25

PENETRALIA

Solution words and phrases not found at www.merriam-webster.com ("online MW") are labeled by the Merriam-Webster dictionary in which they appear in print: 11C (11th Collegiate), NI3, or NI2. Non-MW words and usages are noted. "+" signifies foreign, slang, dialect, obsolete, archaic, and the like. Capitalized words get a "*"; words in all-caps get "***". Words that are capitalized (as in names or titles) but normally uncapitalized with the same usage get a "^" or "^". Puzzles with a puzzle note 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 May 1, 2025, to /dev/joe, Joseph DeVincentsi, 12 Saunders St., Salem MA 01970, solutions@puzzlers.org. All lists must be postmarked by May 31, 2025.

1. PHONIGMATIC REBUS

(*5 7," *1 3)

30 years

You see me, in this flat, declare,
 "It's been one sesquidecade pair
 Since my first trine of English flats
 Was published here." Then later, "That's
 Not saying flats of mine that used
 (say) Sans- or Prakrit were refused;
 Yours truly's had no flats in TWO
 ASSESSMENT CYCLES ROME WOULD
 DO.
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

2. SUBER

(*1 3, *1'1 2 5. 2) (5 = +, not MW)

FREEWHEELING DELETION

(10, 3 2 *4)

My physician friend thinks me a foe and
 rapscallion,
 So my case must be made using odic
 Italian:
 "ANS you know what that means? That
 italicized word
 Means a SUER, so trust me and be not
 absurd!"
 =AXIOM, Montreal QC

3. INTERLOCK (8)

The Exodus story at seders is told,
 From Israelite bondage to being set free:
 The role of ten plagues that forced
 Pharaoh to fold,
 And how the Red Sea FULled to let
 people flee.

A seder's two sections are FULled by a
 feast;
 No effort is ONed by the meal's cooking
 crew.
 If you're not engaged and say, "Please tell
 the least,"
 A brief version is, "We were ONed, now
 let's TWO."
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

4. ALTERNADE † (8) (can be sung)

(TWO = *, phrase usage)

I swim in Lake TWO when the weather's
 fine,
 But I'm hirsute and Cleveland kids
 unkind.
 I ONE at being called "ALL"; I feel
 maligned.
 They chant "ursine", and cross a line.
 =MANYPINKREGARDS, Hamil2n ON

5. PHONIGMATIC REBUS WNFR

([4 4 2 3])

entury

Hello again...

=MUNRO, Chappaqua NY

6. FREEWHEELING BIGRAM SHIFT

(1 11, 1 1 10) (clued in order)

Strike the typos—that's my goal.

Endless game of Whac-A-Mole.

Try to zap that last mistake.

Always one more SHAKE and BAKE.

=CRAX, Mountain View CA

7. ALTERPOSAL (7-5)

GATEWRIGHT doors and windows tight

To keep out drafts and rain; ghosts, too,

Cannot get in. That dreaded WIGHT

Shall never GRATE or bug you. Phew!

=Nemo DeSluyp, White Plains NY

8. PHONIGMATIC REBUS †

(8 8) (can be hissed) (or sung)

seder

Isss thiss the real life? Isss thiss jussst
fantasssy?Sssat a ssseder, ssseveral ssserpentsss
sssurrounding me.Open my book, give it one quick look and
sssee:Thiss ain't "Dayenu"—don't know the
melody.Isss thiss sssong parssselntongue? I don't
know.

Hissssssing high, hissssssing low.

With itsss freeform ssstructure, thiss
SSSOL ssseemsss like nonsssenss
to me,

To me.

=AXIOM, Montreal QC

9. LETTER BANK † (4 4, 10, 3 2 1 6)

(EIGHT = NI2) (can be sung)

Trolley, trolley, trolley, get its cab worked
here.Railway yards have dollies that can bring
carts clearInside when it's squally out. Each
engineer

In our EIGHT knows

Where each widge goes;

The strictest teachers schooled 'em.

Principals or broolly-wielding TENs would
testKnowledge over folly. While the years
progressed,They became appalling wallydraigles,
quivering with stress!

Time in our hut with trains

Can't mollify their brains.

Obsessing over wagonettes and streetcars
bigger than wains,

Each one's insane, full of balderdash, or

TWELVE (like Carroll's haberdasher).

=MANYPINKREGARDS, Hamil2n ON

10. LETTER BANK (1-10, *5 *6'1 *3)

(EGG CUP = 1-10 = inferable)

"Yon Kiwis get 24 hours off work," he

Declared, "for my feast late in April,
called FLAGON.I ne'er thought they'd hear of me so far
from TurkeyBack then when I simply was EGG CUP
that dragon!"

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

11. METATHESIS (*5, 5)

I went to hear the CSO

Perform the *Nelson Mass* by FIRST.

The SECOND program let me know

How long the players had rehearsed.

=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

12. ORDER TAKEOUT CHARADE

(*3, 5, 4, 2, 3; *7) (ONE = N12 usage)

He was named after Lincoln, this friend I
call ONE,
And proficient in climbing: a
mountaineer's son,
So renowned in his trade, known in prose
and in TWO.
He invited me once, on a trip with a few
Of his friends for a small but exciting
ascent—
"All of FOUR will prevail!"—and to join
them I meant.
But those plans quickly changed to a
scary vacation,
And I worried and THREEd over this
alteration,
And I tried to FIVE out when he said we'd
Go Tall,
Since the place where we'd travel would
now be Mount ALL.
=COUSIN JOE, Cleveland OH

13. PHONETIC ENTAILMENT**GROUP** (5, 4, 4, **4, 3, 3)

My letter: sixty-five cents paid, with ONE
cents postage due.
I wrote about a summer day; the joy
could not be TWO.
I sprayed some FOUR to thwart the bugs,
and then I took a THREE
Upon the grass to FIVE my lunch. A
beauty did I see
When lifting up a stone: an orange
SIX—a startling hue.
=NEWROW, Brookline MA

14. CONSONANTCY WE ONLY**READ THE END OF** (8, 6)

...And Darkness and Decay and the Red
Death held
Illimitable dominion over all.
=BARTOK, La Habra CA

15. EXODUS (6, *6, 3 5-3 4)

(second 3 = +)

Said that Lady (now horseless and
dressed)
At the seder, "I don't see that guest
Who keeps lauding e-raincoats that
think!" "I
Believe tipster Smith now has pinkeye,
And not till it's gone from both types
Of conjunctiva joined to the CRIPES
Smith be here with no risk that we'll then
Get that plague that's not one of the ten."
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

**16. OVERLOADED SECOND-LETTER
CHANGE** (7)

In general, a rule of thumb:
Most dentists, when they want to numb,
Apply a WORD gel to your gum.
=BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

17. PHONIGMATIC REBUS

(5 **4 3 "3 *1") (**4 = not MW)

(*1 = non-MW usage) (non-MW

material in rubric; + usage in reading)

®TAZO

O, Boston and Baltimore argue a bunch;
They're precious about what they share,
Like which city's crabs should be offered
as lunch
Or whose bay is "older", and I have a
hunch
They'll never find common ground there.

But one thing that's certain: Both towns
beat their chest.
Their transit schemes fill them with pride.
See, Boston says proudly "Our trains are
just best."
But Baltimore shrugs. "Though I'm sure
you're impressed,
We'd never SOLUTION," they chide.
=KANGA, Kensington MD

18. FREEWHEELING WORD**DELETION** (7 7) (INNER = * phrase)

After crossing the INNER, the Israelites,
While they waited for Moses (who up in
the heights
Was receiving some rules about OUTER
and theft),
Unpacked some of the stuff they had
brought when they left.
To escape from the sun, they installed
ALL and made
A nice station for resting their feet in the
shade.
=AXIOM, Montreal QC

19. ENIGMATIC REBUS (*7)

P fool

This flat here makes no use of "aril" (a
cool
Term for seed coat, which may come from
olden Salerno,
Five hundred miles west of Bulgaria's
THEY'RE NO
ALPS Mountains). You thought that it
did? April fool!
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

20. FALSE SUPERHERO'S GADGET

(3, 6)

The millionaire needed a break and
withdrew
From the party and quietly went to the
loo.
Imagine the shock, looking down at the
tub—
There was Barbara Gordon enjoying a
scrub!
While looking at SHORT, Bruce got
nervous and shy,
But the LONG remained calm and did
not twitch an eye.
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

21. SINGULARITY (4-4) (POSE = *)

Hadrian of Rome,
Building far from home,
Made a stony fence,
Sparing no expense.
Cambria, he missed
(Structures don't exist).
Kept the status quo:
POSSE POSE stayed so.
=Nemo DeSluyp, White Plains NY

22. LETTER BANK †

(5 2, 8, 10, 13) (can be sung)

Jiggling the key, I've a niggling suspicion
Something's wrong with my car's ignition.
All current flow has stopped; the TEN is
fried.
I'll fix it SEVEN, for now face the judging,
Less-than-EIGHT stares as folks see me
trudging
With the THIRTEEN ligaments to aid my
stride.

Running front and side from each tibia to
the femur,
They help stabilize knee rotation. My
demeanor
Means I strut with pride, but I'm EIGHT
of glares from gawkers.
I accept that drivers ought to watch for
walkers.
=MANYPINKREGARDS, Hamil2n ON

23. WORD DELETION (6)

While the old man's content to cast
someplace that's near,
ONE his prime, he'd be out on a boat or a
pier.
Every time he would TWO, he'd bring
lures and strong lines,
ALLING up with huge catches of various
kinds.
=COUSIN JOE, Cleveland OH

24. WORD DELETION

(*7) (ALL = not MW)

Boris ALL INned on today
 (I write on February 27).
 Forevermore the champ will play
 On that great chessboard in the OUT
 (in heaven).
 =8, Cambridge MA

25. PHONIGMATIC REBUS

([*5 *3] 4, *1) (reading has not-quite-MW usage)

Regretfully

"We regretfully state that no bills we give
 anyone

Here as a prize say (in Latin) 'From many,
 one.'

Notes at this late-April tree
 celebration

Depict some folks signing, and founding
 the nation;

No scroll reads, on our SORRY Pluribus
 Unum'

(Nor seems like it's bound for an eagle's
 jejunum).

So please, do not mail, fax, or text us a
 photo!"

(That's what's on our regular flier, in
 toto.)

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

26. ISOMORPH † (10, *10)

(clued in order)

(can be sung)

This Con a drop in the river going down
 through the nation

To its EPEE elevation—the nadir—

On the way will flow through Nashville's
 state. The altitude

Our LULL Contry had won't top SPAM's
 this year.

=MANYPINKREGARDS, Hamil2n ON

27. FREEWHEELING LETTER BANK

(6 7, [3 4 5 5 6 5])

I love all Jewish holidays.

On Hanukkah, with awe I gaze

At eight FREEWHEELING as they shine

In my menorah (really, nine

If you include a shammash too).

Then Passover arrives a few

Months later, and it's matzah time.

I think unleavened food is prime!

You don't need some serrated knife

To cut that crispy staff of life.

It's not just good. It's more than that.

It's SIX WORD PHRASE TO END MY FLAT!

=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

28. FALSE FALSENESS

(4, 7) (CHOPIN, PHONIC)

(to the tune of "Minute Waltz")

In *this* flat, does something "appear to be
 PHONIC"

(A phrasing I take to be oxymoronic)?

The source? Is it PHONIC? It's here...

but it's false:

This can't be CHOPIned to a pianist's
 valve.

The number of letters is PHONIC? No,
 clearly.

The cuewords exemplary? Heck no, not
 nearly.

=BARTOK, La Habra CA

29. ACROTELESTICHAL ENIGMA (14)

A. A pert sharp blow or sound sure will
 Satisfy. I've had my fill.

B. I deftly stow my hidden cache.
 Low, sleek car: it's got panache.

C. Utmost effort. Fingers crossed.
 Front end covered now with frost.

The Earl of Coventry, they say,
 Will cheer you up in every way.

=NEWROW, Brookline MA

30. ALTERPOSAL

(13) (SCOTTISH = inferable, NI2)

See a dipper (in the Bear),
 Three, four stars. Are oxen there?
 ITCH yourself and face due north.
 TOSS your star chart; look with care.
 Aim for SCOTTISH lands. Go forth!
 =Nemo DeSluyp, White Plains NY

31. REVERSED MULTIPLE**REPEATED-LETTER DELETION (8)**

After loading your haul
 In your van, don't be rude:
 Leave your SOME by the ALL
 For the next person's food.
 =BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

32. TRANSPOSAL (9)

The company's product support has been
 PANned;
 It's no longer done by employees on staff.
 The service is sure not as NAP as before.
 Politeness of help has now been cut in
 half.
 =WITZ, Vancouver BC

**33. OVERLOADED WORD
DELETION (10)**

Two hoops teams there saw a jester frown,
 Then smile, in a work by Stratford's bard;
 His lips went point four inches down,
 Then up. No forward felt for the clown,
 And neither, really, did any guard.

The other two began, though, to sigh,
 Weep, and laugh; it was so intense
 They gave up B-ball for theater arts!
 (So Touchstone's mouth-parts moved two
 PARTs,
 And that has made all the difference.)
 =UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

34. TRANSDELETION

(*9) (SEVEN = * = findable)

At an air show near Washington (*NINE
 is the place),
 A fearless young pilot descended from space
 In a whirling SIX spin—gave each one in
 the crowd
 A jolt in the gut near the FIVE. He's so
 proud!
 Some may have felt that grand gesture
 was EIGHT,
 But he'd had things in mind. Yes, he'd
 said, "Just you wait!"
 Thinking back to NC and that field years
 ago,
 Could *SEVEN have ever imagined this
 show?
 =NEWROW, Brookline MA

35. PROGRESSIVE ALTERNADE †

(*83)

As SAG your decree,
 I have painted the room
 In SPREAD-EAGLE hues
 To cast away gloom.
 To PEDAL, I see
 Why this rusty rose bloom
 That painters would use
 (Ere those Romans met doom
 When Vesuvius got REE
 And, upset, went kaboom)
 Is indeed what you'd choose!
 =AXIOM, Montreal QC

ANAGRAM**36. ALL I'D SAY: PROOF? [*5 *5' *3]**

=TYGER, Hoboken NJ

37. BIAMBIGRAM †

(^8 ^6 ^5) (findable)

LIB PAL ON AIR: NO AID CUT
 LIB PAL ON AIR? NO, AID CUT!
 =JET, Stafford Heights QLD

EXTRAS

E-1. VERTIQUOTH WNFR (enumeration withheld)

Tapping, rapping.

E E E M N O R R T V
A D E E H N E V G R
L O R A A N P L E A
=[Vroo], Bellevue WA

E-2. ANAQUIP (10 2 1 8 2 8. 10 2 1 8 2 8. 10 2 1...)

You can say that again.

AHA ALL ARK CHI EAC EPE ETI GRE
HIN ION ISA ITI KOF LLM MAR NGR
NIS OFT ONI PET REP SAH TEA TIO
TIT
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-3. BELGIAN WAFFLE †

| | | | | |
|----|----|--|--|--|
| 9↓ | →7 | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Nut in a cupule
Church usher
Breed of draft horse
Projecting architectural support
Welsh dog breed
French pastry shell
Mother of Perseus
Islands west of Sicily
Astronaut’s protective clothing
Having keen insight
Sushi fish
=Nemo DeSluymph, White Plains NY

E-4. VIENNA SAUSAGE † (5)

- 1. v
- 2. First person
- 3. Stop!
- 1+2. Destination after 6th form
- 2+3. It's exchanged at an electrode
- 3+1. Animal, vegetable, or mineral
- 1+2+3. This
- =JET, Stafford Heights QLD

E-5. VIENNA SAUSAGE † (12)

- 1. Coconut fiber
- 2. Waveform
- 3. It's pitched in a field
- 1+2. The act of voiding a contract
- 2+3. Capable of feeling
- 3+1. Like someone with genuine remorse
- 1+2+3. This
- =JET, Stafford Heights QLD

KU-1. VERTIQUOTE (enumeration withheld)

Record-setting invention.

A E I L M M N N O O P R T U U
I O O S C C P R I O C L I C S
S L S N A I O O C N V O I O C
=raw, Rochester NY

E-6. ANAQUOTE (7 2 7 1 9 2 3 3 4 1 5 2 7 5 2 13. *6 *11)

Preventive maintenance.

ALO ARS CEO DAN DRE EDI EHE EIN
ERS EWA FAL FWR GEL GIS IGH ITI
LAR LTH MIS NGM NST PIE TBE TIN
TOO TZE UND WKA YAR YSA
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-7. MOSAIC QUIP (2 *5 *4, 3 3 3 5 6 2 10 7 8 4 2 6 2 3 4, 3 *1'1 3 4 5.)

[4 rows × 6 columns]

A small step.

AD AN AT DB DR EM
NE HA OU TS NO TI

ER HE IM IN LO NG
AN YO CY ES NA AN

OA OV OY PO RT SC
AS TO ME AR SP RO

SE ST TH TN UT YL
UT SI ON IX PA TT
=Nemo DeSluyp, White Plains NY

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

Opportunity cost.

ENC ERF EST EYT IBE IDE ING INK
ITY MOS OEX OFM THE VAN
ABIL ARAW ETHE GANT OFTH ONEY OVER PERI
SBES SMON TAGE TOTH TPOW ULAD
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-9. ALTERNATING ANAQUOTE

(10 2, 13, 1 10 4 1 10 7 2 3 4 2 3 5 7 3 4 4 2 2... *1. *1. *4)
Origin story.

ALL ARC ART BEC BES BOR HEW ISM
NDA NTH NVI PAT RYI TGB YOU
ATAP AUSE CTIO ICUL ISFU MENT NINI ORLD
OUNT RIOT SHAW STHE TINT WERE YACO
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-10. ALTERNATING ANAQUOTE

(4 4 7 2 11 3 5, 4 4 3'2 7 3 7 11 2 4 7'1 8. *7)
Silence is golden.

ARIS DING EDTH ENYO EOFF ERFE ETRU EVEN
ITHH NGSS NTST OHUR OMEO OPPO REAL SFEE
UNIT VEAM
CT ED EP ER LI LO NE OL
OU OW RT TH TH TS UR WH
YT
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-11. MOSAIC QUOTE (6 2 3 3'1 4 4

11 2 3 3'1 4. *7 *6)
[3 rows x 5 columns]
Chicken soup works both ways.

AY EH ER FO HA
NE VI SS LW ME

IS NE OD OU PR
OU UD HA IS RO

RI SB SH TN YY
FO AH RO NT LE
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

E-12. MOSAIC QUOTE (3 4 “3” *9 8 2

2 10. *7 *6 (3 8 3 3 5 4 4))
[3 rows x 7 columns]
Copy that.

AR BA BL EO GI HO ID
RK AL TH OO PA VE LI

IS LA LL MD NI NL NO
ER HY SI WH OR DB NE

OP RO SM SP TH YD YI
TS TE IE OT YW IS EL
=WITZ, Vancouver BC

X-1. REINSTATEMENT – by GATEMAN, Phoenixville PA

A different two-letter state abbreviation must be inserted into every clue prior to solving. In 38 instances, abbreviations are added to a word to create a new word, two of which are capitalized. In the remaining 8 instances, abbreviations are inserted with a space between the letters to create two new words from one, including one two-word phrase and one capitalized word. For example, **PA** may be inserted into **PORT** in this way to create **POP ART**.

The four unused abbreviations can be arranged into two four-letter words which together could describe what this puzzle is. Submit this phrase along with the grid.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | | | | | | | 11 | | | | | |
| | | 12 | | | 13 | | | 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | | 16 | | 17 | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | 19 | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | 21 | | 22 | | |
| | | | 23 | 24 | | | | | 25 | | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | | | | 30 | | 31 | | | | | |
| | | 32 | 33 | | 34 | 35 | | | | | | |
| 36 | | | | | | | | 37 | | | | |
| | | 38 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 39 | | | | | | 40 | | | | | | |
| 41 | | | | | | 42 | | | | | | |

AK AL AR AZ CA CO CT DE FL GA
HI IA ID IL IN KS KY LA MA MD
ME MI MN MO MS MT NC ND NE NH
NJ NM NV NY OH OK OR PA RI SC
SD TN TX UT VA VT WA WI WV WY

Across

- 1 A couple of applicants quietly wander around condo (7)
- 6 Suer, perhaps by error, is ultimately constructing strong suits (6)
- 10 Red beer awed stock-farmer (7)
- 11 Consult a referee in knit uniform during polo foul (6, 2 wds.)
- 13 After new year, cry about urban center's close (6)
- 15 Voile wears (5)
- 17 Pay tribute to section of metro now heading west (5)
- 18 Lester travels around zone to give miner free bubbly? (7)
- 19 Ads for home sites (4)
- 20 Private coed coteries (8)
- 21 Strange pumas around Venezuela's capital (5)
- 23 A dummy downing a couple of tequilas... he's ten in (7)
- 28 Scratching the head of Han's children (5)
- 30 News agencies break into cooker (8)
- 32 Boot aroused pique, having no heel (4)
- 35 She, as a secret, put lug nuts in dip (7)
- 36 Man in a lace covering shaved sad Tibetan donkey (5)
- 37 Bends in faultless Potomac provide raftsmen serene backdrop (5)
- 38 Idyllic place thin Texan adulterated (6)
- 39 Aunt earned nap, yet is active (6, 2 wds.)
- 40 W Virginia, say, has unhealthiest evacuated (7)
- 41 Chest man once filled with rare bugs (6)
- 42 Perhaps adorned in ox skins from Jacksonville, wise laureate died (7)

Down

- 1 Pack animals eat ends of bushy cresses (7)
- 2 Powers shed up with singular skill (7)
- 3 Great bats dived by at boat race (7)
- 4 Send letters in to editor documenting crisp aroma (4)
- 5 Deer trampled merchant (6)
- 6 Fill festive stocking up to flap (5)
- 7 Bachelor gets into underground steroid (5)
- 8 It's your turn to broadcast content (6)
- 9 Co-lead of sales disturbed April (6)
- 12 Fruit with baked sole (6)
- 14 Watery heron compound (5)
- 16 Following expedition, Poe gets rid of excellent photography gear (7)
- 22 I've ruined raid (6)
- 24 Condescend to Scandinavian ally (5)
- 25 Leader in exile brought up something Che ate in school (7)
- 26 Tycoon's parer bears silver inscription on the bottom (7)
- 27 Scornfully laughed at forester having no English degree (7)
- 28 Hyperlink in girl's extra tattoo (6)
- 29 Don't finish slim, uplifting read (6)
- 31 Tailed for sixty seconds (6)
- 33 Forty win lodges in Utah? Not likely (5)
- 34 Begs for sale out loud (5)
- 37 Lady donated side dish (4)

FORMS

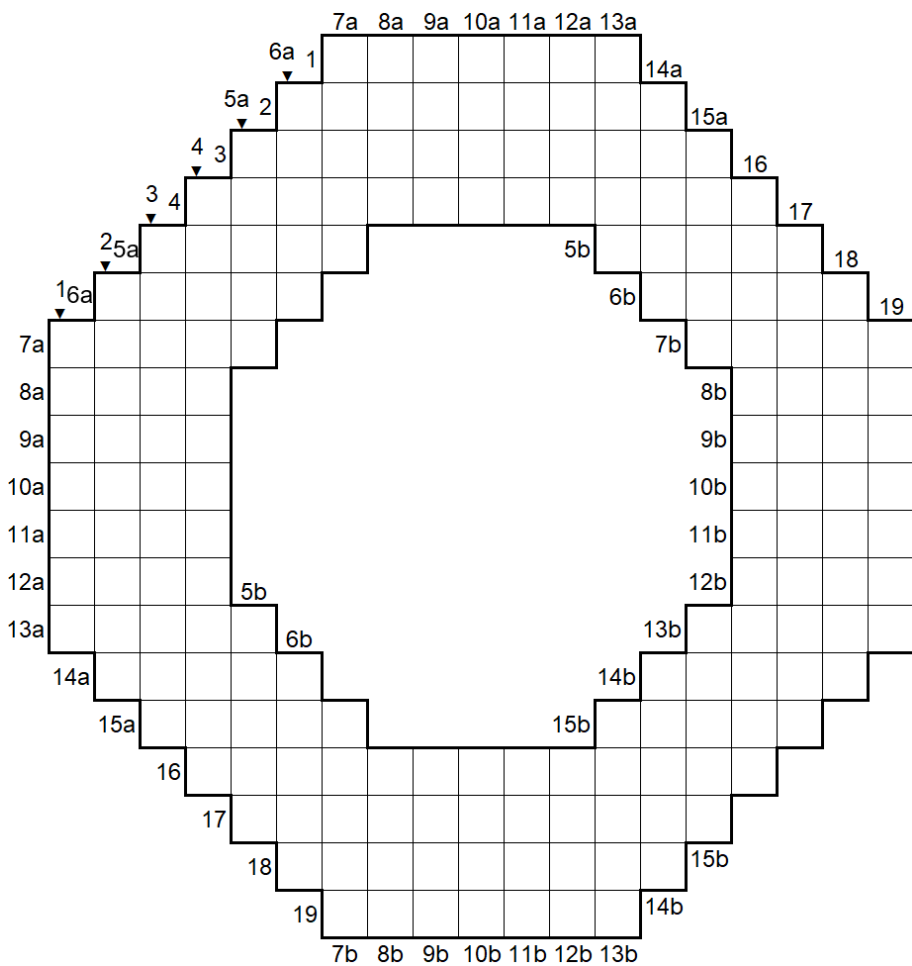
F-1. DOUBLE HOLLOW OCTAGON

Across

- 1 Hammered heavily
- 2 Running full tilt (findable)
- 3 Where to “set a course for adventure, your mind on a new romance” (WP)
- 4 Shared threats (not MW)
- 5 BOGO events | Links legend Slammin’ Sammy
- 6 Prepped a fillet | Bahrain biggies
- 7 Prove apt for | Bad spell
- 8 Computer keys | ____ fresca
- 9 Captain Stubing, for MacLeod | Blow the ship’s foghorn, perhaps
- 10 Cute, to a Brit | “A” code word
- 11 Court figs. | Primordial Big Bang plasma
- 12 Texas pol O’Rourke (WP) | Antifur org.
- 13 Jerk, slangily | Room steward conveyances
- 14 Wails loudly | It’s hardly a cruise ship
- 15 Hayworth, Moreno and Wilson | Familial nickname: var.
- 16 Current medical drama series set on a cruise ship (WP)
- 17 Stateroom-to-stateroom communication network (not MW)
- 18 Process servers
- 19 Bit of mosaic

Down

- 1 What Isaac may run up for you on 3 Across (not MW)
- 2 Reality series set on big yachts with crews (IMDb)
- 3 Suede or chamois, for example (not MW)
- 4 Verification request when checking in for a cruise (not MW)
- 5 Sign of vacancy? | Where the cherry goes
- 6 Actor and rapper Riz | Investment bank name
- 7 Flute features | Guinness choice
- 8 *Voyage of the Damned* scorer Schifrin (WP) | “I’m buying!” (not MW)
- 9 Ghostbuster Spengler or Expressionist painter Schiele | They may accompany dreams
- 10 Thomas of Wendy’s | Spanish bears (Cassell’s)
- 11 Spot for a stream | Newton fraction
- 12 River to the North Sea | River to the North Sea
- 13 Brings to ruin | Ad ____ per aspera
- 14 *Rights of Man* author | Tour vehicles in port, often
- 15 Becomes filled to overflowing | Cave ____; beware of dog
- 16 Traditional bon voyage event on cruise ships (carnival.com)
- 17 Possible concern at the cruise ship infirmary (WP)
- 18 Toon voiced at times by Katy Perry, Demi Lovato or Rihanna (WP)
- 19 Apt headwear while in the cruise port of Colón
=al dente, San Jose CA



F-2. DOUBLE DIAMOND**Across**

- 1 With 9 Across, qualified caregiver of the sick
- 2 Stitched garment border
- 3 Private teacher
- 4 Bug a cellular signal to get information
- 5 Location of a disastrous nuclear power plant accident on April 26, 1986
- 6 Female public speaker distinguished for skill and power
- 7 Started suddenly aside
- 8 One's native land
- 9 See 1 Across

Down

- 1 Temperature scale used in Canada, for short
 - 2 Resident of a very tiny Seussian world
 - 3 Levels or ranks
 - 4 Cheers
 - 5 Power of keeping things in mind
 - 6 Travelled by car
 - 7 Furious
 - 8 Container for the reserved host
 - 9 One dm³
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-3. LEFT WINDMILL

- 1 Fictional antihero whose real name is Al Simmons
 - 2 Disease for which Salk and Sabin developed vaccines
 - 3 People at the highest level of society
 - 4 More prudent
 - 5 Paris landmark that suffered a major fire on April 15, 1919, and was restored
 - 6 Backless armless couch
 - 7 Turn away, as the eyes
 - 8 Sault Sainte ____, Ontario city across from Michigan
 - 9 Insert
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-4. DOUBLING DOWN DOUBLE SQUARE †**Across**

- 1 Wake Forest, Duke and BC org.
- 2 Biblical region synonymous with Babylon, enclosing the site of the Tower of Babel
- 3 Rest homes for old secretaries? (WP)

Down

- 1 One-named singer who played Dorothy in *The Muppets' Wizard of Oz*
 - 2 Fives of dice or card games
 - 3 Retro drive-in waitstaff
- =al dente, San Jose CA

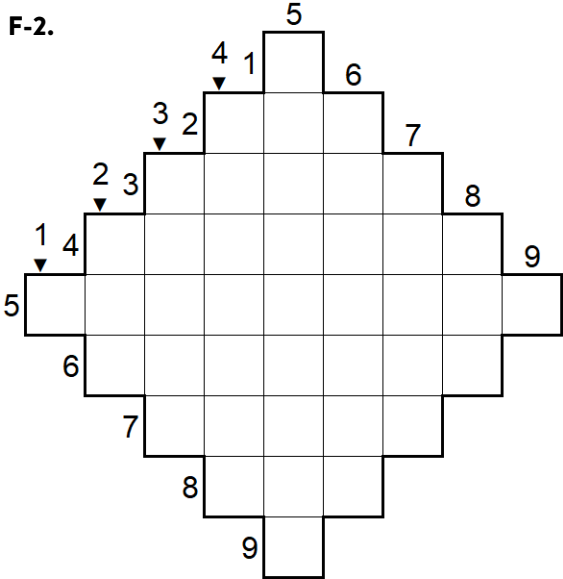
F-5. PYRAMID**Across**

- 1 Approximately 300,000,000 m/s
- 2 Boxer Billy Bird holds the career record for these, at 138
- 3 Biases
- 4 Alternates back and forth
- 5 Specify as a condition
- 6 Direct from behind the scenes
- 7 Annual holiday event for children on White House grounds that initiated officially on April 22, 1878 (WP)

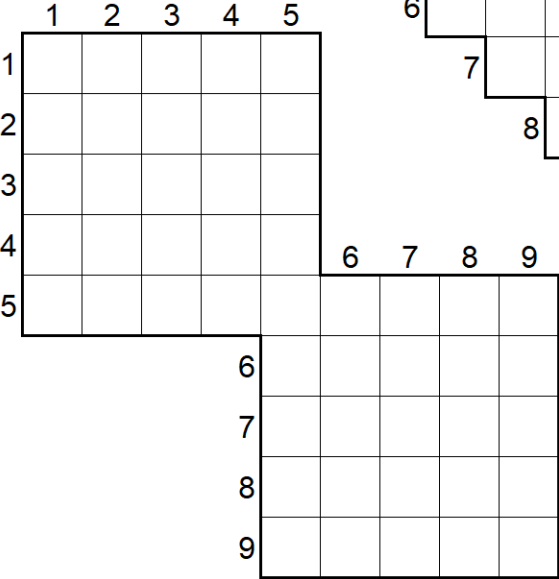
Down

- 1 Inapt direction
 - 2 Subject to approval
 - 3 Thoroughfares, for short
 - 4 Medical "Without delay!"
 - 5 Grayish-yellowish brown
 - 6 Something having genuine or lasting merit
 - 7 Spend wastefully
 - 8 Billy Wilder's 1953 film ____ 17
 - 9 Tried to hit a baseball: dial.
 - 10 Outstandingly talented performer
 - 11 One of three psyche divisions
 - 12 Jor-____ or Kal-____, in the comics
 - 13 Inapt direction or position
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

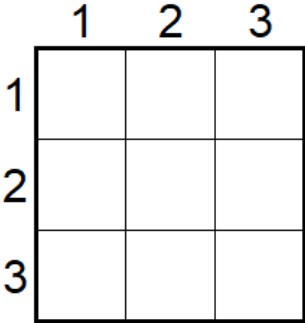
F-2.



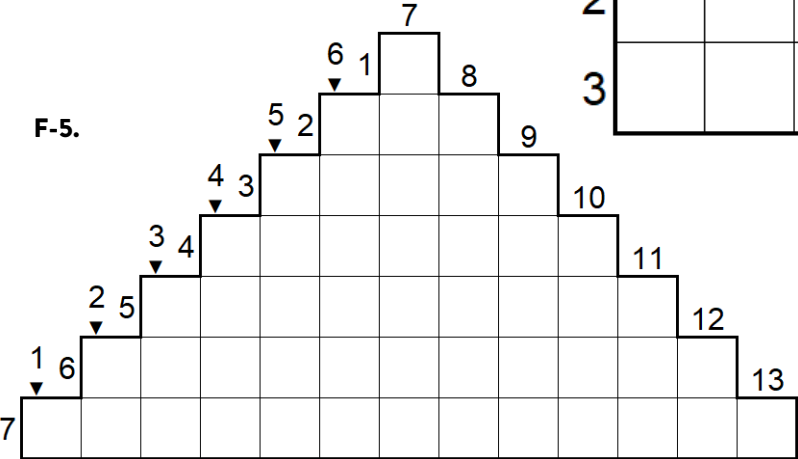
F-3.



F-4.



F-5.



F-6. LEFT RHOMBOID**Across**

- 1 Sunshade umbrella
- 2 Sleeveless collarless shirt
- 3 Like laws re what may or may not be eaten
- 4 Subject of some 3 Across laws
- 5 Hostess snack cake invented by a Canadian-born baker on April 6, 1930 (WP)
- 6 Slender sensory organ
- 7 Something needed that arrives unexpectedly

Down

- 1 Element #15
 - 2 Element #85
 - 3 "Cool!"
 - 4 Black cuckoos
 - 5 Trapshooting with clay pigeons
 - 6 New political home city of Mark Carney
 - 7 Spending time in idleness
 - 8 Without delay
 - 9 Attached draft animals by a wooden frame
 - 10 Assails with loud noise
 - 11 Direction from Vancouver to Calgary
 - 12 Latin year, for short
 - 13 Area on a pool table, especially in snooker
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-7. SQUARE**Across**

- 1 & 4 Certain ice cream sandwiches (WP)
 - 2 & 5 "Mind Bomb" rock band (WP)
 - 3 & 6 Brand of breath freshener discontinued in 2013 (WP)
- =QAQAAQ, Woodland Hills CA

**F-8. RECTANGLE****Across**

- 1 Boisterous play
- 2 Always
- 3 Remove typeset matter
- 4 Ill-mannered child
- 5 Annoyance "faced" by adolescents
- 6 Fad pursued with enthusiasm
- 7 Augury
- 8 Cape

Down

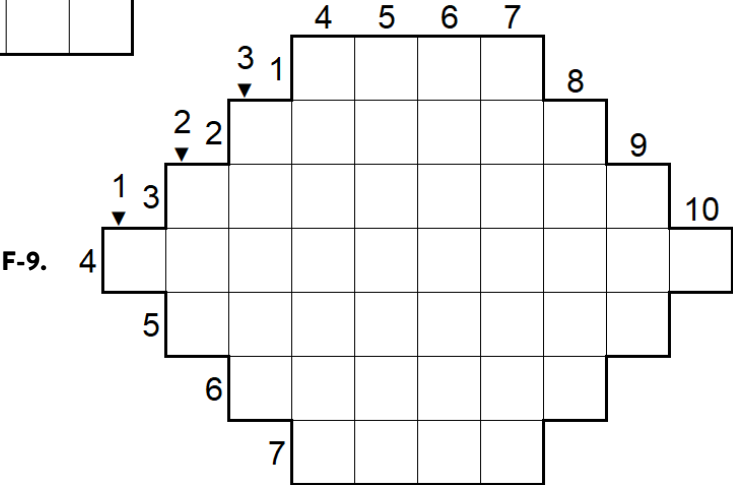
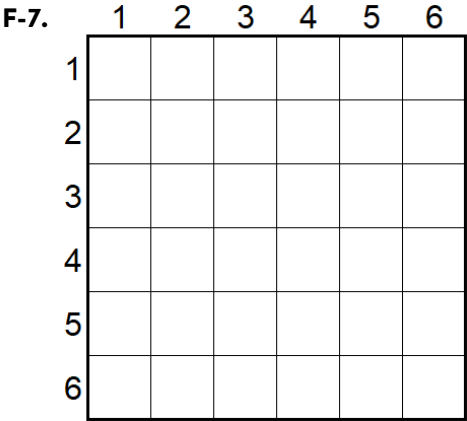
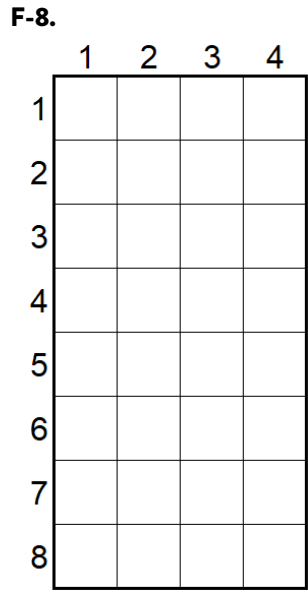
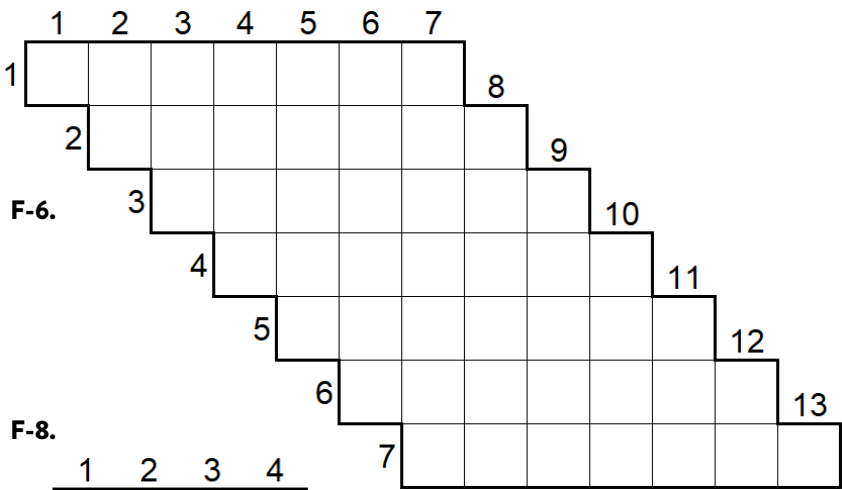
- 1 Air ace of note in World War I, shot down on April 21, 1918 (WP)
 - 2 Surmounted
 - 3 Mixtures of incongruous elements
 - 4 Twelve-year-olds, say
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC

F-9. HEXAGON**Across**

- 1 ____ lane or ____ break
- 2 With 5 Across, CBS news anchor who signed on on April 16, 1962, and whose sign-off was "...And that's the way it is."
- 3 Occurring at the end
- 4 Large mythical aquatic creature
- 5 See 2 Across
- 6 Without doubt
- 7 Shakespeare's *Pericles*, Prince of ____

Down

- 1 Inapt direction
 - 2 Criminal or private investigator
 - 3 Deteriorates by use
 - 4 Arrange for contracted work to be done by others
 - 5 Ecclesiastical building used to distribute charitable gifts
 - 6 Contemptible person
 - 7 Relating to tautness or stress
 - 8 Unkempt
 - 9 Protecting shelter
 - 10 Apt direction or location
- =WITZ, Vancouver BC



JANUARY SOLVERS

The January 2025 *Enigma* had 55 flats, 8 forms, 7 crypts, 12 extras, and 1 cryptic. 47 solution lists, representing 80 solvers, were received.

BlueStorminator, Craig, Deansk, DelphiRune/Papayagi/RUgame?, /dev/joe/Vraal/Tinhorn/Om Nom, Donimo/Wordsmix/Quicks?lver, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Kanga, Lyric/Munro, ManyPinkHats/Regards, Philana/Mercury, Qaqaq, and Witz/Andreas had completes. David Bael/Scarab/Wild Rice/Yarom, Dischorran, Glee/LaDiDa, Is, T McAy, Tril, and Willhelm Scream had flat completes.

Welcome, new solvers Fourmiel and Kanga!

Accepted: 8-ORSK WARE'D (FIE!) VANNED FOR TEA (4) and EYSK WARE'D (FIE!) VANNED FOR TEA (3); 14-STILETTO SHOE for STILETTO HEEL (4); 25-FOR MERCHANT RIGHTS. Not accepted: 4-BAR BELOW DEAD-EYED OUT (2); 14-TIELESS SHOE for STILETTO HEEL; 34-MUCH I ANNOY OUSE EMUS UNDER. -/dev/joe, Solutions Editor

FLATS/FORMS/CRYPTS/EXTRAS/CRYPTIC SOLVED (* = complete): Ajde 11/0*/8/0. Alice/A-Plus/Hot/Ming 51/0/0/0/0. Art Brut/DtheW 52/*/*/*/. Badir 46/*/*/0/*/. David Bael/Scarab/Wild Rice/Yarom */0/0/0/0. Cache 52*/0/0/*/. Chogori/Clio 47/*/*/*/0. Dischorran */7/0/0/*/. Donsie 0/0*/4/0. Dragonfly/Paragon 52/*/*/*/*/. Drauk 45/*/*/*/*/. Endgame 11/6*/0/0. Foobar 49/*/*/*/0. Fourmiel 44*/0*/0. Glee/LaDiDa */*/0/0/*/. GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 51/*/*/*/*/. Is */0/0/*/*/. Kwyjibo 41*/0/11/0. Linko 48*/1/2/*/. Loki-5 50/7*/1/0. Mosayc 21*/6/*/*/. Nemo DeSluyp 50/*/*/*/*/. Newrow/Footfly 47/*/*/11/*/. NJ Ninja 12/*/*/11/0. Pebbles 31*/3/9/0. PiRomantic 35/4*/8/*/. Tabellion/Verdant 34*/0/8/0. T McAy */0/0/0/0. Toototabon/QT-Oh/Noodle Noggin 52/*/*/*/*/. Tril */*/6/*/*/. Tyger/weefoot/Wolverine 51/*/*/*/*/. Violette 53/*/*/*/*/. Widdy/Bambam 52/*/*/10/*/. Willhelm Scream */*/0/6/*/.

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

KUDOS (! = top kudos): Alice 18, X-1!. Anomaly 3, 16, 27, 39, 43, 47!, 48, X-1. Badir 1, 2, 3, 5, 8!, 30, 32, 38, 39, 45, F-1, X-1. BlueStorminator 16, 17, 38. Cache 2, 9, 15, 21, 30, 36, 39, 40, 43, 47, 54, X-1!. Deansk 3!, 9, 12, 16, 22, 49, 51. DelphiRune 30, 35, 38, 51, X-1. /dev/joe 3!, 13, 27, 46, F-1. Dischorran 11, 22, 30, 43, 44. Dragonfly

2, 13, 16, 18, 19, 27, 30!, 35, 42, 43, 49, 50, C-2. Drauk 45. Fourmiel 9, 10, 12, 30, 32, 46. Hot 9, 18, 30, 51, X-1!. Is 9, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 29, 35, 44, 50, E-7. Jo the Loiterer 3, 9, 15, 27, 48, 55. Kanga 22, 24, 27, 35, 36, 43, 49, C-5, E-10, X-1!. LaDiDa 3, 9, 16, 22, 25, 29, 35, 38, 39, X-1. Linko 3, 4, 6, 11, 16, 34, 35, 39, 45, 48, 51, F-8, X-1!. Lyric 3, 25, E-10, X-1!. ManyPinkHats 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 27, C-5. Mercury 1, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21, 33, 35, 46, C-5. Munro 20, 34, X-1!. Nemo DeSluyp 4, 5, 12, X-1. Newrow 3, 32, 45, F-7, X-1!. NJ Ninja 6, 16, 22, 27, 33, 35, 38, 42, 43, 47, 55, X-1!. Noodle Noggin 43, 46. Pebbles 6, 7, 9, 14, 18, 23, 29, 35, 35, 38, 41, 45, C-5!. Qaqaq 3, 30!, 42, 43, 47, X-1. QT-Oh 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 14, 27, 30, 32, 51, X-1. Tabellion 55!, F-6. T McAy 9, 12, 18, 25!, 31, 32, 43. Toototabon 4, 9, 30, 47, 51, X-1. Tril 1, 9, 10, 14, 19, 26, 29, 38, 44, 45, 48, 50, X-1!. Tyger 16, 18, 20, 23, 30, 44, 45, 46, 51, C-2, C-7, X-1!. Violette 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43, 45, 47, 55, X-1!. Wild Rice 3, 32. Witz 3, 12, 15, 16, 32, 45, C-5, E-1, X-1!. Yarom 26, 29, X-1!.

FEBRUARY SOLUTIONS

1. change of heart 2. onstage, get one's goat 3. Curi(e/o) 4. For(t) Sum(t)er
5. sc(ene)ry 6. zaqqum, barren, Cassiopeia 7. Austin, Santa suit, annuitants,
Anastasius III 8. best room in [Bess Truman] 9. chrestomathy [ch|ap (fellow),
re|ason (thinking), st|and (bear), om|it (drop), at|om (piece), hy|pe (engross up
glorious deeds)] 10. sandworms, swordsman 11. papermaker, tetrahedra
12. for Godot [forgo dot (in Mr.)] 13. brochure; bro, sure 14. quicker, Airedales,
sfumato 15. fire hose, hire foes 16. philosophy, falsify 17. silent, stillness 18. tone
bras Kansas 19. (must/boomer)ang 20. vincit, winked 21. def(ici)t 22. Pele mention
(P, element, ion) 23. (b/f/g/l/r)ather 24. steers into; onset, tires 25. verdi(ct)
26. hem, anthem [à la Arctic, Antarctic] 27. soapstone, teaspoons 28. a miracle from
Andrew [amir; a clef; Roman; Drew] 29. Minecraft, maintenance-free 30. badger,
mandate [bad German date] 31. fiend, fine; hau|nt, mi|ghty; f(elle/i)r 32. gnostic,
coming 33. ground crew, grand cru 34. Viking [VI (6), king] 35. See Little Rock! See
Laredo! [seal—it'll rock; seal array; dough] 36. spearmint, intemperateness
37. Popeye (Olive lover) [po|acher (who takes the game), pe|dometer (step counter),
ye|asty (like bread)] 38. reef; Reeves [à la thief, thieves] 39. uptick, optic
40. me(mo/nh)r 41. car(bani)on, ta|d 42. H₂O, hot 43. (minim)alist 44. vowelless
[vow {pledge}, el-less] 45. In God We Trust 46. Kessler Syndrome 47. Galentine's
Day 48. Ukraine

C-1. Winter, spring, summer, or fall: all year long in basketball and football a referee will make a call.

C-2. How many conspiracy theorists does it take to change a light bulb? Do your own research, sheeple!

C-3. Unheralded wildebeest installs tesserae in zoo cage. "Wow!" they said. "Typical gnu and tiler too!"

C-4. Years ago, discussion of cosmetic surgery was taboo. Today, mention Botox and no one raises an eyebrow.

C-5. Heralds announced the arrival of Sam Evening and wife Janet, cueing impromptu arias from partygoers.

C-6. Trivia host hypothesis: player handwriting height varies inversely with answer attainment time.

C-7. Sherlock Holmes cogitates prodigious enigmas through methods handed down via myriad chronicles.

E-1. cite, lace, roan; ice cleat, Carolean, reaction; acceleration

E-2. We look at the world once, in childhood. The rest is memory. Louise Gluck

E-3. People without a sense of humor will never forgive you for being funny. R[ichard] Osman

E-4. Drive your Mustang (out-of-date *Guide* example of non-MW tagging) to Mastung, Pakistan, not to be confused with Mustang, Nepal.

E-5. Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter were married longer than any other presidential couple.

E-6. I know it is wet and the sun is not sunny, but we can have lots of good fun that is funny. Seuss

E-7. It is all chance or destiny and our wayward footsteps are best planted without too much calculation. W[inston] Churchill

E-8. To err on the side of kindness is seldom an error. Liz Armbruster

E-9. ...to do the things we all need done, but which no one wants to do because there is nothing in it for them personally. Melinda Lawrence

E-10. va|le|nt|ine, swe|eth|eart; Eithne, Elwes, Lethe, newsie, newts, relate, Tavare, tenth, the VA, trainee, treant, waves

X-1. The third letters of the extra words in the clues spell "ENTER JUMBLED WITH ONE LETTER CHANGED". The four normal clue answers become four "old-timers" in the Krewe: twin → Witz, sturgeon → Treesong, wonder → Newrow, acre → Crax.

Extra words in clues shown in {brackets}; normal clue answers shown in **bold**.

Across: air pump* {sped}, c(l)ots {money}, Green Beret* {attack's}, den(a)ture {piece}, ot+it+is {surmises}, fake (first letters) {rejecting}, **tw[a]in**, as+leep* {Uruguay}, **s(t)urgeon**, entr'acte* {cameras}, o(ute)at {rabble-rousers}, mars(2) {pollution}, spar(2) {stereo}, **wonder[d]***, oc(c(up)an)t {rode}, unschooled* {laws}, epode[n]* {idioms}, terpene(H) {motor}

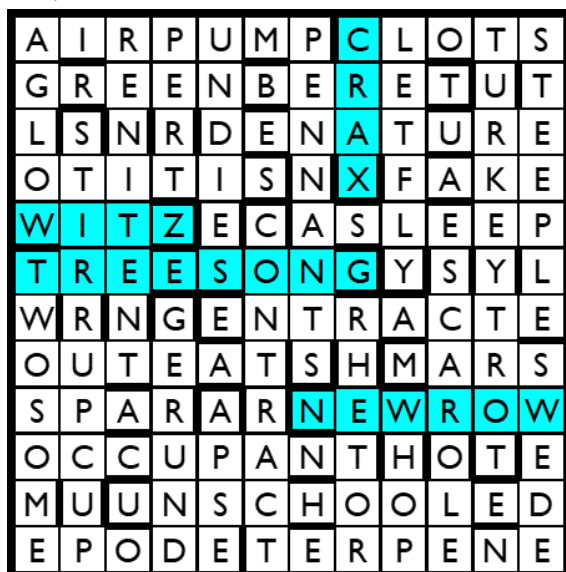
Down: aglo(R)+w {scheme}, renitent* {troublemaker}, per+t {Jenny's}, undies(2) {where}, penn+ants {hold}, **acre(HR)**, l+et fly* {whenever}, tur[n]+key+trot(R) {after}, steep+le {within}, stir+r+up +c+up {prepared}, contract(2) (make "one's" from "one is") {fortune}, escarole[s]* {Rick}, t(wos(R))ome {Mohicans}, ger+und {France}, r+heter* {candidate}, S+wed+e {Ingrid's}, "apse" {Tuesdays}, w[e]hop[e] {addict}

MARCH HINTS AND APRIL EASY LIST

April Easy List: 3, 5, 11, 13, 20, 23.

March Hints:
9. Yes, this is in honor of Ucaaiomhu's 54th birthday, but that's not important right now. The rubric-parsing hint is in lines 6-7.
31. The two sentences only loosely connect, but each clues its word explicitly.
40. That's a lot of colors for one fish. Bonus: The combinom is not part of the rubric.

X-1.



F-1.

DIALSIN
 LONDONFOG
 PERSONIFIED
 CURIOSITYSHOP
 SOLOS ERDOC
 TEMPI YOURS
 CRAMS SNEAD
 HADI DELI
 AVIS SPEC
 RASE TASK
 LIAR ERTE
 ELSA ROAN
 SETTO GLUGS
 DEIST RAINS
 ROTOS FOUND
 NEILARMSTRONG
 OLIVERTWIST
 SCENARIST
 ECOZONE

F-2.

B
 MIS
 COOPS
 MARSHES
 CAPECARTS
 TOOTSIEROLL
 PROCERITY
 IRONIES
 SECTS
 SEE
 S

F-3.

GREGG
 RECUR
 ECOLE
 GULAG
 GREGORIAN
 RONDO
 INCAS
 ADAGE
 NOSES

F-4.

MIRACLEONICE
 TABLECLOTH
 FLASHERS
 ESSOIN
 SEEN
 ED

F-5.

ACE
 FROND
 REENTER
 IWOJIMA
 PELOTON
 RAILS
 ENE

F-6.

CH
 THAW
 PRIDES
 GREEDIER
 REAFFIRMED
 THOMASEDISON

F-7.

CPR GNU
 FORECLOSE
 SPILLOVER
 SMEARED
 ANVIL
 TEA
 S

F-8.

MATAHARI
 ACADEMIC
 CHLORIDE
 EYESORES

F-7. **Across:** C+PR, "gnu", for+e+close, spil(R)+lover, smea*+red, anvi*+l, tea[sed], [kis];

Down: f[re]s[h], co[r]ps, p+rim+a, re+l[ov]e+n[es]t, c+l[o→a]ves, Gl(o)ria*, n+ovel*, [l]us[t]jed, er[oticism]

CRYPTOGRAMS

C-1. Small change.

FOOBAR, Pineville NC

Z A Q A J E Q A Q Y X Y F H L G I A F Y X H L
 H T Y A F L H Y E P A C A J H L G Z B J O E L M J T H G G : H
 J X B F G A X I H Q E I I A F A L Y Z B T T A F .

C-2. Siphonaptera. †

NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

C Q Z Y X T W Z Y V R Y M Z W U X X W Z T W Z Y V G D P S
 X R Z U Q H Y A E V X P H U X Z ' Z L . W U X X W Z T W Z Y V
 R Y M Z W Z V V Z Q T W Z Y V , Y S N V P Y N U S T U S U X G L .

C-3. Quartz-clad alibi.

FEMUR, New York NY

B I A L F P H A J M C Y A N S V W O R A : O R R A S U A U
 O S S P O W F W M F X O S U K O R F Q R C O U A H Q M K
 O S U F M B D W A R A W I W M H R R C O F X M J R N B A .

C-4. Risk-averse. †

raw, Rochester NY

N I L T L Q T L G U K O N X G X Q O D G H N L K K F U J
 N I L Y G B S K L N L N T M N I - Q U G U O B G M D K O Q U E
 S G D N I M B G M D K O . * N I G B Q D * D G X L K K

C-5. Hallmark.

WITZ, Vancouver BC

A U Z O D B T F R Z I I O U K R H T Z I H U L V J F
 E W K R Z T O X J T O U W K H G W Z H X Z Y U Y U K R T K W O D I Z
 W Z A U O W G W X Z V J T K I O T Z W X K B O D I * H X K .

C-6. The rain in Spain...

BROBBERTY, Chicago IL

K O D N I T N Y I S K C V B V P K C T Q X Z * O C J M V J
 * T J X O Z O M W T Y H F X C X V Z K I N X Z J X Y
 * R V Y J T Z Y V Z R V Z M X C R X O M F X C R O C P C T D X .

C-7. Cross words. †

HOYT ARCANÉ, Central City KY

A H N A S Q P C A H O A Y D R H F N E Y Z C , A H N D Y B K
 A H R G Y F Y E Y C T J P H M Y Z A H R N C Y D Y C T ,
 A H O G R E T A H N J C Z A H N B Y O V - A H O Z M Y B K A H T Q C .