DC Hunt
by Ucaoimhu

In this puzzle, certain clues are what I call “DC clues” — DD (double definition) clues in which the answers to the two halves don’t quite match. Specifically, one answer will contain a sequence of letters not found in the other (italicized tagging after the clue applies to the longer answer). Each such sequence must be entered in the grid in a single square (which will always be a “checked” square); these squares, all put together, form the quarry of the titular DC Hunt.

The unclued phrase at 1 Across and 44 Across, on the other hand, tells what is in these squares individually. In addition, it tells what I am hoping to encounter, conditionswise, at the Washington Post Hunt (poised as it is between frigid MIT and sweltering Miami).

ACROSS
12. A certain bra size increased (2 wds.)
13. Are terrific as a topping for sushi
14. Nu, I’m dancing with Inherit the Wind star Paul
15. Hurrah — this tree bears edible fruit
16. The French tribe in ancient Canaan
17. Going west to live with Senator Clampett’s portrayer
18. Chicago trains carrying no organic compounds
19. Part of Doug, Rick, Bela and Imre’s language family?
24. “Better dealer in stolen goods” doesn’t begin to describe Mr. Solo
25. One fifth of taunt about hot author Rand
26. Draw sustenance from applause
28. Tell how bulgy things bulge
31. Lass at club embraces author with good cheer
32. Draws Boston and Austin, say
36. Detect, employing peripheral nerves!
39. Mantra escaping your lips with some resistance
40. Variant of an original recording by Michael Stipe’s band
41. Lamp-lighter is none the worse for wear
42. Reportedly should have to pay for car
43. Vehicle described in volume one

being insensitive
3. Uncouth people like to take gym
4. Brewing tea never gets you respect
5. One who was in the clink for a very long time (hyph.)
6. Yale student assumes cola to be something ancient
7. What a culture of yeast in malt sugar is!
8. General hugs male federal employees (hyph.)
9. When Santa gives $1000 to hear some kind words
10. Discussing the Spanish first-year law student (2 wds.)
11. About an hour after one serves tea and kippers, say
12. Poirot’s a man who married Mom’s sister, perhaps
13. Old Peruvian’s fashionable half-cape
14. Turned up almost immediately after a Warrior Princess
15. Considering how sari ends if woven badly (3 wds.)
16. Put down in a negligent manner
17. Science fiction writer Isaac held up a credit card containing molybdenum
18. King Arthur’s mother displays nervous energy
19. Offspring!
20. Mare originally named for Mr. Connery
21. Pen two and a half dozen couplets
22. Moles destroyed vine
23. Mr. Kilmer is upsettingly Bohemian, for instance

DOWN
1. Grow by adding on material from a mountain ridge
2. The following is an important statement about . . . er,