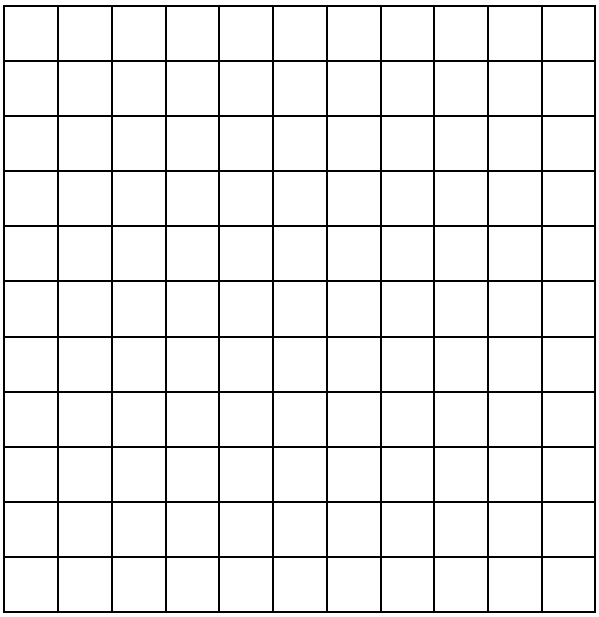
Puzzle #90 — November 2008 "Getting on your nerves"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to eleven letters, and eight 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. 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, spell a word related to the mystery entry. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.



Across

1. Spruce: Darwin's conifer
2. Glass section of vessel with matte finish
3. Change nomenclature to include any organism's complement of DNA
4. Mostly hot pepper, e.g., found in shelter
5. Turned to ice, hitting zero after start of February
6. Maybe dad's conspicuous when making time run
7. Secure or insecure means
8. Force energy out of grain in the gut
9. Train running with no allotment
10. A vehicle can fit inside it backwards
11. *Mystery entry*
12. Run in shift for new thrill
13. Escape through steel opening
14. The netherworld's troubled shade
15. Small payment went essentially for sweet cake
16. Current energy decree originally passed easily
17. One who fails has nothing and is freer
18. Wine making town's entourage is fantastic
19. Fool beginning to charge into sand pile
20. Remnants of a stew recycled
21. Negligent about girl
22. Secure strip encircling city

Down

1. Sing rude tune for pirate
2. Colt's start speed is unaffected
3. Low note, hard money
4. Did break date with cheerleader
5. Jewish prophet of period encompassing Zion's origin
6. Crazy Gershwin drinks the last of the wine
7. Get bullied out of fixing the decor
8. Animal dealer is heartless
9. ***O*** writer stirred gin to get a start
10. Subsidence of liquid originally found in pit
11. Tell about very old region of Europe
12. A note is trashed by one of Russia's western neighbors
13. Cost includes new title
14. Sounded poison alarm
15. Last of wooden blocks is proudly put into place
16. Southeastern Celt worked with pick
17. Coax sweetheart wearing flimsy lace
18. New age rejects taking risk
19. Irritate former spouse with separate arrangement
20. Filter, improved by engineering, is productive
21. Give up 100 in coin for new car