

I U P U I
MATH CLUB TEASER #60

April 1st, 2011
(due April 31, 2011)

Old Mother Hubbard
went to the cupboard
to feed some friends of her son.
The son (his name is John)
has an odd bunch of friends:
If they all shake hands,
and then shake with John,
the number of handshakes
is less
than the number of cakes
Mother bakes for her mutt.

Try to guess
the nature of friends
(are there a lot?)
who shook hands with John;
given that cakes,
the poor dog had none.

The IUPUI Math Club invites everybody to submit solutions to its weekly recreational mathematics problem. Interested individuals and teams of up to four participants can submit written solutions. At the end of the semester, prizes will be distributed among the IUPUI undergraduate teams that submit the most correct solutions. Solutions are due one week after each problem is posted, and should be faxed to (317) 274-3460, dropped off in person at LD 270, or sent by campus or U.S. mail to:

Math Club Teaser
Dept. of Mathematical Sciences
IUPUI, LD-270
402 N. Blackford Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202