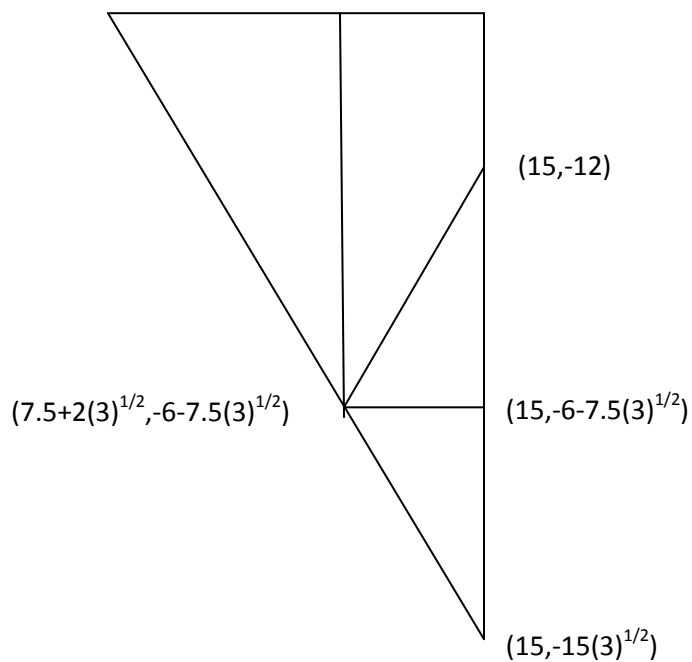


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Alan,

I got out of reading Technology Review and looking at the Puzzle Corner. I saw M/A 2013 and thought the simpler way is below.



First, extend the sloping line down to meet  $X=15$ . Pythagorean theorem gives the value  $-15(3)^{1/2}$ .

The medallion hangs down half way between this point and  $15, -12$ , or  $Y=-6-7.5(3)^{1/2}$ .

The big triangle and the medallion triangle are similar triangles. Thus  $X=15$  times the ratio of the two  $Y$ s or

$15 \times [-6-7.5(3)^{1/2}] / -15(3)^{1/2}$ , which is  $-7.5-2(3)^{1/2}$ .

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