

"One Day in May"

(May 15, 2021)

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Connection to the College (student? faculty? alum? friend of the College?): Faculty/staff

Describe your day on May 15, 2021. Tell us whatever you'd like at whatever length you'd like. We think future students will especially appreciate hearing about concrete details -- What can you see and hear from where you are right now? What did you do for fun today? Did you cook or eat anything special? Did you work or do chores? Who did you spend time with? What did you learn?

Today was mostly spent in the woodshop. I was preparing wood samples for tree-ring analysis. Yesterday we (my colleague Chris Baas and I) obtained samples from an old log barn in Brownstown, Indiana. There were many cores to mount and several cross sections to prepare for later analysis. Looks like we have a fairly odd assortment of wood types—beech, hickory, tulip poplar, black gum, and sweet gum. When I needed a break from the samples, I worked on making some wooden pens. The azaleas are amazing this year; I can't remember a year with more blooms than this one. The irises are really starting to come on strong. The Siberians are really looking great, both the purple and the white. Only a few of the bearded have opened, but what a show! Much better than last year. Pretty strange...just like last year, tree rings and flowers!

What do you think you'll remember most about surviving the pandemic? Tell us what whatever you'd like at whatever length you'd like. We think future students will especially appreciate memories that help them picture your life and relationships -- Have you taken up any new leisure activities in the last year, or have you changed how you eat, or cook? If you're on campus, what was it like in classrooms or dining spaces or locker rooms or offices? Have you been able to stay in touch with family or friends (including classmates and other Hanoverians)? How? What have you missed the most in the past year?

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