

Puzzle #50 – July 2005 "A Celebration of Sorts"

Instructions: This puzzle calls for a non-standard grid that contains 120 cells. You must determine its shape and, as usual, guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from four to nine letters), 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 margin continue on the next line, and down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column. Six across words and five down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those eleven letters taken in order spell a celebratory (sort of) two-word phrase. As always, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.

The grid for this puzzle is not supplied. You must come up with it on your own, but see below for a large grid that you can use as a working tool.

Across

1. Princess wrapped in sensual cloak
2. Conscious emotion is measureless
3. Irreverent child has debts
4. Flavoring agent stored in cement holes
5. Utter medical madness
6. Cheer a gallery with music
7. Note metal top of android's eye membrane
8. Line directed around California
9. Hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and potassium combine to produce sound
10. River turning up dead people
11. Coin not originally included in group deposit
12. Mom or dad adding payment
13. Very angry about British rock
14. Returning single chemical
15. Drink consumes one server
16. Tire punctured by new tooth
17. Sea songs--they scan irregularly
18. Sailors with a line of half a foot, maybe
19. Like projections in plush or nylon
20. Make a shrill sound while going around street

Down

1. Money gets back all but head of gift animal
2. Relax after beginning to climb peak
3. Friend has a choir actively supported by the church
4. I'm overdue to get commoner's heart in sacrifice
5. Torrid letter depicts inn
6. Perhaps maiden has run in stockings
7. Soldier captivated by strange place in the ocean
8. No writer is accessible to all
9. Official fighting room
10. Native American lodge gets help from the east
11. Opening of manuscript
12. Cosmopolitan nincompoop swallowing acid
13. Carry head of martyr as emblem
14. Loud, gross, and outspoken
15. Relatively confused and lacking real buoyancy
16. Song—endless as before—finally ended
17. Telegram expresses wife's rage
18. Cut hair of female air recruit
19. Color of shift after removing top
20. Quick bout of abstinence
21. Easy simmering before starting to foam
22. Sound of bell contains note of punitiveness
23. Ancient Germanic migrant fish

This is not the correct grid for the puzzle.
It is supplied for your convenience as a working tool.

