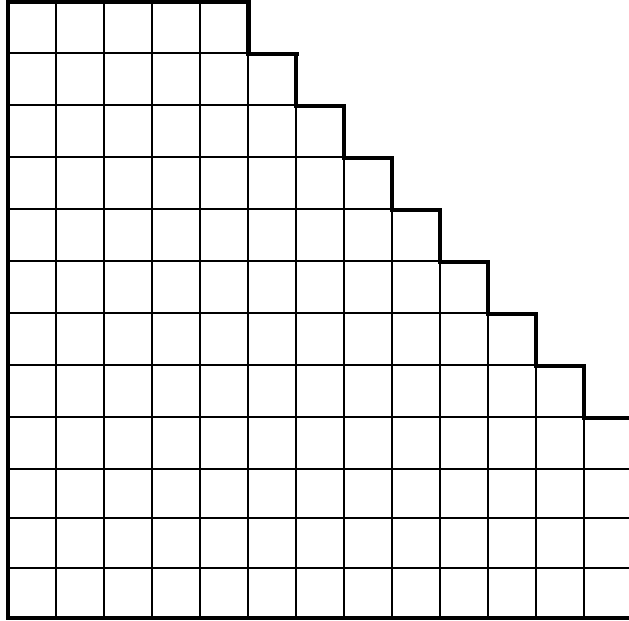


**Puzzle # 53 — October 2005 "Dada"**

**Instructions:** Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to eight letters and include four proper names), 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 line, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Four across words and three down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those seven letters, taken in order, spell a word related to a four-word phrase hidden in the correctly completed grid. As ever, I am indebted to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



**Across**

1. Ready to wed, initiated nasty union with ill humor
2. Unfinished action involving odd case results in death
3. Mineral dig begun to finish procedure
4. Vegetable is Spanish, song English
5. Writer found in street exhausted
6. Music makers reset broken bone
7. Why raiders keep log back
8. Peoria has no musical instrument
9. Pleasure at endless outpouring of smut
10. Pick of three lectures
11. Woman of Indian ancestry
12. Beginning and end of grass cutting
13. Lists foot parts
14. Keep trainer endlessly confused
15. Stripped, cut left, and took a leak
16. Preclude living in manifest opulence
17. Two notes found in bog
18. Carmen holds a weapon
19. Travesty about a class in biology
20. Low average
21. Started cooking tough beet
22. Conspire to give up nothing for a braid
23. Intense lamentation
24. Prosecutor holds a flower

**Down**

1. Get comfortable with new, polished steel
2. Father eats a bit of lemon trifle
3. What doesn't go off by error is dandy
4. Mysterious East Indian
5. Clear the throat with phosphorus and bhong
6. Historian and head of department in social gathering
7. Satisfied about line's end being located
8. Ill will of musician with parasites
9. A foot generating no speed
10. Enclave, broadly, has the capacity to unite
11. Coin covers one stain
12. Immense tank containing hair
13. Managed opening of drive for money
14. Don't eat meal that doesn't contain energy
15. Endless sound takes time to go around
16. Hotel in Cincinnati
17. City has love for lover
18. Tale is a hoot when read backwards
19. Keeper carries sword around
20. Rely on tritium to decay
21. A large number begin nesting in May
22. Tarnish tantalum in error
23. Fix to go someplace
24. Waste care on lens cover
25. Ultimately, his skin is thin