Puzzle #73 — June 2007 "Uncut"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from four to nine letters and include four capitalized words), 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. Five across words and five down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those ten letters, taken in order, spell a threeword phrase related to a word pattern hidden in the correctly completed grid. Find that word pattern. I thank Kevin Wald for help with the clues.

Across

- 1. Celt holding one English instrument
- 2. Shuffle or deal for stevedore
- 3. Feel secure with more
- 4. Shave a composer
- 5. Concept of wide applicability
- 6. Party shot popular horse
- 7. Check about number for enzyme
- 8. Chinoiserie is essentially sound
- 9. Rent includes last piece of carrot cake
- 10. Old rum with a mixture made of several different elements
- 11. Initially married man and woman
- 12. Dance with battalion leader and Confederate soldier
- 13. Household hands get older
- 14. Torpor had confused a crab, for instance, or maybe a spider
- 15. Anderson has time for one of Wells's invaders
- 16. Guide men to righteousness at first
- 17. Opposed to commotion in building unit
- 18. Animal has right to sing
- 19. Vehicle to leave freight
- 20. Cross over for entrance
- 21. Compunction about code writer
- 22. Completely enthralled by Vegas act's dancing

Down

- 1. Scribe returned with cap
- 2. Comeback of itinerant actor
- 3. Remain at odds with retired sailor
- 4. Gelatinous stuff from a fish
- 5. Work less hard, in essence
- 6. Mermaid swimming without a rheostat
- 7. Vehicle and automobile transit
- 8. Napoleon or Alexander embracing the Marquis of Calatrava's daughter
- 9. Odd sort of incomplete body part
- 10. More reasonable about Penny polishing tool
- 11. Genuine outrage for innocent girl
- 12. Don't trust Bud to run wild
- 13. Lincoln hosts party for Clay
- 14. British tanker or steamer
- 15. Tennis player makes nothing of a crucial point
- 16. Obama's worked to get line for David's son
- 17. Cool new royal flush
- 18. Lieberman's Earth Bank
- 19. Originally Parisian, hence the Parisian arbor
- 20. Me back in France in live ecological community
- 21. Distinguished and sharpened up with gold
- 22. Preacher ran devotions with a mission
- 23. Runback gives rise to legal injury