

9th Cryptography Treasure Hunt an introduction to number theory based cryptography

Numbers 4 Safety

24 July 2025, Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio, USA



This summer, Numbers 4 Safety had another amazing opportunity to hold its flagship event, the *Cryptography Treasure Hunt - an introduction to number theory based cryptography*, at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio, USA.

The event took place on the hot summer day of July 24, 2025 in the university's Campus Center and was organized by Bogdan Jones and Darius Jones. Most of the participants of this 9th edition of the event did have prior experience with number theory and openly expressed their love for math. However, they were new to applying number theory to cryptography.

With little help from the organizers, they succeeded in decrypting the clues and were excited to be presented with the event's signature prizes.

Westerville is such a fitting match for cryptography outreach, being the hometown of Agnes Meyer Driscoll (1889-1972), known as the "first lady of naval cryptology". More about her remarkable work in an upcoming newsletter!



Hard at work decrypting the affine cipher



The laureates of the 9th Cryptography Treasure Hunt