# | Cryptic Puzzle | TOM TOCE

# **Party Time**

MOST ACTUARIES ARE SERIOUS PARTY ANIMALS, so I've devoted this puzzle to parties. No tricks, no hidden messages: Just fill out the diagram in a straightforward way. And bring the parties to life!

There are several proper nouns, all fairly common, except 18D, which is somewhat obscure. All other words are playable in Scrabble. However, two of these words are unusual (17A and 35A), and one is archaic (32A).

The clues are cryptic clues. This means that one end is a fairly straightforward definition of the answer, while the other is an alternative, often mechanical, way of getting to the same word. In this puzzle, the mechanical means I use may include puns, homophones, anagrams, constructions, and double definitions. (For a further explanation of cryptic clues, e-mail me at Thomas.Toce@ev.com.) Ignore punctuation, which is intended to mislead.

Thanks to Eric Klis for test-solving and editorial suggestions.

#### **Across Clues**

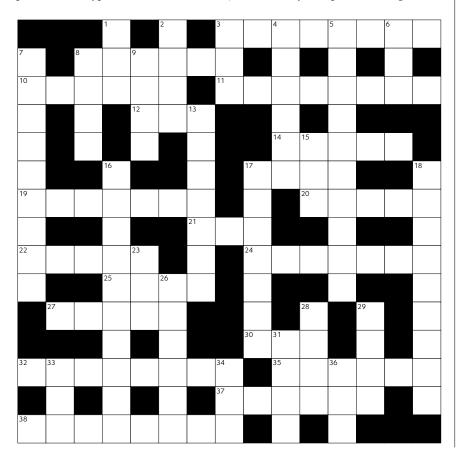
- 3. Secret ID unscrambled one element
- 8. Depose stranger in a bathing suit
- 10. It's a gas—characteristic of absurd
- 11. Fricassée? No, a purée for Angela Merkel or Gordon Brown
- 12. Devilry lacking malice is wearisome
- 14. Flappable Lapp left out of legend
- 17. Sonically, Seal put something

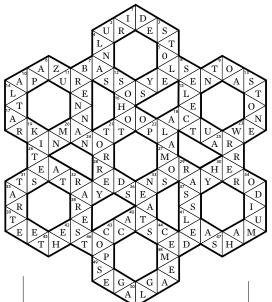


- with alto interrupting Mimi
- 21. Not one sound, sister
- 22. Party of bishops do New York Saturday, from the East Side to the West Side
- 24. Hello, a falsehood, they say: the fastest sport in the world
- 25. Gets hold of police officers
- 27. Mockery made of face-saving run
- 30. Born with knee cap falling off
- 32. Frequently emit soft plastic
- 35. Wrongdoing one found in Ukrainian peninsula
- 37. Popular here to be present at birth
- 38. Carries out former spouses embracing-cute



- 1. Renewing Pa's health club
- 2. Number one retired for Duke
- 3. Homeric expression uttered by female animal
- 4. Conflict in street? Very common
- 5. Around alehouse: something that survives one major party
- **6.** Ate nuts at a party with a lot of nuts
- 7. Sot taking uplifting drug left party
- 8. If pot's turned up—arrest
- 9. Repairs after morning is over
- 13. Enemy is tortured by some Middle Easterners
- **15.** Goal is return of soldier who may have been captured
- **16.** Warped comedic art appealing to the masses
- 17. Prisoner and little woman at home become one
- **18.** Third party in 1948 (of 509, that is) with heads of Cuba, Russia, and
- 23. A dwarf said, "Stay"





- **26.** Allow hair treatment method by that one
- 28. Our family is—or used to be
- 29. Mild cooked meat
- **31.** Joe chose, not José, to say something again
- 33. Female bovine is lost, man
- **34.** Hitler's squad surrounding me and sibling
- 37. Yo! Regarding anger?

Solutions may be e-mailed to Thomas.Toce@ey.com.

In order to make the solver list, your solutions must by received by May 31, 2010.

## Previous Issue's Puzzle— Snowflake

#### **Uphill Clues**

- **4.** LURID—Homophone of "lure id" ("Attract pleasure seeker")
- 11. URBAN-TURBAN T
- 14. LA PAZ—LA ("note to follow so") + PA ("Dad") + Z ("the first of zillions")
- **15.** LENTO—LENT ("Forty days of every year") + O ("start of one")
- **16.** HOSTELS—Homophone of "hostiles" ("Enemy forces")
- 22. PLACE—P ("Pimlico's first") + LACE ("tie")
- 24. NOT TOO-N(OTTO)O ("No-over Otto")
- 25. ARWEN—"New Ra" reversal
- 26. TIN MAN-Anagram of "at Minn"
- 35. AT SEA-Anagram of "a seat"
- **36.** SENSOR—Anagram of "snores"
- 37. SAY HEY-Anagram of "Yay! He's"
- 38. RAYED—RAY ("Kroc") + ED ("Koch")
- 45. THESE—Anagram of "sheet"
- 46. TOCATTA-Anagram of "Oct. act a"
- 47. SHAMU-SHAMUS ("Dick") S
- 48. MEDEA—Anagram of "edema"
- **50.** ALGAE—A + LGA ("New York airport") + E ("experience ending")

#### **Downhill Clues**

- 1. ID EST-Anagram of "tides"
- **5.** OLSEN—Hidden in "Interpol's enquiry"
- **6.** AZURE—Homophone of "as your" (number in diagram misplaced)
- 7. BASSOS—BAS ("College degrees") + SOS ("help")
- 9. TOAST-TO + A + ST ("saint")
- **16.** HOOPLA—Pun on "Hoop L.A." ("Los Angeles basketball team")
- 17. ARKIN—Hidden in "parking"
- 18. ACTUARIES—ACTUALLY with R ("right") substituted for LL ("For long? Law?")
- **20.** MANOR—MAN ("Mouse alternative") + OR
- **26.** TEA TRAY—TEAT ("Bust") + RAY ("a small amount of hope")
- 27. MORAY—Homophonic pun on "more A!" ("Higher grades in ESL!")
- 28. RED SEA—Homophone of "Read 'C'"
- 30. HEROD—HERO ("Leander's lady") + D ("died")
- **39.** TEETH—Homophone of "t<sup>th</sup>" ("twentieth," as in a series)
- 40. ATONED-Anagram of "Donate"
- 41. LEASH-Anagram of "shale"
- 42. ESTOP-Anagram of "poets"
- **49.** SEGAL—SE ("Southeast") + GAL ("lady")

### **Straight Down Clues**

- 2. ULNAS—Anagram of "Luna's"
- 3. STOLE—Double definition
- 7. BRENNAN-NAN following BREN
- 8. SELECT—CEL ("animation unit")

- reversed inside SET ("Edition")

  10. ALTAR—Homophone of "alter"
  ("Change")
- **12.** SO HOT—SO(H)OT ("Soot covering Hathaway's head")
- 13. STONE—Anagram of "tones"
- 18. ALAMOS—A LA ("like") + MOS ("moss when pruned")
- 19. KITES—Double definition
- TORREY—Homophone of "Tory" with apologies to Miss Spelling for misspelling Tori
- 23. WRYER—First letters of "wild robins—y'ever eat robin"
- 29. RASSLED-Anagram of "Sal's Red"
- **31.** TASTE—TA(S)TE ("British gallery displaying satisfactory")
- 32. RAREST—Anagram of "raters"
- 32. NEAT-O-Anagram of "At one"
- 34. ODIUM—Homophone of "Odie, um" ("Garfield's best friend, er")
- **43.** COPSE—Homophone of "cops" ("Good and bad partners")
- 44. NEMEA—Anagram of "enema"

#### Solvers

Steve Alpert, Dean Apps, Steven Barclay, Glenn Bier, Damian Birnstihl, Jack Brauner, Jan Brown, Andrew Buckley, Bob Camp, Bob Campbell, Lois Cappellano, Christian Coleianne, Todd Dashoff, Mick Diede, Sean Donohoe, Gregory Dreher, Deb Edwards, Robert Fink, Tim Fitzgibbons, Elliott Goldstick, George Green, Paul Haley, Rich Harder, Jason Helbraun, Pete Hepokoski, Ruth Howald, Brian Klimek, Eric Klis, Paul Kolell, Louis Lana, Philip Lew, Lee Michelson, Brett Miller, Rebecca Moody, Jim Muza, Anil Narale, Ray Niswander, Jack Paddon, Deb Poppel, David and Corinne Promislow, Alan Putney, Debbie Rosenberg, Lou Scarim, Bill Scott, Bob Share, Sally Jane Smith, Aaron Stein, Ethan Stroh, Zig Swistunowicz, The Thousand Oaks Mob, Tony Torelli, Betsy Uzzell, Josh Wallace, Arlene Woodruff, Douglas Yates, Frank Zaret, Grisha Zayka

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