**Lisa: Here is my Trestle Board Column for Hiram Lodge #50 for the May 2018 Issue of the Temple Tidings. Thanks! Matt**

My Brothers of Hiram Lodge #50:

The month of May opens up with Mother Good Day & May Day (5/1), and in 2018 the Kentucky Derby and Cinco de Mayo fall on the same day (5/5), National Teacher Day (5/8), Mother’s Day (5/13), National Chocolate Chip Day (5/15), Circus Day (5/19), Charles Lindbergh Flight Day (5/20), Blueberry Cheesecake Day (5/26), and Memorial Day (5/28). It is also known for the establishment of the Pulitzer Prize (5/7/1917), Beginning of Lewis & Clark’s Expedition (5/14/1804), First US Nickel Minted (5/16/1866), Founding of the American Red Cross (5/21/1861), First Morse Code Message Sent (5/24/1844), Golden Gate Bridge Opens (05/27/1937) and John F. Kennedy’s Birthday (5/29/1917). Source: ***theteacherscorner.net/calendars.***

For Hiram Lodge #50, May brings us opportunity, once again, to bring one from darkness into light. We are planning an Entered Apprentice Degree for Saturday May 5, 2018 starting at 10 am in Lodge Room #1 at the Madison Masonic Center. This will be the fourth EA Degree that the members of Hiram Lodge #50 confer and, with the three members from the Masonic Day of Light on April 7, 2018, be the seventh EA initiated in Hiram Lodge #50 since January 1, 2018. We are very grateful for those members who are membership conscious and constantly looking for good men for our Fraternity.

We are very blessed indeed! Not only in Hiram for a thriving, vibrant, active lodge, but also in our lives, as Americans. Often we take for granted - i.e., we simply don’t think about – how incredible we have it here in Southern Wisconsin, in particular, and in the United States, in general. We have been able to achieve our way of life where many others have tried and failed. We owe our present status in part to the many sacrifices of the men and women who came before us, who had a dream, who helped shape and form this Country, and who made the ultimate sacrifice in pursuit of the dream. May is one of the times of the year that we, as people of the Greatest Nation on Earth, set aside one day to remember those who made that ultimate sacrifice for us over the past several centuries so that we could have what we have today. While Memorial Day is a day of parades, of pride, of parties and of picnics, it also needs to be a day of remembrance, of reflection, of rededication, and of realization that this is a place worth dying for.

If you have the ability and the time, please join us in the morning on Memorial Day as we meet at the Madison Masonic Center, enjoy some coffee, carbs and comradeship, don our various & respective masonic paraphernalia, and walk two blocks to the State Capital Building for the Annual Memorial Day Observance. Please watch the press for the commencement time of the Memorial Day Observance at the State Capital Building. We will likely convene 1-1.5 hours before the start of the observance at the Madison Masonic Center.

If it has been a while since you have been to a Hiram Lodge meeting, we get together on the 1st & 3rd Mondays in Lodge Room #1 at the Madison Masonic Center, 301 Wisconsin Ave., Madison, WI 53703-2107.

Hope You and your families have a very relaxing, enjoyable, fun and reverent Memorial Day Holiday!

Fraternally Yours,

Matt