

Solution to Puzzle #158 – July 2014 "Hotspot"

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

The omitted letters (in parentheses in the list below) spell  
**HOTTEST PLACE ON EARTH**

**Across**

1. POTAS(H)
2. GR(O)OMER
3. (T)RUANT
4. REVERSE
5. SMEL(T)
6. AVER
7. SALTINE
8. VERGE
9. FURNACE
10. R(E)CEDE
11. **DEATH VALLEY**
12. EMPIRE
13. LOE(S)S
14. SPA(T)E
15. VIRUS
16. STORK
17. RESOLE
18. SOVIET
19. JONG
20. TA(P)
21. YE(L)LS
22. COMA
23. REVE(A)L

**Down**

1. PRE(C)LUDE
2. P(E)RILOUS
3. T(O)RE
4. MAKE
5. STAMINA
6. PERT
7. CANE
8. NATIVE
9. JOSTLE
10. CHRISOM
11. GRAVE(N)
12. VERONA
13. REVER(E)
14. ALUL(A)
15. GROVER
16. CLOSET
17. EMERGE
18. LESS
19. AVERSE
20. DEST(R)OYER
21. SAFE(T)Y
22. S(H)OVEL

Kevin Wald solved the puzzle in 25 minutes.

## July Puzzle Solvers

(The first ten are listed in the order their solutions were received, the others alphabetically)

1. Stephen Throop – Grover, NC
2. Charles J. Rohrmann, Jr. – Scarsdale, NY
3. Stan Kurzban – Chappaqua, NY
4. Judy Adamski – Jenison, MI
5. Darreby Ambler – Bath, ME
6. Cathy Childs – Pompano Beach, FL
7. Henry Cook – Chicago, IL
8. Edward Gee – Richmond, VA
9. Joe Schrader – Hillsboro, OR
10. Itai Pines – Portland, OR

Dale Ashworth – San Francisco, CA  
Al Backiel – Ridgewood, NJ  
Peggy Bedell – Northampton, MA  
Barry Brandes – Purdys, NY  
Robert Brown – Albuquerque, NM  
Joe Cabrera – Boston, MA  
Jim Christenson – Port Townsend, WA  
Susan Courter – Macomb, IL  
David Durfee – Bennington, VT  
Keith and Elizabeth Falkner – Sarasota, FL  
Barbara Featherston – St. Louis, MO  
Paul Fees – Cody, WY  
Dina Fertig – Cherry Hill, NJ  
Matthew Field – Hastings, England  
Stan Francuz – Somewhere in Australia  
Warren Fraser – Marmora, Ontario, Canada  
Lewis Gee – Poway, CA  
Michael N. Geselowitz – Cedarhurst, NY  
Max Goodman – Chicago, IL  
Michael Green – St. Louis, MO  
Steve Gunter – Raleigh, NC  
Craig Harman – Washington, DC  
Richard Harrison – Portland, OR  
Greg Hartgraves – Mitchell, SD  
Ken Johnson – Springfield, MO  
Ralph Jones – Aurora, CO  
Wayne Jones – Worcester, NY  
Al Kahn – Houston, TX  
Dave Kaplan – New City, NY  
Rick Kasten – Alexandria, VA  
Eliot Kieval – New York, NY  
Kevin J. Kinne – Peoria, IL  
Andy Klein – Santa Monica, CA  
Richard Letourneau – Bonita Springs, FL  
Dave Libby – Concord, MA  
D. Loeb – West Chester, PA  
Bob Mattson – Smithtown, NY  
Daniel J. Milton – Vienna, VA

Jim Muza – Monrovia, CA  
Mark Navarrete – Quezon City, the Philippines  
Kiki Neely – Waban, MA  
Mary Lyndal Nyberg – Manhattan, KS  
Harold Porosoff – Scarsdale, NY  
Charlie Pritzlaff – Silver Spring, MD  
David L. Ratner – Larkspur, CA  
Charles Ray – North Potomac, MD  
Arnold Reich – Bronxville, NY  
Ned Robert – Los Gatos, CA  
Joe Rogers – Old Greenwich, CT  
Mordy Rosen – Berkeley, CA  
Al Sanders – Fort Collins, CO  
Michael Savitz – Newton, MA  
Arthur Schless – Unionville, PA  
Blanche Schulz – Chicago, IL  
Dino Schweitzer – Divide, CO  
Ron Scott – Minneapolis, MN  
Wayne Scott – Jamaica Plain, MA  
Dexter Senft – Bedford, NY  
Callie and Bob Smith – Massena, NY  
Ashutosh Sodhani – Indore, MP, India  
Donald R. Spaulding – Mount Kisco, NY  
Donald Stanley – Littleton, CO  
Karen Thornton – New York, NY  
Steve Tice – Great Falls, VA  
Claire Trazenfeld – Crownsville, MD  
Charlie Varon – San Francisco, CA  
Ed Wallerstein – Prairie Village, KS  
Margaret Webster – Medford, MA  
Stephen Williams – Holbrook, MA  
Thomas Wilson – South Williamsport, PA  
Jay Winter – Farmington Hills, MI  
Barbara Wohlgemuth – Austin, TX