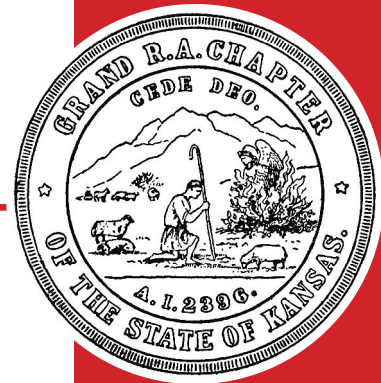


News of the Ark

A Monthly Publication of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas



From the Grand Royal Arch Captain

Excellent Companion Justin D. Crippen, Grand Royal Arch Captain

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest has asked the current Grand Chapter Officers to write articles each month for this supplement.



Greetings Companions.

As we move into October, I am still thinking about the experience we just had at the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International Triennial. It was a great opportunity for fellowship, learning, and seeing what Royal Arch Masonry is doing in other places. More importantly, it gave us ideas that we can bring home and put to work right here in Kansas.

That is really where my excitement is right now. We have some new programs and ideas beginning to take shape, and we are putting our committeemen to work in meaningful ways. I believe committees should be more than names printed in a book. When good Companions are given a purpose, a little direction, and the opportunity to contribute, they can accomplish a great deal. I am looking forward to seeing what comes from that effort in the months ahead.

One area I especially hope we can strengthen is our support of RARA — the Royal Arch Research Assistance Program. This is a program that deserves greater awareness and greater participation from our Companions. As we talk about RARA in our Chapters, I hope we will also encourage increased donations and help our members understand the good that can come from supporting this important work. Even small contributions, when made across many Chapters and by many Companions, can make a real difference.

We also need to remember that one of our greatest responsibilities is to help good Master Masons continue their Masonic journey. There are Brothers in our Blue Lodges who would make outstanding Royal Arch Masons, but many of them are simply waiting for someone to talk to them, invite them, and explain what the York Rite has to offer.

Royal Arch Masonry is an important next step in that journey. From the Chapter, a Companion can continue into the Council of Cryptic Masons and, for those who choose to continue, into the Commandery of Knights Templar. Each body builds upon the lessons that came before it and gives a Brother another opportunity to learn, serve, grow, and deepen his understanding of Masonry.

We should never assume that a Master Mason already knows what comes next. Sometimes all it takes is a personal conversation and an invitation from a Companion he trusts. I encourage every Royal Arch Mason in Kansas to think of a

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Gary B. Strout

**Most Excellent
Grand High Priest**

2026-2027

good Master Mason in his Lodge and ask him if he has ever considered continuing his journey. We are not simply trying to increase numbers; we are trying to bring good men into a meaningful experience that can strengthen them and, in turn, strengthen every part of the York Rite.

The Triennial reminded me that we do not have to reinvent Royal Arch Masonry, but we do have to keep working at it. We need to take the lessons we learn, try new ideas, strengthen the programs that already work, support RARA, and give our Companions a reason to be excited about being involved.

So as we enter October, I encourage each of you to ask yourself: What can I do to make my Chapter stronger? Maybe it is learning a new part, helping with a committee, supporting RARA, reaching out to a Companion we have not seen in a while, or inviting a worthy Master Mason to take that next step in his Masonic journey. There is a lot of good work ahead of us, Companions, and I am excited about where we are going. Let us keep moving forward together, put what we have learned into action, and continue building a stronger Royal Arch Masonry and a stronger York Rite throughout Kansas.

Fraternally,

Justin Crippen

South Central Royal Arch Meeting

The 2026 South Central Conference for the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons International was held on Friday, September 18, 2026, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas was well represented. While the Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Companion Gary B. Strout, was unable to attend because of work responsibilities, he sent his representative, Right Excellent Companion Andrew B. Mosley, the Grand Scribe, to speak for him. Right Excellent Companion Mosley addressed the gathered members of the South Central and told them about the current state of Royal Arch Masonry in Kansas.



The Grand Chapter of Kansas was represented by Right Excellent Companion Andrew Mosley, Grand Scribe, Most Excellent Companion Allan D. Jackson, Grand Secretary, Excellent Companion Wayne D. Drake, Grand Principle Sojourner, Right Excellent Companion Justin D. Crippen, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Excellent Companion Kelly J. Long, Grand Master of the 3rd Veil, Excellent Companion Dale R. Morrow, Grand Orator/Lecturer, Right Excellent Companion Gary A. Mason, District Deputy Grand High Priest for Capitular District No. 4, Most Excellent Companion Wayne H. Rolf, and Right Excellent General Grand Companion Patrick C. Carr, General Grand Scribe Royal Arch Masons International.



The newly elected General Grand Chapter officers were in attendance and each introduced themselves and gave a short presentation. These presentations included RARA, the future of the General Grand Chapter, and a presentation on finding meaning from the things we see and hear.

Each of those in attendance had the opportunity to meet and speak with their counterparts from other jurisdictions within the South Central and to hear the concerns, issues, and successes from those Grand Chapters. It was a fantastic weekend filled with fellowship and masonic knowledge.