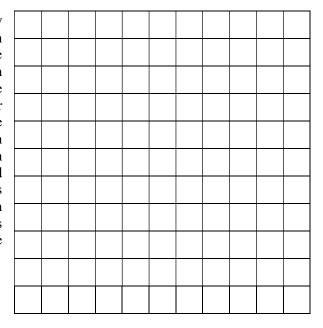
Guest Puzzle #30 – December 2010 "Finger Crosser" (by Arthur Schless)

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. Satiate 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

- 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