

Puzzle # 94 – March 2009 "Animal Crackers"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to ten letters, and four of them 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 a sequence of two or more of their letters is removed. Those sequences share a common theme. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

Across

1. One ode sung movingly from within
2. Before day's end a pair breaks out in hives
3. Travel around top of gorge and crest of hill
4. They finally bring back copper, calcium, and an evergreen plant
5. Legislature is apt to feel disheartened
6. Inclined to walk with energy
7. Show what makes cheese ripen in larder
8. Heathen soldiers surrounding Attic city
9. Here is pa playing a hypocrite
10. Wife talks about cheese
11. Independent firm started developing cleaner energy
12. Behold! Ten salmon
13. Time to muse
14. To separate, wife leaves fast
15. Subject is appealing having king banished
16. A country in Europe: Russia
17. Held a lot back, including bail
18. A girl's dancing topless? Blimey!
19. Adjust, reset, and start cleaning inside under cover
20. Promise Penny a part
21. Broadcast start of classes for Harvard during break
22. It's a goody filled with starch
23. Automatic pilot's on the fritz
24. Train enough to walk heavily

Down

1. Chuck happier about German inscription
2. Dandy part of opera
3. Fey contrariness
4. Meager yard's end
5. Move people at the Center to run
6. End of Mother Earth
7. Light reflected in myriad interiors
8. Man's head cut out of drawing inside cover
9. To introduce play is fun before event starts
10. Bother going back after Sabbath for a drink
11. Get free English school garment
12. Talks with nothing up front and natters on
13. Crashed but got a tower
14. Discount value includes 1000 petabits
15. Bill goes inside to get powdered sugar
16. Photon blocker's electron yield reduced
17. After run, Eli goes back to pass
18. Secure the outskirts of Santa Fe
19. Dealer tries to keep awake
20. Club personnel started to talk
21. Expose alien in pound
22. One occupying room for a season
23. Short story lacking originality
24. Walk around the French chateau
25. Crown prince had supper, maybe
26. Mother's wise to give back rubs