

Puzzle #170 — July 2015 "Taste Test"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to eight letters, and five 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 omitted. Those fourteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a four-word phrase. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

Across

1. Holy one eats very little candy
2. Human head of party in doorway is male
3. Island that I unhappily inhabited at first
4. Long part of rough operation
5. Rear end is turned in retaliation
6. Recluse left city going west
7. Supple sow has one
8. Incorrectly recite a sequence of three
9. Ann's expression of worry and peeve
10. Lots of hemorrhoids
11. Song has a name
12. Loose small talk
13. Taste of uracil revolted prayer leader
14. Right where Latin king could be a cubist
15. Prophet eats last of bread in feast
16. Dotty is inane and stupid
17. Heart of British bird dog
18. Reality of function and performance
19. Essay about bachelor of a group
20. Round, tall tale about Victor's fruit tree
21. Matter essentially altered in mammilla
22. Hill's rear end
23. After backing up, restore device to control sparking
24. Result of redesigned drop cut
25. Acid scrub lacking carbon

Down

1. Saline component of basal tyramines
2. Louise started to bury cottonseed fiber
3. Drollery about large flag
4. Cheapskate Jack's last in jetty
5. A quiet, small, empty building projection
6. Work fee includes one for labor leader
7. Lesser Peru bird
8. Polish and French queen surrounding friar
9. Freud or Adler would have embraced an email service
10. Disturbs and robs the insane
11. Get 1000 in exchange for 500 ground oats, perhaps
12. In hearsay, there's no rot initially but the beginning of terrible swelling
13. Plan about moon vehicle
14. Reddish-brown and fuzzy!
15. Faced about everything with a hammer
16. Pass on or scratch early
17. Maverick fog envelops Finland
18. Saint wearing glossy fabric
19. Solo vocal in variation
20. Slavic nymph holding love instrument
21. Proclaim new name held by expert
22. Insurgent fouled out, in sum
23. Distasteful, nasty tribute excludes uncle