

**Guest Puzzle #30 – December 2010 "Finger Crosser"
(by Arthur Schless)**

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to eleven letters, four are capitalized, one is an acronym, and one a trademark) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Seven across words and seven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those fourteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a four-word phrase appropriate to the mystery entries.

Across

1. I followed vehicle to cape for work
2. Apparent tag in match
3. Wistful memory of a gain lost unreasonably
4. Hard coating of carbon, hydrogen, iodine, titanium, and nitrogen
5. Constellation with zero iron dispersal
6. Close inside portal at church
7. Bird woman touching Fleming's sea cow
8. Cheap brie, for instance, with a touch of yeast for English
9. Mangled bugle at battle site
10. *Mystery entry*
11. Head of Hellene disappears in smoke
12. Stomach material in wren nets
13. Squirming eels temporarily close the eyes of a hawk
14. Sate clamoring Phil
15. Mischievous cat pose
16. Naval onslaught captures legendary island
17. Heart replacement part in rival versions
18. Journal about nucleic acid
19. Popular Kaiser has something done for fun
20. Rationalize a law with fervor
21. Motivate adherent with mixed gin first
22. Summer escapades around pond
23. The French surrounding first lady at reception

Down

1. World organization has success getting children set free
2. True to nature, liars cite inaccurately
3. Uncover who telephoned residence
4. Disconcerted Italian doesn't have one article in a Roman language
5. Heard their four because of that
6. Edison, without initiating device, jumbled sound
7. Lizard relative in Kansas returned
8. Men had thus charged particle
9. Part of stair in tower is eroded
10. Lounge in blazer
11. *Mystery entry*
12. Nears sneaky trap
13. Created in arbor nursery
14. Actress with a primarily Viennese accent
15. Game in disheveled loge
16. Subtlety involved in continuances
17. The wine of France is for the Michigan senator
18. Mark of lentil decay
19. Case involving Latin four is not significant
20. Era of pageantry
21. Agent mixed drinks at first with strong flavor
22. Beaters from North East in automobiles
23. Device of Virginia Northeast