



Newsletter Knights of RIZAL



Issue 11

Volume 2

March 2009

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- ★ SUCCESSFULL 9TH CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY DIAMOND JAN. 31
- ★ MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
- ★ APRIL 4 ACTIVITY – RIZAL LECTURE – QUIZ – BARBECUE
- ★ FAREWELL ARSENIO REYES - GOOD FRIEND OF THE PHILIPPINE-BELGIAN COMMUNITY
- ★ BELGIAN AMBASSADOR EXC. GREGOIRE VARDAKIS ACCEPTS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF KNIGHTS OF RIZAL – DIAMOND CHAPTER
- ★ SOME IMPORTANT DATES / REMINDERS
- ★ INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY MANILA
- ★ BOARD COORDINATES
- ★ OUR MEMBERS



Knights of Rizal – Diamond Chapter – Jan. 2009

SUCCESSFUL 9TH CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY

Our KOR Diamond Chapter celebrated last Jan. 31, 2009 its 9th **chartering anniversary** at Salons De Watermeulen in Kruibeke with 70 partici-

4 postulants to Knight: Sir Kristoff Mortier (who give an inspirational response), Sir Marc Helsen, Sir Michel



Sir Peter Van Bogaert

pants. Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR and Special Assistant to the Supremo welcomed all guests. It was Sir Dominiek Segaert, KCR, Chapter Commander and also Deputy Area Commander for Belgium who presided the event together with the board members Sir Roy De Mol, KCR, Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Sir Paul Verloo, KOR and Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR and of course Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR, the



Sir Dominiek Segaert

Regional Commander for Europe. Starting the event Sir Dominiek dubbed



Sir Tony Guansing

Du Bois and Sir Sylvain Herremans. Elevated to KOR by Sir Antonio Guansing, KGOR were Sir Frank Van Overloop and Sir Frankie Vercammen. Special guests were Sir Peter Plückebaum, KGOR, Deputy Regional Commander for Europe but also Sir Lino Paras, KGOR, former Regional Commander and Sir Rudy Nollas, KGOR, Area Commander Belgium. Also other Chapters send a delegation: from London, Sir Alfonso & Lady Aurea

(Continued on page 2)



The 4 new Knights of Rizal during the dubbing ceremony



(Continued from page 1)



Sir Roy Ecraela

Taguiang, from Germany the Bonn and Metro Cologne Chapter and from Belgium Brussels, El Filibusterismo and Charleroi Chapter. After a reception and giving over of the New Years resolutions, Father Bago blessed the food and a fraternal dinner in buffet



Sir Francis Ooms

style started. Highlight of the evening was the performance of Lady Aurea Taguiang of London who gave an inspirational and very emotional performance of Rizal's Mi Ultimo Adios and touched the hearts of the whole audience. This was followed by an outstanding applause. Sir Roy Ecraela, Consul and 1st Secretary and Minister represented the **Philippine Embassy** and H.E. Ambassador Cristina Ortega who wrote a heartwarming message in the program brochure. The KOR Diamond also held a moment of silence in remembrance of **Sir Alex Mushake**, KGCR, who passed away on Jan. 4.

A temporary Certificate for the Distinguished Rizal Star Medal for Sir Marc Minique, KCR, of the El Filibusterismo Chapter was given to the Chapter Commander of El Fili, Sir François Ooms.

Also in the special program was the launching of the totally restyled website www.knightsofrizal.be which is operational since Jan. 31. It was Sir Danny Berghmans, KR who gave a review of the new website as co-webmaster together with Sir Ronny Felix, KR, also co-webmaster who also showed the plans for a totally restyled Newsletter, an initiative of the Chapter Commander since March 2008 and now at its 11th Issue. Sir Dominiek gave to Sir Ronny Felix, KR and Sir Danny Berghmans, KR a Special Certificate of Appreciation



Sir Ronny Felix and Sir Danny Berghmans

in name of the board and also a frame with a Rizal Post Stamp (issue of 1963, Rizal in Barong).

Participated at the 9th Anniversary:

Mr. Roy Ecraela
1st Secretary & Consul Philippine Embassy

Sir Antonio & Mrs. Guansing
KGOR, Regional Commander for Europe

Sir Peter Plückebaum, KGOR
Deputy Regional Commander for Europe

Sir Rudy Nollas, Area Commander for Belgium

Lady Nina Fernandez
President Kababaihang Rizalista

Sir Lino Paras, KGOR
Former Regional Commander for Europe

Sir Bhoy & Lady Lita Alcoba
KGOR, Former Area Commander for Belgium

Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR
Honorary Consul General

Sir & Mrs. Kris & Marisa Van Thillo, KCR
former Chapter Commander

Sir & Mrs Dominiek & Leah Segart-Gallego

& Magalie
KCR, Chapter Commander 2008-2010
Deputy Area Commander Belgium
Sir & Mrs. Albert Bijloos, KOR
Sir & Mrs Roy & Grace De Mol, KCR
Sir & Mrs Hugo & Nona Speelmans, KOR
Sir & Mrs Frank Van Overloop & child, KOR
Sir & Mrs Frankie Vercammen, KOR
Sir & Mrs Paul & Mayet Verloo, KOR
Sir & Mrs François Ooms, KCR
Sir Father Bago, KR
Sir Guy & Mercy Waterloos, KR
Sir Dirk & Grace Vandeweghe, KR
Sir & Mrs Eric & Jacquel. Borghijs-Van den Eede, KR
Sir Johan De Boeck, KR
Mrs Estelita
Sir Ronny & Phoebe Felix-Padilla, KR
Sir Geert & Faith Verhaegen, KR
Sir Danny & Marylou Berghmans, KR
Sir Danny & Mrs Vandenbogaerde, KR
Sir & Mrs Michel Du Bois, KR
Sir & Mrs Sylvain & Patricia Herremans, KR
Sir & Mrs Marc & Felly Helsen, KR
Sir & Mrs Kristoff & Rama Mortier, KR
Sir & Mrs Lucien & Lady Madeleine Spittaet, KGOR
Sir & Mrs Alfonso & Lady Aurea Taguiang, KCR
Sir & Mrs Joseph & Divina Sneyaert-Mariano, KR
Sir Christian Donners, KOR
Lady Ligaya Nacua
Sir Tony Sienes, KCR
Sir Elvy Rutor, KCR
Sir Mario Fajardo, KCR
Sir Johnny Villa, KCR
Sir & Mrs Ulrich Ziegen, KCR (Metro Cologne)



Sir Rudy Nollas

Enjoy the pictures and some highlights of our 9th Chartering Anniversary.





Message from Ambassador Mrs Cristina G. Ortega



MESSAGE


I take great pride in extending my sincere congratulations to the Knights of Rizal Diamond Chapter (Antwerp), under the able leadership of Sir Dominiek Segart, on the occasion of its 9th Chartering Anniversary this 31st of January 2009.

Indeed the Knights of Rizal of Europe, headed by Sir Antonio Guansing who also doubles as our Philippine Honorary Consul (Antwerp), have done much through the years in terms of not only establishing new chapters throughout Europe but actively engaging in various socio-civic activities as well. I am deeply gladdened by the fact that chapters as faraway as the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic have been established, with new ones being formed to further boost your ever burgeoning ranks that have already been firmly entrenched in both Belgium and Germany.

But foremost in my mind at the moment is the fervent hope that you honorable men, from the distinguished order named after our beloved national hero, continue to live by the lofty deeds of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, a proud son of our Motherland Philippines and truly deserving of his appellation as the Great Malay. Bear in mind that although the path ahead might be arduous and at certain times even discouraging, I beseech you all to remain steadfast in your conviction to achieve your goals because it is only through your perseverance that you will reap unprecedented success in the final reckoning.

Be it known to you all that the Philippine Embassy (Brussels) stands firmly committed to be your partner in all your worthwhile undertakings, and rest assured of our cooperation in the years to come. More power to the Knights of Rizal. *Mabuhay kayong lahat diyan!*

Brussels, Belgium; 31 January 2009


CRISTINA G. ORTEGA
Ambassador

297 Avenue Molire, 1050 Brussels, Belgium Tel No. 32-2 340.33.77 Fax 32-2 345.64.25





MORE PICTURES ABOUT OUR 9TH CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY

Please look at the following website, where you will find more pictures.

The pictures are taken by Sir Danny Berghmans, KR, Sir Ronny Felix, KR, Sir Kristoff Mortier, KR and Leah Segart-Gallego (some of them you will find in this Newsletter)

<http://chartering2009.knightsofrizal.be/#home>

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BEFORE MARCH 21 ST

UITNODIGING HERNIEUWING LIDMAATSCHAP 2009

INVITATION RENEWING MEMBERSHIP 2009

Beste vrienden Knights

Een maand geleden mochten wij de 9^{de} verjaardag vieren sinds de start van de Diamond Chapter van de Knights of Rizal. Het was een bijzonder geslaagd vriendenfeest waarbij in de eerste plaats broederschap én de herinnering aan de Filippijnse vrijheidsheld Dr. José Rizal de rode draad vormden. Ook mochten we 4 nieuwe en heel gemotiveerde Rizal-vrienden tot Knight 'slaan'. Het doet deugd dat de Diamond Chapter een enthousiaste koers vaart. Graag wil ik het bestuur én iedereen danken voor het vertrouwen in onze chapter.

Naar jaarlijkse gewoonte verzoeken wij jullie bij de start van de maand maart om het **lidgeld** voor **2009** te betalen. Dit bedraagt **40 €** en ik zou jullie heel dankbaar zijn, mocht de betaling gebeuren **voor 21 maart** op ons rekeningnummer **979 6095137 50**. Namens het bestuur wil ik jullie alvast danken voor de hernieuwing van het lidmaatschap en aan de nieuwe Knights voor het hopelijk blijvend engagement voor onze vereniging!

Dank bij voorbaat voor jullie engagement en tijdige betaling van het lidgeld.

Dear brother Knights

One month ago we could celebrate with you the 9th anniversary since the chartering of the Diamond Chapter of the Knights of Rizal. We look back at a successful activity where brotherhood and remembering our Philippine national hero Dr. José Rizal formed the spirit of this celebration. Also we could dub 4 new Knights of Rizal. I am very pleased and happy that the Diamond Chapter is until now successful. I am honoured to thank the complete board of our chapter and everybody for the loyalty to our chapter.

As yearly we would like to invite you in the beginning of the month of March to renew your **membership** for **2009**. We would be grateful to pay the amount of **40 € before March 21** on our account **979 6095137 50**. In the name of the whole board I want to thank you for renewing your membership and to the new Knights I sincerely hope you will engage yourself for a very long time in our chapter.

We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in paying the membership fee.

APRIL 4 ACTIVITY – RIZAL LECTURE – QUIZ – BARBECUE

We sincerely invite you to participate in our next activity which is planned on **Saturday April 4**, starting 4 p.m. (till 9 p.m.) at De Schuur (Broekdam-Noord 47 – Kruibeke Centre). On the **program**:

- ☛ Rizal in Europe and Belgium – multimedia lecture by guest speaker Sir Lucien Spittaet, KGOR, Rizalist
- ☛ Rizal Quiz (with topics from the lecture)
- ☛ Fraternal barbecue

Inform one of our board members in your area for reserving a ticket for the price of 22 EUR (children 6-12: 8 EUR – under 6: free). We would appreciate if you could inform us **before March 25** if you will join us in this special pre-summer-activity where the profit will go to one of our educational projects in the spirit of Dr. Rizal. Dresscode: formal (no barong needed).

Tickets:

Sir Dominiek Segaert, KCR	☎ 050 601320 or 0479691865
Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR	☎ 03 6664385
Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR	☎ 03 2191491
Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR	☎ 03 3257116
Sir Roy De Mol, KCR	☎ 03 5419482
Sir Rik Van Tiggele, KCR	☎ 0475 763663
Sir Paul Verloo, KOR	☎ 03 5424411

FAREWELL ARSENIO REYES – GOOD FRIEND OF THE PHILIPPINE-BELGIAN COMMUNITY

Partly taken from:

<http://www.mnnetherlands.com/categories/news/displayinnerpage.php>

FAREWELL TO MR. ARSENIO “NONOY” REYES

G. Manalo

Luxembourg
February 24, 2009



Mr. Arsenio “Nonoy” Reyes passed away last 13 February 2009 in Manila, Philippines due to heart failure and was laid to rest in Balangao, Pangasinan last 18 February 2009. He was survived by wife Cecilia, sons Brian John and Jeremy Jay.

It was really shocking and very hard to accept the news concerning the sudden departure of a beloved and respected leader of the Filipino Community in Belgium, a brother in profession and a friend to many. We deeply feel the pain and join his family and loved ones at this very hour of darkness and sorrow.

BELGIAN AMBASSADOR EXC. GREGOIRE VARDAKIS ACCEPTS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF KNIGHTS OF RIZAL – DIA-



H.E. Grégoire Vardakis

The Belgian Ambassador in Manila, Excellency Grégoire Vardakis, accepted officially in a statement the honorary commandership of the Knights of Rizal Diamond Chapter. The ceremony will be scheduled in July or August 2009 and is a great honour also for our active chapter. In advance we thank His Excellency for his acceptance and we are looking forward to meet him again and in the near future also in Belgium on one of our activities.

SOME IMPORTANT DATES / REMINDERS

- MARCH 20: DEADLINE OF RENEWING MEMBERSHIP 2009
- MARCH 21: CONSULTATIVE MEETING KOR EUROPE – BRUSSELS
- MARCH 28-29 REGIONAL MEETING KOR EUROPE IN BONN
- APRIL 4 RIZAL LECTURE “RIZAL IN EUROPE & BELGIUM” – QUIZ – BARBECUE
- JUNE 12 INDEPENDENCE DAY (CELEBRATION JUNE 14)
- JUNE 19 BIRTHDAY DR. JOSE RIZAL – COMMEMORATION
- SEPT. 18-19-20 EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY IN PRAGUE
- SEPT. 27 BARBECUE FRIENDSHIP FOR THE PHILIPPINES IN KNOKKE

KOR DIAMOND & EL FILIBUSTERISMO ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY MANILA

Last Feb. 20-21-22 our Chapter participated at the 17th International Assembly of KOR in Manila. From Diamond Chapter Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Special Assistant to the Supreme Commander and our beloved Honorary Consul General attended and participated actively in the program together with our chartering commander Sir Pros Slachmuylders, KCR. Also joined by Sir François Ooms, KCR, Chapter Commander of El Filibusterismo Chapter.



Picture 1

On picture 1 Sir Peter and Sir Pros presented to the Assembly a rare print of Dr. Jose Rizal, made by our honorary member Sir Thomas Roman.

On picture 2 we see from left to right Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Sir François Ooms, KCR, Sir Ricardo Centenera, KGOR (Spain), Sir Ricardo R. Aquino, KGOR, Chapter Commander KOR Calamba and Sir Pros Slachmuylders, our chartering commander and now active in the Cebu Chapter.

Picture 3 was taken at the house of Dr. Rizal in Calamba during the Assembly with Sir Pros, Sir Peter and Sir François. (pictures: courtesy of Sir Ooms – received Feb. 28). During the Assembly presided by Sir Esguerra, KGCR, our Supremo, there were presentations to Sir Don Emilio Yap KGCR, of the Global Peace award and a conferment to Sir Hilario Davide KGCR, UN Ambassador of the Pro Patria award (former Chief of Justice).

The keynote speech of Sir Davide and more information about the Assembly will be published soon in our website www.knightsofrizal.be.

On picture 4 we see Sir Peter Plückebaum, Deputy Regional Commander for Europe and his wife Lady Jennifer who got his exaltation to KGOR, last Sunday Feb. 22, during the Intern. Assembly. Sincere congratulations from Diamond Chapter!



Picture 3



Picture 2



Picture 4



Sir Romeo Garcia, KCR, Area Commander for Germany. Sir Garcia will leave the European Council of the Knights of RIZAL in one of the coming weeks as he is appointed to head Alcatel in Manila. Thanks, Sir Romeo and good luck!

Please visit our new website:
www.knightsofrizal.be

Next issue of our newsletter: April 2009

THE BOARD OF DIAMOND CHAPTER

Sir Dominiek SEGAERT, KCR - ☎ 050 601320 – Mob. 0479 691 865
CHAPTER COMMANDER – DEPUTY AREA COMMANDER BELGIUM
dominiek.segaert@skynet.be

Sir Peter VAN BOGAERT, KGOR – ☎ 03 3257116
ADVISER – TRUSTEE – SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE SUPREME COMMANDER
pb.vanbogaert@skynet.be

Sir Tony GUANSING, KGOR – ☎ 03 2191491
TRUSTEE – REGIONAL COMMANDER FOR EUROPE, LIFE TIME MEMBER
guansing@telenet.be

Sir Kris VAN THILLO, KCR – ☎ 03 6664385
CO-SECRETARY – PAST CHAPTER COMMANDER
krimas@telenet.be

Sir Roy DE MOL, KCR – ☎ 03 5419482
EXCHEQUER – WEBMASTER – DEPUTY COMMANDER
roydemol@skynet.be

Sir Rik VAN TIGGEL, KCR – ☎ 0475 763663
DEPUTY COMMANDER & CO-CHANCELLOR
rik@zoomed.eu

Sir Paul VERLOO, KOR – ☎ 03 5424411
CHANCELLOR
paul.verloo@hotmail.com

WEBMASTER

Sir Danny BERGHMANS, KR – ☎ 03 292 5608 – GSM 0488 053 603
familie@berghmans-ferrater.be

NEWSLETTER LAY-OUT AND CO-EDITOR

Sir Ronny FELIX, KR – ☎ 03 252 77 81 – Mob. 0473 491 482
felilong@gmail.com

THE MEMBERS

MEMBERS (UPDATE SINCE JAN. 31 2009)

Sir Pros SLACHMUYLDERS, KCR, Chartering Commander

Sir Daniël ARKESTEYN, KR

Sir Ronny BARTELS, KR

Sir Joseph SNEYAERT, KR

Sir Frank VAN OVERLOOP, KOR

Sir Frankie VERCAMMEN, KOR

Sir Danny BERGHMANS, KR

Sir Johan DE BOECK, KR

Sir Martin HEMELAER, KR

Sir Dirk VANDEWEGHE, KR

Sir Guy WATERLOOS, KR

Sir Jan VAN DOORN, KOR

Sir André FROEHLINGER, KR

Sir Gerard VAN POPPEL, KR

Sir Eric MEYSMAN, KR

Sir Michel DUBOIS, KR

Sir Marc HELSEN, KR

Sir Fr. BAGO, KR (Hon. Member)

Sir Rudy LUYCKX, KOR

Sir Christiaan TANGHE, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Kris ORTMANNNS, KCR

Sir Fr. Paul ZWAENEPOEL, KCR

Sir Albert BIJLOOS, KOR

Sir Hugo SPEELMANS, KOR

Sir Paul ORTMANNNS, KOR

Sir François VERRIJT, KR

Sir Eric BORGHIS, KR

Sir Ronny FELIX, KR

Sir Danny VANDENBOGAERDE, KR

Sir Geert VERHAEGEN, KR

Sir Christian VANDERZEYPEN, KR

Sir Danny JANSSENS, KR

Sir Dennis VAN DESSEL, KR

Sir Gert MEEUWSEN, KR

Sir Sylvain HERREMANS, KR

Sir Kristoff MORTIER, KR

Sir Thomas ROMAN (Hon. Member)

Sir Alain RENS, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Roland VAN REMOORTELE, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Grégoire VARDAKIS, KCR (Ambassador Belgium / Manila – Hon. Member July or August 2009)