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Companions,

Last month I had the privilege of traveling to Washington, D.C. to represent Kansas at the Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter. Kansas was well represented there, and I want you to know our Companions conducted themselves with the dignity and warmth this Grand Chapter is known for.

The highest honor of the trip, for me personally, was being asked to deliver the nominating speech for M.E. Companion Patrick Carr for the office of R.E. General Grand Scribe. To stand before the assembled Companions of the General Grand Chapter and speak on behalf of one of our own Kansas officers was a moment I will not soon forget. Patrick's election is a credit to him and a point of pride for every Chapter in this state. Kansas has a voice at the national table, and it is a strong one.

Beyond the business of the Triennial, what stays with me is the fellowship and the chance to break bread with Companions from every corner of the country. For all our differences of jurisdiction and custom, the work is the same work, and the spirit is the same spirit. I came home with new friendships and a few good ideas I intend to put to use here in Kansas.

As we turn toward the holidays, remember this: the calendar year may be winding down, but our capitular year is only half over. A full season of labor remains—degrees to confer, Chapters to visit, and Companions to encourage. Let the momentum of the Triennial carry us through the fall and winter, all the way to our Annual Session in Emporia next May.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your Grand High Priest.

Faternally,

Gary B. Strout

Gary B. Strout, Ed.S.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, 2026-2027

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas