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47. “…____ the ramparts we watched…” —from our national anthem.
50. Saarinen, Arch architect.
51. $ (2 wds.).

1. Mo. is home to more than 30 naturally ____ orchid flower species.
9. God’s name in this religion is Allah.
13. For a writer, words are the ____ of his trade.
14. Orchids in Mo. are incredibly diverse growing in specialized settings and blooming in different ____ and each at specific times of the year.
15. “____, the Lord will strip (Tyre) of her possessions…” (Zechariah 9:40).
16. What one does at a roast.
17. Second biggest metro area in the U.S. (abbr.)
18. A brand of health/energy drink claiming antioxidants, low calories and low sugar.
19. As the story goes, ____.
20. In degraded ____, orchids will be the first to disappear. “They are always going to be rare. Even jaded botanists get excited about them,” — Peter Bernhardt, biology prof., St. Louis Univ.
23. To learn by ____ (i.e., to memorize).
25. Pope Paul ____ was the Pope who carried the main load of implementing the second Vatican Council.
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24. “A straight ____ looks bent in the water. It matters not merely that we see a thing, but how we see it,” —Michel de Montaigne.

30. Medical abbr. for left eye; in Latin, oculus sinister.

31. Are you in? It’s ____ nothing (2 wds.).

32. Truman and Mark Twain.

34. The Magi followed one.

37. Battery size.

38. Civil War Gen. Tecumseh Sherman made his infamous March to the Sea through this Confederate State (abbr.).

39. This Mo. County in Mo.’s Lead Belt region is named after the abundant ____ ore within its borders. It is also the home of Mo.’s tallest point, Taum Sauk Mountain, the popular Elephant Rocks State Park, a Civil War battle site, the Battle of Fort Davidson, and over 96,000 acres of the Mark Twain National Forest.

41. Alien craft?

42. “My Gal ____”; this 1905 song was the first song ever performed in a motion picture film, “The Jazz Singer” in 1927.

45. Wide shoe size.

47. ____ what do I owe this pleasure?

49. State known as Little Rhody (abbr.).