

# The Florida Knight

S.K. Sheldon Arpad

Right Eminent Grand Commander 2022

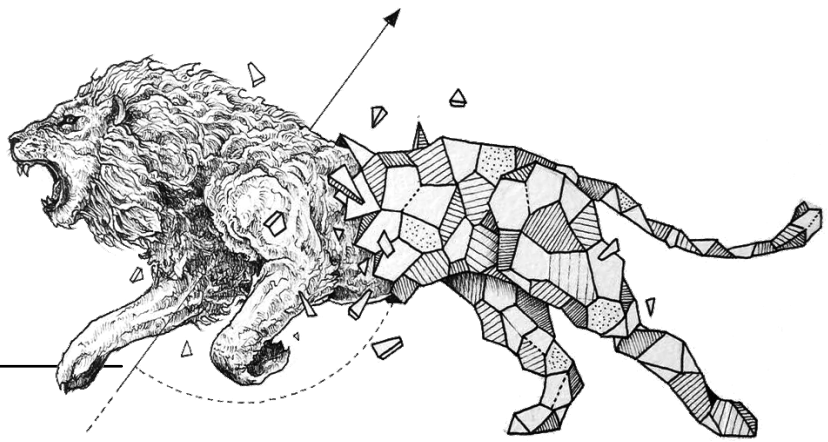
Email: nmi.arpad@gmail.com

Phone: (239) 995-1500

State Editor

Gary R. Roane

grroane123@gmail.com



Greetings Sir Knights,

One day I saw a sticker on a car that read: “Who saved who?” Now you can imagine what came to mind. A smile came across my face as I reminisced about my 6-month-old dog whom I had saved from two little boys who were mistreating him and I asked myself, “Did I save him, or did he save me?”

I remember thinking as I went to church that God saved me as I am sure he saved you. He has saved you! Your place has been saved with him and that “Saving” is between you and God.

However, what about what takes place here on earth? By no means am I comparing my dog to you, nor should you be upset at the analogy; however, a close bond is made between our pets and their owners, and this bond is also formed between you and a Masonic body as well. Let’s have a look.

- I wanted a small dog — I wanted an adult fraternal group.
- I searched and found a dog — My friends and members helped me in the selection of my sanctuary.
- I was excited to have a new member of the family — I was excited to meet new brothers of an extended family.
- There was a learning curve (ex. dog disappeared) — I will not write, cut, carve (learning curve) Using signs.
- When I had personal problems, my dog stayed with me — When my life went poorly my brothers empathized.
- When death came knocking my dog stayed with me — When brothers die, I/we comforted the family.
- I trained my dog tricks (how to behave) — My group taught me values and morals.
- The older my dog gets, the more attention/support he needs — As brothers get older, they need more stimulation/support.
- I chose this dog and he stuck by me, good, bad, indifferent. I would not abandon him or say that I have done enough in the past to care for him. He is older now and cannot perform the tricks he did when he was younger. He experiences accidents sometimes. I can make excuses or produce reasons to get rid of him, but do I not owe him my best? — So why would you abandon your York Rite? If you would not abandon your dog, why would you consider abandoning your Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery?

So let's call on the ones left behind and share this story..

Shall we all be fortunate enough to our Brotherly obligations, loyalty and commitment to ourselves and others until the tools have fallen from our hands...

God Bless & Happy Days,

Sheldon Arpad

Right Eminent Grand Commander

2022-2023

july 2022