

Solution to Puzzle #139 - December 2012 "Hidden Treasure"

X	S	T	E	R	E	M	O	N	T	E
R	E	L	E	C	T	O	R	D	I	V
I	N	E	F	O	U	N	T	E	N	I
C	E	D	L	U	S	T	E	S	H	E
L	A	F	O	R	S	E	A	S	O	N
E	L	I	A	S	X	G	M	E	N	T
P	E	L	T	E	D	R	E	N	E	L
A	M	E	S	T	W	I	S	E	G	A
R	B	M	A	R	A	T	A	M	A	N
D	A	A	N	A	R	A	B	A	R	D
O	T	N	E	C	E	B	U	R	E	X

The letter sequence AU [in square brackets in the list below] must be compressed into one square, as shown by a red X in the grid above. The omitted letters (in parentheses in the list below) spell **STRIKING GOLD**.

Across	Down
1. [AU]STERE	1. [AU]RICLE
2. MON(S)TER	2. PARDO(N)
3. ELECTOR	3. SENE(G)AL
4. DIVINE	4. EMBATTLED
5. FOUNT	5. FILE
6. EN(T)ICED	6. MANE(G)E
7. LUSTE(R)	7. FLOAT
8. SHE(I)LA	8. SANER
9. FOR	9. COURSE
10. SEASON	10. TRACE
11. ELIAS	11. TUSS[AU]D
12. [AU]GMENT	12. WARE
13. PELTED	13. MONTE
14. RENE	14. GRIT
15. LAMEST	15. ABORT
16. WISE	16. EAMES
17. GARB	17. AB(O)UND
18. MARAT	18. ESSENE
19. AMANDA	19. MARTIN
20. AN(K)ARA	20. HONE
21. BARDOT	21. G(L)ARE
22. N(I)ECE	22. EVI(D)ENT
23. BURE[AU]	23. LAND[AU]

Kevin Wald solved the puzzle in 30 minutes.

December Puzzle Solvers

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

1. Darreby Ambler - Bath, ME
2. Lewis Gee - Poway, CA
3. Arnold Reich - Bronxville, NY
4. Cathy Childs - Pompano Beach, FL
5. Al Sanders - Fort Collins, CO
6. Steve Gunter - Raleigh, NC
7. Stephen Throop - Grover, NC
8. Charles J. Rohrman, Jr. - Scarsdale, NY
9. Brian McCrady - Newmarket, Ontario, Canada
10. Thomas Wilson - South Williamsport, PA

Judy Adamski - Jenison, MI
William Alcorn - Cleveland Heights, OH
Dale Ashworth - San Francisco, CA
Al Backiel - Ridgewood, NJ
Dorothy Juhlin Bank - Hillsborough, NC
Barry Brandes - Purdys, NY
Robert Brown - Albuquerque, NM
Kevin Cadmus - Columbus, OH
Jim Christenson - Port Townsend, WA
Henry Cook - Chicago, IL
Patricia Coppersmith - Venice, FL
Al Damm - Marshall, WI
David Durfee - Bennington, VT
Keith and Elizabeth Falkner - Sarasota, FL
Barbara Featherston - St. Louis, MO
Joe Fendel - Berkeley, CA
Dina Fertig - Cherry Hill, NJ
Stan Francuz - Somewhere in Australia
Warren Fraser - Marmora, Ontario, Canada
Michael N. Geselowitz - Cedarhurst, NY
Michael Green - St. Louis, MO
George Griffin - Las Vegas, NV
Craig Harman - Washington, DC
Richard Harrison - Portland, OR
Dick Holmes - Lake Bluff, IL
Ken Johnson - Springfield, MO
Ralph Jones - Aurora, CO
Wayne Jones - Worcester, NY
Natasha Julius - Chicago, IL
Dave Kaplan - New City, NY
Rick Kasten - Alexandria, VA
Eliot Kieval - New York, NY
Andy Klein - Santa Monica, CA
Stan Kurzban - Chappaqua, NY
Mike Lessie - Douglassville, PA
Richard Letourneau - Bonita Springs, FL

D. Loeb - West Chester, PA
Bob Lundegaard - Minneapolis, MN
Paul Lustig - Lakewood, OH
Bob Mattson - Smithtown, NY
Jackie Miller - Everett, MA
Daniel J. Milton - Vienna, VA
Mark Navarrete - Quezon City, the Philippines
Mary Lyndal Nyberg - Manhattan, KS
Itai Pines - Portland, OR
Tom Polokonis - St Louis, MO
Harold Porosoff - Scarsdale, NY
Huw Powell - Lee, NH
Charlie Pritzlaff - Silver Spring, MD
David L. Ratner - Larkspur, CA
Ned Robert - Los Gatos, CA
Joe Rogers - Old Greenwich, CT
Mordy Rosen - Berkeley, CA
Arthur Schless - Unionville, PA
Joe Schrader - Hillsboro, OR
Wayne Scott - Jamaica Plain, MA
Dexter Senft - Bedford, NY
Richard Showstack - Newport Beach, CA
Callie and Bob Smith - Massena, NY
Ashutosh Sodhani - Indore, MP, India
Donald R. Spaulding - Los Altos, CA
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
Jay Winter - Farmington Hills, MI