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My Fellow Companions of the Holy Royal Arch,

We made it through the hottest part of our year in Kansas, and we appear to have come through the intense heat and warm winds rather unscathed. I have visited several Chapters during the month of August where it was difficult for the air conditioning system to keep pace with the outside heat. Sometimes we just cannot make it any more comfortable for our members. When that happens we just take off the jackets and the ties, roll up our sleeves, and still enjoy the meetings and the fellowship our time together provides.

The last few months have been quite busy for our membership. This was not only within our Royal Arch Chapters, but also within our Councils, our Commanderies, and even in our Blue Lodges and other appendant and concordant bodies. The summer months tend to be our busiest months of the year, both for our masonic lives and for our personal and private lives as well. We need to talk about our busy schedules. Many of you know I travel extensively for the Craft throughout the country. Traveling in masonry was something I was trained to do as a young Entered Apprentice, and I guess I just never learned any better. My mentor traveled quite a bit, and I wanted to emulate his example, so I started traveling with him and, in later years, without him. Being busy is just something I have always done. I want to remind each of you that your masonic journey cannot be measured by the number of miles you travel or the number of meetings you attend. Your masonic journey is measured by what you learn and by the fraternal friendships you have garnered during your time in the Craft. This is what is important. Our relationships with each other define our Craft in so many ways. It does not matter how much time you spend within the Craft. What matters is the quality of the time you spend!

Keep traveling, attending your masonic meetings, and enjoying all this great fraternity provides for each of us. Just make sure your travels are spent with quality interactions with those you meet out on the road. Those quality interactions can make all the difference when the road seems long and tiresome. I always rely on those interactions, and those friendships, to make the road shorter and to make me happier.

Be blessed, Companions.

Patrick C. Carr
Most Excellent Grand High Priest, 2025-2026
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas