



Gamepuzzles.com Newsletter, Christmas 2011

Warm greetings to all our friends and customers and supporters!



We thank you for your appreciation of our labor of love in creating, developing and producing our unique collection of playable art: gamepuzzles for the joy of thinking. You continue to inspire us in not compromising content and quality. That's why our gamepuzzles are treasured gifts, and the pleasure lasts.

As you plan your gift shopping, please look through our well-stocked pages of new and classic beauties, many award-winning designs and bestsellers. Our website offers 255 wonderful games and puzzles to choose from, something for every age, interest and skill level.

On the home page, pull the bottom scroll bar to the right to view our Great Wall, a panorama of all our work: www.gamepuzzles.com

For a quick overview, see our flippable online catalog where you can virtually turn all 24 pages: www.flipcatalogues.com/flashplayer.aspx?id=69&file=

We now accept PayPal!

Our latest releases, events and announcements are summarized here:
www.gamepuzzles.com/newtopic.htm

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 emails from us, simply reply with REMOVE.

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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 refer to our special holiday messages:

- Gift shopping made easy, including the new PalPal option:
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. With orders received by December 6, we'll include a small bonus gift not given before.

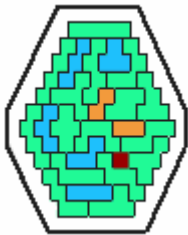
... Newest releases for 2011

We had to continue our moratorium on new production for much of 2011. (It's been tough, folks.) Our big joy was bringing back two special editions after 25 years, and adding a brilliant new idea:



- The Kolossal Pyramid, dormant for many years, emerged as a limited edition, for this year only. Only one piece remains at this time, first come, first served. What a beauty! www.gamepuzzles.com/1986notes-kp.htm

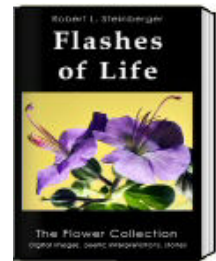
- Fractured Fives is having its first public release while celebrating its 25th anniversary of creation. Definitely our longest run-up from concept to publication! www.gamepuzzles.com/polycube.htm#F5



- Hopscotch, created by our own Thomas Atkinson and developed by Kate Jones, has it all: drama, beauty, variety, challenge, mathematical intrigue, and that irresistible invitation to get involved. We make it in a dazzling new marbled acrylic. Most people just say, "Wow!" www.gamepuzzles.com/esspoly2.htm#HS

- "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. A perfect gift. While not a new release, its magnificence deserves repeated mention:

www.gamepuzzles.com/flashes.htm



Our other recent releases from the last year are listed on the "New Stuff" page: www.gamepuzzles.com/newtopic.htm

... 25th Anniversary editions

This year's 25-year retrospective covers 1986 and the products we introduced that year. See "1986: Thinking Big... and Bigger" for historical notes:

www.gamepuzzles.com/1986notes.htm

These sets have been in our line-up since 1986. We're giving some of them a new look this year, and two are having a rebirth:

- Octiles, reloaded – www.gamepuzzles.com/abstract.htm#OC
- Pyramid Puzzles, deluxe – www.gamepuzzles.com/prpuzzls.htm#Pd
- Memory Bank, the last word – www.gamepuzzles.com/membank.htm
- Kolossal Pyramid, a visitor from the past, in limited edition – www.gamepuzzles.com/1986notes-kp.htm
- Poly-5, one of our classics – www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub2.htm#P5
- Super Roundominoes, daring to be difficult – www.gamepuzzles.com/esspoly3.htm#SR
- Heptominoes, all 108 of them – www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub2.htm#HP
- Hexacube, all 166 of them – www.gamepuzzles.com/polycub4.htm#HX
- Fractured Fives, a quarter century in the making – www.gamepuzzles.com/polycube.htm#FF

... The GAPE Award

For year-end 2010, Kadon presented the Gamepuzzles Annual Pentomino Excellence award – www.gamepuzzles.com/kadon.htm#bestow – to Jan Zoon of the Netherlands for his incredible polycube construction of a model of Notre Dame cathedral built of 45,178 pieces, from the unit cube up through the 1285 octocubes! See a photo of it and Jan's prize here:

www.gamepuzzles.com/notredame.htm – Congratulations again, Jan!

... A Show Award we presented

The Maryland Renaissance Festival, one of our longest-running venues, yearly gives out awards to its participants for excellence of various kinds, like booth improvements. Kadon has won two such awards. This year, for the Festival's 35th anniversary, Kadon presented a specially designed puzzle and Award of Appreciation to the management and staff. The puzzle, of course, contains 35 pieces. You can see it here: www.gamepuzzles.com/rf35.htm

Kadon has made special commemorative puzzles for other shows. They're listed towards the bottom on the Show Calendar page. Some of them you can play, too. See: www.gamepuzzles.com/showlist.htm

... Art Show awards we won this year

- Our booth won a juror's award at the Three Rivers Arts Festival in Pittsburgh in June 2011. A nice ribbon and reward came with it.
- In July 2011, we won a ribbon at the Akron Arts Expo in Akron, Ohio, 16 years after the last time we garnered a prize there.

All our other prizes and awards, going back to 1985, are listed here:

www.gamepuzzles.com/kadon.htm#awards

... Other website features you may have missed:

- 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
- Additions and upgrades—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>
- Our website offers diversions and amusements in many listed and hidden pages. To access most of them, see the Site Features page with links to fun stuff: www.gamepuzzles.com/website.htm—For more serious puzzling and for solving samples of our gamepuzzles, hang out in the Puzzle Parlor, www.gamepuzzles.com/pparlor/ppscreen.htm — it works with Flash.
- 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. This one is really printable, not just flippable like our new animated page turner.
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
They 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

- 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
- The 7 Congruent Shapes problem - divide the 24 Hopscotch pieces to form 7 identical areas of 12 unit squares.
www.gamepuzzles.com/hopscotch.htm

SPOTLIGHT – DICK JONES

The unsung hero of Kadon Enterprises, Inc., is its mild-mannered and invisible Chairman of the Board, our chief investor, computer provider and fine wood craftsman, Dick Jones. He is Kate's husband of 41 years and unstintingly encouraging and supportive in every aspect of the gamepuzzles enterprise, and devastatingly witty.

Dick is always willing to try something new and to help make things work in the tech, data, travel, photography, booth building, show set-up, post office runs, procurement and production realms.

Since his retirement from electrical engineering two years ago, Dick has become more involved with the day-to-day running of the business and goes along on the many long trips Kate takes to exhibit in art shows all over the country. In fact, he does most of the driving so Kate can work on the computer along the way.

He also enjoys the nearly annual trips abroad to exotic places like Australia, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Germany, Hungary. Continents still to be visited: South America and Africa.

Time travel is also on the agenda, as Dick looks totally adorable in Renaissance garb at our annual Maryland Renaissance Festival pavilion. Scroll down our Renaissance page to catch him in a relaxed moment:

www.gamepuzzles.com/renfest.htm#Dick

You can see a more detailed and illustrated biography of Dick here:
www.gamepuzzles.com/dickbio.htm

So thank you, Dick, for all your great contributions. Did we mention he's also a great cook?

THE NEXT GENERATION

- We welcome **Elijah Allen** on board as a research consultant and educational liaison. This young mathematician working on his Ph.D. is a natural for our kind of puzzles. Look for some new releases in Spring 2012 that will have his clever contributions. And he was a great and enthusiastic helper at the Maryland Renaissance Festival and other exhibits, teaching folks how to play the games.
- In the Spring of 2011, we had the help of a young "intern" at one of our Florida shows. **Yonah Borns-Weil** and his mom flew down from Boston to learn all about Kadon, for a special project at school. Oh, yes, he chose this project because he's been a fan, collector and player of our puzzles since he was a little kid. Here's his write-up of the project:
www.gamepuzzles.com/yonah.pdf
- We were happy to have the occasional help of **Eric Bare** in both the Renaissance booth and at the laser shop, where he is learning to become Thomas Atkinson's seasonal understudy. Eric is also hot on the trail of new design ideas. Well, yes, he's Kate's son, visiting from Florida. When not learning more about the puzzle business, he's stage manager for The Commodores, flying to gigs all over the world.
- For the second year, we were delighted to have the charming help of **Meshele Merchant** at the Renaissance Festival. She looks great in any costume, and she's also highly skilled with doing precision artwork for many of our puzzles and games. And can she cook! We'll miss her when she returns to Florida in December.

IN THE MEDIA

... The "Games 100", a thrilling honor

MemorIQ – www.gamepuzzles.com/edgmtch5.htm#MQ – is a *Games Magazine* selection for 2012 in the Puzzles category. A gorgeous new set of edgematching tiles from Zdravko Zivkovic (inventor of these other "Games 100" selections in previous years: Doris, Cube Brick, and Color Up). Awesome in both frosted mirror colors and bold Mondrian style. This one is not so easy, but very satisfying when you succeed!

... Gatherings

- Double Festival of Project Renaissance – May 2011

Kate was an invited speaker at this annual creativity conference and gave a talk on "making sense", using puzzles as paradigms for how we think and figure things out, how the mind solves problems. Here's a synopsis of the talk: www.gamepuzzles.com/makesense.htm

- Celebration of Mind – October 21, 2011

World-wide, Martin Gardner's fans and admirers organize events to honor his memory on his birthday, celebrating this great writer's life and achievements over 7 decades of bringing math, magic, puzzles and reason to the world. Kate, Dick, Elijah and Meshele attended the Celebration in Washington, DC, hosted by Bill Ritchie of www.thinkfun.com jointly with the Mathematical Association of America. A biography of Martin is in the works, and Kate promised to send its author, Dana Richards, copies of all her correspondence with Martin through the decades.

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.

... Kate's Blogs and Social Media

- Blogspot, <http://kates-takes.blogspot.com>
 - Live Journal, www.livejournal.com/users/puzzlelady/
 - Facebook, www.facebook.com/puzzlelady
 - Twitter, <http://twitter.com/katalinjones>
 - LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com/in/puzzlelady
 - Flickr, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/puzzlelady/>
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ON THE ROAD

... Puzzle Party in Berlin

Dick and Kate traveled to Berlin in August 2011 for IPP31 and toured the famous city dripping with the history of human tragedy. All the photos were lost when our laptop was stolen during a train ride in Hungary. Story and photos of the German Alps and search for Kate's ancestors in Hungary will be on the website soon. In the meantime, you can see the puzzles we designed for IPP here:

"Bearlin Variations" – www.gamepuzzles.com/bearlin.htm

"Berlin Wall" – www.gamepuzzles.com/berlinwall.htm

... Maryland Renaissance Festival

The rainiest season in decades, including the hurricane that shut down most of the opening weekend, may have dented our income but not our spirits. Thanks and kudos to our great crew: Eileen Shaivitz, Arthur Blumberg, Richard Grainger, Thomas Atkinson, Steve Zeve, Rolinda Collinson, Dick Jones; and to our seasonal and standby squires: Seth Bonder, Elijah Allen, Eric Bare; and our lovely serving wench, Meshele Merchant. Even the King and his entourage stopped by to play The Royal Game of the Goose. It was a hoot. Some photos are 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 2012 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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Mail: Kadon Enterprises, Inc., 1227 Lorene Dr., Suite 16, Pasadena, MD 21122

We accept American Express, Discover/Novus, Mastercard, Visa and PayPal. Simply make your PayPal payment payable to: kate@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