

# Researcher of the Month

By Andy Crane

Before I left for the island, I met a set of triplets, Hexy, Dexy, and Lexy, who founded a corporation that acts as one of SOLVE's primary research partners. They were very friendly and honest men, but I found them all to be a bit quirky. The first spoke in hexadecimal, so I needed to convert numbers back to decimal. The second used zero-based numbering, so any number he told me was one too low. The third was dyslexic, so any number he ~~he~~ mentioned had the digits reversed (but single digit numbers were fine). Thus, when I heard the number 12 spoken, the triplets meant 18, 13, and 21, respectively.

I spoke to them at their end of the year banquet, where they rattled off facts about their Researcher of the Month incentive program. I wrote down all that they told me but unfortunately I couldn't distinguish the triplets to tell who was saying each phrase.

- The company just finished its **2D**th month. Every month someone receives the Employee of the Month award, along with a special pin for recognition. Each of our **9** employees has earned a pin (Even Eckelfred, Ostraheim, and Rigomunda, who were all hired this calendar year), and no employee has the same number of pins as another.
- We don't allow the same employee to win the award in consecutive months.
- Maximroth and Golzebein have a combined **10** pins.
- Eckelfred and Flagstone have a combined **3** pins.
- Flagstone and Ostraheim have exactly as many pins combined as Stinnadry does.
- Stinnadry has **5** pins.
- Dumbrecht doesn't have as many pins as Golzebein does, but does have more than either Stinnadry or Applejack.
- Stinnadry, Maximroth, and Golzebein have **12** pins combined.
- Eckelfred, Ostraheim, and Dumbrecht have **21** pins combined.
- Ostraheim and Rigomunda individually have fewer pins than Applejack, but collectively have more. Still, Rigomunda is proud of his **3** pins.