

Newsletter



Volume 4 October 2011

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Introduction

Dear Brother Knights of Rizal Diamond Chapter and affiliated chapters in Belgium, Europe and worldwide,

Dear friends of our organization,

It is with great pleasure that we present our 27th issue of our newsletter.

During this special year of remembering the 150th birthday of Dr. José Rizal, some extra activities were scheduled all over the world. Because of José Rizal's stays in Belgium, it was inevitable that these places had to be honored on the day of his birth anniversary, 20th of June. A documented report by Sir Dominiek Segaert can be found on the following pages.

Already one week before, the Filipino community celebrated their 114th Independence Day at several places. Of course, the different chapters of the Knights of Rizal in Belgium were numerously present as can be seen on some photos hereafter.

We will continue the RIZAL 150 activities in our own Diamond Chapter on 12 November in DE SCHUUR, Kruibeke with a quiz, information, announcements, etc after a BBQ meal. More details will follow soon.

Recommended by the Philippine Embassy, Brussels, are the musical performances by the Saint Louis University, Baguio City. Invitation further in this Newsletter. Quick decision is necessary as the dates are coming very soon.

Also note the upcoming winterbarbeque in Kortemarken of the Cadaatan vzw on 6th November. Still a limited number of places are available for this special event.

(Continued on page 2)



On 30th December, a joint event with the other Rizal chapters in Belgium will close this memorable year. Details to follow in our next Newsletters.

Hope to see you soon.

Fraternal greetings,

Sir Paul Verloo

NOM Board 2010-2012

Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, Chapter Commander Diamond—Antwerp
Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR, Regional Commander for Europe
Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, Area Commander for Belgium
Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Special Adviser to the Supreme Commander Manila
Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Past Chapter Commander
Sir Roy De Mol, KCR, Deputy Commander
Sir Rik Van Tiggel, KCR, Deputy Commander
Sir Ronny Felix, KOR, Archivist, Editor newsletter

Sayang! - Sir Exequiel Sabarillo - KCR - Chapter Commander Madrid Chapter Spain

Dear Sirs,

In behalf of the Europe Regional Council, I would like to express our deep regret, sorrow and sense of great lost for the early demise of Sir Exequiel Sabarillo, KCR, Order of the Knight of Rizal Chapter Commander, Madrid Chapter, Spain.

Sir Exequiel, now that you are at the bosom of our creator, resting in peace, memories of our acquaintances will linger for a very, very longtime.

To bereaved family of Sir Exequiel, our sincere condolence and sympathy, and may the good Lord give you comfort in this trying times.

"Non Omnis Moriar",

My Fraternal greetings,

Sir Antonio A. Guansing, KGOR

Regional Commander for Europe

Pictures from the Independence Day Celebrations

Brussels









Brugge



Report June 19 2011 - 150th Birthday RIZAL

Introduction

It started as a very sunny day even the weather was predicted as cloudy and rainy. But on the contrary, the Area Council Knights of Rizal of Belgium, had all the luck on its side for celebrating a whole day the commemoraton of the 150th birthday of the Philippine National Hero, Dr. Jose Rizal. Headed by Area Commander KOR Belgium Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, the program started in the morning of that brilliant Sunday with a flower offering and short program at Ghent and later at Brussels, two significant places where Rizal lived 1890-1891 and was exposed to Belgium, a country where his masterpiece El Filibusterismo would be finalised and even printed on Sep. 18, 1891. At noon a thanksgiving mass was showered at Saint Remy Church in Brussels. The day then highlighted a program honouring Rizal brought by the 4 active Chapters in Belgium: KOR Aalst, KOR Brussels, KOR Charleroi and KOR Diamond Antwerp at the Philippine Embassy at Avenue Moliere finalised by a delicious lunch and a significant contributon of a rare Rizal banknote for the Rizal Room of the Philippine Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union H.E. Enrique Manalo, represented by Charge d'affaires Mme Marichu B. Mauro, all observed by attending Regional Commander for Europe, Sir Antonio Guansing, KGOR. The event was attended by a few hundreds of people including Knights and also Kababaihang Rizalista, as they also, presided by Lady Nina Fernandez, contributed in the touching afternoon program.

Chapter 1: Ghent and Brussels opened the hearts for Rizal





Assisted by the Police and the Cities of Ghent and Brussels the Rizal frenzy started at 9 a.m. at Henegouwenstraat 9 where in front of the Rizal Plaquet a flower offering opened a simple but meaningful moment of silence attended by Mr. Robespierre L. Bolivar, 1st Secretary & Consul. At Ghent Sir Rudy Nollas, KGOR, Past Area Commander KOR Belgium, delivered a message of happiness in revoking lolo Rizal in the minds of the Belgian-Philippine Community.

Around 11 a.m. an even bigger number of participants, showed up in perfect Rizal Costume or Dress at the front of Rizals boarding house at Rue Philippe de Champagne 38 in Brussels, capital of Belgium and heading as metropole of the European Union, perfectly closed and denied to any traffic by the Police.





Here it was Area Commander KOR Belgium, Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, who opened the commemoration advanced by the flowering offering and moment of silence by all Belgian Chapters and Ladies of Rizal, witnessed by Mr. Robespierre L. Bolivar, 1st Secretary & Consul and Sir Edmund Rojas, KCR, Deputy Area Commander KOR Belgium. A very special guest was in the KOR-group that day, namely Mme. Renier, current owner of the house at Rue Philippe de Champagne. She was introduced by Sir Bhoy Alcoba, KGOR, also Past Area Commander KOR Belgium. She expressed her gratitude to be invited on this very special day as she specially came from Portugal to be at the 'grand and memorable occasion'. Sir Lino Paras, KGOR, Past Regional Commander KOR Europe, gave some information about the installation of the Rizal Plaquet in June 2007, by Former Ambassador to Belgium, H.E. Cristina Ortega, assisted by Former Belgian Ambassador to the Philippnes H.E. Christiaan Tanghe. An inspirational message by Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR and closing remarks with the Non Omnis Moriar sign was delivered by Sir Antonio Guansing.



Chapter 2: Thanksgiving Mass honouring Dr. Rizal in Brussels

The Philippine Chaplaincy of the Brussels Community, headed by Rev. Father Raymond Gaspar, and assisted by Rev. Father Apollo de Guzman, Past leader of the Philippine Catholic Community in Brussels and Belgium, celebrated with the KOR and Ladies and the whole Philippine Community an inspirational thanksgiving mass at Saint Remy Church at Rue de l'Ourthe in Brussels.



In front of the church the Knights and Ladies assembled, followed by a huge entrance ceremony. The banner of 150th birth-day Rizal – as also presented and used at the International Assembly last Febr. 2011 in Manila – got a central place near the altar. In his homily Rev. Father Raymond Gaspar reflected on the meaning of the Holy Trinity and focused in the second part on the life of Rizal and his ideals for dignity and respect for humankind. Mass offering and touching songs alterated the unique Rizal-mass.

Chapter 3: Program, lunch and toasting on 150 years Rizal at Philippine Embassy



A huge assembly was formed at the garden of the Philippine Embassy at Avenue Moliere 297 Brussels. Welcome by MC Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR, Area Commander KOR Europe was immediately followed by flower offering by the Chapters, initiated by CDA Marichu B. Mauro, who also later read the inspiring message of Ambassador H.E. Enrique Manalo. The Philippine National Anthem was sung and Rev. Father Apollo de Guzman delivered a prayer. Toasting on the 150th birthday of Rizal started after inside the Embassy, namely in the Rizal Room of the Embassy, Sir Dominiek Segaert offered in the name of the whole Area Council KOR



Belgium a frame with a Rizal 2-peso-bank note of 1949, issued by Bangko Sentral. He underligned the good bilateral relations between Belgium and the Philippines and the ideals of Rizal as respect for country, religion, filosophy, equality and education and also the interest in learning languages. It was CDA Marichu B. Mauro who accepted the frame in the name of Ambass. Manalo – at that time at DFA in Manila – and with the help of Mr. Opiniano of the Philippine Embassy, the frame was brought onto the wall of the Rizal Room.

The apero was gratefully offered by the Philippine Embassy and twinkles and laughters were seen trough the bubbles into the eyes of very participant. Sir Maximo Villaroman, Jr., Chap Comm KOR Aalst and his family prepared a sumptuous walking dinner which could be paraphrased 'as more than per-



fect'. He got a huge applause! Each participant paid a contribution in the costs of the event. Different desserts as leche flan and frutas where offered by the Philippine. White and red wine were offered by Sir Paul Verloo and Sir Dominiek Segaert of KOR Diamond.

Finally the 4 KOR Chapters and the Kababaihang Rizalista presented each in a 10 minute program a highlight and tribute to Rizal. For KOR Aalst Sir Villaroman headed the program, for KOR Brussels Antonio Sienes, for KOR Charleroi Sir Willy



Cruz, Acting Chap Comm together with Sir Mario Fajardo, KOR, for KOR Diamond Sir Kris Van Thillo, Past Chap Comm, Sir Antonio Guansing, Sir Dominiek Segaert.

For Kababihang Rizalista the program was initiated by Lady Nina Fernandez and a huge group of a smiling Kababaihang Rizalista. Around 6.30 p.m. the program ended with closing remarks of Sir Lino Paras and Sir Antonio Guansing, who also invited every KOR to the Non Omnis Moriar-sign.

Post scriptum: satisfaction guaranteed & happiness

KOR Area Council of Belgium is proud of this day. The day was prepared and initiated by two big meetings of the Area Council in which the program growed since april till the day of June 19. Thanks to everybody who participated: Sir Guansing, Sir Paras, Sir Segaert — who presided the Area Council Meetings and coordinated with the chapters, Embassy, Cities for June 19 — Sir Rojas Sir Nollas, Sir Alcoba, Sir Villaroman, Sir Verloo, Sir Sienes, Sir Fajardo, Sir Cruz, Lady Fernandez, Sir Pinkihan, Sir Vandeweghe, Sir Mortier, Sir Helsen, Sir Libeau, Sir Van Thillo, Sir Villa, Mme Renier, Mrs. Gamboa, Leah Gallego and the whole Embassy Staff of the Philippine Embassy, the Cities of Ghent, Brussels, their respective Police and not to forget CDA Marichu B. Mauro, Consul Bolivar, Consul Rola and finally Ambassador Enrique Manalo, excused for that day. Also excused but who also contributed in some way on this succesfull celebration were Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Special Adviser to the Supremo and Honorary Consul General, Sir Ronny Felix, KOR and Sir Lucien Spittael, KGOR, all during that moment in the Philippines.

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Sir Dominiek SEGAERT, KGOR, Area Commander KOR Belgium – 2011-07-21

Pictures:

Sir Kristoff MORTIER, KR of KOR Diamond Chapter

Visit to the KOR International Headquarters



The Headquarters are located on the third floor at the reception you are welcomed by Mrs. Maureen Fernandez, the secretary. Next to the reception is the meeting room. Besides the KOR board also the Council of Elders has their meetings here.

Last July my wife and I visited the International Headquarters of the Knights of Rizal.

Because many of you haven't yet visited the headquarters, I thought it was interesting enough to make a small report of the visit including pictures.

The KOR headquarters is located in the North of Manila, near the seaside and directly opposing Intramuros. When coming from the city center, probably you will drive on the Roxas Boulevard. Going further you will pass RIZAL Park with the memorial of Jose Rizal at your right and the Manila hotel at the left. In the meantime you are on Bonifacio Drive and a little bit further at your left are the KOR Headquarters. Taking the next roundabout and coming back on the other side of the road brings you in front of the building.



In front of the reception is the ceremonial room where all the ceremonies of the Knights take place.









A Ninong to a Scholar.

In July Sir Ronny Felix handed over an amount of 10.000 pesos to Sir Reghis Romero II, acting Supreme Commander. The project called "A Ninong to a Scholar" was announced by Sir Pablo S. Trillana III and supports the education of children of brother knights who have difficulty of paying for their education.



New Rizal Center in Rizal Park.



During my visit in July to Headquarters, Sir Reghis Romero II, acting Supreme Commander told me that there were plans of building a Rizal Center. The plans still have to be officially approved by the National Parks Development Committee.

The KOR board is now in the process of completing the legal procedures in order to ensure a smooth implementation of the project. Alongside, they are consolidating the architectural plans, the cost implications and the marketing program that will help secure funds for this endeavor.



The design of the proposed Rizal Center is composed of two buildings, one to hold the museum and the other leasable space. The design design is a modern building rendered with multiple facets or planes, which represent the many personalities of dr Jose Rizal: nationalist, writer, patriot, artist, doctor, humanist, linguist, etc.

The materials that will be used for the are titanium steel, white marble and glass. The sharp angle suggests the tip of an obelisk, asuggestion of Rizal's strong belief in freedom and higher aspirations





Rizal Center.

for his people. There will also be a reflecting pool which suggests the oceans travelled by Rizal and his separation from his homeland.

The Rizal center will house rare Rizaliana collection:

A library of Rizaliana books
An exhibit of memorabilia and diorama of select episodes in the life of Rizal
A theme café that will capture the turn-of-the-cebntury food, set-up and costumes
A 360° theatre where Rizalian audio-visual presentations, movies and concerts will be shown

As much as possible, all original memorabilia linked to Rizal will be gathered in the

Voting for Puerta Princesa Subterranian River



On 03 June 2011, President Benigno S. Aquino III issued Proclamation No. 182 entitled "Declaring a National and International Promotion and Campaign for the Puerto Princesa Underground River as One of the New Seven (7) Wonders of Nature (N7WN)."

This proclamation is in support of the campaign for the inclusion of Puerto Princesa Underground River in the N7WN conducted by the Swiss-Based government-controlled foundation. From an initial list of over 400 locations around the world, the Puerto Princesa Underground River is one of the lone finalist from the Philippines and now counts among the top 14 of the 28 Official Finalist Candidates selected by a panel of international experts from a list of 77 contenders via the first round of global voting from 2007 to 2010. The Official Declaration of winner for the N7WN will be on 11 November 2011.







The Puerto Princesa Underground River is located about 50 kms. north of the city of Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines. It features a limestone karst mountain landscape with an 8.2 kms. navigable underground river. A distinguishing feature of the river is that it winds through a cave before flowing directly into the South China Sea. It includes major formations of stalactites and stalagmites, and several large chambers. The lower portion of the river is subject to tidal influences. The underground river is reputed to be the longest underground river in the world. At the mouth of the cave, a clear lagoon is framed by ancient trees growing right to the water's edge. Monkeys, large monitor lizards, and squirrels find their niche on the beach near the cave

Let us help in making our country proud by voting for the inclusion of Puerto Princesa Underground River (PPUR) as one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature (N7WN). There are three ways to vote for the PPUR:

1. Vote via the N7WN Website (<u>www.new7wonders.com</u>):

Internet voting is allowed per email address.

- a. Click on the PPUR as your NSWN candidate
- b. Register your email account

c. Send your vote

2. Vote via Text message

Each SMS sent counts as one vote for the P Underground River in the Official New7Wonders of Nature. Simply text PPUR to 2861.

3. Vote by Telephone:

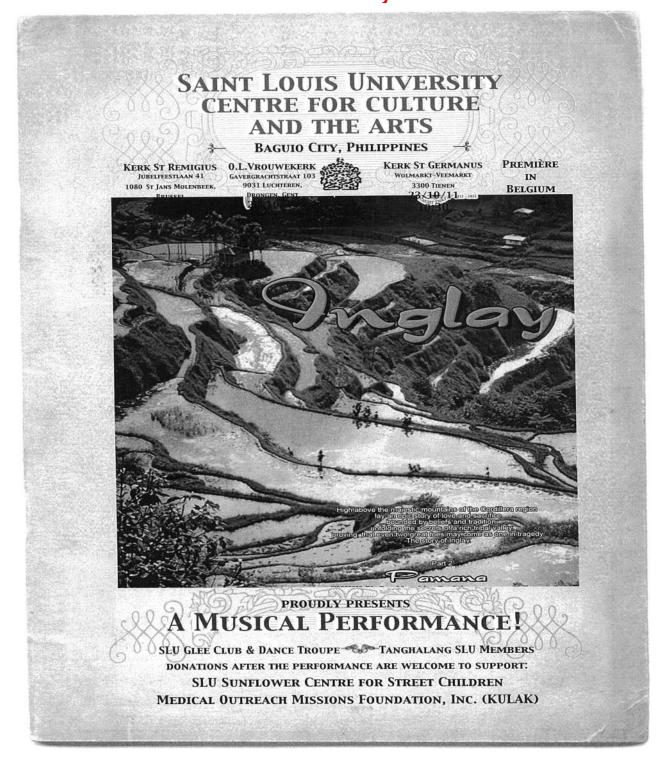
You can now vote using the new international telephone voting line, available 24 hours a day, for you to call and vote at any time, from any international telephone voting line, available 24 hours a day, for you to call and vote at any time, from any international telephone line anywhere in the world.

a) Dial one of these international telephone numbers:

+23 92201055, +1 869 760 5990, +1 649339 8080, +44 758 900 1290

- b) At the end of the message, after the tone, dial PPUR's the 4 digit code 7723
- c) When you hear the thank you message, you are all done -- you have voted by telephone.

Saint Louis University - Invitation



The performances will be held at:

- ♦ St Remigius church at Jubelfesstlaan 41, Sint-Jans-Molenbeek, Brussels on Sunday 16th October 2011 after 12:00 mass.
- Onze Lieve Vrouw church at Gavergrachtstraat 103, Luchteren, Drongen, Gent an Thursday 20th October 2011 at 20:00.
- St Germanus church at Wolmarkt-Veemarkt in Tienen on Sunday 23rd October 2011 after 10:30 mass.

INVITATION

Knights of Rizal

Diamond Chapter - Antwerp

12 November 2011 – De Schuur

BBQ and 5th Informative quiz

The board of the KOR Diamond Chapter – Antwerp invites you to our next activity with a tasteful barbeque followed by our own 5^{th} informative quiz and other presentations.

The venue is DE SCHUUR at Broekdam-Noord 47 at Kruibeke centre.

You are welcome as form 4:30 pm.

The BBQ is forseseen around 6:00 pm.

Tickets:

Adults: € 22,00 6-12 years: € 8,00 < 6 years: free

Consumption at democratic prices.

We would appreciate if you could make reservations with one of the board members before 7 November. Payments can be done at the entrance or by bank transfer to account no. 979-6095137-50 of Diamond Chapter Rizal at Deurne.

Dress code: casual

RESERVATIONS:

Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR. 050 601320 of 0479691865

Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, 03 6664385

Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR, 03 2191491

Sir Roy De Mol, KCR, 03 5419482

Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, 03 5424411

Sir Ronny Felix, KOR, 0473491482

Invitation—Cadaatan Winterbbq

KORTEMARKZONDAG 6 november 2011

OC DE KOUTER
Ichtegemstraat 2a



WINTERBARBECUE

around 600 seats available only !!! er zijn maar 600 plaatsen beschikbaar !!!

WESTERN YES!

money transfer

VOORAF TICKETS KOPEN OF INSCHRIJVEN

ook via @: winterbarbecue@telenet.be

Denis Pierpont, Wittehuisstraat 12, 8610 HANDZAME - 0496 / 05 96 18 Johan Vercaigne, Kronevoordestraat 44, 8610 HANDZAME - 0498 / 13 25 21 Kristof Willaert, Tulpenlaan 6, 8610 HANDZAME - 0496 / 80 83 19 Luc Waeyaert, Zwevezelestraat 34, 8810 LICHTERVELDE - 0494 / 59 37 17

De opbrengst van dit evenement gaat naar het boerderij-project van Cadaatan vzw in San Remigio, Lambusan op het eiland CEBU

PERFORMANCES





PLAKWERKEN

HAELEWIJN J. & ZONEN BVBA



GEERT SPEECKE



KBC

Don Bosco Kortemark Torhout

Carrefour Kunnen kiezen

Volwassenen - Adults 16,00 € Kinderen - Children 8,00 €

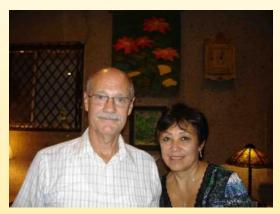
Verantwoordelijke uitgever: Cadaatan vzw, Zwevezelestraat 34, 8810 LICHTERVELDE

GS-CARS

My Rizal sesquicentennial trip in the Philippines (10th - 30th June 2011)

In the current and coming newsletters we will print here a report of Sir Lucien Spittael and his wife Madeline's recent trip to the Philippines where he attended many celebrations for the 150th Birthday of Jose Rizal.

Part 1



Madeline & Lucien Spittael

11^{th.}June:

We had just returned to Belgium from celebrating the 100^{th} . Birthday of Mr. Ernst Blumentritt (grandson of Ferdinand Blumentritt) in Germany and had just about enough time for my wife and I to pack our luggage before we left again for Manila, to take part in the sesquicentennial celebrations. We arrived at 09.00hrs. on 11^{th} . June and were greeted at NAIA by Mrs. Malou Villaroman, a descendant of the Saturnina Rizal, who brought us to our hotel. After check-in we went directly to the National Library where the famous but seldom seen Ullmer collection was on exhibit.



National Library



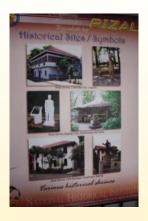
Rizal exhibition

From the National Library we went to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), previously NHI, to view the Rizal exhibition and arrange some appointments for a visit.



NHCP

Expositions at NHCP





At NHCP we were informed that there was a further Rizal exhibition at the Mall of Asia (MOA). We immediately drove to MOA, as we did not know the exact dates of the exhibition and did not want to miss it. After a search, due to poor sign-posting, we located the exhibition, which consisted of replicas of Rizal's clothes and sculptures.

Showcase of Rizal's personal belongings

Finally, after 32 hours of non-stop travel we had our first rest at the hotel.

12^{th.} June:

By 07.00hrs. we were already at the Luneta for the raising of the flag for Independence Day.



Preparation for the Flag raising



Flag raising at Luneta

We met with other Knights of Rizal, Mayor Lim and Mrs. Almosara from the NHCP.





Lucien, Mrs. E. Almosara (NHCP), Madeline

Mayor Alfredo S. Lim

Following the flag rising we were invited for breakfast with Mayor Lim and Francis N. Tolentino, Chairman MMDA after we had visited the newly restored Wilhelmsfeld fountain and the Ferdinand Blumentritt bust.





Mrs. E. Almosara, Secretary Francis N. Tolentino MMDA

Breakfast in Luneta Park



Wilhelmsfeld fountain at Luneta



Bust Ferdinand Blumentritt at Luneta

Later we also visited the many display booths at the Luneta, the Rizal Heritage Trail and, of course, we bought a Philippines flag.





NHCP booth

Rizal Heritage Trail at Luneta



Philippine flag vendors



Fountains at Luneta

We also visited the Orchidarium and the Japanese garden at Luneta



Orchidarium, Luneta



Japanese garden, Luneta

In the afternoon we attended the Independence Day parade.





Soldiers parade

Parade

During the evening we viewed the Luneta dancing coloured fountains and sampled the snacks at some of the many stalls.



Colored dancing fountains



Colored dancing fountains



Food stalls



Food stalls

We returned to our hotel at about 21.00hrs. and Madeline was happy to take a rest. I received a phone call from Mrs. Lisa Bayot, a descendant of Saturnina Rizal, with an invitation for dinner and a meeting. We immediately departed for this reunion, as Mrs. Bayot had been our honoured guest in Belgium last year. As a special surprise, two members of Maximo Viola's family were also present



Madeline, two members of Maximo Viola family+Lisa

13^{th.}June:

Mrs. Malou Villaroman collected us at our hotel and brought us to the General Post Office for the official opening of the Rizal stamp collection exposition of Mr. Jorge Cuyugan.



Rizal stamp collection

New Rizal stamps 2011





Atty. Ramoncita Ryes&Mrs. Malou Villaroman and post officials

Unfortunately we had to leave the exhibit a little early, as we were due at NAIA for our flight to Bohol.

CALENDAR

- November 12th—De Schuur, Broekdam Kruibeke—activity still to be decided
- December 30th—Rizal Day
- ♦ January 28th—12th Chartering Anniversary KOR Diamond dubbing new Knights elevation KOR exaltation KCR Rizal program Dinner Dancing Salons De Watermeulen Kruibeke
- March 31st Activity in De Schuur Kruibeke

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Our next Newsletter will be published in December 2011.

Please feel free to forward this Newsletter to anyone who shows an interest in the Knights of Rizal! They are always welcome at one of our activities.

Also former members who wish to receive again news from our Chapter are free to request to put their email address again on our list. We respect the view of everybody!

Please send suggestions, articles (also from the OTHER BELGIAN CHAPTERS) to the Chapter Commander.

THE BOARD OF DIAMOND CHAPTER

Sir Paul VERLOO, KCR – 2 03 5424411 CHAPTER COMMANDER 2011—2013

paul.verloo@hotmail.com

Sir Dominiek SEGAERT, KGOR - 2050 601320 – Mob. 0479 691 865 AREA COMMANDER BELGIUM—Past Chapter Commander 2008—2011 dominiek.seqaert@skynet.be

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Sir Danny BERGHMANS, KOR – **2** 0488 05 36 03 <u>webmaster@knightsofrizal.be</u>

THE MEMBERS

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Sir Manuel DUCHESNE, KR	
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Sir Fr. BAGO, KR (Hon. Member)	Sir Roland VAN REMOORTELE, KCR (Hon. Member)
Sir H.E. Christian MEERSCHMAN, KCR (Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium in Manila – Philippines – July 3, 2010) Sir Kris Ortmanns, KCR, Former Chapter Commander	Sir Grégoire VARDAKIS, KCR (Hon. Member)
Sir Pascal Ockermans—Postulant	