



Gamepuzzles.com Newsletter, Christmas 2010

Warm greetings to all our friends and customers and supporters!



This Holiday circular/newsletter goes to all who have emailed us or have ordered from us and provided their email addresses. We never give out our mailing list. If you don't want to receive any more emails from us, simply replace the message text with the word REMOVE and send it to us. If you received this message in DUPLICATE, please put DUPLICATE in the subject line, delete all text and send it to us.

In this issue:

- Website Updates
 - ... Holiday shopping notes
 - ... Newest releases
 - ... 25th Anniversary editions
 - ... Our 30th Anniversary Retrospective
 - ... The GAPE Award
 - ... Other website additions
 - ... New interactive features
 - ... Our challenges open to the World
- Spotlight – Rolinda Collinson
- The Next Generation – our youngest fans
- In the Media
 - ... The Games 100
 - ... Talks and Panels
 - ... Kate's blogs and social media
- On the Road
 - ... Cruise to Cozumel and Belize
 - ... Maryland Renaissance Festival
 - ... Show calendar
- Connecting – reaching us, modes of payment
- Our Holiday Message

WEBSITE UPDATES

... Holiday shopping notes

The holiday season is upon us, with only a few weeks until Christmas. Every year we do our utmost to ship your orders to arrive in time for Christmas. Please read our special holiday messages:

- Our Christmas card with a heart-felt greeting to the world:
www.gamepuzzles.com/xmascard.htm
- Gift shopping made easy:
www.gamepuzzles.com/holiday.htm
- About shipping to anywhere in the world, costs and deadlines:
www.gamepuzzles.com/shipxmas.htm
- Gift-wrapping available; choose a style (snowflakes or penguins):
www.gamepuzzles.com/giftwrap.htm
- Gift certificates available, in multiples of \$25:
www.gamepuzzles.com/giftcertx.htm

Kadon games and puzzles are always much-appreciated gifts. Please browse through our website's well-filled product pages, with many new items added each year. There's something for every puzzle wizard and game lover on your list. With orders received by December 6 we'll include a small bonus gift not given before.

... Newest releases for 2010

It's been a tough year, and we had to declare a 9-month moratorium on new products. Our big joy was bringing back Kaliko, and adding a few items unusual for us:

- Welcome back to Kaliko – www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch3.htm#KO after our two-year struggle to make more, and just in time for its 25th anniversary. Thanks for your patience, all you fans who kept asking for it.

- New rulebook for Tri-Jazz www.gamepuzzles.com/tactile3.htm#TZ
Well-nigh 15 years after its first release, we finally collected and published an awesome book for this transcendently beautiful piece. If you own it and didn't get a book, request it now.
- A+D+D+D (pronounced "Add") – www.gamepuzzles.com/abstrct3.htm#Ad
Invented by teenager Devin Stewart, with puzzles by Kate Jones. Roll dice, add numbers to get totals that position your pawns on game grid in rows. Ingenious, great fun to play again and again.
- "Flashes of Life – The Flower Collection", a magnificent book of photography by Bob Steinberger, with haikus by Kate Jones. A museum-quality coffee-table book to treasure forever. Read more... www.gamepuzzles.com/ashes.htm
- Designer Round Tuits – www.gamepuzzles.com/tuits.htm
Special limited editions, with complete instructions for many uses, each different and one of a kind. Only while they last, unique desk accessories and conversation pieces.
- MemorIQ – www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch5.htm#MQ
A gorgeous new set of edgematching tiles from Zdravko Zivkovic (inventor of our award-winning Doris, Cube Brick, and Color Up sets). Being released in time for the holidays. Advance orders accepted.

... 25th Anniversary editions

This year's 25-year retrospective covers 1985 and the products we introduced that year. See "1985: Guests and Clones" – www.gamepuzzles.com/1985notes.htm – for historical notes. See a special boon for Quantum here: www.gamepuzzles.com/buyfor25.htm

These sets have been in our line-up since 1985. We're giving some of them a new look this year, and one has \$10 off till New Year's.

- Quintachex www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub3.htm#QX
- Game of Solomon www.gamepuzzles.com/abstrct5.htm#GS
- Lemma www.gamepuzzles.com/abstract.htm#LM
- Pentomino Necklace www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub3.htm#Qn
- Poly-4 add-on for Quintillions www.gamepuzzles.com/poly4.htm
- Snowflake Square www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch4.htm#S4
- Snowflake Super Square www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch4.htm#S6
- Kaliko www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch3.htm#KO
- Quantum www.gamepuzzles.com/abstrct2.htm#QM

... Our 30th Anniversary Retrospective

Throughout 2010, Kadon Enterprises, Inc., has been celebrating its 30th Anniversary! Join us in a quick look back and a long look forward. It's amazing to realize how quickly the years zoomed by and how much we've accomplished, and how good it is to still be here.

Since the Fall of 1979, we have created/designed/developed/produced over 190 original games and puzzles, plus their various different embodiments and offshoots. All of them are still in print, though a few are inactive or temporarily out of stock. A lot more new ideas are waiting in the wings. Each takes months of research and design. We average only about 5 launches a year.

We love giving free rein to our passion for making beautiful things that celebrate the mind. Beautiful things - the joy of thinking – playable art. It's our gift of love to the world and to the human capacity to think and to wonder. Our games are unique in all the world, and we hope they inspire others to continue exploring in this field. It makes us happy to know others are made happy through our creations.

We don't sell our games through stores or other retail outlets. We sell them at art shows, fairs, conventions and conferences, and on our website. See our show schedule for where we'll be: www.gamepuzzles.com/showlist.htm – it's a delight to meet our friends in person when we're in your area.

Our website at www.gamepuzzles.com is an ever-growing gallery and playground. We invite you to visit, browse and play, wander among showcases and surprises. Perchance solve something that wins you a prize, or find a hidden treasure. And should you see some you'd like to own or give, ordering is easy with our secure shopping cart program (we call it "Order Form"). So what about the products – the gamepuzzles? Our preference is for geometric sets that are "complete", containing all the combinations of a certain idea. They can make thousands of patterns, each more beautiful than the last. They tickle the mind on many levels, from easy to very difficult assemblies. They can be played as multiple games of strategy and friendly competition. Here's a more detailed definition:

www.gamepuzzles.com/gamepuzl.htm

More than just playthings, our puzzle sets are paradigms of how the universe works and how knowledge is structured. They hold a key to achieving harmony and balance in the systems in which we live. What could be more wonderful?

Our gameboards are works of art, too, with kaleidoscopic grids, an artistic matrix of lines, and unique ways to play as games and as solitaires. An entire gallery is devoted just to our Abstract Strategy Games, www.gamepuzzles.com/xabstrct.htm

We honor and celebrate our many talented contributors and inventors, some of whom have been with us for over 25 years and are spotlighted in our website. You can trace a brief history of our growth in the Archives, www.gamepuzzles.com/archives.htm

Our website offers diversions and amusements in many listed and hidden pages. To access most of them, see the Site Features page – www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm – with links to fun stuff. For more serious puzzling and for solving samples of our gamepuzzles, hang out in the Puzzle Parlor, www.gamepuzzles.com/pparlor/ppscreen.htm – you'll need Flash to work these.

Help us celebrate our 30 years. We'll be posting some commemorative features and special designs. We'd love to hear from you about your experiences with our games. Write us, email us, talk to us. We're planning the next 30 years and would love your input and feedback.

Email: kadon@gamepuzzles.com Web: www.gamepuzzles.com Talk: 410-437-2163
Write: Kadon Enterprises, Inc., 1227 Lorene Drive, Suite 16, Pasadena, MD 21122

... The GAPE Award

For year-end 2009, Kadon presented the Gamepuzzles Annual Pentomino Excellence award – www.gamepuzzles.com/kadon.htm#bestow – to Kenneth Blackledge for his beautiful letters of the alphabet for Poly-5: www.gamepuzzles.com/p5alph.htm. This was the first time someone has won the award two years in a row. Ken's award was an inscribed panel with his initials formed of a full set of playable Poly-5 pieces: www.gamepuzzles.com/gape09.htm – Congratulations again, Ken!

... Other website additions

- Our Search index is a useful page for finding games by type or by special category, cross-referenced from our regular sections. Some unique items are listed only here, not shown elsewhere in our website. We've recently added some new items here: www.gamepuzzles.com/search.htm
- Infrastructure upgrade – We occasionally do a lot of improvements in the website. Here's a sporting offer - a small gift to whoever is first to find and tell us of any mistakes we may have made or missed! There's a separate gift for each mistake found. Email to webmaster: <mailto:kadon@gamepuzzles.com?subject=BlooperBounty>

- What You Can Buy for \$25 Dollars – this playful "Chinese menu" page of 12 special items lets you choose by the numbers. It had started out as a special page for our 25th Anniversary and now has some surprising goodies for the price-conscious. Do check this out. www.gamepuzzles.com/buyfor25.htm
- Our printable catalog has been updated and now has color images; read or print its 24 standard pages from three .pdf files. Very condensed descriptions and small illustrations make for a compact portable reference. You'll need Adobe Reader to view it. Prints OK in gray, too. Includes a printable order form. www.gamepuzzles.com/catalog/catalog.htm
- See more stories and news here: www.gamepuzzles.com/newtopic.htm
And check occasionally for interesting new links added on our Resources pages, especially in "the game of ideas". Nothing to buy, just eye and mind candy:
www.gamepuzzles.com/resourc6.htm

... Our interactive features of the season:

- It's the season to try your hand at our very tricky memory game of matching little teddy bears in mixed-up combinations of colors:
www.gamepuzzles.com/memory4/memory4.htm
- The teddies are a little easier than the very confusing Christmas trees:
www.gamepuzzles.com/Christmas/christmas.htm
- All our interactive, online-playable games and amusements are listed here, some with hidden links to make a game even of finding them:
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#icons
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#memory
www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm#amuse
- A whole page of long-secret links leading to goodies and surprises:
www.gamepuzzles.com/balloons.htm

... Our challenges open to the World (you may win a prize):

- Arc Angles – form one closed matched loop of all 25 tiles, with the minimum enclosed area. www.gamepuzzles.com/pentuniv.htm#AA

- Ten Yen – find new congruent shapes with all 3 colors
www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub3.htm#Ten
- La Ora Stelo – solve a figure with polyores in Contest 2:
www.gamepuzzles.com/los-contest2.htm – one figure still unsolved
- The Octo Clock – arrange 8 numbers as a clock face to meet goals.
www.gamepuzzles.com/g8-clock.htm
- The Mini-Quiz series – we've published 7 so far, all still open. No one has fully solved Quiz No. 6. We are curious and curiouser...
www.gamepuzzles.com/quiz.htm
- The 25-Hole Challenge – fit thirteen Vee-21 tiles (V-trominoes) rigidly into their tray with no slipping or sliding...
www.gamepuzzles.com/25holes.htm
- OHIO Sixteen – a double-Sudoku/sliding puzzle with 16 letters, 4 colors, several simultaneous goals and a slippery finale.
www.gamepuzzles.com/ohio4x4.pdf

SPOTLIGHT – ROLINDA COLLINSON

Rolinda Collinson has been around games, puzzles and brainteasers most of her life, and she hung around for years at antique and craft shows and lately Renaissance Festivals. When Kadon's booth at the Maryland Renaissance Festival needed a dynamic performer to demonstrate the Royal Game of the Goose, Rolinda offered to take it on, beginning with the 2008 season.

She shines in the role of Goose Mistress, entertaining young and old, and even the King and his court, in playing this genuine Renaissance parlor game. The game table sits in front of the Gamery under a big green umbrella, inviting visitors to merriment, unless it's raining, when it moves indoors. More descriptions and photos...

<http://www.gamepuzzles.com/renfest.htm>

A native of Maryland, Rolinda recalls that her family played all the time with the brainteasers her father still had from his own childhood, and every Christmas they would search for new ones to buy to challenge each other, like "Drive Ya Nuts", "It's Knot Easy", the red cube "Soma", and many others through the years.

Rolinda calls herself a "very artsy person". Fiber-art, especially quilting, is her passion, which originally drew her into "Ye Olde Gamery" in 2004, with all its geometric wonders. Design, color and layout in quilting is so much like the puzzles, seeking symmetry or not, and very intriguing.

Her four children are all gamers, too. The three youngest are the most avid, having attended the World Boardgaming Championships (WBC) since 2001. Her son Daniel makes a frequent appearance at Ye Olde Gamery as a rakish pirate and even helps out with occasional errands.

Rolinda is a member of the Boardgame Players Association (BPA) and the Games Club of Maryland (GCOM), and often plays Scrabble at Barnes & Noble on Wednesday nights. In 2002 she won a championship at the WBC.

In real life Rolinda is an elementary special-education teacher. Her patience and her delight in seeing children learn are great assets and make her adept at teaching games, too. Her radiant smile and joyful appearance have certainly brightened up Ye Olde Gamery, and we look forward to a long and happy association.

THE NEXT GENERATION

- Here are more pics of our youngest fan, sent in by his mom, one of our heartiest supporters: www.gamepuzzles.com/youngfan2.htm and he now has a baby sister who also likes our stuff...

IN THE MEDIA

... The Games 100

We're thrilled to report that Games Magazine's annual Buyer's Guide to Games, featuring their selections of the 100 best games, in the December 2010 issue has included our Q-Bix in the Puzzles category for the year 2011: www.gamepuzzles.com/tiling4.htm#QB

This unique and beautiful set invented by Christian Freeling of the Netherlands is a fine compendium of figures forming fields of cubes with tiles that are groupings of hexagons from

1 to 3. So you get the double thrill of making color patterns while also getting shapes to fit right.

... Talks and Panels

- **9th Gathering for Gardner (G4G9) – April 2010**

For the 9th Gathering for Gardner in Atlanta, Georgia, Kate gave a short presentation on the theme of 9: "Nine Fine Lines of Thought", in honor of Martin Gardner's philosophical roots. In 9 haikus, illustrated by images of Intarsia puzzle designs, the talk captured evolution from the beginnings of the Universe to the present and onward.

www.gamepuzzles.com/9finelines.htm

- **Celebration of Mind – October 21, 2010**

Martin Gardner passed away in May 2010, at age 95. World-wide, his fans and admirers organized events to honor him on his 96th birthday, celebrating this great writer's life and achievements over 7 decades of bringing math, magic, puzzles and reason to the world. Kate attended the Celebration in Washington, DC, hosted by Bill Ritchie of www.thinkfun.com jointly with the Mathematical Association of America, and recounted her earliest exposure to Martin's writings while she was still in high school. Who would have thought that 25 years later she would actually be producing the two games invented by her hero:

The Game of Solomon – www.gamepuzzles.com/abstract5.htm#GS and
Lewis Carroll's Chess Wordgame – www.gamepuzzles.com/abstract4.htm#LC

Future annual Celebrations of Mind on Martin Gardner's birthday throughout the world are planned. Stay tuned, and if you'd like an invitation to attend one in your area, see www.g4g-CoM.org.

- **Annual Convention of the AGPC**

In March 2010, aboard a Royal Caribbean cruise ship, members of the Association of Game and Puzzle Collectors enjoyed visits to Belize and Cozumel, game play, feasts, and talks by game industry professionals. Kate illustrated her talk, "The Art of Play", with hands-on samples of Kadon games. Debbie Krim's fabulous photos of attendees are here:

<http://web.me.com/mac1/dkrim/agpc.html#grid>

Rick Tucker's lively collection of action shots is here:

<http://gameandpuzzle.org/gallery/v/agpcconventions/2010/>

... Kate's Blogs

- <http://kates-takes.blogspot.com> has a few new entries, mainly responses to issues embraced by www.change.org -- such as the right to clean water, putting life ahead of profits, protecting individual rights, and other controversial matters. Your comments are invited.
- www.livejournal.com/users/puzzlelady/ has a lot of questions, not many answers, and some good links. The water rights essay shows up here, too. Your comments are invited.

... Kate in social media, intermittently active:

- Facebook, www.facebook.com/puzzlelady
- Twitter, <http://twitter.com/gamepuzzlelady>
- LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com/in/puzzlelady
- Flickr, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/puzzlelady/>

ON THE ROAD

• Caribbean Cruise

In March 2010, Dick and Kate Jones took advantage of the venue for AGPC's annual convention--on board the Royal Caribbean cruise ship Navigator of the Seas--to visit Belize and Cozumel and to experience what a gargantuan ship like that provides in comforts and excitement. Kate's hopes of making sales on board shattered on the rocks of bureaucracy, but the fun and frolic did not disappoint. Story and pics here:

www.gamepuzzles.com/cruise.htm

- **27th season at the Maryland Renaissance Festival, Fall 2010**

Our arcade-style pavilion, Ye Olde Gamery, is a favorite attraction at the Maryland Renaissance Festival. This year's enhancements: new chandeliers and a much-needed antique-looking ceiling fan. Our noble crew appreciated the difference. Thanks to Dick Jones for the heroic feat of installation. And for the fresh coat of paint and caulking on the roof we thank our handy gents, Kevin and Bobbie.

A robust "huzzah!" to our Gamery regulars: the Lady Eileen Shaivitz, and m' Lords Thomas Atkinson, Arthur Blumberg, Richard Grainger, Dick Jones and Steven Joel Zeve; they persevered through all kinds of weather. Our gratitude and appreciation go to our hard-working office manager, Josiane Smith, who kept our stock boxes resupplied; and a hearty cheer for our vivacious Goose mistress, Rolinda Collinson, who attracted even the King and the royal court for several games full of gusto in front of our pavilion. Pictures here:

www.gamepuzzles.com/renfest.htm#king

Special kudos to two wonderful relief helpers—Eric Bare and Seth Bonder—and our comely serving wench, Meshele Merchant. Great job, all!

More stories and pictures here: www.gamepuzzles.com/renfest.htm

- **Show Calendar**

From mid-January till end of April, Kate appears in art shows throughout Florida. The summer months find her in the Midwest. We post upcoming show dates for 2011 in our calendar as they are confirmed. If you're in the area, do stop by and say hello, and see my new stuff: www.gamepuzzles.com/showlist.htm

CONNECTING

You can reach us in all these ways: www.gamepuzzles.com/contact.htm

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We accept American Express, Discover/Novus, Mastercard, Visa and PayPal. Simply make your PayPal payment payable to: kadon@gamepuzzles.com—We also honor checks and money orders, payable to: Kadon Enterprises, Inc., and occasionally cash. Order online, by mail, school purchase orders, phone, and in person at shows.

www.gamepuzzles.com/purchase.htm

Please let us know when your email address changes, and keep us on your Safe Senders list. We'll never spam you nor give out your private information.

OUR HOLIDAY MESSAGE

We can't improve on how we said it before, so we send these words again...

"Thanks for your continuing support, and best wishes to all of you from all of us at Kadon! By any name that you celebrate these days, let there be a spirit of love and kinship, and the light of understanding.

"In times of turmoil, let us hold fast to truth and honor, to our love of life and liberty, that someday there will be Peace on Earth among all of us who share this planet, so small and fragile and beautiful, and unique in all the vastness of Space and Time.

"Intelligent life, infinite possibilities, infinitely precious... keep that flame alive."

You can see this message with a nice picture of our Christmas tree on our website. The tree was hand-built from plywood, assembles like a puzzle, and features live candles during our traditional Christmas Eve ceremony. Each candle embraces a wish and illuminates a hope. At the very top is a crimson rose, symbolizing love. www.gamepuzzles.com/xmascard.htm

— Kate Jones