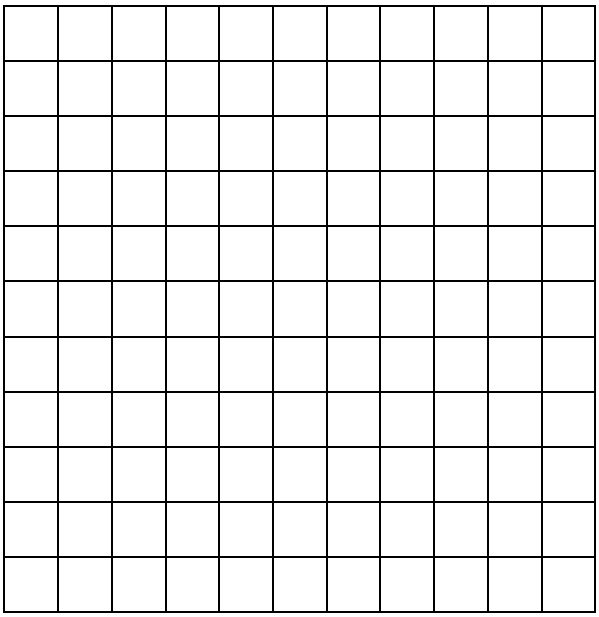
Puzzle #196 — September, 2017 "Early Bird"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to eight letters, four are capitalized, and one is both foreign and 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 six down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those thirteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a word related to the mystery entry. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.



Across

1. Peter embraced by tired principal
2. Conspicuousness spoiling a silence
3. Perhaps rat lair is hidden in decay
4. Acclaim without pressure will give a lift
5. Odd, confusing clue pair
6. Take on clip depicting Henry as king
7. Cut and edited endless cinema
8. Bird in sorrow losing head
9. Dealer's corrupt boss
10. Moving cheer about love bond
11. *Mystery word*
12. Weapon of fighting words
13. Abide a burden, so to speak
14. The best of one liter
15. Crackpot at opera eating a tuber
16. Name of woman in action
17. A porter, having imbibed ecstasy, will struggle to make a speech
18. Tutee, terrified, about to vacillate
19. Walker's random ramble
20. Timeless, bustling capital located at the top
21. Hector holding large machete
22. Vehicle going around a pile of rocks will get a reward

Down

1. Rod this month is getting cold, you know
2. Manage translating Pater into Old English
3. Nameless model's idle speech
4. Humor a linguist about word of mouth
5. Prevent Charlie taking part in lead-in
6. Town mob destroyed vault
7. Pretty woman's love turns to child in trunk
8. Fly annoyed bawler
9. Maud crashes Russian assembly
10. Turnaround of native's interior life story
11. Phyllo serving has to be beaten
12. Island resort's fallen idol
13. Carry a little liquor electronically
14. Mutinous ship carries national dog
15. Enlarge traveling public
16. Look without beginning to see weed
17. Swilling liter to get drunk again?
18. Variations involving a vocal solo
19. Lie flapping in creel
20. Hear appeal for victim
21. Name of island in the past
22. It's not a bad place
23. Scatter a bit of rice in goulash
24. Count on Pete illegally holding 10 and 100