ACROSS
1) Fairy-tale starter 43) Owl's haunt, perhaps
5) Form a line? 44) Election Day freebies from
10) Acclaim  party workers
14) Hang in the hammock 46) Egyptian cross symbols of
15) Semisoft cheese  life
16) Monetary unit since 1999 48) Witness
17) Ne'er-do-wells 49) Family skeletons, e.g.
20) Heavenly being 52) "__ I but known!"
21) Disorderly struggle 53) A verb for you
22) Something to drive off of 54) Abbr. on an ambulance
23) Prepare to play the drums 57) Mid-morning
25) Musketeer motto word 61) Color-changing lizard
27) With stronger oversight 65) What this puzzle's theme is, essentially
36) Majors of "The Six Million 68) Brain output
Dollar Man" 69) Extended absence
37) Caine's co-star in 70) Estrada of TV fame
"Deathtrap" 71) Interim office worker
38) Last Greek letter 72) The river in Mexico?
39) Caterer's containers 73) A boatload
41) Arab potentate (var.)

DOWN
1) Actress Kurylenko
2) "High" time at MGM
3) Drain blockage
4) Firstborn sibling
5) George Harrison's "All Those Years __"
6) Brown lodging?
7) Clair de ____ (porcelain)
8) Fan club honoree
9) Colonial river boat
10) Flowery wreath
11) Doting one, perhaps
12) Encourage heartily
13) Rx specification
18) Small handbill
19) Name-tag word
24) Support for a swing
26) Follower of Mary
27) Book jacket write-up
28) Spine-tingling
29) Takes care of
30) Survey a second time
31) Big social gathering, e.g.
32) Techies, say
33) Tantalize
34) Florida bird
35) Claire of "Homeland"
40) Actor Rogen
42) Cassowaryy kin
45) An old one may need a key
47) Bony one
50) First woman to swim the English Channel
51) Contrite feeling
54) Discharge, as light
55) Created
56) Sunflower supporter
58) Name that's a name backward
59) A great distance
60) Year of Christopher Columbus's death
62) Prefix for "space" or "plane"
63) Lo ____ (Chinese noodles)
64) Inquires of
66) Type of dance
67) Fairness-in-hiring agcy.

STEP
ONCE A DLIB LAUD
LOLL GOUDA EURO
GOOD FORNOTINGS
ANGEL MELEE TEE
SIT ALL
BETTER REGULATED
LEE REEVE OMEGA
URNS EMEER BARN
RIDES ANKHS SEE
BEST KEPT SECRETS
HAD ARE
EMS TENAM AGAMA
MATTER OF DEGREES
IDEA LEAVE ERIK
TEMP ELRIO TONS

By STEP