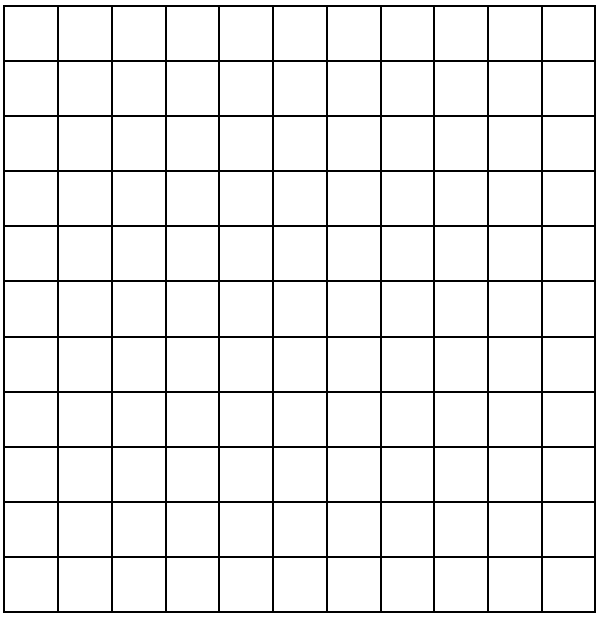
Puzzle # 138 — December 2012 "Hidden Treasure"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to nine letters and eleven are capitalized) 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. Three across words and three down words won't fit in the grid unless they are appropriately compacted. Twelve other words, six across and six down, won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those twelve letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a two-word phrase related to the compacted words. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.



Across

1. Forbidding teaser managed to get you finally
2. Big brother of gang member is replaced by nephew
3. Eastern reader and College member
4. Clergyman to have a meal around six
5. Source of uranium in container
6. Benedict doesn't begin getting excited or attracted
7. Charlie leaves group in glory
8. Female author left a name
9. In favor of being in California
10. Compose a sonnet about spice
11. An assumed name with E instead of A; Howe, for instance
12. Add to altered mutagen
13. Struck and hit with pole instead of bat
14. Pyrenees will have another name
15. Least effective alloyed metals
16. Sensible work is easy at first
17. Talk about radical dress
18. Trading center holds article for Jean-Paul
19. A town in Ohio with one male attorney
20. A town in Turkey with one king and one god
21. Poet turning to sexy actress
22. French city harbors English relative
23. Office swain grabs your bottom half

Down

1. Clue: air vibrated pinna
2. Pandora endlessly agitated for amnesty
3. Generals, without restriction initially, reformed an African Republic
4. Prepared to fight last of rust in corroded metal bed
5. French island register
6. Disease overwhelms head of equitation and horse training
7. Note about love for Bob
8. Adds an erg to get more sound
9. Talk crude and move fast
10. Sign Newton's coming out of coma
11. A US study, never completed, misrepresented Anna Maria, née Grosholtz
12. How a retailer gets a piece of the goods
13. Bit about new card game
14. At heart, Magritte's got courage
15. Wild boar with end of snout cut short
16. Designer Charles's fluid ease that captivated many at first
17. One destined to have plenty
18. Sect member having no children, in essence
19. Swallow mint mixed with a bit of rum
20. Get sharp, Sweetie: butt out
21. Look of regal confusion
22. Apparent episode involving Princess's return
23. Ms. Turner hiding Don and uncle in carriage