Cryptic Puzzle Tom Toce

Spiral Galaxy

WHEN COMPLETED, the grid will form two sets of words, one reading inward from 1 to 100 and another reading outward from 100 to 1. Every space will be used exactly twice.

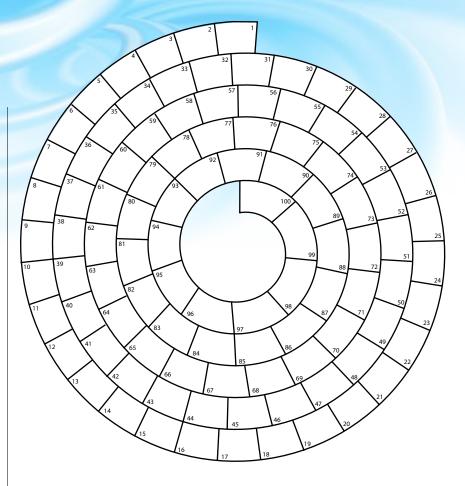
The grid has one hyphenated word and two proper nouns. Everything else is playable in Scrabble, including the 12-letter word, which could be formed in a composite Scrabble play (i.e., adding some letters around an existing word on the board).

Ignore punctuation, which is designed to confuse.

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

Inward Clues

- "Street" by urban music band (1-5)
- Join my housing arrangement (6-10)
- Diversity of states' preferences (11-16)
- To Nell: Perhaps a discreet kind of motor lodge? (17-22, hyphenated)
- Summary of unadulterated political pamphlet (23-30)
- Search blindly after a bit for hangman's noose (31-34)
- Continues with vitae (35-41)
- Thrifty one raves madly (42-46)
- Chlorine always on capes for shrewd outcomes (47-58)
- Non-religious in Los Angeles, I initially cowered (59-62)
- Coen is flying like a songbird (63-68)
- One of ten groups elicited it out the wrong way (69-74)
- No, out loud Ed chewed (75-80)
- Mobil reorganized in border state (81-85)
- Flattened by one who delivers after midnight (86-91)
- Lines of descent in pi degrees, apparently (92-100)



Outward Clues

- They say char is diviner (100-97)
- "Sans Uranium Guide" by French Nobelist (96-93)
- Plate adorned with part of flower (92-88)
- About love, Bob is an idiot (87-84)
- Mold meek English women (83-78)
- Galenic fluid is heavenly (77-71)
- Excellent defense with nice bats is like heaven on Earth (70-65)
- Informal gatherings with cola Sis ordered (64-58)
- To be in Rome, north of a German city (57-53)
- Have fun on a seesaw, for example, but backwards (52-48)
- Haphazard creases around V, causing deep fissure (47-40)

- Reflect on a street where horses once dwelt, they say (39-36)
- Give an account of an explosive noise (35-30)
- Carries charts with no hydrogen (29-25)
- Bet taking in all of Balanchine's oeuvre (24-19)
- Altered tones at the beginning (18-14)
- Libidinous guy better stray (13-9)
- Protective barriers for specialized highway exit maneuvers? (8-1)

Solutions may be emailed to Thomas.Toce@ey.com. In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by Sept. 30, 2012.

Previous Issue's Puzzle-Dodecahedron

Clues—Group A—Six-letter words

- REEMIT—Anagram of "métier"
- BREACH—B(re)ach "the second note in Bach"
- LACKER—Double definition pun ("one who has nothing")
- OPERA—Anagram of "a rope's"
- STEERS—Double definition
- TANKER—Hidden in "Kyrgyzs(tan Ker)osene"
- MASTER—Anagram of "tamer's"
- STRADS—DARTS reversed ("Pub game turned") + S ("nasty at halfway point")
- LAPELS—Every other letter in "Ilsa's pie, class"
- ALLIES—AL ("Senator Franken") + LIES ("speaks falsely")
- BESTED—STE. ("Joan of Arc, for example") in BED
- MEASLY—Double definition

Group B—Five-letter words

- SALEM—Anagram of "males"
- TAKER—TALKER—L ("Devoid of language")
- BESET—Homophone (and pun) of B-set ("second-rate audio on TV")
- PEALS—Anagram of "leaps"
- RESTS—REPASTS ("dinners") PA
- AISLE—Homophone of "I'll"
- CLERK—"CLEmenti woRK"
- APRES—Homophone of "Ah, pray"
- RESAT—Anagram of "tears"
- STARS—S ("Polaris at last") + TARS ("sailors")
- ACERB—Homophone of A SERB ("a former Yugoslav")
- MITER—Homophone of "Might err"
 Central letters spell Edmond Halley,
 who in addition to his achievements in
 astronomy, meteorology, math, and geophysics, could also be considered one of
 the world's first actuaries, for his pioneering work with life annuities.

Solvers

Mark Ackerman, Dean Apps, Jan Brown, Andrew Buckley, Bob Campbell, Lois Cappellano, Todd Dashoff, Mick Diede, Greg Dreher, Mathew Eberhardt, Deb Edwards, Bryce Fawcett, Bob Fink, Pete Hepokoski, Robert Himmelstein, Eric Klis, Paul Kolell, Douglas Kraft, Louis Lana, Dan Lowen, Tim Luker, Bob Maguire, Dave McGarry, Jon Michelson, Lee Michelson, Jim Muza, Joshua Parker, David and Corinne Promislow, Alan Putney, Francis Regnaucourt, Jay Ripps, David Rueth, Eric Savage, Craig Schmid, Bill Scott, Sally Jane Smith, Ethan Stroh, Doug Szper, David Treble, Jon Turnes, Dave Wallman, Frank Zaret

T O M T O C E is a senior manager for actuarial services with Ernst & Young in New York and is a member of the Jeopardy Hall of Fame.

