

**Solution to Guest Puzzle #45 – July, 2012 "Writer's Blocks"  
(by Roger Wolff)**

A	S	I	M	O	V		L	A	T	T	E	C
C		R	A	T	E	L	A	M	B		D	A
W	E	I	R	D	S	A	V	O	I	R	B	U
F	A	C	E		T	U	E	E	Z	E	A	L
D	R	A	W	I	N	G	A	B	L	A	N	K
R	E	S	T	C	O	H	P	A	S	T		Y
A	D	T	H	I	R	T	Y	S	E	D	A	N
F	I		A	N	C	E	R	O		U	N	D
T	B	E	G	G	A	R	E	N	T	R	A	P

Some Across and Down answers conflict in a square. In order to resolve this conflict, you are instructed to try **DRAWING A BLANK**. For example, **FINANCE** and **CASTLE** become **FI\_ANCE** and **CAST\_E**.

**Across**

1. ASIMOV (was I MOVing)
5. PLATTE (le(tt)ap\*) [LATTE]
10. CURATE (a cuter\*) [CRATE]
11. LAMBADA (lamb + a + DA) [LAMBDA]
12. WEIRD (wired\*)
14. SAVOIR (sav(i)or)
16. FACE IT (ie fact\*) [FACET]
18. ZEAL (laze\*)
19. **DRAWING A BLANK**
20. REST (2 meanings)
22. PASTRY (past + rye - e) [PASTY]
24. THIRTY (thirsty - s)
25. SEDAN (Danes\*)
26. FINANCE (fin + dance - d) [FIANCÉ],
27. ROTUND (carROT UNDerground)  
[ROUND]
28. BEGGAR (b(egg)ar)
29. ENTRAP ((partner - r)<)

**Down**

2. SMEARED (dream(e)s\*) [SEARED]
3. MARE (ma + re)
4. VEST (ve(s)t)
5. SLAUGHTER (real thugs\*) [LAUGHTER]
6. LAVE (slave - s)
7. AMOEBAS (same boa\*)
8. THREAT (t + heart\*) [TREAT]
9. CAULK (luck a\*)
13. DEICING (d(e + IC)ing) [DICING],
15. BANDANA (ban + Dana) [BANANA]
17. CASTLE (acts\* + le) [CASTE]
19. DRAFT (D + raft)
21. ORCA (OR + CA)
22. PYRE (unhapPY REcounting)
23. SECT (insect - in) [SET]