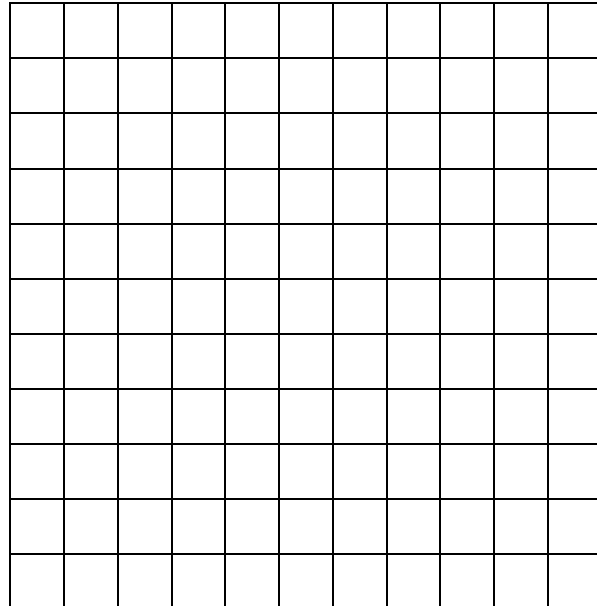


Puzzle #71 — April 2007 "Unstrung"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to twelve letters and include seven capitalized words, one foreign phrase, and one regional spelling), 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. Nine across words and eight down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those seventeen letters, taken in order, spell a three-word phrase related to the mystery entries. In the correctly completed grid, two squares contain more than one letter. I thank Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



Across

1. *Mystery entry*
2. Clan adopts one French champion
3. Look endlessly for the sun, maybe
4. Herb carried about a thousand
5. Talk about wood for window framing
6. Salinger eats fish
7. Ronald enterprisingly has a way to cook pasta
8. Ronald's tanager, beheaded and roasted
9. Great regal imbroglio
10. Lean, topless, and hot to trot
11. Short throw
12. Announces a pressure reversal
13. Operations leader to run airport
14. Felt tipsy holding back secretion
15. King takes lanthanum to ease the tension
16. Harbor town game is announced
17. Fish locale is reported
18. Police officer in division keeps quiet
19. Shot every bird
20. Huff and puff about period show
21. Lesser tsar shelters revolutionary force
22. *Mystery entry*

Down

1. *Mystery entry*
2. Small animal's head keeping almost alive in a watery secretion
3. Singular bird I released left in a storm
4. The unfinished contest for Balkan land
5. Weld, unsteady, awkwardly drops note
6. Former tree destroyed in Devon Town
7. Jacob's son was here inside
8. Dream of unbridled praise
9. Unraveling a string's measurements
10. Lucky Sophie has brought back a bouquet
11. Not crazy about true rock in Scotland
12. Latest opinion about bar
13. Return to sum up a horse
14. Agree they will have to meet
15. Jumped up and smashed plate
16. Cry of animal left in defeat
17. Starting long, lively cheer for libertine
18. Excited Tiger with a way to sort things out
19. Cut tapes up for partitions
20. Fruit order sounded excellent
21. Labor longer with fiber
22. Miser wickedly daring to hoard \$1000
23. *Mystery entry*