Installation comments from the incoming Worshipful Master

WB Michael J. Bishop for the year 2016

When I was first installed as Worshipful Master for Washington Lodge No. 4 in Vancouver WA

My theme was *The Building Blocks of the past are the Foundation for our future*

Washington 4 is an old Lodge which was founded in 1857, and I was excited about the history, but with a focus on the future

Now I find myself at the other end of the spectrum

Here being installed as the Worshipful Master for the newest/youngest Lodge in Portland

We have a past --- though our history is brief --- as we have travelled over a rough and rugged road

But I say we need to move on from impediments of the past… Now is the time and Here is the place

We have our own travels ahead

In this present moment we are conducting a laudable experiment

As in any experiment there is a hypothesis to be tested, which is made on the basis of limited evidence,

and which is a starting point, for more examination and further investigation

There are observations and data to be gathered, and expectations as to where the hypothesis might lead

Where will it lead? What does the Future hold for Enlightenment Lodge No. 228?

To find this out I need --- and will ask for ---

**Your** observations and experience **Your** evaluations of what this Lodge is about and where it needs to go

Some goals and themes for this Lodge that have been discussed prior are:

Fostering Quality – By making good men better, and driving membership with excellence and distinction

Growing Community – Being out there and being seen, interacting, and being present in the city of Portland

Promoting Character – By improving ourselves and our Lodge, and developing its character an identity

Thus though Enlightenment… we are… Spreading Light

Do we need other goals? Better defined goals? What will make this experiment succeed?

This is where I rely on experience - your past experiences as PMs, your current experiences as EAs and FCs

From these experiences we can build appropriate, and executable expectations for our Lodge

It is now time to test our hypothesis by looking at ourselves

We need to shine the light on all three temporalities: Past and Future – both of which now define our present

In short:

*We must use the* ***Experiences of Yesterday*** *in our* ***Experiment of Today*** *to achieve the* ***Expectations for our Future***

Brethren, we can do this together. **I think the future of E228 looks bright**