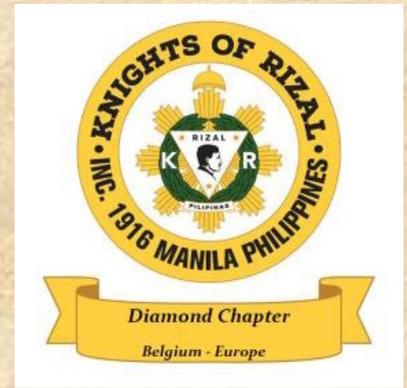




NEWSLETTER KNIGHTS OF RIZAL

Diamond Chapter-Antwerp-Flanders-Belgium

Volume 11
Issue 50
May 2018



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- INTRODUCTION
- Rizal Birthday 19/06/2017
- Trip to Kattendijke 21/07/2017
- Stolen Noli, El Fili, Mi Ultimo Adios
- European Assembly 25-27/08/2017
- Friendship for the Philippines
01/10/2017
- Autumn Activity 28/10/2017
- Rizal's death commemoration
30/12/2017
- 18th CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY
27/01/18
- Spring Activity 21/04/18
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- CALENDAR

INTRODUCTION

Dear brother Knights of Rizal of our Diamond Chapter and affiliated Chapters in Belgium, in Europe and worldwide. Dear friends of our Counterpart Organizations and dear friends of our Diamond Chapter.

As Chapter Commander of this very vibrant Chapter, I am pleased to present you our 50th Newsletter, this after one year of Radio Silence due to unfortunate circumstances.

First of all, I would like to thank our former Chapter Commander and editor, Sir Ronny Felix, for all the nice past newsletters.

Hopefully, in the future, I will be able to count on you all, to provide me with interesting articles about our activities, your activities or simply about the main national hero of the Philippines, Dr José Rizal. If we could reach three to four newsletters a year, I would consider it as a success.

Since it was a while ago that a Newsletter was issued, the Content Overview beside here shows a lot of events to be covered.

My special thanks goes to Sir Dominiek Segaert and Sir Lucien Spittaël for their contributions to this Newsletter. May they inspire all of you to do the same.

Non Omnis Moriar

Yours truly

Sir Danny Vandenberghe, KCR, Chapter Commander



KNIGHTS OF RIZAL DIAMOND CHAPTER

Rizal Birthday 19/06/2017



As it has become a tradition, on 19th of June 2017, the Birthday of Dr José Rizal was celebrated at the beautiful venue of the Philippine Embassy. Since the weather was very nice at that time, the celebration took place in the magnificent garden.

Program:

- Philippine National Anthem
- Belgian National Anthem
- Knights of Rizal Hymn
- Pledge to the Flag
- Invocation: Sir RevFr Jorgedy Bago
- Welcome Remarks: Sir Jim Rebong
Area Commander Belgium
- Message: H. E. Alan P. Deniega
Consul General and Chargé d'Affaires
- Surprise Number: Poem/Dance/Song from Belgian Chapters
- Messages:
 - Sir Frank Velasquez - Deputy Area Commander for Belgium
 - Sir Lino Paras - Overall Adviser and Coordinator for Europe
 - Sir Tony Guansing - Regional Commander for Europe
- Closing Remarks: Sir Rudy Nollas - Past Regional Commander
- FRATERNAL SIGN: Sir Tony Guansing
- Song: BAYAN KO
- Photo Session
- Blessing of the food: Fr. Horlador Melo
Chaplain of the Filipino Community
- FELLOWSHIP

The Diamond Chapter brought some quotes from Dr José Rizal, prepared by Sir Dominiek Segaert and Sir Danny Vandenberg. Please find some hereafter.

“He who does not know how to look back at where he came from, will never get to his destination.”

“There are no tyrants if there are no slaves”

“I die without seeing dawn's light shining on my country. You, who will see it, welcome it for me. Don't forget those who fell during night time.” (Noli)



“Why independence, if the slaves of today will be the tyrants of tomorrow?” (El Filibusterismo)

“To be happy does not mean to indulge in foolishness !” (Noli Mi Tangere)

“The youth is the hope of our future.”

“It is a useless life that is not consecrated to a great ideal. It is like a stone wasted on the field without becoming a part of any edifice.”

“The example could encourage others who only fear to start.”

“The people do not complain because they have no voice; do not move because they are lethargic, and you say that they do not suffer because you have not seen their hearts bleed.” (Noli Mi Tangere)

“On this battlefield man has no better weapon than his intelligence, no other force but his heart.”

“The appetite is sharpened by the first bites.”

“He who does not love his own language is worse than an animal and smelly fish.”



Trip Kattendijke 21/07/17



Fraternizing between Knights of Rizal of the different Chapters in Belgium and their devoted Ladies. Thanks to all for the brotherhood and mutual support !!!

Noli, El Fili, Mi ultimo adios - stolen

“Noli me tangere,” “El Filibusterismo” and “Mi Ultimo Adios” stolen (by Sir Lucien Spittael)

We all know Rizal’s paramount writings: “Noli me tangere,” “El Filibusterismo,” and “Mi Ultimo Adios”

It is little known that those priceless original manuscripts were stolen in December 1961 from the National Library. During the International Congress on Rizal in Manila (4-8 December 1961) for the centennial of Rizal’s Birthday (19 June 1861) the National Library displayed the Rizal memorabilia, including the Noli, Fili and Mi Ultimo Adios.

On 8 December 1961 those three priceless manuscripts were stolen.

On 15 December a ransom of 1.500.000 PHP was asked for the return of the manuscripts. The Secretary of Education Alejandro Roces was informed and after a phone call from the thief Roces arranged a meeting with the thief(s) on 3 February 1962.

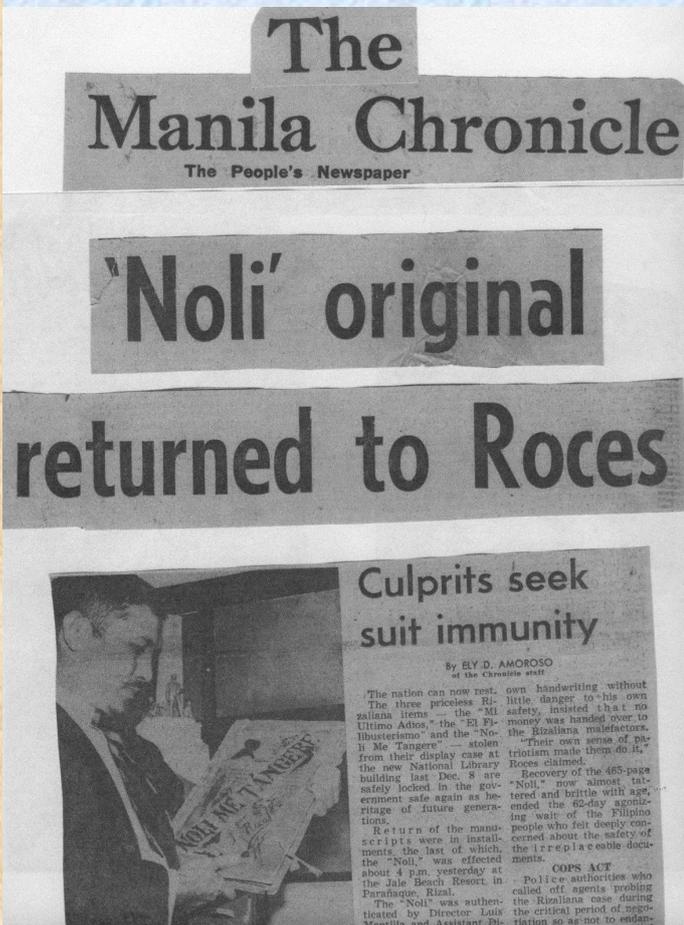
On 2 February 1962 the thief showed up at the Grandstand across the Rizal statue for a meeting and the Secretary of Education asked a prove. The thief showed him the Ultimo Adios. Secretary Roces was now sure the other person was the thief. He kept the manuscript for authentication by experts. The experts declared that the Ultimo Adios was the original.

There were some more meetings with the thief. On one of those occasions the thief(s) lowered the ransom from 1.500.000 to 100.000 PHP. But Secretary Roces told the thief hat there was no money. Later the ransom money was lowered to 10.000 PHP.

Secretary Roces felt that the person was in fact the thief/messenger. He was scared and was outwitted by the Secretary of Education.

In the end Secretary Roces persuaded the thief to hand over the Noli and Fili without receiving money for it. In return Secretary Roces promised not to reveal the identity of the thief. He died in 2011 and kept his promise not revealing the identity. It was his utmost priority to have the three Rizal manuscripts back.

Other source: inquirer.net—article by Ambeth Ocampo



6th European Assembly - Brussels

Knights of Rizal 6th REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, EUROPE

25-27th August 2017

Theme: KOR EUROPE IN SOLDARITY WITH RIZAL'S VISION

Day 1 : Philippine Embassy



We write 25th of August, 2017, a sunny Friday afternoon. Arriving at the Hotel Marivaux - Boulevard Adolphe Max 98, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium, around 12:45 p.m., one can notice quite a lot of people are present. It is KOR from all over Europe, USA, Canada, the Philippines, waiting for registration. Around 1:10 p.m., little later than scheduled, under the leadership of the Deputy Regional Commander for Europe, Sir Albert Arevalo, registration started. The Ladies had prepared the bags by area and by chapter, so the Chapter Commanders could easily distribute the ID, souvenir program and give away items to their members. All went smoothly and after that was done, the available Knights who came by car, drove the foreign guests to the Philippine Embassy.

Arrived at the Philippine Embassy, Brussels - 297 Avenue Molière, 1050 Bruxelles, after registration for security reasons in the Embassy's guest book, the guests were proceeding to the beautiful garden, meeting their fellow Knights from different parts of Europe and getting acquainted with each other and the beautiful venue. Water was provided to avoid people getting dehydrated on this very sunny afternoon.



Master of the Ceremony, Sir Lino Paras, KGCR assisted by Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR welcomed around 16:30 the Supremo and his brother Knights from the Supreme Council, accompanied by Sir Antonio Guansing, Regional Commander for Europe and Sir RevFr Jorgedy Bago, spiritual advisor for Europe.

Shortly after, a Floral Offering took place at the Rizal Statue, some pictures were taken and people proceeded inside for the main part of the program. Rev.Fr Carmelo Horlador headed the Invocation, which was followed by the National Anthem, led by Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR, the Pledge to the Flag by Sir Mario Fajardo, KGOR, and the Knights of Rizal Hymn, led by Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR.



After the acknowledgement of Delegates by Sir Antonio Guansing, KGOR, the Regional Commander for Europe, some welcome remarks were given by Honourable Consul General Alan L. Deniega, Chargé d' Affaires a.i. of the Philippine Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and to the European Union. H.E. expressed his continuous support to the Knights of Rizal and was very happy to host this memorable event and being able to meet the Supreme Commander.



Guest Speaker Sir Olaf baron van Boetzelaer, KR delivered a speech on Rizal with the title "A Philippine Patriot who knew Europe". Indeed, Jose Rizal studied and travelled in many European countries. His example as an outward looking patriot and at the same time as a fatherland loving internationalist is still relevant and inspiring, especially in our world where on the one hand people are sometimes afraid of losing their national or regional identity and traditions and where on the other hand, we witness more and more globalization. The "homo universalis" he was, would have seen with a benign eye the contacts and cooperation between the European Union and ASEAN. Sir Olaf ended with saying: "Well, look to us here today. Dr. Rizal still brings nations and people together: brothers and Knights from so many European nations, in brotherly solidarity. Also an example for international relations. And we all have a special bonding with "The Philippines", where it originated.



The official part ended with the message of Sir Reynato S. Puno, Sr., KGCR, Supreme Commander, with the sitting president "watching" while he delivered his speech, in which he mentioned that H.E. Rodrigo Roa Duterte is not only the President of the Philippines, but also honourable member of the Knights of Rizal. As a lawyer, Sir Puno has perfect skills to talk long, but since he saw that most of the guests were thirsty and hungry, he kept his message relatively short, but still interesting and entertaining. The Supremo's message was followed by a reception and dinner, prepared and sponsored by the Philippine Embassy. While drinking and eating, the guests got further acquainted and some of them continued the fellowship by going to Bahay Kubo or having some drinks together in the hotel.

The planned city tour was rescheduled to Saturday since tour guide, Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, just arrived from The Philippines and still suffered from fatigue.

Knights of Rizal 6th REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, EUROPE

25-27th August 2017

Theme: KOR EUROPE IN SOLDARITY WITH RIZAL'S VISION

Day 2 : Hotel Marivaux - Brussels

The 2nd Day, 26th of August, 2017, started under a blue sky again.

Master of the Ceremony for the day was Sir Lino Paras, KGCR, assisted by Sir Dominiek Segart, KGOR. Those KOR who had to participate in the processional March, took their position around 8:45, the other Knights and the Ladies proceeded to their seats, assisted by Lady Gina Navea and Lady Marylou Edong.

At 9:00 A.M. the processional march (in KOR Uniform) started with the following sequence:

- Entrance of Colours
- Chapter Commanders
- Area Commanders
- Regional Commanders
- Council of Elders
- Supreme Council

While entering the room, the Master of Ceremony announced the different Illustrious gentlemen. The Call to Order was performed by Sir Reynato S. Puno, Sr., KGCR, Supreme Commander who hereby declared the Knights of Rizal 6th European Regional Assembly open (stroked the gavel).



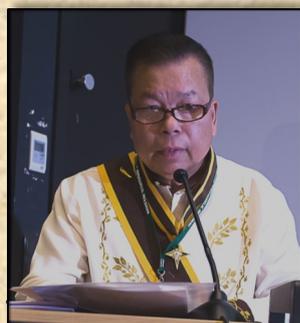
After the opening of the Assembly followed the invocation by RevFr. Sir. Jorgedy Bago, KCR-Spiritual Adviser for Europe.



The Rizal Hymn led by: Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR



The Pledge to the Flag, led by Sir Frank Velasquez, KCR,



The Acknowledgement of delegates by Sir Antonio Guansing, KGOR-Regional Commander for Europe.



Shortly after, Sir Jim Rebon, KCR - Area Commander Belgium - introduced Honourable Consul General Alain L. Deniega, Chargé d' affaires a.i. of the Philippine Embassy, to the Kingdom of Belgium, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and to the European Union who gave an inspiring and heartfelt welcome address, in which H.E. mentioned the upcoming new passport with ten years of validity (not for children), which should result in less headaches about validity issues. H.E. also indicated that he will continue to participate in the process for obtaining a tight connection between both Europe and the Philippines, in order to share the common ideas and tighten the historical relation.



A little before 10:00 A.M. Sir Alfonso Taguiang, KGOR-Area Commander, United Kingdom introduced the 1st Speaker, Rev.Fr. Paul John Camiring who chose the topic "Knights of Rizal Europe in Solidarity with Rizal's Vision". Rev.Fr. P.J. credited this moment to the leaders of the KOR for the prestigious invitation. A little bit victim of his multiple skills (as a priest he learned to talk long, while as a military he was taught to keep everything simple and short), he finally chose for the military skills, thanking the guests for allowing him to share his two-cents on this piggy bank of insights and knowledge and he split his speech in three main parts: What?, So What?, What Now?

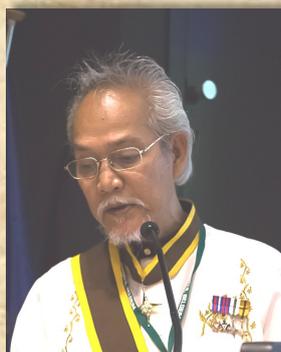
Dr. Jose Rizal came at a time in our history when "the Filipino" is still a nation-in-the-making. In short, he envisions that Filipinos are enlightened, more consciously nationalistic and belong or support a nation that is inclusive, ethical and borderless. In fact, Father P.J. paused for a bit, conscious that he was talking to a group that is the same.

Everything that Jose Rizal wrote about, defended about in La Solidaridad was simply about the Filipinos. It is for every Filipino. Noli and Fili were written with a common theme saying: an oppressed people may be discounted and without a voice, but through enlightened struggle, it can become a nation.

Between Revolution and Martyrdom, he chose martyrdom.

However, we can find his vision of a nation that can still be applied and reviewed today, mainly: an inclusive, ethical and territory-less/borderless people and nation.

As Knights of Rizal, have we also invested on the people? Of course, the painstaking meetings, planning, organization, sacrifices and abono that we have to do, are testament to that heart for the Filipino and the Philippines. The thankless job of being the officers. Well it is not about us, it is about the Filipinos and the Philippines !



Knights of Rizal 6th REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, EUROPE

25-27th August 2017

Theme: KOR EUROPE IN SOLDARITY WITH RIZAL'S VISION

Day 2 : Hotel Marivaux - Brussels (continued)

After the very entertaining and interesting speech, Rev.Fr. P.J. received a nice frame, for his valued contribution to the Assembly.

After a small coffee break (where the guests had also orange juice and some fresh fruits available) it was time for the State of the Area Reporting.



Sir Generoso Rebong Area
Commander for Belgium
RY 2016-2018



Sir Angel Palomar
Area Commander for Germany
RY 2016-2018



Sir Noubiko Ulanday
Area Commander for Czechia



Sir Alfonso Taguiang
Area Commander for
the United Kingdom
RY 2016-2018

Sir Antonio Guansing
Regional Commander for Europe
RY 2016-2018



Sir Carlos Simbillo
Area Commander for Italy
RY 2016-2018

Sir Jess Umali
Area Commander
for France
RY 2016-2018



Sir Anton Luther
Officer in Charge,
The Netherlands
RY 2016-2018

Most Area Commanders gave an overview through speech. The United Kingdom on the contrary brought a very much appreciated movie clip to deliver its report.

After the different Area reports, it was time to think about refuelling our bodies. The organizers foresaw a delicious lunch that was very well appreciated by all the guests. After about one hour of eating, drinking and fellowship, everybody was ready for the second part of the day.



Sir Antonio Guansing, KGOR-Regional Commander for Europe, introduced shortly after, the Keynote Speaker, Sir Reynato S. Puno, Sr, KGCR.

Supreme Commander, Sir Puno started by joking that the not showing up of the former speakers gave him more time to deliver his speech. He said that he was paid by word and not by hour. He further joked that one of his former colleagues, during a trial, was constantly objecting. When he was called to the bench by the presiding judge, asking him why he always objected, he answered "today, I am not paid by the word, but for every objecting".

Sir Puno further stated that Belgium was an interesting example for federalism in the Philippines, where on the contrary, too much power is concentrated in Manila.

Decentralisation is the solution for a better distribution of the means and the development of the regions.

Further, peace should be established with the Muslim Kababayans in the South, since in the end, we are all Filipino's !

One of the goals of Sir Puno is also to attract new youth and getting them inspired by the works and deeds of the national hero, Jose Rizal.

Sir Puno concluded by stating that in Europe, there is a strong growth of the Order of the Knights of Rizal, seeing more and more Chapters appear.

After the very entertaining and interesting speech, Sir Puno received a nice frame, for his valued contribution.



Knights of Rizal 6th REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, EUROPE

25-27th August 2017

Theme: KOR EUROPE IN SOLDARITY WITH RIZAL'S VISION

Day 2 : Hotel Marivaux - Brussels (continued)

After a short intermission of 30 minutes, with availability of coffee, juice, cookies and fruits, the guests returned to the meeting aula. The Ladies were constantly taking care of the speakers and guests, that they would receive enough water during the event, since it was quite warm in the meeting area.

Around 15:00 Sir Reynato S. Puno, Sr., KGCR - Supreme Commander called everybody to order for the knighthood ceremony (dubbing, elevation, exaltation, conferment and awards ceremonies).



Highlight was the conferment of the Regional Commander for Europe, Sir Antonio Guansing, to the highest rank, the Knight Grand Cross of Rizal, for his long term commitment and multiple commandership as Regional Commander.

Congrats to all of you !!!!!

The members of the taskforce for the organization of the 6th ERA received a Medal of Recognition and finally, the Ceremony was adjourned by Sir Puno, Supreme Commander, followed by an extended photo session and a delicious dinner.



25-27th August 2017

Theme: KOR EUROPE IN SOLDARITY WITH RIZAL'S VISION

Day 3 : Church of Saint Mary Mother of God

On the 3rd Day – 27th August 2017, after a nice breakfast, most of the guests proceeded to the Thanksgiving Mass in the Church of Saint Mary Mother of God - 37 Rue Du Melon, 1190 Brussels

Master of the Ceremony were : Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR & Sir Juanito Villa, KCR and the Presider was Rev.Fr. Jorgedy Bago, spiritual advisor for Europe and fresh conferred KGOR for his years of commitment to the Order and the Philippines. He was assisted by Rev.Fr. Apolo de Guzman and Rev.Fr. Carmelo Horlador. The Brussels Choir and some members of the FCCA Choir supported the solemn mass with their beautiful songs.



After the mass, the guests proceeded to the salle Saint Mary Mother of God.

Sir Antonio Guansing, KGCR - Regional Commander Europe gave his message of thanks and after a short intermission, a fraternal message was given by Sir Reynato S Puno, Sr., KGCR - Supreme Commander. Sir Puno opened up on the working of the Supreme HQ and in particular on the tax amnesty, which was very much appreciated by the different guests.



Then followed the Rizalian Pledge, guided by Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR, the Fraternal Sign: Non Omnis Moriar ! , guided by Sir Antonio Guansing, KGCR and Regional Commander, to end with the Supreme Commander stating:

“I hereby declare the Knights of Rizal 6th European Regional Assembly closed “(strike the gavel) and everybody singing the closing song: Pilipinas Kong Mahal.

After a delicious lunch, some participants proceeded home, but majority headed to Brussels for a guided visit to the Rizal marker, Manneken Pis wearing the Camisa Chino and a guided tour in the Brussels City Hall.

Some of the guests still went to Zaventem, where they had dinner together in Global Village, a restaurant with world kitchen.



Friendship for the Philippines 1/10/17

15 JAAR (2002-2017)

 **Vriendschap
voor de
Filippijnen**

FILIPPIJNS FEEST & BARBECUE
ZONDAG 1 OKTOBER 2017 – 12.30 U.
ZAAL 'T VERZET – DUINENWATER 45 – KNOKKE-HEIST



DEELNAME 19 EURO (VOLWASSENEN) – 12 EURO (KINDEREN -12 JAAR)
CULTUREEL OPTREDEN – TOMBOLA – FILIPPIJNS DESSERTBIJEFEST

Sir Dominiek & Leah Segaert-Gallego cordially invited all Knights, Ladies and friends/relatives on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the small NGO Friendship for the Philippines, an educational and social project that supports some schools in Davao del Sur and the street children foundation Balay Pasilungan in Davao City.



The group Friendship for the Philippines / Vriendschap voor de Filippijnen has some of our brother Knights in the working committee as volunteers.



The newly elected Miss Antwerp Angeline Flor Pua, from that moment also in the running as candidate for Miss Belgium, attended the barbecue in Knokke-Heist.

Autumn Activity 28/10/17



KOR DIAMOND - AUTUMN ACTIVITY

28 OCT 2017

DE SCHUUR

BROEKDAM NOORD, 53 - KRUIBEKE

PROGRAM: QUIZ – BBQ – BONDING – TOMBOLA

ENTRANCE FEE: 22 EUR/ADULT – 12 EUR/6-12

ENTRANCE AS OF 1630 HR – START 1700 HR

BELOW 6: FREE ENTRANCE

PAYMENT BY BANKTRANSFER ON BE86 9796 0951 3750 KOR DIAMOND CHAPTER

BEFORE 24 OCT 2017 OR AT ENTRANCE

GELIEVE TE RESERVEREN VOOR 12 OKT 2017 BIJ CHAPTER COMMANDER KOR DIAMOND

danny.vandenbogaerde@telenet.be of 0478/420404

PLEASE CONFIRM PARTICIPATION BEFORE 12 OCT 2017 TO CHAPTER COMMANDER KOR DIAMOND



Our latest Autumn activity was again a big success. Traditionally, it took place at “De Schuur” in Kruiabeke and even traditionally, BBQ was on the menu.

After the introduction by the Chapter Commander, Sir Paul gave a nice presentation about “Miss” and really hopped from one branch to the other, but always interconnected by one or the other link. It was very much appreciated by the guests.

After this presentation, there was a little quiz about the special dishes in the Philippines and obviously, it was not that simple, but surely fun.

Following the quiz, we had a delicious BBQ and the Ladies also had prepared desserts and traditionally, Sir Paul animated the raffle and the drawing of the different winning tickets. Special thanks goes to Sir Peter Uhrig for the nice raffle prizes he donated and to all other brothers and sisters who attended and contributed to this nice gathering, together with Knights and Ladies of other Chapters and Counterparts.

Thank you all again and hope to greet you soon again !



Rizal's Death Commemoration 30/12/17

KOR DIAMOND AT 121ST DEATH COMMEMORATION ANNIVERSARY

DR. JOSE RIZAL – RIZAL DAY – DEC. 30, 2017

PHILIPPINE EMBASSY BRUSSELS

(By Sir Dominiek Segært, KGOR)

A vibrant MC Sir Albert Arevalo, KGOR presented a touching and meaningful program on the occasion of the 121st death anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal. The floral offering to Rizal was lead by Consul General Alan L. Deniega and Sir Lino Paras, KGCR followed by Sir Tony Guansing, KGCR, Sir Albert Arevalo KGOR, Sir Dominiek Segært, KGOR, Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Sir Jim Rebong KGOR, Sir Frank Velasquez, KCR, Sir Hentjie Garcia, KCR Aalst Chapter, Sir Carolus Mattheeusen KCR, KOR Brussels Chapter, Sir Jojo Cabonce KCR, Charleroi Chapter, Sir Danny Vandebogaerde, KCR, Diamond Chapter. Also the counterpart organizations participated in the offering: Kababaihang Rizalista and Las Damas de Rizal.



After the Pambansang Awit ng Pilipinas, all Knights started singing the Knights of Rizal Hymn. This was followed by the Pledge to the Flag of the Philippines, lead by Sir Rudy Nollas KGOR and an inspirational Invocation by Fr. Carmelo Horlador. Welcome remarks were spoken by Sir Jim Rebong, KGOR, Area Commander for Belgium. A warm message by Consul General and CDA Alan L. Deniega was followed by a significant number of messages given by each chapter and counterpart organization: Aalst, Brussels, Charleroi, Diamond, El Filibusterismo, Kababaihang Rizalista and Las Damas de Rizal.

Our chapter was represented by a large number of attending Knights who each recited a fragment of the historical article 'The hero's last Christmas in 1896: far from merry', written by Professor Sir Ambeth Ocampo, published in Philippine Inquirer, Dec.30,2012. A remembrance card was given to each participant at the Embassy. Sir Lino Paras, KGCR, Over-all adviser for Europe and Sir Tony Guansing, KGCR, Regional Commander for Europe finalised with fraternal messages, the Rizalian pledge and the Non Omnis Moriar-sign. In brotherhood the Pilipinas Kong Mahal was glancing at the presidential hall of the Embassy, followed by fellowship in a warm reception with Philippine delicacies and drinks. Thanks to all Knights who attended the activity. Again we can say the KOR Diamond Chapter participated in a very large number of Knights and Ladies. For those who could not attend, there are still some copies of the remembrance card of KOR Diamond with the article of Prof. Sir Ambeth Ocampo available. Kindly request to receive one.





18th Chartering Anniversary 27/01/18

**SUPERB 18TH CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY OF KOR DIAMOND
JANUARY 27, 2018 AT SALONS DE WATERMEULEN IN KRUIBEKE
SHOWERED WITH WELCOME TO SPECIAL GUESTS
MS. ANGELINE FLOR PUA - MISS BELGIUM 2018
& VICE-PRESIDENT LENI ROBREDO
(By Sir Dominiek Segaert)**



**KNIGHTS OF RIZAL – DIAMOND CHAPTER
ANTWERP / FLANDERS / BELGIUM / EUROPE
JANUARY 27, 2018 – DE WATERMEULEN – KRUIBEKE
18TH CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY – PROGRAM**

**ELEVATION 2ND DEGREE (KOR)
EXALTATION 3RD DEGREE (KCR)
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE STAR
CERTIFICATIONS OF APPRECIATION TO THE LADIES OF RIZAL
AND YOUTH**

**WELCOME TO MS. ANGELINE FLOR PUA
MISS BELGIUM 2018**

FRATERNAL DINNER / MESSAGES / INTERMISSIONS / DANCE



Each year again, January 'sandwiches' the New Year activities in our communities and families with the chartering anniversary of our very active chapter in Belgium. Weeks before the event, 80 participants were looking forward already to our 18th chartering anniversary. Indeed, on January 23 of the year 2000 to be exactly, the KOR Diamond was chartered under the leadership of Sir Pros Slachmuylders, KGOR, as the first Chapter Commander, followed afterwards by Sir Kris Ortman, KCR, Sir Tony Guansing, KGCR, Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, Sir Ronny Felix, KCR and our present Chapter Commander, Sir Danny Vandenbogaerde, KCR.

It was Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Consul General a.h. , who welcomed the large group of Knights and Ladies, followed by an invocation and opening prayer by Sir Jorgedy Bago, KGOR, the singing of the Knights of Rizal hymn lead by Sir Danny Vandembogaerde. The message by Consul General and CDA Alan L. Deniega was read by Consul Oliver Delfin, followed by a warm message of the new Belgian Ambassador in Manila, H.E. Michel Goffin, read by Sir Dominiek Segaert. In his message he admired the social interests of our Diamond Chapter by contributing into special humanitarian and educational projects. He greeted already the incoming new Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium H.E. Eduardo José A. de Vega.



This year no new Knights were initiated but some interested candidates participated in the event and probably next year they will be knighted. Under the guidance of chancellor Sir Marc Helsen, KCR the following Sirs were elevated to KOR: Sir Herbert Cockx and Sir Marinus Eijcke. Other to be elevated but excused were Sir Daniel Arkesteyn and Sir Wolfgang Niemann, both KR. This will happen on a future occasion. Was exalted to KCR by Sir Antonio Guansing: Sir Peter De Bruyn, KOR. Were excused: Sir Eric Borghijs and Sir Sylvain Herremans, both KOR. The Distinguished Service Medal was given to Sir Willy De Meyere, KOR, Sir Marc Helsen, KCR, Sir André Heyse, KOR and Sir Julien Kusé, KOR. The ceremony was lead by Sir Lino Paras, KGCR followed by the ritual for the Distinguished Service Star. This medal was given to Sir Roy De Mol, KCR and Life Time Member, Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Sir Paul Verloo, KCR and Sir Rik Van Tiggel, KCR, who could not attend due to professional reasons.





After a moment of silence for the passing away of fellow Knights, family members and/or friends, Sir Danny Vandebogaerde presented the board for 2018 and made a special announcement that on April 21 an election will be held for the position of two new board members. He also addressed a very special word of thanks to former Chapter Commander Sir Ronny Felix. Sir Roy De Mol lead the renewal of the Rizalian pledge for all Knights, followed by several messages, closing remarks and the fraternal sign.

MC Sir Dominiek Segart, KGOR presented our special guest Ms. Angeline Flor Pua, the newly elected Miss Belgium 2018, who spoke some words about her role as a Belgian Filipina and her recent experiences as an ambassador of Good Will. Flowers and a certificate of appreciation were given by Lady Leah Gallego. After that, Miss Belgium took plenty of her time for a photo shoot with all participants.





After Father Bago blessed the food, the delicious dinner with flowing wines and other drinks was attacked. The cultural program started with the announcement by Sir Roy De Mol, KCR, Deputy Chapter Commander, that a surprise guest would speak a personal message to the Knights of KOR Diamond.



This special guest was no less than H.E. Leni Robredo, vice-president of the Republic of the Philippines. This message, that was taped beforehand and arranged by Sir Roy and family, really gave an extra glance and color to our 18th celebration. Mrs. Robredo saluted KOR Diamond and gave congrats to the different active members who support or organize educational, medical and social outreach programs in the Philippines.



Message of
LENI ROBREDO
 VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
 for the
 18th Chartering Anniversary of
 Knights of Rizal, Diamond Chapter



Under the guidance of Jean Jurado and Cadene Navea of the FCCA Choir, the Ladies of Rizal performed some songs. Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR and spouse Lady Marisa Tinsay gave an update of the by KOR Diamond supported project 'Welcome Home', followed by an update of the 16 years of Friendship for the Philippines in and around Davao by Sir Dominiek and Lady Leah and a presentation by Sir Eddy Verheye about his trip to the Philippines. The Rizal poem 'Rizal to the youth' was recited by the youngsters: Ms Dana and Mr. Davy Vandenberg together with Ms Magalie Segart.



Everybody got a unique Certificate of Appreciation. Finally all attending Knights and Ladies gave a present and flowers to Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR and Lady Marisa Tinsay who will transfer to Canada later this year.

Dance a go-go with DJ Sir Geert Verhaegen, KCR ended the anniversary till midnight and everybody could agree that surely THIS 18th edition of the chartering anniversary was one of the best, if not undoubtable the very best. Please mark in your agenda already both dates Jan. 26, 2019 and Jan. 25, 2020. We are counting soon towards our 20th chartering anniversary for which a devoted work-group, spearheaded by Sir Marc Helsen, KCR, is preparing already. Spread the news ! More power and showering's to KOR Diamond !



Spring Activity 21/04/18

By Sir Danny Vandenoogaerde, KCR

Traditionally, in the month of April, the Diamond Chapter has its Spring Activity. To break tradition, but also because the non availability of "De Schuur" in Kruibeke, we had to look for another venue, which appeared to be more difficult than expected. So finally our Chapter Commander, Sir Danny Vandenoogaerde agreed with the football club of his son Davy, to use their cantina at affordable conditions. Afterwards, according to most of the guests, it was a good choice. When registration was done and everyone found its place to sit, the Chapter Commander gave his introductory word and welcomed all the guests, followed by giving an overview of the upcoming activities and events. As announced, election of two new board members out of 4 candidates took place. The four candidates were: Sir Geert Verhaegen, KCR, Sir Kristoff Mortier, KCR, Sir Willy Demeyere, KOR and Sir Herbert Cockx, KOR. The result of the election is:

1st place: Sir Geert Verhaegen 2nd place: Sir Kristoff Mortier

3th place: Sir Herbert Cockx 4th place: Sir Willy Demeyere

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to our two new Board members and thank you for putting up your candidacy. A warm thanks equally goes to Sir Willy and Sir Herbert for putting up their candidacy as well and we hope that not being in the board (for the moment) will not stop them from contributing as they did before, because if there is one thing common between the four candidates, it is for sure their commitment as Knights to our Chapter. Thanks a lot for that and we hope it will endure forever !!!!!

After the elections, Sir Kris Van Thillo offered a glass of cava to every guest and gave a short speech about their upcoming permanent transfer to Canada. Lady Marissa unfortunately could not join us that day due to other obligations. We will surely miss you Sir Kris and Lady Marisa and we want to thank both of you for all the work and the effort you have put in the Diamond Chapter to help it grow and be vibrant, maraming maraming salamat sa lahat ! Please keep in touch and we will certainly do the same.

As Sir Kris had another appointment to join Lady Marissa, he had to leave early, but being afraid that we would run low on sugar, he left us a beautiful and very delicious cake for dessert.

After the aperitif, we had our traditional BBQ, followed by a nice quiz presented by Sir Lucien Spittaël and then came the dessert buffet with all kinds of sweets prepared by our even sweeter Ladies. Also Sir Kris' Canadian cake was cut into pieces, filled our stomachs and was flushed down with some coffee or tea.

To end in beauty, we had our raffle, as usual under the expertise of Sir Paul Verloo, who, as it has become a tradition, again animated in such a way that nobody was thinking of going home.

It was already close to midnight when we closed the cantina, together with Els, who voluntarily served drinks and assisted us in our different needs.

I would like to thank also Sir Dominiek, Sir Paul, Sir Peter, Sir Tony and all others, who brought nice prices and/or contributed to the success of this event, and although it's sometimes hard to carry the burden, I am still proud to be Chapter Commander of this very vibrant Diamond Chapter.





Announcements



120TH COMMEMORATION
Philippine Independence
JUNE 3, 2018 @ 9.30-18.30

Cultural & Food Festival
Immaculata Instituut
Koningin Astridlaan 4, 8200 Sint Michiels-Brugge
Organized by the Council of Filipino Associations in Flanders with the cooperation of the Philippine Embassy & Consulates and FilCom
For info contact: Mina Sison 0476-371677 --- cofaf1@gmail.com

Kultura Dance Group - Brussels
Kaangayan Dance Troupe
Ugnayang Pilipino Sa Belgium
semiramis
Goe Beezig LIVE BAND

Alma Michelle
Chicho Santos
James Gillespie
Mario Hernandez
Maya Shrestha
Sophia De Marez

09.30 Gate opens.
10.30 Eucharistic celebration
12.00 Lunch - Carinderias of Filipino food; Sari-sari stores of Filipino goods & services; Phil. Embassy information booth.
14.00 Cultural Presentation - Variety show - Raffle draws

Project: Donate-a-Classroom
Beneficiary: Upper Taberlongan Elem. School
Maluso, Basilan City

NO entrance fee - WALANG bayad ang pagpasok
Toegang GRATIS - Entrée LIBRE
But would appreciate a purchase of raffle tickets.

120ste FILIPIJNSE ONAFHANKELIJKHEIDSDAG
ARAW NG KALAYAAN 2018
120th PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

PAMILYA - LIPUNAN
STERKE EN GELUKKIGE GEZINNEN: DE BASIS VAN DUURZAME SAMENLEVINGEN
MATIBAY AT MASAYANG MGA PAMILYA: ANG PUNDASYON NG MGA MATATAG NA LIPUNAN
STRONG AND HAPPY FAMILIES: THE FOUNDATION OF SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES

FAMILY - SOCIETY **FAMILIE - SAMENLEVING**

Programma:
10u-13u30
▶ Kunstwedstrijd voor de allerkleinsten
▶ Workshop schoonheidsverzorging
▶ Allerlei spelletjes voor de kinderen
▶ Parade
13u30-18u
▶ Hoofdprogramma
▶ Wedstrijden voor volwassenen
- Dans, Koor en Zang
▶ Tombola

Kunsttentoonstelling
Aziatische hapjes
Muziek

ZATERDAG 9 JUNI 2018
10u ZUIDPARK, GENT

INFO: Galee De Craene / pinoykworkshop@gmail.com / 0468 17 09 60

Tombola proceeds go to Kaangayan Vriendenkring VZW Outreach Program to provide school supplies to indigent students from an identified remote school in Valencia, Negros Oriental, Philippines.

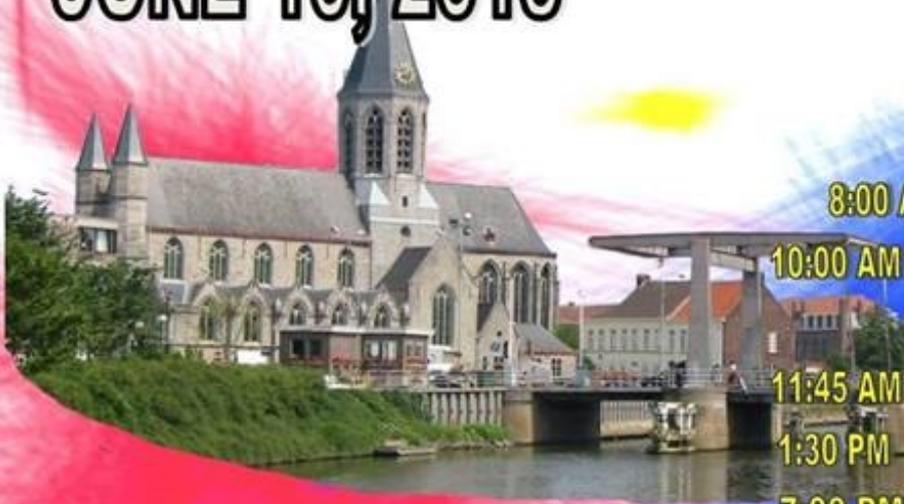
KAANGAYAN VRIENDENKRING VZW met steun van provincie Oost-Vlaanderen gent: zoverst stad FZOVU

v.u. Kaangayan Vriendenkring VZW Address: Lage Heirweg 33 9830 Sint-Martens-Latem
Phone: 0468 17 09 60 E-mail: pinoykworkshop@gmail.com

120TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

JUNE 10, 2018

72 years of Belgian - Filipino diplomatic Relationship



PROGRAM:

- 8:00 AM Installation of tents
- 10:00 AM Start of Independence Day Celebration
- 11:45 AM Mass in Church of Our Lady
- 1:30 PM Parade & Cultural program
- 7:00 PM End of celebration

Brielpoort

Lucien Matthyslaan 9, 9800 Deinze

HOSTED BY THE KNIGHTS OF RIZAL

ORGANIZED BY:

KOALISYON PARA SA KALAYAAN (KPSK)

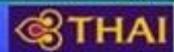
LINO PARAS : 0472/425103

TONY GUANSING: 0475/ 422 861

JIMBOY REBONG: 0494/ 500596

ABETH AREVALO: 0485/ 225 138

JOHNNY VILLA: 0485/ 724 996



Mrs Benilda O. Rebang

02/629.81.86

benilda@aseana.travel





16 YEARS FRIENDSHIP FOR THE PHILIPPINES IN KNOKKE-HEIST

30 SEPTEMBER 2018

12.30 NOON - ZAAL 'T VERZET - DUINENWATER 45 - KNOKKE-HEIST

A very delicious barbecue will be served and this year there is also a vegetarian alternative (to be mentioned when you inform your participation). A Fair Trade bar with excellent wines, juices, lemonades from Oxfam joins the organization. As usual Mrs. Merlie Gucor, wife of Sir André Heyse, is in charge of a Filipino dessert buffet and Pinoy coffee from local farmers from Davao del Sur will be served with a smile. There will be some cultural performances in the spirit of the Philippines

As it is a tradition also the (new) Philippine Ambassador His Excellency Eduardo de Vega will join on this special day together with Lord Mayor Leopold Lippens of Knokke-Heist and (to be confirmed) Her Excellency Mrs. Hilde Crevits, Minister of Education. The group Friendship for the Philippines / Vriendschap voor de Filippijnen has some of our brother Knights in the working committee as volunteers. Thanks in advance for everybody who wants to attend. Participation is 20 EURO and 13 EURO for children (till 13 years). Please send an email to dominiek.segaert@skynet.be to inform if you are coming. In case you are interested, there is a vegetarian alternative for those who prefer not to eat meat. Info: Vriendschap voor de Filippijnen - KBC account - IBAN: BE40 7481 2314 7263 / BIC: KREDBEBB. If you cannot participate, also your financial support is very welcome. Thank you very much in advance.



CALENDAR

27/01/2018	18th Chartering Anniversary	De Watermeulen - Burchtstraat, 160 9150 Kruibeke
21/04/2018	Spring Activity	Puurs - Kerkhofstraat 1A 2870 Puurs
12/05/2018	Kortemark Market	OC De Kouter - Ichtegemstraat 2A 8610 Kortemark
26/05/2018	Rizal Lecture (Romerohuis)	Puurs - Dendermondsesteenweg 110B 2870 Puurs
03/06/2018	PIC Bruges	Sportzaal Koningin Astridlaan 4 8200 Sint-Michiels Bruges
09/06/2018	PIC Ghent	Zuidpark Ghent 9000 Ghent
10/06/2018	PIC Brussels KPSK	Brielpoort - Lucien Matthyslaan 9 9800 Deinze
15-17/06/2018	Trip to Germany	Coordinated by Sir Lucien Spittaël Heidelberg - Germany
19/06/2018	Birthday of Dr. José Rizal	Embassy of the Philippines Avenue Molière 297 - 1050 Brussels
21/07/2018	Trip to Ieper	Details will follow 8900 Ieper
30/09/2018	BBQ VVF	Knokke-Heist - Zaal 't Verzet Duinenwater 45 - 8300 Knokke-Heist
?? / ?? /2018	Autumn activity	Details will follow
30/11/2018	Rizal-Marti Event	Vredeshuis, Sint-Margrietstraat 9 9000 Gent
30/12/2018	Death Commemoration Rizal	Embassy of the Philippines Avenue Molière 297 - 1050 Brussels
26/01/2019	19th Chartering Anniversary	De Watermeulen - Burchtstraat, 160 9150 Kruibeke
25/01/2020	20th Chartering Anniversary	De Watermeulen - Burchtstraat, 160 9150 Kruibeke

If anyone has knowledge of other events, related to our organization or members, please feel free to communicate.

KOR Diamond-Board and Members

The board

Antonio Guansing	KGCR	Advisor	0475/422861
Danny Vandenbogaerde	KCR	Chapter Commander	0478/420404
Dominiek Segaert	KGOR	Trustee	0479/691865
Geert Verhaegen	KCR	To Be Determined	0478/924687
Kris Van Thillo	KCR	Advisor	0475/460932
Kristoff Mortier	KCR	To Be Determined	0486/929628
Marc Helsen	KCR	Deputy Commander	0470/994753
Paul Verloo	KCR	Archivist	0486/565806
Peter Van Bogaert	KGOR	Trustee	0475/460932
Rik Van Tiggel	KCR	Advisor	0475/763663
Roy De Mol	KCR	Deputy Commander	0474/940737

Members

André Heyse	KOR	Regular Member	055/302455
Daniel Arkesteyn	KR>KOR	Regular Member	02/2702884
Dirk Vandeweghe	KCR	Regular Member	0499/219322
Eddy Verheye	KOR	Regular Member	0475/220787
Eric Borghijs	KOR>KCR	Regular Member	0478/900413
Frank Van Overloop	KOR	Regular Member	03/7070232
Guy Waterloos	KCR	Regular Member	09/3630842
Herbert Cockx	KOR	Regular Member	0476/339410
RevFr Jorgedy Bago	KGOR	Honorary Member	0498/810724
Joseph Sneyaert	KOR	Regular Member	050/790333
Julien Kusé	KOR	Regular Member	0476/335269
Lucien Spittaël	KGOR	Regular Member	0499/700183
Marinus Eijke	KOR	Regular Member	0485/699194
Marnix Vandevoorde	KR	Regular Member	0477/266134
Martin Hemelaer	KOR	Regular Member	03/7710253
Peter De Bruyn	KCR	Regular Member	0473/755175
Peter Uhrig	KOR	Regular Member	0486/554765
Ronny Deblaere	KR	Regular Member	0468/174388
Sylvain Herremans	KOR>KCR	Regular Member	0485/959964
Willy Demeyere	KOR	Regular Member	0486/382816