



That's not an "i." It's an ant.

### SHAZ, Staff Member Introduction.

SHAZ, has been an ACA member since the end of 2017. She initially worked her way through Geocaching puzzles, based on ACA ciphers. Most of her solving time is spent with paper/pencil and ERASER, as well as using BION'S online worksheets. She served 28 years as an Official Court Reporter for the Tehama County Superior Court, as well as years of pro tempore work. Hobbies include playing the piano, flute and organ, often called to perform at functions. She is active in many sports, and is happiest doing anything outside, including backpacking, snowshoeing, cycling, swimming and scuba diving.

### Novice Solving Tips

SHAZ

As a novice cipher hobbyist, I look for ways to attack the ciphertext, often using the paper/pencil methods outlined in *Novice Notes*, as well as the worksheets provided in Bion's Gadgets site (<https://williammason.github.io/rec-encrypt> at [Bions gadgets on Github.html.](https://williammason.github.io/rec-encrypt)) This helpful online site allows one to input/manipulate text, do frequency counts and many other analysis options for many of the ACA ciphers. If total frustration sets in after doing everything I can think of, I might use one of the computer-solving programs for a push, but then work the solving methods backwards in order to get a better grasp on the techniques. And if all else fails, call-a-friend also can assist in understanding and attaining a solve! Consider myself as that friend and feel free to call me with any questions at [<srdunbar@msn.com>](mailto:srdunbar@msn.com)

### JF-1. Word search. K2. Submit key for credit.

DARING FLAIR

PARROT: This is a normal word search, except the words are encrypted as a K2 alphabet. Luckily there are pattern words you can find, and then you start building the K2 key.

The first suggested pattern word to seek encrypted is Babbage. The encrypted letters are: VUVVURZ. Plug those ciphertext letters into a K2 alphabet under the plaintext letters, babbage. Next might be Bazeries, which is encrypted as VUQZDPZF. Plugging these under the K2 pt letters:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
UV	Z	R	P													DF					Q				

Keep going until your k2 alphabet is complete. There are plenty of other pattern words but you also have known letters now which help you find more words. The key is a 14 letter word, with 2 letters that repeat.

### The Tyro Tutorial

This is available at our ACA web site under Resources. It describes the solution process to some thirty different cipher types, a comprehensive listing of Null Variables by BION and the use of Google as a solving tool.

#### ZANAC's Gimme a Break – MA Aristocrats (may be digraphs / trigraphs)

A-1, and, A-2, the (2), A-3, ly (2), A-4, the (2), A-5, you, (4) A-6, it (4), A-7, that, A-8, ing (3), A-9, the (2), A-10, that (2) A-11, the (2), A-12, that, A-13, ing (2), A-14, and, A-15, the (3), A-16, ion (2), A-17, hum (2), A-18, the (2), A-19, ing (3) A-20, her (2), A-21, that, A-22, your (4), 23, boom box, A-24, ing (2), A-25, in (4)

#### ZANAC's Gimme a Break - MA Patristocrats (may be digraphs / trigraphs)

P-1, the (2), P-2, the (2), P-3, possible, P-4, your (4), P-5, the (4), P-6, the (4), P-7, the (3), P-8, the, P-9, the (2), P-10, the (2), P-11, the (2), P-12, Odd, P-Sp-1, S alliteration, P-Sp-2, Ends – "objects"

**JF-1. Word search. K2. Submit key for credit.** See page one for solving process. **DARING FLAIR**

**JF. A-24. First sign. K2 [96] Crib: civilization** **SHMOO**

**JF. A-25. Paul Revere's ride. K4. (86) Crib: Mesonoxian** **LIONEL**

**JF. P-12. Interplanetary mystery. K3 [102/19] (FCZY) Additional Crib: a t m o s p h e r e** **PELKABO**

**JF.X-7. ????? K2. On science. [Eng. key] [94] Additional crib: Albert Einstein** **SHMOO**

**JF. X-Sp-2. Catalan Digrafid. A very annoying request. PARROT: Pt. begins, "A mes dels proposits"** **GGMA**

**JF. E-10. Complete columnar. End of the line. Crib: Washington, Virginia.** **DARING FLAIR**

**JF.E-11. Monome-Dinome. Enduring bond. (it is my home) Ends, "lifelong friends."** **PELKABO**

**JF. E-18. Playfair. Ancient attraction. PARROT: Plaintext begins, "This castle in"** **PELKABO**

**JF. E-19. Phillips. Lead performance versus power. (the actual lead)** **SHMOO**

PARROT: Additional crib: MAGLV=heact

**JF. E-24. Nihilist Subst. Asian-American delicacy. MSCREP: Plaintext begins, "The signature"** **PELAKBO**

PARROT: Ext. crib: (competetopro-). Period Seven.

**JF. E-25. Condi. Pesticides not needed. (hundreds of eggs) MSCREP: Begins, "Ladybugs "** **ALCIBIADES**

**JF. E-26. Seriated Playfair. Childish wonder. MSCREP: Plaintext begins, "Latvia's Natural History"** **SHMOO**

**JF. E-Sp. Swagman. Teaching youth. (gives one human being)** **SHMOO**

PARROT: Period 8. Begins, : "Boys and girls"

**JF. C-7. Subtractions. (One word 1-0)) E - 1, L = 4, N = 9** **SILCO**

**JF. C-9. Multiplication. (Two words, 9-0) W = 4, B = 9, C = 6** **PHILLIES**

**JF. C-13. Addition. (Two words, 9-0) Y - 7, P = 5, A = 2** **AMADI**

**JF. C-Sp-2. Undecimal Addition. (No word, 0-A) M =2, S = 5, T = 9** **THE RAT**

**JF. AC-1417. Complete Columnar. [531] Final Revolutionary battle.** **DARING FLAIR**

MSCREP: 59 strings of 9 character long text.. Plaintext begins, "Springfield" Additional crib: "celebrated"

**MA-1. Ornamental. Butterfly. Patristocrat. Crib "caterpillar" Thirty-seven counterclockwise ciphertext letters. MiB**

**MA. A-25. Grass roots. K3 [96] Crib - zoysia** **LIONEL**

**MA. P-12. Keyword recovery 1. K3 [87/20] (QILE) Crib - chain** **DOPEFISH**

**MA. X-6. Swedish K2. Ancient monument. (staden) [96] Plaintext begins, "En av"** **GGMA**

**MA. X-7. ????? K2. An ideal world. [Eng. key] [103] Spanish,. Plaintext begins, "S-"** **BION**

**MA. X-11. Dutch Monome-Dinome. Stacking. [Eng. key] (hoofdje) Begins, "Agenten"** **AMADI**

**MA. E-1. Fractionated Morse. Up in the air. (QUNWBGUEYL) 1-17-11 Begins "Swiss"** **ROCCOBARBI**

**MA. E-2. Cadenus. A fitting memorial. (MSMNYG) Plaintext begins, "All of the"** **RIG R. MORTIS**

**MA. E-3. Gronsfeld. On censorship. (-HXWLYYXUHX) Period 8. Plaintext begins, "Until"** **SHMOO**

**MA. E-5. Baconian. 18th century insight. (keep) Crib place. OPERA, LEARN, GRAND, ISSUE** **APEXDX**

**MA. E-6. Homophonic. The great outdoors. (JFUWY) Key begins, "FO"** **CONFUOCO**

**MA. E-7. Morbit. Horse before cart. (-CFF) PARROT: Added crib: "problem - 2" Key pos 110** **SHMOO**

**MA. E-11. Quagmire II. The view. (-ereclustersofjoshuatreesare) Period 10. Pt. begins, "The late"** **BION**

**MA. E-13. Numbered Key. Long string. Extended crib: (consists of a string of more)** **BION**

**MA. E-15. Phillips. Animal mystery. MSCREP: Extended crib placement: See below.** **BION**

Begin at ciphertext IOQW: "among animals elephants and horses"

**MA. E-20. Beaufort. Movie plot. PARROT: Period 12. Begins, "Thriller" Three word key.** **AURION**

**MA, C-2. Cube root. (One word, 0-9) H = 3, E = 6, S = 9** **CTHULHU**

**MA. C-3. Square root. (Two words, 0-1) A = 8, M = 5, N = 2** **APEX DX**

**MA. C-6. Additions. (One word, 0-9) A = 0 N = 4, O = 7** **SILCO**

**MA. C-11. Multiplication. (Three words, 0-1) R = 9, G = 6, D = 3** **FOMALHAUT**

Sunny Cipherring, LIONEL