**Hiram Lodge #50 F. & A.M.**

**June 2019 Trestle Board**

My Brothers:

 I had an epiphany moment on May 22, 2019. What is an epiphany moment?

Derived from the Greek word epiphaneia, **epiphany** means “appearance,” or “manifestation.” In literary terms, an **epiphany** is that **moment** in the story where a character achieves realization, awareness, or a feeling of knowledge, after which events are seen through the prism of this new light in the story. (per Wickopedia).

What caused the epiphany? I realized on 05/22/2019 that I had not submitted a Trestle Board for May 2019. Normally, Trestle Boards are done right at the end of the month and are posted on or just before the first of the next month. Well, here we were, over three weeks into the month with just a little over a week to go and I had not posted a May 2019 Trestle Board. OMG. I panicked. Fear & terror gripped me. How could I bang out a relevant, inspirational message so late in the month. What would the workmen do? They would have no drawings to follow. Dang. Now What?

Well, I then had the epiphany moment. It hit me like a ton of bricks. I couldn’t believe it. It couldn’t be true. But it was true. I achieved realization, awareness, a feeling of knowledge. It was a WOW! Moment. I felt enriched. I had received light!

What was the epiphany? That the Hiram Lodge Trestle Board was not an effective communication tool? Why? Because nobody reads it. Nobody has any interest in the message. Which simply cannot be. That is not acceptable. Masters have always been writing Trestle Boards. It’s always been done. But the sad reality is that, as of the time of writing this article on Memorial Day, not one person has contacted me and communicated that there is no May 2019 Trestle Board posted.

Now, being posted on the “Our Lodge Page” website, it receives potentially unlimited public access. And, for those 21 members of Hiram Lodge #50 that do not have an email address, a hardcopy of the Trestle Board is mailed to them monthly (except for May 2019). Out of those 21 brothers, not one complained to date that they have not received the May 2019 Trestle Board.

What also surprised me was that I was not upset or disturbed by this epiphany moment. Rather, I was challenged as to how to address the apparent irrelevancy of the Trestle Board. After thinking about it, I had an idea.

My idea was to make the June 2019 Trestle Board an empirical exercise in Trestle Board relevancy. According to Merriam-Webster, the definition of empirical is 1 : originating in or based on observation or experience **empirical** data. 2 : relying on experience or observation alone often without due regard for system and theory an **empirical** basis for the theory. 3 : capable of being verified or disproved by observation or experiment **empirical** laws.

So, if you have read this Trestle Board and you think that the Trestle Board can be an effective communication tool, please send me an email at luckybuckyone@aol.com and simply say (1) “Trestle Board” in the Subject Line and (2) “I read it. It works!” in the body of the email. We’ll See. I will report further on this in the July 2019 Trestle Board.

My Brothers, change with respect to the Trestle Board is needed. I need to take my own advice, look in the mirror, and remember the lyrics of ***The Man in the Mirror*** and embrace the message of Glen Ballard and Siedah Garrett:

 ***If you wanna make the world a better place
Take a look at yourself and then make that change***

***You gotta get it right, while you got the time***

***‘Cause when you close your heart***

***Then you close your mind…***

***…Make that Change!***

Fraternally,

Matt

Matthew M. Hughey

Worshipful Master