

# Tales of the Secret Vault

A Monthly Publication of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Kansas



## From the Right Illustrious PCW

Right Illustrious Companion Wayne D. Drake, Grand PCW

*The Most Illustrious Grand Master has asked the current Grand Council Officers to write articles each month for this supplement.*



Another month of 2026 has come and gone. I'm hoping it was a busy and productive month for everyone. We are now looking forward to March and Spring; with longer days, warmer weather, and more opportunities to spend outdoors. This should give us a chance to energize our spirits and refresh our minds. I encourage each of you to get out and enjoy the beauties of Spring's nature; such as the first Spring BBQ. Thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon us. There is much work left to be done and fun opportunities to enjoy. Let's make time to not miss a minute of it.

Grand Session is closing in on us fast with the Annual Communication being April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan, Kansas. (*In case you didn't know.*) I would ask that you get registered for the event and your motel room booked in advance. I would like to emphasize how important it is for you to be *prepared*. If you are an officer and have a duty or a part; **PLEASE**, look it over in advance. We have many times in which officers show up and they don't have a clue as to what they are required to say or do. I would implore you all to read your ritual and not just the speaking parts, but also know your floor movements. It's not always entirely necessary you memorize your part, but be able to read it effectively. We are the GRAND YORK RITE; and we should be setting a good example for our Councils and Commandries in the State of Kansas. We should be proud of our work and let us represent who we are and not shoddy work with half measures. Let's make this the best Grand Session ever. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

God bless,

*Wayne Drake*

March, 2026

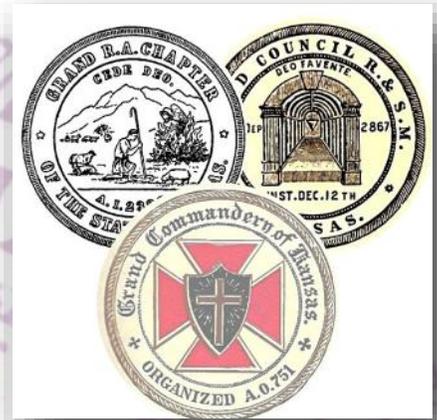
Gary B. Strout,

Most Illustrious  
Grand Master

2025-2026

# 2026 Grand York Rite Sessions

The session will start on Thursday, August 31, 2026, at 8:00 AM with the conferral of the Order of the High Priesthood which will be followed by at 10:00 AM by the conferral of the Order of the Silver Trowel. Lunch will be served at 12:00 PM and after lunch, at 1:00 PM, the Kansas Association of Past Commanders will induct new members into the Association. The meeting of Kansas College No. 125 of the York Rite College will be held at 3:00 PM and Ashmole Court No. 17 of the Masonic Order of Athelstan will meet at 4:00 PM. The Past Grand Presiding Officers Association will have their annual meeting at 5:00 PM and will be followed by dinner at 6:00 PM. At 7:00 PM, all will gather to commemorate the lives of those who have passed to the celestial lodge above at the necrology service.



On Friday, May 1, registration starts at 7:30 AM and the 160th Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons will have a public session at 8:00 AM which will be followed by the tiled session at 9:00 AM. Installation for the 2026-2027 Grand Chapter Officers will be held at 11:00 AM with lunch to follow at 12:30 PM.

The Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Kansas will host their 159th Grand Assembly with a public session at 1:30 PM which will be followed by the tiled session at 2:30 PM. Installation for the 2026-2027 Grand Council Officers will be held at 4:30 PM. The Perpetual Life Committee will have their annual meeting at 6:00 PM, and the annual awards banquet will follow at 7:00 PM.

Saturday, May 2, will be the final day of activities for the 2026 Grand York Rite sessions and will start with a breakfast for the Past Grand Commander's wives at 6:30 AM and the Knights of the York Cross of Honor will have its annual meeting to elect worthy candidates at their 6:30 AM breakfast meeting. Registration will open at 7:30 AM and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas will reconvene its 158th Grand Conclave at 8:00 AM with a public opening session and the tiled meeting will start at 9:00 AM. Installation of the 2026-2027 Grand Commandery Officers will be held at 11:00 AM.

All members are invited to attend. Dais officers of the constituent Chapter, Council, and Commandery are highly encouraged to attend and vote on the business held at the sessions.

To register, or for more information, visit [www.kansasyorkrite.org](http://www.kansasyorkrite.org).