

Knights of Rizal Manual

"A LIFE WHICH IS NOT CONSECRATED TO A GREAT IDEAL IS LIKE A STONE WASTED
IN THE FIELDS NEVER TO BECOME A PART OF AN EDIFICE" -*RIZAL*

PREFACE

(Excerpt from SIR JUSTO P. TORRES, JR., KGCR Supreme Commander, Manila, Philippines, December 30, 1985)

The Order of the Knights of Rizal as a civic and patriotic organization has demonstrated a phenomenal growth not only in membership but also in activities since it was founded November 16, 1916. It was known then as "Orden de Caballeros de Rizal."

The successful passage to become a Republic Act 646 converting the Orden de Caballeros de Rizal to be known in English as "Knights of Rizal" infused genuine interest in recognition to its objectives as a legal entity with a magnified mission for the propagation of Rizal's teachings and examples. Since then, the Order has expanded considerably since the early 50's. Chapters upon chapters all over the Philippines and in foreign countries having foreign nationals joining the organization.

The growth of the Order brought with it a myriad of new concern which was the implementation of its objectives under one solid roof. Its growth was faster than the implementation of its rules as it adapts into international level. Later, the Knights worldwide created a manual to systematize the rules and policies of the organization into a singular unified system with one Supreme Head governing the hierarchy of the organization.

This manual is a brief history of the Knights of Rizal, the governing charter of the Order, its Code of by-laws, rules, policies, directives and accepted practices including forms and rituals observed in Knighthood Ceremonies of the Order in the Rizalian way.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

<i>DSC</i>	<i>Distinguished Service Cross</i>
<i>DSS</i>	<i>Distinguished Service Star</i>
<i>ER</i>	<i>Esquire of Rizal</i>
<i>KM</i>	<i>Kabataang Maka-Rizal</i>
<i>KR</i>	<i>Knight of Rizal</i>
<i>KOR</i>	<i>Knight Officer of Rizal</i>
<i>KCR</i>	<i>Knight Commander of Rizal</i>
<i>KGOR</i>	<i>Knight Grand Officer of Rizal</i>
<i>KGCR</i>	<i>Knight Grand Cross of Rizal</i>
<i>NOM</i>	<i>Non Omnis Moriar (Not everything in me will die)</i>
<i>ORDER</i>	<i>Order of the Knights of Rizal</i>
<i>OCR</i>	<i>Orden de Caballeros de Rizal</i>
<i>SC</i>	<i>Supreme Commander</i>
<i>DSC</i>	<i>Deputy Supreme Commander</i>
<i>SCh</i>	<i>Supreme Chancellor</i>
<i>SP</i>	<i>Supreme Pursuivant</i>
<i>SE</i>	<i>Supreme Exchequer</i>
<i>SA</i>	<i>Supreme Archivist</i>
<i>ST</i>	<i>Supreme Trustees</i>

GENERAL INFORMATION

HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF RIZAL

The history of the Order of the Knights of Rizal go back to December 30, 1911 when Colonel Antonio C. Torres organized a group of men for the purpose of commemorating in an honorable manner the execution and martyrdom of the foremost national hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal. Year after year, the same group would gather to celebrate the birth and commemorate the death of Dr. Jose Rizal. This group would be seen conspicuously on horseback reminiscent of the knights of old known for their chivalry and exemplary life.

To provide a continuing entity and to encourage others to join, on November 16, 1916, they registered and organized a private non-stock corporation and named it the "Orden de Caballeros de Rizal." The incorporators of the corporation were: Antonio C. Torres, Juan Flameño, Martin P. de Veyra, Jose A. del Barrio and Jose S. Galvez.

Colonel Antonio C. Torres, who before the last war was Chief of Police of Manila, was the first Supreme Commander. Followed by succession of honorable Supreme Commanders: Martin P. de Veyra, Manuel Lim, Juan F. Nakpil, Herminio Velarde, Teodoro Evangelista, Hernenegildo B. Reyes, Santiago F. de la Cruz, Jesus E. Perpiñan, Vitaliano Bernardino, Jose Ma. Paredes Claudio Teehankee, Jose S. Laurel III and the incumbent, Justo P. Torres, Jr.

In 1951 the Supreme Council of the Order created a Committee on Legislation for the purpose of studying the feasibility of filing a bill in the Congress of the Philippines to be enacted into law to enable the Order to secure a legislative charter.

The explanatory note of the Bill read as follows:

"The purpose of the attached bill is to accord to 'the civic and patriotic organization known as "Orden' de Caballeros de Rizal", by granting to it a legislative Charter and investing 'it with the necessary powers to enable it more fully and more effectively to accomplish the laudable purposes for which it was organized."

This Bill also serve as a historical monument to Rizal; it will constitute an official recognition by the Republic of the Philippines of the inestimable value to the nation of his teachings and examples and of the wisdom and necessity of inculcating them in the minds and -hearts of our people so they may strive to follow and practice them. The authors and proponents of this Bill believe that if the purposes thereof are faithfully and effectively carried out, social discipline, civic virtues, and love of justice will be fostered, promoted, 'and enhanced in this country, and that the Knights of Rizal as chartered entity is the most convenient instrumentality by which these desirable ends can be attained'. Let Rizal's life and martyrdom influence and guide the destiny of the nation. Let this and future generations live the Rizal Way. "

signed into law by the President of the Philippines on June 14, 1951, becoming Republic Act 646.

KR CHARTER EXEMPT FROM RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS OF CORPORATION LA

It is patent from the wordings of Act 646 that the purpose in lifting the Knights of Rizal from its status of a purely private corporation to a "public corporation," is to broaden its powers and to exempt it from the restrictive provisions of the Corporation Law (now Corporation Code) to enable it to effectively carry out the objectives for which it was established. While it is true that the power granted to it "to make and adopt by-laws, rules and regulations" is qualified in the sense that such adopted by-laws, rules and regulations should not be inconsistent with the laws of the Philippines, the qualification should be construed as empowering the corporation to adopt by-laws which are not illicit or contrary to morals, good customs, public order or public policy. (SEC. Opinion, January 13, 1969).

THE KNIGHTS OF RIZAL: AN ORGANIZATION

The Order of the Knights of Rizal is a civic and patriotic organization recognized by law as an instrumentality by which the teachings of Dr. Jose Rizal 'may be propagated to others who may believe in his teachings to the end that they may emulate and follow his examples. KOR aside from being a civic and patriotic organization it is also

cultural, non-sectarian, non-partisan and- non-racial.

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVE

The purposes or objectives of the Knights of Rizal are as follow:

1. To study the teachings of Dr. Jose Rizal;
2. To inculcate and propagate them in and among all classes of the people, and by words and deeds to emulate and practice the example and teachings of Dr. Jose Rizal.
3. To promote among the associated knights the spirit of patriotism and Rizalian chivalry;
4. To develop a perfect union among the Filipinos in reverting the memory of Dr. Jose Rizal; and
5. To organize and hold programs commemorative of Rizal's and martyrdom.

Note:

Every member of the Order must be familiar with the objectives of the Knights of Rizal. Knowing the objectives of the Order provides a sense of direction for every member. which implies duties and responsibilities.

Every member has a mission to fulfill: "to study the teachings of Dr. Jose Rizal, and to inculcate and propagate them among all classes of the people who would want to follow his teachings and examples. Rizal said -"God has not made anything useless in this world, as all beings fulfill or fill a role in this sublime drama of creation, I cannot exempt-myself from this duty, and however small, I, too, have a mission to fulfill as, for example, alleviating the sufferings of my people.

KNIGHTS OF RIZAL HAS CORPORATE POWERS

As a legal entity the Knights of Rizal can exercise corporate powers. Thus, it shall have perpetual succession, with power to sue and be sued, to hold such real and personal property as shall be necessary for corporate purposes; to solicit and receive public contributions; to receive real and personal property by gift, devise, or bequest; to adopt a seal and to alter the same at pleasure; to have offices and conduct' its business and affairs in the City of Manila and elsewhere; to make and adopt by-laws, rules, and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the Philippines, and generally to do all such acts and things (including the establishment of regulations for election of associates and successors) as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of Republic Act 646 and to promote the purposes of said corporation. (Sec. 3, Rep. Act 646)

MEMBERS OF THE ORDER

The members of the Order are known as Knights of Rizal (Caballeros de Rizal or Mga Maginoong Maka-Rizal in Tagalog) and are classified into five degrees and are classified by having the necessary qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

All persons of legal age; of good moral character and reputation, who are in sympathy with the purposes' of the Knights of Rizal, are eligible for active membership, upon unanimous approval of the Supreme Council of a written application therefore duly endorsed by at least two active members of the Order. (Sec. 4, Rep. Act 646) '

The pertinent provisions of the Code of By-Laws of the Order shall likewise apply in the admission of new members.

DEGREES OF MEMBERSHIP

The five degrees of membership in the Order of the Knights of Rizal are as follows:

First Degree - Knight of Rizal

A candidate who is admitted and initiated into the degree of membership is known as a Knight of Rizal.

To qualify for admission to the first degree, one must be of legal age; of good moral character and reputation, who believes in Rizal and is willing to learn more about him' and to follow his teachings.

Application for membership shall be made in writing and duly endorsed by at least two members who are in good standing with the Order. Application shall be submitted and shall be approved by the Supreme Council or chapter

concerned. (Art. IV, Sec. 1 Code of By-Laws)

Second Degree - Knight Officer of Rizal

A Knight Officer of Rizal is one who has been elevated to the second degree of the Order upon fulfillment of the following degree work requirements:

1) He must have served the Order at least- six months in the first degree, and must be favorably recommended by a Special Committee created for the purpose by the Supreme Council or by the Chapter concerned. (Art. IV, Sec. 1 Code of By-Laws)

Third Degree - Knight Commander of Rizal

1) A Knight Commander of Rizal is one who has been exalted to the third degree of the Order. Any Knight of Rizal, regardless of the degree that he holds, who has fulfilled the requirements as may be prescribed by the Supreme Council for the purpose that he maybe exalted as "Knight Commander of Rizal. Exaltation comes from the approval of the Supreme. Council.

2) A Knight of Rizal who has been elected as a member of the Supreme Council or as Chapter Commander shall be qualified for exaltation as Knight Commander of Rizal.

3) Any person, even not a member of the Order, who has distinguished himself by meritorious service which has enhanced the objectives of the Order, or has written a book of general acceptance on Rizal, may also be exalted to this category upon written recommendation of the Prefectural Tribunal created by the Supreme Council or by the Chapter concerned. The written recommendation of the Prefectural Tribunal created by the Supreme Council or by the Chapter concerned, shall specifically state the achievements of the candidate for exaltation which have been considered as the basis for the recommendation for exaltation.

Fourth Degree – Knight Grand Officer of Rizal

A Knight Grand Officer of Rizal is one who has been conferred the second highest degree of the Order. Any Knight of Rizal or any person who has performed an outstanding achievement for the Philippines or for the Order, may be conferred the degree of Knight Grand Officer of Rizal by the Supreme Council.

Note:

By virtue of a resolution approved by the Supreme Council a Knight of Rizal who has been duly elected as Supreme Trustee shall be qualified for conferment to the Fourth degree. (November, 1985)

Fifth Degree - Knight Grand Cross of Rizal

Knight Grand Cross of Rizal is one who holds the highest degree of the Order.

Any Knight of Rizal or any person who has performed an outstanding achievement for the Philippines or for the Order, may be conferred the degree of Knight Grand Cross of Rizal by the Supreme Council at a Regular or Special General Assembly called for the purpose.

After the election and organization of the Executive Officers of the Order, a trustee of the Supreme Council who was elected as Supreme Commander shall be conferred the Knight Grand Cross of Rizal.

OTHER AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE STAR

A Knight of Rizal who has performed an, outstanding achievement for the Order may be awarded the Distinguished

Service Star upon the recommendation of the Prefectural Tribunal and approved by the Supreme Council.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

A Knight of Rizal or any person who has performed an outstanding achievement for the Philippines or for the Order may be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross upon the recommendation of the Prefectural Tribunal and approval by the Supreme Council.

Comments: This is a higher award than the distinguished service star. The recipient of this award or may be a person other than a member of the Order.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The Supreme Council shall determine the fees and other charges which shall be paid by members of the Order. Such fees may be increased or decreased by the Supreme Council, as circumstances may warrant.

Knights of Rizal or persons conferred the fourth and fifth degrees shall be exempted from payment of membership fees.

Unless otherwise changed or modified by the Supreme Council, the annual fees to be paid by the chapters and members of the Order shall be as follows:

1. Each chapter may collect from its members an annual membership fee in such amount that the member concerned may be willing or can afford to pay, irrespective of rank or position, provided that the same shall not be less than five pesos (P5.00) a month, or sixty pesos (P60.00) a year.
2. The fees collected from the members shall constitute the operating fund of the chapter to be used for its activities and projects, and for the payment of the corresponding chapter fee hereinafter provided.
3. In lieu of remitting a definite portion of the fees collected from its members, each chapter with a membership of less than fifty shall pay an annual fee of two hundred (P200.00). Pesos and three hundred (F300.00) pesos if its members exceed fifty.
4. This resolution supersedes any previous directive, circular or memorandum issued by the Supreme Council on the subject of the payment of members' and chapters' fees insofar as they are inconsistent herewith.
5. This resolution is effective starting the year 1985. (Supreme Council Resolution March, 1985)

GOVERNING BODY

The general administration and direction of the affairs of the Order shall be in the hands of a Supreme Council (Board of Directors) of nine members, which is hereby vested with full powers and authority to act and perform all such functions as the corporation (Order) itself may do and perform. (Sec. 5, Rep. Act. 646).

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL

The election of the nine (9) elective trustees of the Supreme Council shall be in accordance with Article XIII, Section 2 of the Code of By-Laws and under the following procedure.

- a. Only members in good standing, as provided for in Article IV Section 4 and of Article X, Section 6, of the By-Laws, shall be entitled to vote or be voted for in any office or position in the Order.
- b. Nomination for the nine elective trustees of the Supreme Council shall first be submitted to a Nominating

Committee previously constituted by the Supreme Council in any number as it may deem proper.

Except for members under the National Headquarters, no Chapter shall nominate more than one (1) candidate to the Supreme Council. Such nominee shall be certified to as a member in good standing and reputation by the Supreme Commander in the case of members under the National Headquarters or by the Chapter Commander concerned.

All nominees for the Supreme Council shall first accept the nomination before they may be voted upon. (Art. VI, Section 1, Code of By-Laws).

After the nominations are closed, the members present and qualified to vote shall proceed to vote, depositing their ballots in a box provided for that purpose. No voting by proxy shall be allowed.

c. The Supreme Commander shall appoint a Board of Canvassers of at least three (3) members from among the voting members who shall canvass the ballots cast and verify that they tally with the number of members present and qualified to vote, the votes shall then be counted and recorded on tally sheets. The Chairman of the Board of Canvassers shall report the results of the voting to the Supreme Commander.

d. The nine candidates obtaining the highest number of votes shall be proclaimed elected by the Supreme Commander. The Supreme Council shall promulgate rules and regulations to insure the integrity of the election.

The newly elected trustees of the Supreme Council, including the immediate past Supreme Commander, shall then meet and elect from among themselves, the Officers as provided for in Article V, Section 2 of the By-Laws. Provided, however, that any Chapter Commander who is elected to the, Supreme Council shall ipso facto be considered resigned from his position as Chapter Commander. (Art. IV, Section 1, Code of By-Laws).

SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS

Once the nine members (trustees) are elected in a general assembly who are called for the purpose shall meet and elect among themselves the following:

Executive Officers as follows:

1. Supreme Commander
2. Deputy Supreme Commander
3. Supreme Chancellor
4. Supreme Pursuivant
5. Supreme Exchequer
6. Supreme Archivist
7. Supreme Trustee
8. Supreme Trustee
9. Supreme Trustee

Supreme Commander

The Supreme Commander is the highest Executive Officer of the Order, as such he shall have - general supervision over the management of the affairs of the Order; shall preside at all the meetings of the Supreme Council and the General Assemblies; shall sign all certificates, diploma, contracts and other important documents, shall also sign all checks drawn against bank accounts, jointly with the Supreme Exchequer; shall create with the approval of the Supreme Council, all, committees of the Supreme Council which he may deem necessary; shall submit to the General Annual Assembly a report covering the activities of the Order during his incumbency; shall call Regular or Special General Assemblies of the Order or special meetings of the Supreme Council whenever he deems it necessary, and shall perform such other duties as are incident to his office or required of him by these By-Laws or the Supreme Council.

The Supreme Commander is the presiding officer of the meetings of the Supreme Council and also the general and

special assemblies of the Order. He is the Chairman of the meetings of the Order. He is the Head of the organization. He is a symbol of the authority of the Order.

Rizal's Advice. "The spirit of tolerance ought to prevail when it concerns trifles that do not affect the essential part of a thing; in discussions, the conciliatory tendency ought to dominate before the tendency to oppose. No one should resent defeat. When any opinion is rejected, its author, instead of despairing and withdrawing, should on the contrary wait for another occasion in which justice may be done him. The individual should give way to the welfare of (the) society... Laying this aside, the decisions of the majority, after a sufficient discussion, are sacred and unquestionable." (Letter to the members of La Solidaridad in Barcelona, January 28, 1889. Epistolario Rizalino, 11, No. 227, pp. 113-114).

Deputy Supreme Commander

The Deputy Supreme Commander shall assist the Supreme Commander in the performance of his duties, and in the absence, illness, inability or resignation of the Supreme Commander, shall have the powers to discharge the duties of the Supreme Commander, and shall sign all checks drawn against bank accounts, jointly with the Supreme Exchequer or Deputy Supreme Exchequer or such other officer designated by the Supreme Council, in the absence of the Supreme Commander.

In the event that both of the above officers are unable to discharge their duties as herein prescribed, the Supreme Chancellor shall be Supreme Commander protempore with all the powers and duties of the Supreme Commander. I

The Deputy Supreme Commander is usually the operation officer of the Supreme Council. He coordinates closely the administrative aspects of the national headquarters with chapters and affiliate organizations. Unless the Supreme Council designates another officer for the purpose. He sees to it that all duly formulated policies of the Supreme Council are carried out. The Deputy Supreme Commander works closely with the Supreme Commander for effective administration of the Order.

Supreme Chancellor

The Supreme Chancellor shall be the ceremonial officer of the Supreme Council and, as such shall assist the Supreme Commander in all the ceremonies of the Supreme Council, in the installation of officers or formation of chapters and in all social and civic activities of the Supreme Council. He shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Supreme Commander or Supreme Council.

The Supreme Chancellor makes or supervises all arrangements concerning ceremonies, rituals, and other activities where the prescribed rituals are to be observed. He must familiarize himself with the accepted and/or recognized requirements of protocol in order to maintain a smooth flow of the particular activity or ceremony. In a large measure, he must provide effective assistance to the Supreme Commander.

Supreme Pursuivant

The Supreme Pursuivant shall prepare and publish all orders and resolutions of the Order when directed by the Supreme Commander; shall sign all checks drawn against bank accounts, the Supreme Exchequer, in the absence of both the Supreme Commander and Deputy Supreme Commander; and in general, should perform other duties as incident or required by the Supreme Council.

The Supreme Pursuivant shall "Prepare and publish all orders and resolutions of the Order when directed by the Supreme Commander." He is a "heraldic" officer. In line with his mandated duties, he must see to it that minutes of the meetings and activities of the Supreme Council are properly prepared, recorded and filed methodically. He sees that certificates and citations are properly prepared and given. He shall attend to the records of memberships and sees that notices are delivered within a reasonable time before every meeting. He may also perform other duties as the Supreme Commander or Supreme Council may ask him to perform.

Supreme Exchequer

The Supreme Exchequer shall be 'the custodian of the funds and properties of the Supreme Council; shall keep an accurate account of all money received and disbursed by him, shall deposit all collections and funds of the Supreme Council; shall sign all checks drawn against such funds when disbursement there of are authorized by the Supreme Council, jointly with the Supreme Commander, or the Deputy Supreme Commander, or the Supreme Chancellor, or

the Supreme Pursuivant, as the case may be; shall submit monthly to the Supreme Council a statement of the financial, condition of the Order; and shall perform other duties as incident or required of him by the General Assembly or by the Supreme Council.

Supreme Archivist

The Supreme Archivist shall keep all records, documents and correspondence of the order and of the Supreme Council, shall act as Historian and Librarian and makes recommendations for the acquisition of books, relics, or other objects pertaining to Dr. Jose Rizal or of interest to the order; He shall perform other duties as incident or required of him by the Supreme Council.

Whenever the Order deems it necessary it may appoint a curator for the Library-Museum with such compensation and duration. The Supreme Archivist and curator, if there be one, must maintain a working relationship to safeguard the interest of the Order in the maintenance, preservation and care of books, records, Rizaliana and other materials given to their care.

Supreme Trustees

The Supreme Trustees shall -perform the duties that may -be assigned to them by the Supreme Council.

Comments:

The last three members of the Supreme Council are the Supreme Trustees. These trustees perform duties "assigned to them by the Supreme Council." The Supreme Commander of the Order is the first' among equals (Ejojo inter pares) - the Supreme Trustees occupy positions equal to any member of the Supreme Council as the latter is a body composed of equals. Thus, the Order expects the trustees to be also in' the forefront in the achievement of the programs and objectives of the organization. Invariably, trustees of the Supreme Council are given responsible positions in the overall program of activities of the order.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES

The Supreme Commander by authority of the Supreme Council may set a day for the holding of an Annual or Special. Assembly of the Order whenever it is proper to call such assemblies pursuant to the Code of By-Laws. Such assemblies are held on such events as to celebrate the birth of our national hero on June 19 and to commemorate his death on December 30. The Annual Assembly and Election of Trustees of the Supreme Council is held every year on a day set by the Supreme Council pursuant to the By-Laws. Special Assemblies may likewise be held for the initiation, elevation, exaltation and conferment ceremonies.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEES

After the election of the members of the Supreme Council and the organization of the elected officers, the functional committees are additional committees are created to carry out the various activities of the order. These Committees are as follows:

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible, subject to the direction of the Supreme Council, for the formulation of guidelines, programs and operating policies and for the direction, coordination, and management of operations and activities of the Order. The Supreme Commander shall be the Chairman of the Committee and shall, have a membership not exceeding five, all of whom are members of the Supreme Council.

Public Issues Committee

The Committee on Public Issues gathers, collates, observes, analyzes and examines the vital public issues of the Order.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall find ways and means of generating funds for the various activities and programs of the Order pursuant to its objectives and attend to other matters pertaining to collection, disbursement and programming of the funds of the Order.

Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee

The Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee shall monitor legislative developments, make studies and recommendations. The -Chairman and/or Co-Chairman of the Committee shall act as the Legal Counselor of the Order.

Protocol, Ceremonial and Heraldry Committee

The committee shall see the approved rituals and ceremonies if they are being observed and implemented. It may further make recommendations on the insignia, uniforms, banners, seals and other symbolic paraphernalia to be used or adopted by the Order, and to make other recommendations for improvement or alteration of the same.

Nomination Committee

This committee shall receive and submit the names of members who are qualified for nominations to the Supreme Council.

Publications and Research Committee

This committee shall gather, edit, collate, compile and recommend publication of all lectures, bulletin, speeches, and other scholarly works to the Supreme Council for distribution and dissemination to all chapters of the Order or the general public.

Public Relations Committee

This committee shall undertake programs to inform the general public of the activities of the Order.

Prefectural Tribunal Committee

This committee shall undertake the screening of prospective members of the Order, conduct interviews and make recommendation's of those qualified for admission to the various degrees of the Order. The committee may also recommend those deserving of conferment and awards including distinguished service cross and distinguished service star.

Kababaihang, Rizalista Committee

This committee shall provide a working relationship with the Kababaihang Rizalista as a counterpart organization and coordinate activities of interest to the Order and other affiliated organizations.

Esquires of Rizal and Kabataang Maka-Rizal Committee

This committee shall recommend program of activities for institutional chapters of students in schools, colleges and universities. Such recommendations on programs may refer to organization, supervision, discipline and compliance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Supreme, Council from time to time.

Visitation Committee

This committee shall undertake the visitation of chapters and whenever possible coordinate with regional and chapter commanders. Sub-committees may be formed in chapters to undertake visitation of members and friends of the Order.

June 19th and December 30th Celebrations Committee

This committee shall recommend and adopt measures to celebrate the birth the death of Dr. Jose. Rizal.

Social Action Committee

This Committee on Social Action brings the positive and dynamic Rizalist who is conscious of the plight of the less-fortunate people. And, therefore, analyzes the problems of the people and the community, as he tries to alleviate the same to arrest hunger, disease, insecurity, destitution and deprivation by extending legal, medical, dental, psychological, educational and other material assistance, to lessen suffering and thereby promote peace and tranquility in society. The Rizalist emulates the example of Rizal in Dapitan as a community worker.

Education and Seminars Committee

This committee shall undertake to recommend studies, programs and activities which will develop and improve the educational system attuned to the ideas and principles of Rizal specifically along character formation, nation-building, enlightened citizenship and progressive economic development.

Rizal Essay and Oratorical Contests committee

The Essay and Oratorical Contest Committee shall prepare, subject to the approval of the Supreme Council the criteria regarding the holding of essay and oratorical contests. It shall recommend the qualifications of the contestants, judges, venue, prizes, theme, sectors to be involved whether International or regional, and other for the promotion of the general objectives of the Order.

Community Service Committee

The Community Service Committee shall prepare plans, guidelines and programs for the regional or chapter commanders in the implementation of its programs for civic, patriotic, social endeavors, and in call of emergencies for humanitarian reasons.

YEAR-ROUND PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

The Order maintains a year-round program of activities to carry out the objectives of the organization on a national and regional or chapter level:

- 1.To study and spread the teachings of Rizal;
- 1.To organize and to hold annual programs in honor of Rizal such as June 19 (birth anniversary) and December 30 commemorating his martyrdom;
- 1.To hold programs, convocations, seminars, training institutes in schools and universities;
- 1.To hold oratorical and essay contests among students and private citizens;
- 1.To organize institutional chapters from the elementary to the college level under the auspices of the local chapter;
- 1.To help organize auxiliary units composed of women civic leaders who may function as counterpart organizations of the local chapter;
- 1.To solicit and donate books, writings and other reading materials by and about the national hero to libraries and other reading centers;
- 1.To sponsor contest and give awards to outstanding citizens for outstanding achievements in the arts and sciences, the professions, industry, agriculture, and the promotion of international understanding.
- 1.To erect, if there be none, a monument, marker or bust of Rizal within the proper vicinity or locality,
- 1.To sponsor literary contests on poetry, essays and characters in Rizal's novels; within the context
- 1.To participate and discuss public issues of Rizal's philosophy and ideals which will promote unity, freedom and

peace with justice; and

1. Any other such activity or project which will in one way or another lead to the development and perpetuation of the sublime memory of our national hero.

ANNUAL REPORT

During the Annual General Assembly and Elections of the members to the Supreme Council an annual report is prepared and distributed to all chapters of the Order. The Annual Report contains the report of the Supreme Commander.

National, regional, chapter and foreign activities of the Order and the activities and programs pursued during the year under review.

To assure attendance in the general assembly and elections - all chapters and members are notified by the national headquarters/secretariat. The general assembly and elections take place in Manila because the principal office of the Order is in Manila which is pursuant to the Rep. Act. 646. The general assembly provides an opportunity for all officers and members of the Order to meet in a fraternal spirit.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

The Order maintains administrative offices at the Knights of Rizal Building, Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila. It is headed by an administrative officer and assisted by a staff of employees. As a matter of established policy the deputy Supreme Commander is the operations officer. The administrative offices are directly under the direct supervision of the Supreme Commander assisted by the members of the Supreme Council.

The following are the members of the administrative staff of the Supreme Council:

1. The Administrative Officer
2. Bookkeeper/s
3. Clerk-Typists
4. Watchman-Caretaker
5. Messenger/s
6. Utility Man
7. Building Assistants

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION

For effective administration of the Order, each region has its own Regional Commander. Considering that the Philippines is divided into regions, the Regional Commander is elected by the Chapter Commanders in the region. A Regional Commander once chosen may designate a deputy or deputies to assist him in the supervision of the region in accordance with the rules, directives and policies laid down by the Supreme Council.

The Regional Commander by the nature of his position must keep in close touch with the activities of the chapters in his region and reports regularly on regional operations. As Regional Commander he also serves as a liaison between chapters and the Supreme Council.

The Regional Commander may perform other duties and assume responsibilities by the Supreme Commander or the Supreme Council.

KR TERRITORIAL SUBDIVISIONS

The Order has for convenience adopted the political territorial subdivisions of the Government of the Philippines as follows:

National Capital Region (NCR)

Manila, Quezon City, Caloocan City, Pasay City, Pasig and Marikina, Las Piñas and Paranaque, Makati, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela, San Juan and Mandala Pateros and Muntinlupa.

Central Luzon (Region III)

Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Zambales, Olongapo City, Tarlac.

Southern Tagalog (Region IV)

Aurora, Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, Quezon, Romblon, Rizal.

Bicol (Region V)

Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon.

Western Visayas (Region VI)

Antique, Aklan, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental.

Central Visayas (Region VII)

Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental, Siquijor, Cebu City.

Eastern Visayas (Region VIII)

Leyte, Eastern Samar, Southern Leyte, Northern Samar, Samar.

Western Mindanao (Region IX)

Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga City.

Northern Mindanao (Region X)

Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon, Camiguin, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Surigao del Norte, Cagayan de Oro City.

Southern Mindanao (Region XI)

Davao, Davao Oriental, Davao del Sur, South Cotabato, Davao City.

Ilocos (Region I)

Abra, Benguet, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Mountain Province, Pangasinan, Baguio City. **Cagayan Valley (Region II)** Batanes, Cagayan, Ifugao, Isabela, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Kalinga-Apayao, Nueva Surigao del Sur, Davao del Norte, Davao Oriental, Davao del Sur, South Cotabato, Davao City.

Central Mindanao (Region X-10)

Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Iligan City.

FORMATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF CHAPTERS

The Charter of the Order authorizes the formation and administration of Municipal, City, Foreign and Institutional Chapters throughout the Philippines and in foreign countries.

Section 6 of Republic Act 646 provides:

"A group of five or more persons of legal age residing in any locality outside of Manila and who are of good moral character and reputation, may associate themselves and form a chapter of the corporation (Order) upon approval of a written petition to the Supreme Council. It shall be the duty of each chapter to promote and carry out the purposes of the corporation in the locality where the chapter is organized.

Comments:

Although the provision of law above requires only a minimum of five (5) persons to be able to form a chapter, the by-laws of the Order requires at least nine (9) in order to complete the set of officers from Chapter Commander to the last Trustee similar to the set of officers of the Supreme Council. This is actually designed and accepted by a long standing practice because it is felt that Chapter membership and activities is a good training ground for higher and bigger responsibilities.

The pertinent provision of the Code of By-Laws in connection with the formation of chapters is as follows:

A group of nine (9) or more persons of legal age, residing in any municipality or city and who are of good moral character and reputation, may organize themselves into a chapter of the Order upon recommendation of the corresponding Regional Commander and approval in writing by the Supreme Council upon petition filed for the purpose. Provided, however, that only one chapter shall be permitted to organize in a municipality or city.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of the nine (9) elective members of **the Chapter Council** shall take place on the second Sunday in February of each year in accordance with the following procedure:

- a. Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote or be voted upon for any office or position in the Chapter.
- b. Nominations for the nine elective members of the Chapter Council shall first be submitted by a Nomination Committee previously constituted by the Chapter Council in any number. Additional nominations on the floor may, however, be made by any member.

All nominees for the Chapter Council shall first accept the nomination before they may be voted upon. Nominees present in the chapter assembly may manifest acceptance verbally or in writing; nominees not present shall manifest acceptance in writing.

After the nominations are closed, the members present and qualified to vote shall proceed to vote, depositing their ballots in a box provided for that purpose.

- c. As soon as the voting is closed, the Chapter Commander shall appoint a Board of Canvassers from among the voting members who shall canvass the ballots cast; if they tally with the number of members, the votes shall then be counted and recorded on tally sheet; excess ballots shall be withdrawn by the chairman. The results of the voting shall be reported to the Chapter Commander by the Chairman of the Board of Canvassers.
- d. The nine candidates securing the highest number of votes shall be proclaimed by the Chapter Commander.

The newly-elected members of the Chapter Council, including the immediate past Chapter Commander, shall then meet and elect from among themselves the Officers as provided for in Section 2 of Article VI of these By-Laws. The elected Officers **shall take and sign before the outgoing** Chapter Commander the prescribed oath of their respective offices.

The members of the new Chapter Council may, at their discretion, postpone the election of the Officers.

EFFECTIVE CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

The Chapters of the Order provide the link between the Supreme Council and the members in the municipalities, cities, foreign countries and institutions where chapters are established.

Administering a Chapter of the Order is no different from that of managing a business enterprise and by these basic elements that go with successful administration. They may be summed up into the following:

- (a) Formulation of plans and objectives;

- (b) Delineation of authority and responsibility;
- (c) Selection of people to whom this responsibility is to be given;
- (d) Regularity in the holding of meetings, and
- (e) Sustained. follow-up and reporting to ascertain whether the assigned work has been achieved or completed.

THE CHAPTER COMMANDER

A word on the Chapter Commander may be in order. The success of Chapter administration depends largely on the leadership of the Chapter Commander. It may not be an exaggeration to say "tell me who is the Chapter Commander and I will tell you what kind of Chapter you have," is a truism which through the years has been proven correct. Hence, the head of the Chapter and its officers must be able to inspire by word and deed the general membership. The Chapter Commander must provide not only the expertise but serve as model worthy of emulation.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Chapter must always be attuned to the objectives and policies of the Order. The Chapter's activities must be in line with the ideals and teachings Dr. Jose Rizal. Although conditions existing in one region may not necessarily be similar to another region or community, Chapter's activities must be toward the development and improvement of the character along Rizalian ideals and concepts. This must be so if we aspire to promote unity and love of country through individual and national discipline.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Chapter meetings provide an Opportunity for the members to come together to discuss and exchange views concerning the activities and problems pertaining to the chapter. The member can come together only when they are properly notified of the date, time and place of the meeting. As soon as the chapter is organized the Chapter Commander should strive to get a consensus among the members regarding the weekly or monthly meeting.

It is important that at every meeting of the chapter there should be an outline or agenda of matters to be taken up. The Chapter Commander should be able to stimulate discussions and realizing at the same time the importance of each officer or member. The important thing is for the Chapter Commander as leader of the group to inspire

CHAPTER'S FINANCES

If the Chapter is to succeed in its projects it is necessary that it should have funds. The funds can come from membership dues, fund raising, etc. Care however, should be exercised that the Chapter is not merely operated as a money-making scheme. It is suggested that monies or funds generated by the chapter in legitimate endeavors be properly accounted for and deposited in reputable banking institutions in the name and for the account of the Chapter. This is one delicate area of Chapter operations. It is therefore suggested that Chapter's funds be entrusted and its collection made by a most trusted officer or member.

CHAPTER DISPUTES

It happens invariably like any other organization that disagreements and disputes arise. While these problems are part of human affairs it must be avoided as much as possible. There are situations in Chapter administration where disputes come into the open. This time the Chapter Commander must show leadership and tact in handling the situation. Invariably, disputes of members in the Chapter must be contained and resolved within the chapter unless the matter is one which is cognizable only by the Regional Commander or the Supreme Council.

CHAPTER'S PROPERTY

Pursuant to its charter (Rep. Act. 646) the Order of the Knights of Rizal is a public corporation and as such has the power to acquire real or personal property. A duly organized chapter may likewise acquire real or personal property and register the same in the appropriate registry as property of the Chapter of the Order. Evidence of ownership or registration must be forwarded to the Supreme Council for approval and record. Property acquired by the Chapter must be administered by it within the territorial boundaries where it is established.

PROPERTIES OF THE ORDER

All properties of the Knights of Rizal whether real or otherwise, any donation or contribution which from time to time may be made to the corporation by the Government or any of its subdivisions, branches, offices, agencies, or instrumentalities, or by any other person or entity shall be expended by the Supreme Council solely to promote the purposes for which the corporation is organized. (Rep. Act 646, Sec. 7).

Use of Property, Assets and Earnings. No part of the Order's property or income shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, officer or any private individual, corporation or association except as may be necessary to compensate reasonably staff members and other employees and persons who have actually rendered services in furtherance of the purposes and/or objectives of the Order. Neither shall any of the property, assets or earnings of the order be used for other than the purposes/s for which it was organized. (Sec. 1, Art. V111, Code of By-Laws).

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Order has set up a Library and Museum which contains books, pamphlets, letters, paintings, paraphernalia and other paper, works and relevant materials concerning the life, works and writings of Dr. Jose Rizal. The Order is confident that in time it will serve the needs of Rizalists, scholars, historians and others. At present the library-museum has been receiving donations of worthwhile Rizaliana materials locally and abroad. Although it is still early to expect substantial flow of books and materials to be a haven for researchers it will in due time be one considering the efforts being exerted to make it one of the finest collection of Rizaliana materials in the country.

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Section 1- [a] There shall be a Council of Elders to be composed of all past Supreme Commanders and the incumbent Supreme Commander.

[b] The Council of Elders shall elect a Chairman from among themselves.

Section 2 – The Council of Elders may from time to time be consulted by the Supreme Council on vital matters affecting the interests and integrity of the Order; provided, however, that in the event of an internal controversy or dispute arising out of or in connection with the administration of the business or affairs of the Order or disposition of the assets of the Order or issues likely to cause or causing a stalemate and/or deadlock or dissension in the Supreme Council, the matter shall be referred to the Council of Elders who shall act as arbitrators and whose decision, reached by a majority of its members within thirty (30) calendar days from the time the issues have been elevated for its consideration, shall be final and executory. The recourse to the Council of Elders shall be made whenever the incumbent Supreme Commander, any three (3) Executive Officers of the Supreme Council or a group of at least ten (10) members in good standing of the Order shall certify the same to the Council of Elders and only after conciliation efforts in accordance with arrangements established by the Supreme Council have failed.

3 – The ceremonies for the establishment of chapters shall also be prescribed by the Supreme Council and performed by the Supreme Commander or any member of the Supreme Council, or any Knight of Rizal with the rank not lower than the 3rd degree upon authority from the Supreme Commander; and shall be held at the domicile of the chapter or at some other place that the Supreme Council may designate.

COUNTERPART ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1 – The Kababaihang Rizalista, a national organization of women, the Kabataang Pangarap Ni Rizal (KAPARIZ), the Kapisanan Ng Mga Gurong Nagmamahal Kay Rizal (KAGUNARI), and the Philippine Association of Teachers of History and Rizal, Inc.– (PATHRI), the latter two being both organizations of Rizal course teachers, the Maria Clara Ni Rizal (MACLARIZ) and Maria Clara Ni Rizal Senior Citizens Club, which are all dedicated to the same aims and purposes as the Knights of Rizal, are hereby recognized as counterpart organizations of the Order. The Supreme Council may, as it deems proper and necessary, recognize as a counterpart organization any other organization which is dedicated to and interested in promoting the purposes of the Order. Said organizations and the Order shall collaborate and coordinate their activities in pursuance of their common objectives.

MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

Section 1 – The Order shall hold annual and whenever necessary, special general assemblies.

Section 2 – The General Assembly for the purpose of electing Trustees of the Supreme Council as provided for in Section 1 of Article VI of these By-Laws shall be held every two years on the fourth Sunday of May of the relevant year or on such other date as the Supreme Council may determine.

Section 3 – Other Annual Assemblies shall take place in June and December of each year for any or all of the following purposes:

- [a] Initiation of new members;
- [b] Elevation to the 2nd degree (Knight Officer of Rizal);
- [c] Exaltation to the 3rd degree (Knight Commander of Rizal);
- [d] Conferment to the 4th degree (Knight Grand Officer of Rizal); and
- [e] Conferment to the 5th degree (Knight Grand Cross of Rizal);

The Supreme Council may call special general assemblies, for any or all of the above purpose/s whenever necessary.

Section 4 – Special General Assemblies, other than those provided for in Section 3 of this Article, may be called by the Supreme Commander, at his discretion, upon written request of at least 25 members in good standing or upon joint petition of two or more chapters concerned, on date, time and place as the Supreme Commander may determine for the purpose of strengthening relations and for other purposes. No business except those stated in the notice shall be discussed at any special assembly.

Section 5 – The Supreme Council shall hold regular meetings once a month. The Supreme Commander may call special meetings of the Supreme Council at his discretion or upon written notice of at least three (3) members of the Supreme Council on such date, time and place as the Supreme Commander may designate. Any Knight of Rizal may be invited by the Supreme Commander to attend any meeting of the Supreme Council for the purpose of expressing their opinion on matters of interest to the Order.

Section 6 – A majority of the members present at any general annual or special general assemblies shall constitute a quorum, provided that any and all proceedings held in any general assembly shall be considered valid in all respects once quorum has been declared by the Supreme Commander.

Section 7 – In the meetings of the Supreme Council, the attendance of five (5) members thereof shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8 – No proxies shall be accepted or recognized at any general assembly of the Order.

Section 9 - Each Chapter of the Order shall meet regularly at least once a month. At the end of each Rizalian Year, each Chapter, through its Chapter Commander or Grand Esquire shall submit to the Supreme Council a written report of its programs and activities for the past Rizalian year.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1 – The Order of business in all meetings shall be:

- a. Calling of meeting to order;
- b. Roll call;
- c. Determination of quorum;
- d. Reading and approval of minutes;
- e. Unfinished business;
- f. New business; and
- g. Adjournment

UNIFORM, INSIGNIA, AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Section 1 – The uniforms, insignias, awards, decorations and titles for all degrees of the Order shall be those prescribed by the Supreme Council.

Section 2 – The uniforms, insignias or medals prescribed by the Supreme Council shall be worn by the members of the Order in all official assemblies, rituals, ceremonies of the Order and other appropriate occasions.

Section 3 - The Supreme Commander Emeritus is the ultimate honorific title that the Order can confer singly and for life on the most senior and deserving past Supreme Commander for outstanding service and leadership in the Order.

SEAL

Section 1- The Order shall have a dry seal which shall bear upon its face in a circular design, the words: “KNIGHTS OF RIZAL” AND “MANILA PHILIPPINES” and within the circle, an equilateral triangle bearing the profile of Dr. Jose Rizal in the center, the name “Rizal” and the abbreviation and figures “Inc., 1916,” under it, a five pointed star in each angle of the triangle, all mounted on a sun with eight (8) salient rays as background.

Section 2 – All diploma and certificate for chapters, Knight of Rizal, Knight Officer of Rizal, Knight Commander of Rizal, Knight Grand Officer of Rizal and Knight Grand Cross of Rizal, and other important documents issued by the Supreme Council requiring the Corporate seal, shall bear this dry seal when so directed by the Supreme Council.

Section 3 - The Supreme Pursuivant shall be the guardian of the official seal of the Order.

AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS

The By-laws of the Order may be amended or repealed either in full or in part by the affirmative vote of the majority of the members in good standing at Special General Assembly called for the purpose.

RITUALS

1. FIRST DEGREE - KNIGHTS OF RIZAL

Supreme Commander S. C.
Deputy Supreme Commander D. S. C.
Supreme Chancellor S. CH.
Supreme Pursuivant S. P.
Supreme Exchequer S. E.
- one rap (attention or sit down)
- three raps (stand up)

SUPREME COMMANDER - Bring in the colors. (Gives three raps and everybody stands up. Flag is brought in and deposited on rostrum at the right side of S.C.) (Immediately- following, the National Anthem is played.) We will renew our pledge of allegiance to the flag. Right hand on left breast.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the _____ for which it stands/ one nation under God/ indivisible/ with liberty/ and justice for all.

SUPREME COMMANDER - (one rap - everyone takes his seat) hereby declare this session open for business. The Knights of Rizal are gathered here to confer the honors of knighthood to illustrious candidates who are seeking admission to the Order. By the action of the Supreme Officers, these candidates have been submitted to rigid scrutiny and each sponsored by worthy members of the Order. Will the Supreme Pursuivant read the names of their respective sponsors?

(S-P. *reads the* - I now command the Candidates be brought in. The candidates are blindfolded are in ante-chamber and are individually called).

Lights off Bells ring

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - Illustrious Supreme Commander, it is my pleasure and privilege to present the illustrious gentlemen before you awaiting your pleasure to proceed with the ceremonies and rituals attendant to their admission to the Order of the Knights of Rizal.

SUPREME COMMANDER - Illustrious gentlemen: In the name of the Knights of Rizal, I bid you welcome to our company.

You have been deprived temporarily of the light to symbolize the political darkness in which our people lived at the time Rizal was marched to the field of Bagumbayan, on the fateful morning of December 30. In this brief interval, we ask you to pause and meditate on the sublime sacrifice that won for us the vibrant spirit of nationalists. We trust you will always be reminded of the need and the duty to keep alive in our minds the teaching of Rizal.

SUPREME COMMANDER - (Continues addressing the candidates) - Our rules prescribe that you give testimony of your intentions in seeking admission to our ranks, of your character and moral conduct, and of your willingness to accept the strict discipline of Knighthood.

(Pause ... then ask the following questions):

1. Have you studied the teachings on patriotism and love of country from Dr. Jose Rizal?
2. Do you promise to conduct to the best of your ability your life as a good man in accordance with the principles and idealism of Rizal?
3. Are you willing to assume your share of the responsibility, to propagate and uphold the doctrines of patriotism taught by Rizal?
4. Do you pledge to abide willingly by the Order's rules and regulations; and by the orders of its duly constituted officers?
- 5) Do you voluntarily pledge to do all these without mental reservation?

SUPREME COMMANDER - Having satisfactorily answered these questions which, I take, have been given in good faith, the Supreme Chancellor will now remove the blindfold and conduct you to your seats.

(Supreme Chancellor and wardens remove blindfolds. Candidates are conducted to assigned chairs but remain standing.)

SUPREME COMMANDER - May, I ask the Chairman of the Prefectural Tribunal if the candidates before us have been interviewed as required by our by-laws and may we hear the recommendations of the same Tribunal?

Presiding Officer of the Prefectural Tribunal:

Illustrious Supreme Commander it is my privilege to announce that this Prefectural Tribunal has conducted, as prescribed by our by-laws, a quiet investigation and- evaluation of the public and private lives of all candidates here before us and has found them acceptable and meritorious. By virtue, therefore, among others, of their knowledge of the teachings of Rizal, we have found them worthy of admission into our Order. This Tribunal wishes to take this opportunity to express its warm and sincere congratulations to the candidates.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - Illustrious Supreme Commander, having complied with the required tests of their

loyalty and devotion to the teachings of Rizal, I rise to assume the privilege of petitioning for the last and solemn dubbing of Knighthood. But before I conduct the postulants to your presence, Sir, I will ask the Deputy Supreme Commander to lead the Oath prescribed by our Rules.

DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER - Illustrious gentlemen now repeat after me:

I do solemnly promise upon my word of honor that:

1. I shall seriously study the teachings of Rizal, and endeavor to put them into practice always keeping in mind the Order's motto "NON OMNIS MORIAR" (not everything in me Will die);

2. I shall work for a perfect unity of my community;

3. I shall do no wrong and shall protect and defend my fellow man against all violence and injustice;

4. I shall endeavor, as far as possible, to extend assistance to my brother Knight and fellowman to enhance their programs, and promote their welfare; and

5. I shall uphold and obey strictly the by-laws of the Order and its rules and regulations.

CEREMONIES FOR THE KNIGHTING

The sword and kneeling ceremony during dubbing

"Pronounced with first initiate in case of mass initiation."

Vested upon and By-Laws of the Order, I dub _____ - By virtue of the Order (he taps left shoulder with sword). Arise, Sir (*name of new member*)

(After dubbing, medals are pinned on members by sponsors or close family member)

The Supreme Chancellor will now present to you the medal of the Order which you shall wear on all appropriate occasions.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - The sponsors and ladies of the new Knights will now please come forward and pin the medals.

SUPREME COMMANDER - (After dubbing all candidates, Supreme Commander gives one rap then sit down.)

Supreme Chancellor - will you kindly introduce the new Knights to the Assembly?

To be dispensed within ceremonies en masse,

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - (Introduces new members alphabetically; member called stands up and is received by short clapping of hands. If the chair consents, the new members have selected one among them to express their gratitude for the honor of knighthood conferred upon them.

To be dispensed within ceremonies en masse.

(Remarks for three minutes)

(END OF THE CEREMONIES FOR THE FIRST DEGREE)

11 - SECOND DEGREE - KNIGHT OFFICER OF RIZAL (KOR)

SUPREME COMMANDER -(One rap of the gavel) - I hereby declare this Assembly open for elevation to the second degree with rank of Knight Officer of Rizal. The worthy Supreme Pursuivant will please read the names of the illustrious Knights who will be elevated today to the second degree with rank, of Knight Officer of Rizal.

SUPREME PURSUIVANT - Illustrious Supreme Commander, Sirs (reads names of candidates) have been recommended for elevation to the second degree with rank of Knight Officer of Rizal.

SUPREME COMMANDER - The Chairman of the Prefectural Tribunal will please read the recommendations for the elevation of the candidates.

Presiding Officer of the Prefectural Tribunal:

Illustrious Supreme Commander, it is my privilege to announce that- this Tribunal, in accordance with its prerogative, has found the candidates, by virtue of their loyalty and devotion to the teachings of Rizal, worthy of elevation to the second degree with rank of Knight Officer of Rizal. We therefore, recommend that they be so elevated.

SUPREME COMMANDER - Sir (*read names of candidates*) -Considering the exemplary work you have 'performed as Knight of Rizal and the zeal and diligence which you have shown in studying and emulating the life and ideals of our Hero, as evidenced by the favorable recommendation of the Prefectural Tribunal, I have the honor and pleasure to elevate You to the second degree with rank of Knight Officer of Rizal.

(Three raps of the gavel - everybody in the hall stands). The Illustrious Deputy Supreme Commander will now administer the pledge.

DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER - Candidates: Are you ready to subscribe to the pledge of Knight Officer of Rizal?*(CANDIDATES ANSWER)* **D.S.C. continues:** Please put your right hand on your left breast and repeat after me:

I, _____ , reiterate the solemn pledge of a Knight of Rizal to propagate by all the means within my power and, above all, by my acts and deeds, the ideals and teachings of the Bagumbayan Martyr, an exemplar of all patriots.

I pledge further, as a Knight Officer of Rizal, to urge and inspire my fellow countrymen, especially the "Fair Hope of the Fatherland," to emulate Rizal in his patriotic ideals and endeavors, so that our nation may become a great and happy nation, respected and admired by all peoples, giving substance and reality to the dream of Dr. Jose Rizal. The Knights of Rizal present in this General Assembly are witnesses to the solemn promise I hereby **make.**"

SUPREME COMMANDER - The Worthy Supreme Chancellor will now present to the Illustrious Knights Officers of Rizal the medal which corresponds to their new degree.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - May I request the respective ladies or immediate member of family of the candidates, if present, to assist in the presentation of th insignia? *(The Supreme Chancellor awards the medals to the candidates, assisted by their respective ladies. After pinning the candidates, the Chancellor faces the Supreme Commander).*

SUPREME CHANCELLOR

Illustrious Supreme Commander, the medals corresponding to the second degree with rank of Knight Officer of Rizal have been awarded the worthy persons of our new Knight Officer of Rizal.

(END OF THE CEREMONY FOR THE SECOND DEGREE)

III - THIRD DEGREE - KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL (KCR)

SUPREME COMMANDER - I hereby declare this Assembly open for exaltation ceremony to the third degree with the rank of Knight Commander of Rizal. Will the Supreme Pursuivant read the citations for the worthy candidates for exaltation to the third degree with the rank of KNIGHT COMMANDER OR RIZAL.

(Supreme Pursuivant reads the citation of each of the candidates.)

SUPREME COMMANDER - Candidates for Exaltation: The Order of the Knights of Rizal has followed very closely your behavior; and it is our pleasure to inform you that the Supreme Council of the Order, in its desire to reward and recognize your exemplary conduct and your devotion to the ideals of our National Hero, has approved your exaltation to the third degree with the rank of KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL.

SUPREME COMMANDER - Candidates for Exaltation: Are you ready to subscribe to the pledge?

(Candidates Answer)

SUPREME PURSUIVANT - All candidates please put your left hand upon the book of the Hero and place your right hands upon your hearts and repeat after me the words of 'the pledge: reiterate the solemn pledge of a Knight of Rizal, to propagate by all the means within my power and above all, by my acts and deeds, the ideals and teachings of the Bagumbayan Martyr, and exemplar of all patriots.

I pledge further to urge and inspire my fellow countrymen, especially the "Fair Hope of the Fatherland" to emulate Rizal in his patriotic ideals and endeavors, so that our nation may become a great and happy nation, respected and admired by all people, giving substance and reality to the dream of Dr. Jose Rizal. I pledge that I shall ever dedicate myself and strive always to live up to the expectations and comply with the obligations of this commanderhood of Rizal.

The Knights of Rizal present in the General assembly are witness to the solemn promise I hereby make."

SUPREME COMMANDER- (continues.-) May I now call on the Supreme Chancellor to present to the worthy Knights who have proven themselves worthy of exaltation to the third degree with the rank of KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL, the medallion which correspond to their new degree. May I also request the respective ladies or family member of the candidates, if present, to assist in the presentation of the insignia?

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - (S. CH. *pins the Medallions on each of the candidates. After pinning on all candidates, the S.CH. faces the S.C.*)- - *Illustrious* Supreme Commander, the medallions corresponding to the third degree with rank of KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL have been awarded to the worthy persons to our new KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL.

SUPREME COMMANDER - Worthy Brethren: You have attested with your presence the exaltation to the degree with rank of KNIGHT COMMANDER OF RIZAL. In behalf of all the members of the Order, I wish to congratulate our dear Brethren for their exaltation.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR - *Illustrious* Supreme Commander, our labors for the day have come to an end. I commend to your attention the splendid work accomplished by those assigned to the preparation and performance of the ceremonies, and the conduct and deportment of the Knights during the ceremonies which are true to the noble traditions of Knighthood.

SUPREME COMMANDER - So be it. Now we will greet the new day (*three raps*) with our sign. (Right palm above facing left palm below.)

REDEDICATION BY THE SUPREME COMMANDER - As we close

these rituals, let us each and everyone rededicate ourselves to the noble objectives of our Order and renew our pledge to promote among our fellowmen the spirit of patriotism and Rizalian chivalry. So be it.

ADJOURNMENT

(One rap)

RITUAL for DISTINGUISHED SERVICE STAR/ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I hereby declare this Assembly open for -our special ceremonies this morning.

(Three (3) raps of the gavel)

(The National Anthem/s)

We shall proceed with he ceremony for the awarding of Distinguished Service (Star/Cross) of Rizal on the person of Sir -(rank) I now call on the Deputy Supreme Commander and the Supreme Chancellor to escort Sir to the dais. May I now call on the Supreme Chancellor to present to Sir _____ (rank)

SUPREME CHANCELLOR:

(Supreme Chancellor pins the medal on Sir _____. After pinning, the Supreme Chancellor faces the Supreme ' Commander and says): Illustrious Supreme Commander, the medal for the Order's Distinguished Service (Star/Cross) of Rizal has been awarded to Sir _____

SUPREME COMMANDER:

Worthy Brethren: You have attested with your presence the awarding to Sir _____, the Distinguished Service (Star/Cross) of Rizal. In behalf of all the members of the Order, I wish to congratulate our dear brother Sir _____for this award.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR:

Illustrious Supreme Commander, may I propose that our Sir _____address this assembly?

SUPREME COMMANDER:

Worthy Brethren, I beg you to listen to the response of Sir _____

(After response)

The Supreme Chancellor will escort Sir _____ to his seat.

RITUAL for KNIGHT GRAND OFFICER OF RIZAL

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I now declare open the ceremonies for **the exaltation of Sir _____ to the fourth degree with the rank of KNIGHT GRAND OFFICER OF RIZAL. I call on the Deputy Supreme Commander and the Supreme Chancellor to escort Sir _____ and his family to the dais.**

Sir _____ the Order of the Knights of Rizal has followed very closely your achievements and **it is our pleasure** to inform you that the Supreme-Council of **the Order**, in its desire to reward and recognize your single-minded dedication and selfless devotion in **promoting the objectives of** our Order where you have served loyally and long, has approved your exaltation, to the fourth degree with the rank of KNIGHT GRAND OFFICER OF RIZAL. Will the Supreme Pursuivant read the citation.

SUPREME PURSUIVANT:

(Reads the citation)

SUPREME COMMANDER:

Having proven yourself worthy of exaltation to the fourth degree with the rank of KNIGHT GRAND OFFICER OF RIZAL, I* have the honor and privilege of presenting to you the medallion and insignia of the Order corresponding toyour new rank which you will wear on appropriate occasions. *(Supreme Commander, assisted by the conferee's family, pins the medal on Sir _____* Worthy Brethren, you have attested with your presence the exaltation of Sir _____ to the fourth degree with the rank of KNIGHT GRAND OFFICER OF RIZAL.

SUPREME COMMANDER:

In behalf of all the members of the Order, I wish to congratulate our dear brother Sir _____for his exaltation.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR:

Illustrious Supreme Commander, may I propose that our new Knight Grand Officer of Rizal, Sir _____ address this assembly?

SUPREME COMMANDER:

Worthy Brethren, I beg of you to listen to the response of Sir *(After response)* The Supreme Chancellor will escort Sir his seat.

RITUAL for KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL

to

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I NOW DECLARE OPEN THE CEREMONIES FOR THE CON FERMENT OF THE KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL ON

DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER:

The Honor and was duly nominated for the highest degree, the KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL and the Supreme Council has unanimously confirmed his nomination. May I request all the KNIGHTS GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL present, Trustees of the SUPREME COUNCIL, the National President of the Kababaihang Rizalista and the members of the Family of the honor and to escort the honor and to the front of the ceremonial dais.
(When everything is ready, the Deputy Supreme Commander continues):

May I now request our Illustrious Supreme Commander Sir _____ Knight Grand Cross of Rizal to officiate at the conferment.

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I now request the Supreme Chancellor, the Supreme Pursuivant and Supreme Trustees of the Supreme Council to conduct the honor and and the family to the ceremonial class. ALL KNIGHTS GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL shall stand witness to this solemn occasion.

SUPREME CHANCELLOR:

(Upon reaching the ceremonial dais):

Illustrious Supreme Commander Sir _____, I take the pleasure in presenting to you who has fully complied with all the formalities required by the By-Laws of the Order and the rules for conferment of the highest degree with rank of KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL. The honor and is now ready to receive the award.

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I, considering the civic virtues you possess and your invaluable achievements and services in consonance with the lofty principles of the Order of the Knights of Rizal and in the service of our country, I have the extreme pleasure and distinct honor to welcome you to our fold. The Supreme Pursuivant will please read the citation.

SUPREME PURSUIVANT:

(Reads the citation)

SUPREME COMMANDER:

(Placing his right hand on the right shoulder of the honor and, the Supreme Commander says):

(name), by virtue of the powers/vested upon me as Supreme Commander of the Order of the Knights of Rizal, I hereby confer upon you the highest degree of the Order, the KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF RIZAL.

(After lifting his hand from the shoulder of the honor and, he places the sash and medallion with the ' assistance of the immediate members of the family and continues). - - I now have the honor and privilege of presenting to you the insignia of the order corresponding to your new rank which you will wear on appropriate occasions. (After hanging*

the sword and presenting the diploma to the honor and the Supreme Commander continues: ‘ For and in behalf of all the Knights of Rizal, I congratulate you, Sir (first name) , for receiving this rank honor, and ours is the distinct privilege to confer upon you the highest degree within the gift of the Order. (All participant shall return to their respective seats).

SUPREME CHANCELLOR:

Illustrious Supreme Commander, may I now propose that our new Knight Grand Cross of Rizal, Sir (name) address this assembly?

SUPREME COMMANDER:

Worthy Brethren, I beg of you to listen to the address of Sir (first name)

HONORAND:

(Delivers speech)

SUPREME COMMANDER:

I now declare the assembly closed.
