

# The Florida Knight

S.K. Sheldon Arpad

Right Eminent Grand Commander 2022

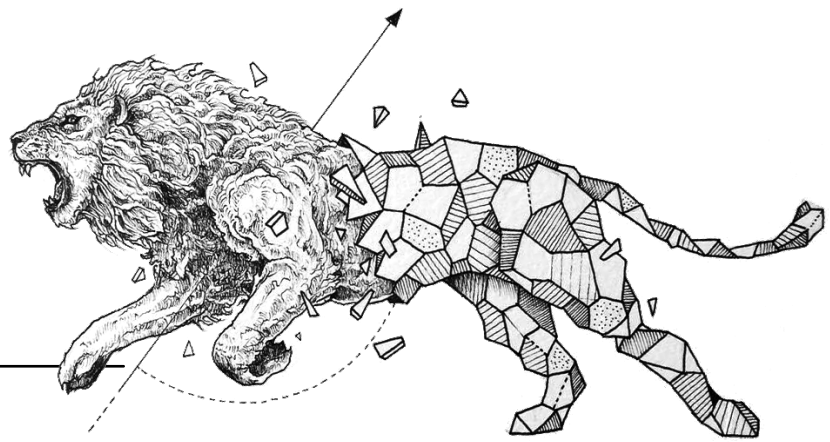
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Greetings Sir Knights,

George Washington Memorial Clock

Today, more than ever, it's almost impossible to share anything new with anyone well versed or even slightly interested in the history of George Washington or anything new about him. There are hundreds of books written from his birth to his death, the love letters he wrote to Martha Custis, even the wallpaper found in Mount Vernon.

Every Master Mason knows that George Washington was a Free Mason. This brief is a cross section of his memorial. No other American President has been honored in such a way as Dubuc & Dubuc has in the making of this piece of horology.

These clocks; or more specifically cases, were beautifully created in the workshop of Jean Babtist Dubuc (a French clockmaker who worked in Paris from 1780 to 1819) He is best known for the mantel clocks that he exported to the U.S. that depict a cast figure of a nobly posed George Washington derived from John Trumbull's 1792 painting "Before the Battle of Trenton".

Similar clocks are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Winterhur Museum, the Hammond Harwood House in Annapolis, Maryland, and in the First Ladies room in the White House.

Dubuc (also a Freemason) produced only a small number of these elegant mantle clocks to export to the American Market following Washington's death in 1799. Featuring a nobly posed Washington taken from John Trumbull's 1792 painting of Washington called "Before the Battle of Trenton",

This piece includes a tableau representing Washington's resigning of his commission and return to civilian life. This act recalls the virtuous example of Roman general Cincinnatus, affirming the principle of civilian control of the military.

We, the Freemasons, recognize and celebrate our beloved George Washington each year in February.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheldon Arpad

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