

PCC#15 "It's a Numbers Game, so They Say"

The answer to the meta is the name of a crossword constructor

ACROSS

- 1 "Grow ____!" ("Man up!")
- 6 Palindromic emoticon representing a cute anime face
- 9 Bullets, bombs, and shells, for short
- 13 Social blunder
- 14 Condé ____ (magazine publisher)
- 16 Amphibian sometimes licked to induce hallucinations
- 17 Home to Deception Island
- 19 Feed the kitty, in poker
- 20 Spanish verb sometimes confused with "estar"
- 21 Small batteries
- 22 Super Mario ____ (Nintendo racing game)
- 24 Not tied down ***[NFL or soccer team]***
- 29 Warning on flea market merchandise
- 30 "____ et amo" (opening line of a Catullus poem that translates to "I hate and I love")
- 31 Caviar source
- 32 Traps
- 35 Polearm used by British Army officers at the Battle of Culloden (which becomes a flat-bottomed boat if you chop off the first letter)
- 37 Short-lived castle material
- 38 "Them's fightin' words!"
- 39 Perpetually single person's lament ***[not a fear of Triscuits as Ross guessed on "Friends"]***
- 45 Had ____ in flames (had failed catastrophically)
- 46 ____ worthy (consider to be suitable)
- 47 English county known for its cider and Cheddar cheese, and where the city of Bath is located
- 50 Traditional Valencian saffron-flavored rice dish
- 52 "Blonde" Best Actress nominee de Armas
- 53 "Turning Red" protagonist with the ability to transform into a giant red panda
- 54 Morning TV host Kelly
- 55 "Not great but it's what I expected" ***[PGA Masters]***
- 61 Fontanne's Broadway partner
- 62 Milk sources for some Himalayan cheese
- 63 Concealed
- 64 Gazed upon
- 66 Popular bagel flavor
- 69 When repeated, a former National Zoo giant panda
- 70 Lego founder Ole Kirk Christiansen, by birth
- 71 Sudden forward thrust
- 72 Target for a little rubber hammer, in reflex testing
- 73 Speck
- 74 Alternative to foils and sabres, in fencing

DOWN

- 1 Audibly shocked
- 2 Committee appointed to judge a competition
- 3 SAG-____ (Hollywood union whose strike finally ended a few days ago)
- 4 "____ tree falls in the forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?"
- 5 Put a bluffer in a tough spot, perhaps
- 6 Removes ID from, as a Facebook photo
- 7 What do you call a belt made of watches? a ____ of time!
- 8 The Trojans of the NCAA
- 9 Pioneering video game company originally named Syzygy
- 10 Lil Nas X song subtitled "Call Me by Your Name" with the lyric "tell me you love me in private"
- 11 Welcome ____ (item outside a front door)
- 12 Work of tribute, such as Chloe McCarrick's cyanotype artwork "Enchantress of Number (____ to Ada Lovelace)"
- 15 Dismantle, as a Christmas tree after the holidays
- 18 ____ Major (constellation with Sirius, the "Dog Star")

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- 23 "We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as ____ resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live" (line from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address)
- 25 Distance covered in advancing the ball, in American football
- 26 Energizes, in slang (and what could be punny name for a brewery)
- 27 ____ roll (toilet paper, to a Brit)
- 28 Hibernation spot
- 32 Direction from Tilghman Island, MD to Richmond, VA
- 33 "Nope"
- 34 Computer "key" that Homer Simpson couldn't find on the keyboard to start working from home
- 35 Hearty pub offering
- 36 Canadian Prime Minister Justin with a nice butt
- 38 Happy cry from someone who finally deciphers a Magic Eye picture
- 40 "The Book of ____" (Broadway musical comedy about missionaries attempting to preach their faith to a remote Ugandan village)
- 41 Put in, as coins in a vending machine
- 42 Single frame of animation
- 43 Actor Mitchell who reunited with his comedy partner Kenan Thompson for "Good Burger 2" (scheduled to be released next week)
- 44 Peruvian singer Sumac with an impressive vocal range whose name can anagram to another girl's name ("Back to Black" singer Winehouse), which can also anagram to another girl's name ("All My Girls" singer J.), which can also anagram to another girl's name (one-named "It's All About Me" singer)
- 47 Maple syrup source
- 48 Words before roll or streak
- 49 Woman of whom John Hiatt sang "when you call my name... I'm in love with you"
- 50 Very selective
- 51 Philip in the Bible, for one
- 54 ____ its ugly head (caused trouble after not having done so for awhile)
- 56 Ingredient in Carvel's Fudgie the Whale (don't overthink this one, it's in the name)
- 57 "Laughing" scavenger of Africa
- 58 River valley known for Riesling wine
- 59 Burn slightly
- 60 Easy-to-spot jigsaw pieces that most people usually start with
- 64 Wild animal you can hunt for in the game "Oregon Trail"
- 65 Yang's counterpart in Chinese philosophy
- 67 Large chemical container, like the one Jack Napier fell into to become the Joker
- 68 Start of a drill instructor's count