

# 64 = 65?

## Charles Dodgson in Math Land & Lewis Carroll in Puzzle Land

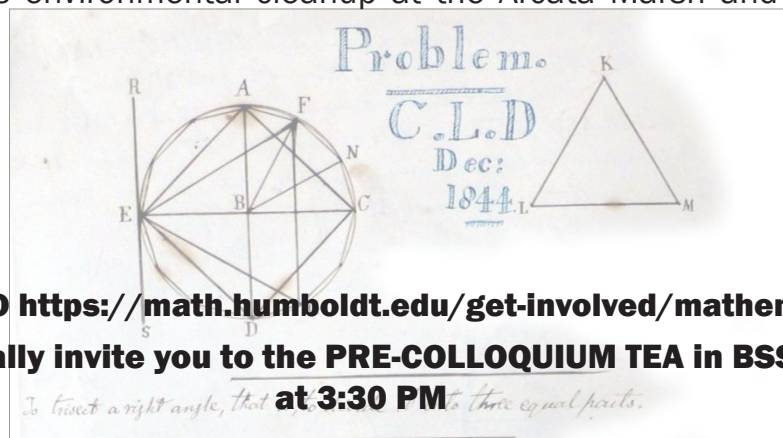
### Stuart Moskowitz

**Department of Mathematics & Data Science**  
**Cal Poly Humboldt**

This is an extension of a Math Dept colloquium from 2017 that explored a variety of puzzles from **Charles Dodgson** (aka **Lewis Carroll**). Now we dive deeper into four pages of his unpublished and unedited notes about the  $64 = 65$  paradox explaining how a square cut into four pieces can be rearranged into a non-square rectangle with an area greater than the square. We analyze his notes, and we explore the puzzle's history. This talk is based on a paper co-authored with **Dr. Phyllis Chinn**, HSU Math Dept Professor Emeritus. We will assume you were NOT at the previous colloquium nine years ago, beginning with a hands-on exploration of the puzzle. The content will be accessible and of interest to math majors, math ed majors, and LSEE majors with an interest in recreational mathematics and math history.

**Stuart Moskowitz** taught math and math education classes at HSU for 23 years, retiring in 2018. He still collects puzzles, as he has done for 60 years. When he discovered his puzzles could teach, motivate, and entertain his students, it gave his teaching and his research a new direction. When Stuart is not writing about or playing with puzzles, he tends his vegetable garden, plays with his six grandkids, and volunteers as a tour docent and does environmental cleanup at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

**THURSDAY**  
**Apr. 2, 2026**



**4:00 PM**  
**BSS302**

**FOR MORE INFO GO TO <https://math.humboldt.edu/get-involved/mathematics-colloquium>**

**We cordially invite you to the PRE-COLLOQUIUM TEA in BSS#312**

**at 3:30 PM**