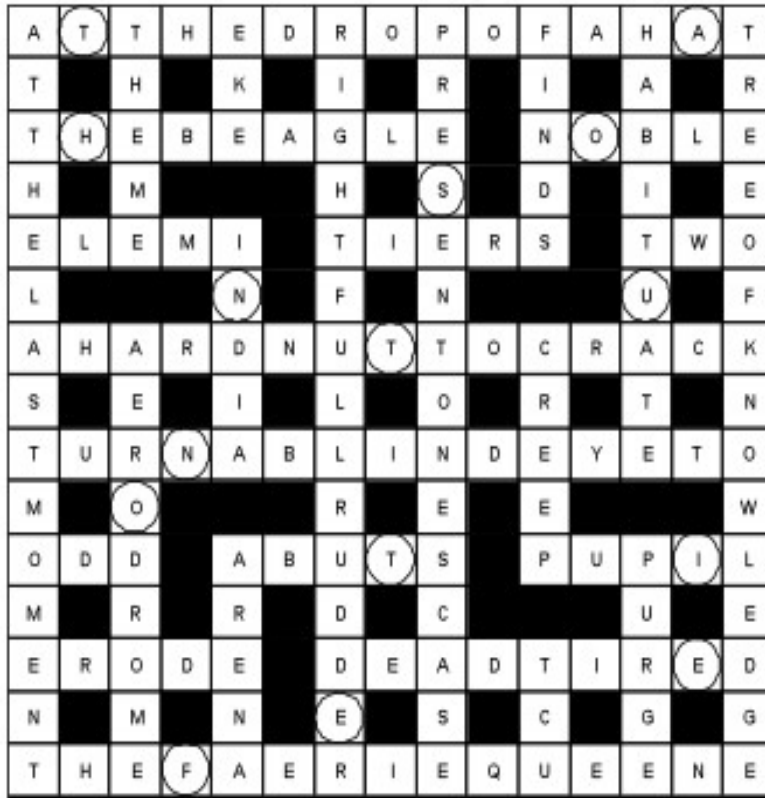


**Solution to Guest Puzzle #23 – March, 2010 "Annual Convention"
(by Dexter Senft)**



The circled letters (in parentheses in the list below) can be anagrammed to spell
STATE OF THE UNION

Across

1. A(T) THE DROP OF A H(A)T
9. T(H)E BEAGLE
10. N(O)BLE
11. ELEMI
13. TIERS
14. TWO
15. A HARD NUT (T)O CRACK
18. TUR(N) A BLIND EYE TO
19. ODD
20. ABU(T)S
21. PUP(I)L
23. ERODE
24. DEAD TIR(E)D
26. THE (F)AERIE QUEENE

Down

1. AT THE LAST MOMENT
2. THEME
3. EKE
4. RIGHT FULL RUDD(E)R
5. PRE(S)ENT ONES CASE
6. FINDS
7. HABIT(U)ATE
8. TREE OF KNOWLEDGE
12. I(N)DIA
16. AER(O)DROME
17. CREEP
20. ARENA
22. PURGE
25. TCU