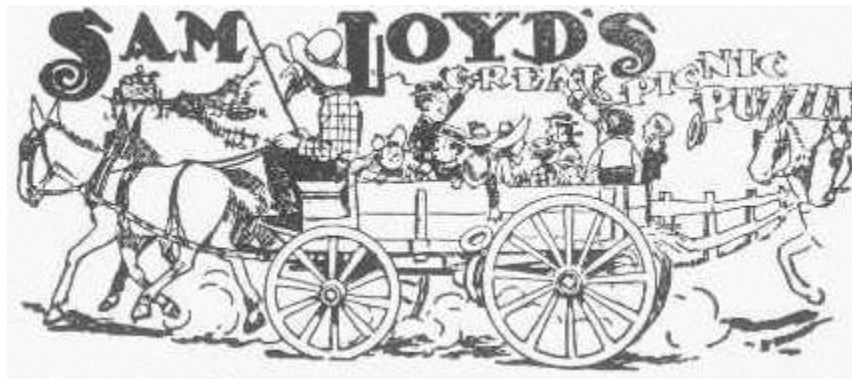

Problem of the Week

Number Nine

November 12, 2013



When they started off on the great annual picnic every wagon in town was pressed into service.

Half way to the picnic ground ten wagons broke down, so it was necessary for each of the remaining wagons to carry one more person.

When they started for home it was discovered that fifteen more wagons were out of commission, so on the return trip there were three persons more in each wagon than when they started out in the morning.

Now who can tell how many people attended the great annual picnic? Be sure to explain your reasoning!

Solutions are due to Jason Rosenhouse by 5:00 on Friday, November 16. Please write your solution clearly somewhere on an official POTW problem sheet. Place your name, e-mail address, and the section numbers and professors of any math courses you are taking, in the upper right corner of the page. Papers may be handed to him directly, placed in the inbox outside his office, or left in his mailbox in the main office. One weekly winner will receive a five-dollar gift card from Starbucks. Winners will be drawn randomly from among the correct answers. All problems, and eventually their solutions, will be posted at

<http://educ.jmu.edu/~rosenhjd/POTW/Fall13/homepage.html>