

# Tales of the Secret Vault

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



## From the Illustrious Grand Master

Companion Gary B. Strout, Most Illustrious Grand Master

*The Most Illustrious Grand Master has asked the current Grand Council Officers to write articles each month for this supplement. We will start 2025 with the Illustrious Grand Master.*



Greetings Companions,

It is with great honor and humility that I introduce myself as your new Most Illustrious Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of Kansas. My Masonic journey began when I was raised as a Master Mason at Albert Pike Lodge #303 in Wichita, Kansas. Shortly thereafter, in the Fall of 1998, I became a York Rite Mason at the Wichita York Rite Festival. Which was quite a memorable experience many of us shared at the historic Wichita York Rite building.

One of my primary goals this year is to emphasize Cryptic education across our jurisdiction. The Cryptic degrees are deeply significant, offering essential insights into our Masonic philosophy. Albert Mackey notably stated, "Cryptic Masonry is intimately connected with the philosophical system of Freemasonry, preserving profound truths essential to the comprehensive understanding of the entire Masonic structure." Additionally, renowned Masonic scholar Henry Wilson Coil remarked, "The Cryptic Degrees safeguard those profound teachings which complete the Masonic quest for knowledge and wisdom."

I invite all companions to join us for our Annual Pike's Peak Inspection, scheduled for August 1st - 3rd. Detailed information and registration can be found on our website at [kansasyorkrite.org](http://kansasyorkrite.org).

I sincerely thank each of you for placing your trust in me. I look forward to serving and advancing our shared mission with commitment and dedication throughout my term.

Fraternally submitted,

*Gary B. Strout*

Most Illustrious Grand Master  
Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Kansas, 2025-2026

May 2025

Gary B. Strout,  
Most Illustrious  
Grand Master

2025-2026



# 2025-2026 Grand Council Officers

M:I.: Grand Master: Gary B. Strout, Leavenworth Council #1

R:I.: Deputy Grand Master: Robert B. Haynes, Junction City Council #22

R:I.: Grand Principal Conductor of the Work: Wayne D. Drake, Lawrence Council #14

M:I.: Grand Treasurer: T. Michael Fegan (OSV), Junction City Council #22

M:I.: Grand Recorder: Allan D. Jackson (OSV), Lawrence Council #14

I.: Grand Chaplain: Kelly J. Long, Ellsworth Council #9

I.: Grand Captain of the Guard: Patrick C. Carr (OSV), Ellsworth Council #9

I.: Grand Conductor of the Council: Frederick R. Kemp, Leavenworth Council #1

I.: Grand Marshal: Justin D. Crippen, Wichita Council #12

I.: Grand Custodian of the Work: Warren L. Hughes, Iola Council #8

I.: Grand Steward: Andrew G. Mosley, Ellsworth Council #9

I.: Grand Sentinel: Thomas R. Krauss, Jericho Council #26

I.: Asst. Grand Sentinel: Kenneth E. Foster, Lawrence Council #14

I.: Grand Organist: Dennis L. Reed, Lawrence Council #14

I.: Grand Piper: Caleb J. Long, Ellsworth Council #9

R:I.: Arch Master #1: Kenneth E. Foster, Lawrence Council #14

R:I.: Arch Master #2: Ivan DeTevis, Independence Council #15

R:I.: Arch Master #3: Juanito Ernacio, Ellsworth Council #9

M:I.: Arch Master #4: Gary A. Mason, Wichita Council #12

R:I.: Arch Master #5: Michael K. Colbary, Goodland Council #24

M:I.: Arch Master: Wayne H. Rolf (OSV) Grand Lecturer, Lawrence Council #14

M:I.: Arch Master: H. Wayne Rector (OSV) Grand Lecturer, Leavenworth Council #1

R:I.: Arch Master: Jamie L. Carwell (Grand Lecturer), Washington Council #2

