Happy New Year to all. Now that we have moved through the holiday season it is time to roll up our speculative sleeves and get back to work in our speculative quarries. We have instituted a separate night for Masonic Education, the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, and had a successful first exploration on December 28<sup>th</sup>. The topic of that evening was the 4 Cardinal Virtues (remember the Entered Apprentice lecture?). The topic slated for January 25 is "Work".

Many thanks to all the brethren, whether local brethren or our Canadian brethren (including many who are members of our Lodge), or our American brethren that joined us and worked to support the Installation of Officers and Banquet on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We were honored by the attendance of the MW Grand Master of the AF&AM of British Columbia & Yukon and several of his GL officers, as well as MWB Sam Roberts delivering the Charge to the Lodge, and the current and a past Grand Master's District Deputy for District 10, VWB Craig Bruner and VWB Don Higgerson, and WB Eddie Griffin of African Genesis Lodge No. 101. If you did not attend, I recommend you go to your Standard Work and read the work in the Installation ceremony. As I had the honor of installing the officers, I studied each of those passages for weeks and felt awakened, enlightened and refreshed. My sincere hope is that each officer will review those duties with which they have been charged, and use them as a roadmap this year.

Our new Lodge website is up and running, and the old website is now just a memory. Please go to <a href="www.sanjuanmasons.org">www.sanjuanmasons.org</a> to see the latest news and the numerous webpages that can be found using the drop down menus on the "homepage". Many thanks to VWB Lance Otis for putting this together and enriching it with so many resources.

Please be aware of the following events:

Jan 4: San Juan Lodge No. 175 Stated Meeting at 7:30; Dinner at 6:00

Jan 5: Goldstream Lodge No. 161 Stated Meeting at 7:00, including the Empty Chair ceremony and the official visit of the Grandmaster of BC & Yukon; Dinner at 6:00

Jan 7: Victoria-Columbia Lodge No. 1 Installation at 2:00, banquet to follow (MWGL of BC & Yukon, MWGL of WA, MW Prince Hall GL of WA & Jurisdiction attending)

Jan 7: Mt Baker Lodge No. 36 Installation at 2:00, reception to follow (Mt Vernon)

Jan 21: District No. 9 Annual Meeting with the MW Grand Master of Grand Lodge of F&AM of Washington at Fidalgo Lodge No. 77, 8th & O Sts, Anacortes

Jan 25: San Juan Lodge No. 175 Ritual Practice at 5:00 (Master Masons only) and Masonic Education at 5:30 pm (all Masons)

Freemason birthdays of note in January:
Brother Benjamin Franklin: January 17, 1706
Brother Robert Burns: January 25, 1759

Brother Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: January 27, 1756

Sincerely & Fraternally, John Wickham, WM