



Newsletter Knights of RIZAL



Issue 38

Volume 7

January 2014

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Introduction**
- **Invitation 14th Chartering Anniversary**
- **Membership**
- **Past activities**
- **RIZAL in Belgian chocolate!**
- **New Belgian Ambassador in the Philippines**
- **Ferdinand Blumentritt**
- **Invitations**
- **Calendar**
- **Board coordinates & members**



© Sir Kristoff Mortier

Knights of Rizal - Diamond Chapter - Jan. 2013

Introduction

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

Dear friends of our organization,

Although it has been a long time since our previous newsletter was released, it does not mean that we were sleeping or enjoying a nice long vacation. On the contrary, a lot of activities were organized by the Knights, their affiliated counterparts and befriended organizations.

After the visit of our Supreme Commander, Sir Reghis Romero II and some of the board members, end of May, there were several Philippine Independence Day celebrations which were attended by Knights of our Chapter. Of course, the birthday of Dr. Jose Rizal on 19 June is another yearly milestone, which was traditionally remembered in the venue of the Philippine Embassy by the Belgian chapters of the Knights together with the Kababaihang Rizalistas, Brussels and Las Damas de Rizal, Belgium. The latter chapter participated for the first time since it was only created a few months earlier. Before the summer holidays, the four Belgian Chapters jointly invited everybody to listen to "Pop-A-Pella" an arrangement by the A Cappella Manila choir in the St. Rémi Church, St. Jans-Molenbeek.

Even during the summer months, events were organized. New members were inducted by Las Damas de Rizal, Belgium on August 31st at the Courtyard Marriott. Their nice white uniforms are specially designed for them by the actual Area Commander for the Czech Republic, Sir

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

Noulando Noubiko, KCR. Furthermore we happily accepted the invitation from the KOR Charleroi Chapter to witness their induction ceremonies and to enjoy a variety of Chinese dishes at The Mandarin, on October 5,

When the students were back at cruise speed we could join several winter barbeques, to start with the BBQ of the Vriendschap voor de Filippijnen on September 29th, for the occasion at 't Verzet in Knokke-Heist, followed by our own Chapter fellowship BBQ in De Schuur on October 19th where we tried to stay in tune singing some classic English and Dutch songs after Sir Tony Guansing was bringing a Tagalog love song. On November 10th, we joined the 600 other participants of the yearly Winterbarbeque from Cadaatan Kortemark. Their president, Sir Guy Waterloos, treated us with the act of a hypnotizer but also surprised us with the unannounced gangnam dance performed by the charming 5-year old Filipino boy Tristan, known from the VTM shop: Belgium has talent.

Unfortunately, a few days earlier, the devastating typhoon Haiyan disrupted the lives of so many millions of Filipinos. Immediately countless actions for relief help started and still until to date fund raising activities are organized. Rebuilding might take up three to five years. Therefore let us keep in contact with these groups of victims so that they receive enough help to live an acceptable life again, even long time after the media attention has faded. For a limited selection of fundraising initiatives, I refer to the following issue of our Newsletter.

Rizal Day 2013 almost closed the year with a well attended commemoration of the 117th death anniversary of Dr. Jose Rizal, again at the Philippine Embassy in Brussels.

Instead of a lengthy report per event, you can find pictures of the abovementioned activities.

After a busy 2013, we are looking forward to the events in the upcoming months. Next on our program is the 14th Chartering Anniversary at the Watermeulen, Kruibeke on the 25th of this month.

Please find the invitation on one of the next pages. Same as the previous years, a delicious buffet will be waiting after the mandatory reception and ceremonies of dubbing to KR, elevation to KOR and exaltation to KCR.

Whereas Jose Rizal travelled around the world and studied different cultures, we have the possibility to experience aspects of several Asian cultures at the ASIA Festival & Fair in Wemmel during the weekend of 15 - 16 February. Learn more about it from the flyer later in this issue.

Join us on January 25 to celebrate our anniversary and to start the new year with renewed Rizal spirit.

NON ONMIS MORIAR

Sir Paul Verloo, KCR

Distinguished Service Medal

Chapter Commander 2011-2013

Deputy Area Commander for Belgium 2012-2014

NOM Board 2012-2013

Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, Chapter Commander Diamond—Antwerp
Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR, Trustee, Past Regional Commander for Europe
Sir Dominiek Segart, KGOR, Past Area Commander for Belgium
Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Advisor & Trustee
Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Past Chapter Commander
Sir Roy De Mol, KCR, Exchequer, Deputy Commander
Sir Rik Van Tiggel, KCR, Deputy Commander
Sir Ronny Felix, KCR, Archivist, Editor newsletter
Sir Danny Vandenbogaerde, KCR, Chancellor



Order of the KNIGHTS of RIZAL



Diamond Chapter - Antwerp - Belgium

Invitation

14th Chartering Anniversary

Saturday 25th January 2014

VENUE

Salons De Watermeulen – Burchtstraat 160 – 9150 KRUIBEKE – www.watermeulen.be

PROGRAM

17:00 Welcome – reception

Dubbing ceremony new Knights (KR)

Elevation to KOR

Exaltation to KCR

Toast on the new year

Inspirational speeches

Fraternal dinner – world buffet - drinks

Cultural program

Dessert – coffee – fellowship

Dancing – disco

PARTICIPATION

60,00 Euro per person – children 0 to 6 year: free – children 7 to 12: half price

Including drinks until 23:00

PAYMENT

We prefer payment by bank transfer to our account no. 979 6095137 50

(IBAN: BE86 9796 0951 3750 - BIC: ARSBE22)

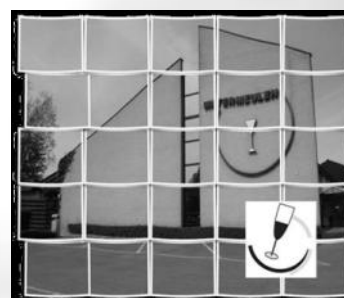
Diamond Chapter Rizal – Venneborglaan 90 – 2100 Deurne

RESERVATIONS

Please make your reservations through one of the board members below before Sunday 19th January:

paul.verloo@hotmail.com – Mobile 0486 565 806

dominiek.segaert@skynet.be – Mobile 0479 691 865





Lidmaatschap 2014

Beste vrienden Knights,

Het lidgeld voor 2014 bedraagt 45 EUR. Hiervan gaat een gedeelte naar Headquarters van de Order of the Knights of Rizal in Manila. Een ander deel is bestemd voor bepaalde onvermijdbare kosten. Toch slagen wij er telkens in om elk jaar minstens 1 lovenswaardig project te steunen. Daarvoor dienen onze activiteiten gedurende het jaar, waarin wij buiten het gezellig samenzijn ook onze kas kunnen spijzen om deze doelstellingen te blijven behalen.

Graag jullie bijdrage voor eind februari op het gekende rekeningsnummer: IBAN BE86 9796 0951 3750, BIC: ARSBE22 op naam van KOR DIAMOND CHAPTER – Venneborglaan 90 – 2100 Deurne.

Het bestuur bedankt jullie alvast voor je blijvende ondersteuning van onze vereniging. Daarnaast wensen we onze nieuwe knights een hartelijk welkom en hopen hen nog vele malen te mogen begroeten op onze activiteiten.

Membership fee 2014

Dear brother Knights,

The membership fee for 2013 accounts to 45 EUR. Part of it will be transferred to HQ OKOR in Manila. Another part is destined to cover certain inevitable costs. Never-theless we succeed to sponsor at least 1 meritorious project. Besides the nice fellowship, our activities during the year are also producing profits in order to keep realizing these goals.

Please transfer your contribution to the well-known account no. IBAN BE86 9796 0951 3750, BIC: ARSBE22 in the name of KOR DIAMOND CHAPTER – Venneborglaan 90 – 2100 Deurne.

The board thanks you in advance for your continued support to our organization. Furthermore we wish our new Knights a warm welcome and we hope to be able to greet them many times at our activities.

11 YEARS FRIENDSHIP FOR THE PHILIPPINES

KNOKKE-HEIST – SEPTEMBER 29 – 2013



Sir Dominiek Segart

September 29, 2013 Friendship for the Philippines organised at their new location 't Verzet near the new swimming pool of Knokke-Heist Sportoase the 11th anniversary of the small NGO for raising yearly funds for their small educational and street youth project in and around Davao City in Davao del Sur, home place of Leah Segart-Gallego, spouse of president Friendship for the Philippines, Sir Dominiek Segart.

At around 12 noon started a sumptuous barbecue for around 300 participants. Among the twenty volunteers of Friendship for the Philippines were also our own brother knights Sir Dirk & Grace Vandeweghe, KOR and Sir Kristoff Mortier, KOR. They helped in the logistic part of the organisation and we are very grateful for their support. Among the participants were also our brother knights Sir Peter Van Bogaert, KGOR, Honorary Consul General, Sir Lucien Spittaël, KGOR, Sir Paul Verloof, KCR, Sir Geert Verhaegen, KCR, Sir Danny Vandenbogaerde, KOR, Sir Marc Helsen, KOR, Sir Kris Van Thillo, KCR, Sir Guy Waterloos, KOR, Sir Eric Borghijs, KOR, Sir André Heyse, KOR, Sir Willy Demeyere, KR, Sir André Froehlinger, KOR, together with their spouses. From other chapters we were very happy to welcome Sir Felino Paras, KGCR, Sir Mario Fajardo, KCR and Sir Guy Libeau, KOR.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

The cultural program was presented by the Pag Ibig Choir from Gent. The Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium was at the last moment excused due to illness. Her message was read by Mr. Zahruallah G. Masahud, Commercial Counsellor of the Philippine Embassy. Also present were Cultural Attaché, Mrs. Faith Bautista.



View of the participants

The project supports the street youth foundation Balay Pasilungan in Davao City currently under the direction of Father Long and also some elementary and high schools in Padada and area together with a small scholar ship program. More news about the project on www.vvfilippijnen.be

You are all kindly invited on the 12th anniversary and fundraising for Friendship for the Philippines on Sunday September 28, 2014 at 12.30 p.m. at Jeugdhuys 't Verzet, Duinenwater 45, Knokke-Heist. Please note the date in your agenda! Thanks for the support of KOR Diamond!



A few volunteers

The A Capella Manila Choir

Belgian Area Council

On Friday 21st June, this year, there was a performance of the A Capella Manila Choir at the St-Rémy church in Brussels. The proceeds of this event will be used by the Belgian Area Council for sponsoring projects in the Philippines.

The introduction was given by Sir Abeth Arevalo, KCR, Belgian Area Commander. Also present were Sir Lino Paras, KGCR, Special Advisor to the Supremo, Sir Rudy Nolas, KGOR, Regional Commander Europe and a large delegation of the Diamond Chapter, headed by Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, Diamond Chapter Commander.



Sir Abeth Arevalo



Other activities



Philippines Independence Day Brugge



Philippines Independence Day Brugge



Philippines Independence Day Brussels



Philippines Independence Day Brussels



Philippines Independence Day Brussels



Rizal birthday celebration



Rizal birthday celebration



Las Damas De Rizal - Induction Ceremony



Las Damas De Rizal - Induction Ceremony



Carleroi Chapter - Dubbing



Carleroi Chapter - Dubbing



Diamond Chapter - Rizal activity

NEW!

Exclusively available through:



The Order of the Knights of Rizal

Chartered by Republic Act no. 646

Diamond Chapter - Antwerp

In honor of Dr. Jose P. Rizal (1861-1896)

Selling Price: € 10,00

of which € 5,00 will go to Charity Projects in the Philippines.

Orders solely via e-mail: board@knightsofrizal.be

In Bohol, the people can be proud of their hills that look like chocolate and that attracts a lot of tourists.

Unfortunately it is only a look-alike and cannot be consumed.

During our BBQ in October, an edible and very tasteful chocolate Rizal medal has been successfully introduced. Exclusively developed and produced with the best Belgian chocolate, based on a concept of the Diamond Chapter.

Before eating, these unique pieces can be admired for a long while, especially in the luxury package, at room temperature. Orders can be accepted for the 3-piece box in the taste of your choice at 10 €, as well as individual cellophane wrapped pieces at 3.00 €/pce. Half of the price will be used for sponsoring.



4th Canada Regional Assembly Montreal on 31 August - 2 September 2013



Sir Peter Plückebaum and family, Sir Lucien Spittaël and Sir Reghis M. Romero II

Day 1, 31 August 2013

The 4th Canada Regional Assembly was held in Montreal on 31 August - 2 September 2013. Delegates from Canada, U.S.A. and Europe (Sir Peter Plückebaum, Bonn Chapter and Sir Lucien Spittaël, Diamond Chapter) joined the assembly at Hyatt Regency Hotel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Sir Reghis M. Romero II, KGCR, Supreme Commander, led the conference together with Canada Region Commander Sir George R. Poblete, KGCR and Deputy Supreme Pursuivant Sir Eddie Limon, KGOR. Host Commander was Sir Reynaldo C. Balansi, KCR, Deputy Area Commander of Montreal.



The Parade of Colors and the Knights and Ladies of the Knights of Rizal entered the Assembly Hall. (Sir Raymund Liongson, KGOR, (Hawaii), Sir Lucien Spittaël, KGOR (Belgium).

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Sir Winston Magno, MD, KGOR of USA Eastern Region talked about the life of Dr. Jose P. Rizal

In the afternoon the delegates were brought in a bus for a Montreal city town tour. We also visited the Rizal Park and Rizal statue in Montreal.



Supreme Commander and Sir Lucien at the Rizal monument



Some of the delegates at the Rizal monument

During the evening the delegates attended the 14th Commanders Ball and Entertainment Night.

Everybody enjoyed the evening with a full program and a lot of dance, dance, dance.

Day 2, 1 September 2013

Sir Salvador Cabugao, KCR, a former Honorary Consul in Montreal, spoke on "What individual Freedom Means to Me". He explained how Rizal's words and actions impact our day-to-day lives on the world around us.

Councilor Marvin Rotrand from Montreal spoke on "What were Dr. Rizal' ideas of attaining Freedom for One's Country".

Sir Eddie Limon, KGOR of the Supreme Council spoke on "Dr. Jose P. Rizal's Ideas about Freedom".

In the afternoon, Supreme Commander Sir Reghis M. Romero II, KGCR, delivered his "State Address to the Knights of Rizal", emphasizing on what a Knight of Rizal should do to keep the prestigious role of the Knights around the world.

The next speaker, Sir Judge Tom Rodriguez, KGOR, USA Region Commander spoke on "How can we preserve our Rights to Life, To Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness".

Then Sir Lucien Spittael, KGOR, was introduced by Sir George R. Poblete, KGCR. Sir Lucien talked about Rizal trips through Europe (Germany, France, Belgium and Czech Republic). His knowledge and presentation on Rizal was

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

admired by all.

Canada Region appreciated the varied topics presented by speakers from all over the world on Dr. Jose P. Rizal. The delegates were impressed and enlightened with the subjects presented by all the speakers.

Gala Night, 1 September 2013

Rizal Canada Region presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Sir Rey Balansi, KCR, as Host Commander of this Assembly.

Sir Reghis M. Romero II, KGCR, delivered a message to the Knights of Rizal and their guests.

Lady Eden Grace Balansi sang the National Anthem of Canada "O Canada" followed by some guest speakers and presentation of Awards/Plaques.

The USA national dancers from Cleveland entertained the guests, with their "Rigodon de Honor", a traditional dance performed by the royalties, dressed in their formal, beautiful and elegant evening gowns.



After the official program the evening ended with dance, dance, dance

Rigodon de honor

Day 3, 2 September 2013

After breakfast a meeting with the Supreme Commander took place followed by knighthood ceremonies Elevation/Exaltations.



Our fellow knight Kristoff Mortier, KOR, cleaned the Rizal marker in Gent.

Thanks Sir Kristoff!

NEW BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES

H.E. SIR ROLAND VAN REMOORTELE

By Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR

September 15, 2013, the new Belgian Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Roland Van Remoortele and his spouse Mrs. Sylvia Tay Swee Imm, arrived in Manila. H.E. Roland Van Remoortele is also an Honorary Knight Commander of Rizal of the KOR Diamond Chapter. He was already ambassador to the Philippines from 1998-2002. He is an interested Rizalist and was dubbed to KR and exalted to KCR in Manila. After four years Ambassador H.E. Christian Meerschman left for Belgium after four years in Manila. We thank him very sincerely for his work and representing our country the Kingdom of Belgium. In 2011 he became KR and was exalted to KCR at the KOR Headquarters in Manila.

Normally he would have been our special guest at our 14th chartering anniversary this coming Jan. 25, but due to unexpected family reasons he cannot make it. We sincerely hope to have them as our guests on a future event of KOR Diamond.



Ambassador H.E. Roland Van Remoortele was born in Oostende on Sep. 16, 1952 and during 1970-1974 he got a Master's Degree at the University of Gent.

In 1975 he became professor for the Government of Algeria. In 1979 he became consultant to the Belgian Ministry of Labour. In 1981 he joined the Belgian Foreign Service and took up posts in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), Singapore, Congo, China, Brussels, Philippines, Malaysia and very recently as Ambassador to Singapore and Brunei. He is Knight in the Order of the Crown and Officer in the Order of the Crown (Belgium), Commander in the Order of the Crown, Commander in the Order of Leopold (Belgium), Order of Sikatuna and Knight Commander Order of Rizal (Philippines).

Earlier, at the beginning of August, Ms. Véronique K. Muteba joined the Belgian Embassy in Manila. Ms. Muteba will be the new head of the Embassies' visa section. Ms. Muteba has also been working in several Belgian Embassies abroad before joining the Belgian Embassy in Manila: Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa), Turkey (Istanbul), Ukraine (Kiev) and India (New Delhi).

We sincerely wish Ambassador H.E. Roland Van Remoortele and also Ms. Véronique K. Mutebo, the new head of the visa section good luck in their new duties and responsibilities in representing our beloved country Belgium.

Sir Dominiek Segaert, KGOR

Past Area Commander KOR Belgium 2010-2012

Past Chapter Commander KOR Diamond Chapter 2008-2011

A Remembrance

on the Centenary of the Death of

Professor Ferdinand Blumentritt (1853-1913)

by

Sir Lucien Spittael KGOR

Ferdinand Blumentritt was Rizal's closest friend in Europe and one of those who influenced Rizal's thinking greatly.

Ferdinand Blumentritt was born in Prague on 10th September 1853 and died on 20th September 1913 in Leitmeritz, Bohemia, the Czech Republic. During Rizal's time in Europe, Bohemia was an integral part of Germanic Austria under the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

He obtained a degree in history and geography at the Charles University in Prague. At the age of 24, in 1877, he moved to Leitmeritz where he became a teacher at the secondary school and whose director he became from 1900-1910.



Ferdinand Blumentritt



The book Aritmética

On 31st July 1886 Rizal wrote his first letter (in German) to Blumentritt, from Heidelberg. He wrote he had been informed that Blumentritt was studying the Filipino language and that he had published some works on the subject already. Rizal enclosed a book written in Tagalog and Spanish. ('Aritmetica' by Rufino Balthazar Hernandez)

*It was the start of an extensive correspondence which lasted until Rizal's death and consists of at least 211 known letters, written mostly in German. Rizal wrote Blumentritt his last letter from Fort Santiago on 29th December 1896, the day before his execution. He wrote: **"My dear brother, when you receive this letter, I shall be dead. Tomorrow at seven I shall be shot; but I am innocent of the crime of rebellion. I am going to die with a clear conscience. Goodbye, my best and dear friend, and never think ill of me. Regards to the whole family, Sra. Rosa, Loleng, Conrad and Fredrick. I leave you a book as remembrance."** (Letter 29th December 1896)*

Blumentritt was a member of many scientific organizations. In addition, the Spanish government honoured him by making him a Knight of Queen Isabelle the Catholic.

Blumentritt was a self-taught expert on the Philippines. He wrote his first essay on the country in 1879 and also published more than 200 articles relating to the islands. He was probably the first historian of the Philippines who really studied and analysed the country, its language, culture and cus-

(Continued on page 16)

toms, instead of simply copying other's texts.

In his letters Rizal addressed Blumentritt with: "Mein Bruder" (my brother). (see at the end)

From their letters we learn that Rizal and Blumentritt respected each other greatly. They corresponded on many different subjects: the situation in the Philippines, the friars, the Philippine language, religion and many others.

Blumentritt encouraged Rizal and when the latter published his '**Noli**' Blumentritt wrote the following: "**Your work, as we Germans say, has been written with the blood of the heart, and so the heart also speaks . . . your work has exceeded my hopes . . .**" (Letter 27th March 1887)

Rizal asked Blumentritt to write a preface to his annotated edition of Morga's '**Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas**' (1890) (History of the Philippine Islands) and for his '**El Filibusterismo**' (1891).

After Rizal had published his '**Noli**' in Berlin aided by Maximo Viola, he visited Ferdinand the first and only time these great friends acted on 13th May and left Leitmeritz again on 17th wanted to visit Blumentritt again but never do so. Rizal invited Blumentritt to the Philippines but he never managed to make that trip either. On the day of his departure, Rizal made a gift to his great friend of a sketch of Blumentritt. A few days after their departure Blumentritt wrote: "**I am at heart a Leitmeritzian, just as you yourself are a Filipino.**" (Letter 19th May 1887)



Sketch of Blumentritt

(1887) and accompanied Blumentritt. This was the first time they met. They arrived in May 1887. Rizal had the opportunity to see the sketch he had made of Blumentritt. Rizal wrote to Blumentritt: "**you yourself are a Filipino.**"

*** Malayischer Besuch in Leitmeritz. In diesen Tagen langten zum Besuche des Prof. Blumentritt zwei Herren von den Philippinen, Dr. José Rizal und Maximo Viola, an. Beide gehören zu dem tagalischen Zweige der malayischen Rasse und dürften wol die ersten ihres Stammes sein, die die deutsche Hauptstadt besucht haben.**

Publication of the visit in a local paper

The visit of the two Filipino friends must have been viewed as being very special as the local Leitmeritz newspaper wrote about their visit and mentioned that they were probably the first of the Malayan race to have visited the town.

Ferdinand Blumentritt was of significant assistance to Rizal in making professional and scientific contacts in Europe. These included the eminent scientists Rudolf Virchow, Fedor Jagor, Dr. A.B. Meyer and Dr. Reinhold Rost.

He also acted as Rizal's scholarly advisor and advised him which books he should consider reading and make translations of. Rizal did translations of Wilhelm Tell, Waitz-Gerland's Anthropologie der Naturvölker and five fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen. Blumentritt also advised him not to return to the Philippines in 1887 and again in 1891, as it was too dangerous, which was ignored by Rizal who answered that life for him was impossible in Europe and that dying was better than living in misery. (Letter 19th June 1887)

Blumentritt wrote many articles for '*La Solidaridad*', the Filipino Diaspora magazine published in Madrid, to defend the Filipino cause. This was not appreciated by the Spanish authorities. Rizal warned Blumentritt several times to withdraw from the battlefield as it could harm him and his family. Blumentritt, in his turn, also ignored Rizal's advice.

In 1889 Rizal proposed an international association of Philipinologists during the World Exposition in Paris. Blumentritt was to be the president. The French authorities limited the number of conferences and Rizal's project failed.

After Rizal's execution, amongst several eminent Filipinos who visited Ferdinand Blumentritt in Leitmeritz were Felipe Agoncillo and Juan Luna.

When news reached the Philippines about the death of Rizal's great friend, Ferdinand Blumentritt, a period of national mourning began in a manner normally only bestowed on statesmen and other eminent persons of the country. All important Filipino newspapers announced the death or wrote an obituary on Blumentritt.

The Philippines also honoured Blumentritt in many ways for his efforts on behalf of the country. In Manila there is a Blumentritt street, a railway station, an LRT station, a jeepney route, a bank, a mosque, and several shops named after him. All over the islands you can also find other Blumentritt streets.



Blumentritt street in Manila

me with a gift of his own construction of the family tree which goes back to the 16th century.

During my many visits, to my friend the grandson of Ferdinand Blumentritt, I have had the opportunity to have long talks with Ernst Blumentritt (102 years old this year!) (photo8) From him I learned much of the Blumentritt family story and he also presented



Ernst Blumentritt & Sir Lucien Spittael

La muerte de Ferdinand Blumentritt

Ocurrió en Leitmeritz, Austria, el 20 del actual.
El primer despacho.-Cablegrama confirmatorio de la viuda.-Duelo general.

"Ha muerto el 20 del actual, en su pueblo natal, Leitmeritz, Austria, Ferdinand Blumentritt;" esta es la noticia, fría y láconica, que el cable, bastante atrasado esta vez, nos ha comunicado. El primero en recibir noticia de esta terrible desgracia fué el Sr. García, gerente y propietario de "Manila Filatélica," quien ha tenido la atención, que mucho le agradecemos, de darnos cuenta de ella.

Al acto, esta cívica empresa filipina se apresuró a circular esquelas mortuorias, como testimonio de homenaje a aquel gran hombre a quien tantas cosas buenas debe nuestra Patria, que era la suya adoptiva.

La fatal nueva nos ha producido tan hondo dolor y nos ha sorprendido de tal manera, que preferimos reservar para mañana nuestro artículo necrológico a hilvanar hoy, en medio del natural azoramiento de última hora, una biografía incompleta y con muchas lagunas.

Bástenos decir, por ahora, que Blumentritt fué el mejor amigo que en toda Europa tuvieron los filipinos y, por eso, fué también el defensor más inteligente y más sincero de nuestra causa.

Esta mañana, antes de que el Sr. García recibiese la plena confirmación de la noticia, habíamos oído en ciertos círculos rumores sobre la muerte de Blumentritt. Investigamos inmediatamente la certeza de los mismos. Un representante de EL INDI se apersonó en la oficina del cable y allí se supo que el Sr. Remigio García, que es empleado de la empresa, al oír esos rumores, se apresuró a enviar un despacho a Leitmeritz, dirigido a la viuda, pidiendo informes concretos. Después de algunas horas, el Sr. García recibía la constatación de la Sra. de Blumentritt, confirmatoria de la fatal noticia.

Nuestro más profundo pésame a la familia.

Death announcement of Blumentritt in Filipino

In the following pictures Ernst Blumentritt is shown at his grandfather's tomb and at the Blumentritt Park in Leitmeritz.



Sources:-

The Rizal-Blumentritt Correspondence

Nationalism and friendship: the Rizal-Blumentritt Correspondence

Der Revolutionär von Leitmeritz, Ferdinand Blumentritt und der philippinischen Freiheitskampf

38 Rue Philippe de Champagne.
Brüssel den 17ten April 1890

Mein Bruder!

Soeben habe ich Dein ausserordentlich
wichtiges Buch, las Razas del Archipiélago Filipino, empfangen,
und habe es gleich durchblättert; mir scheint es dass es vom ungemeinen
Nutzen den Philippinologen sein wird, mir besonders denn ich widme
ich jetzt eifrig zu den Studien von Allem was dem Extreme Orient
bezieht. Ich habe hier eine Anzahl von Büchern eingekauft über
Sitten, Geschichten u. s. w. Wenn Du willst so schreibe mir doch damit
ich die Bände verschicken kann. Ich habe Blasden's Geschichte
von Sumatra, Pages Reise um die Welt, Dumont d'Urville's Voyage
autour du Monde, Bougainville's id., Heimberg's Voyage
en Afrique et en Asie (deux et Japon), Thompson's Malacca, Indo China,
Malabarische Kunitz etc. und noch 16 Bände zu gross k"
Histoire de Voyages jingna 1760. Es ist darin viel über die Philippinen
geschrieben. Ich habe auch Rienzi's Malaisie (L'Univers) China
von Pauthier und die Japans Gesandtschaften an die Kaiserin
von Japan. Ich lerne holländisch, und durchbühle die Bücher
haben und meine Sammlung zu vervollständigen. Ich schreibe
schon nach Holland um das neue Werk von Kern zu bekommen.

Ich hoffe das gleich das Geld kommen wird ~~wäre~~ wir
unserer Gesellschaft ein Aufschwung geben können. Oh das Geld!

Wenn Du noch einige Exemplare Morga's willst, so schreibe
mir doch; Du brauchst nicht davon zu kaufen.

Pages, der unter den Indiern, das heisst, mit den Tagalen lange
gewohnt hat, giebt schöne Bemerkungen über Sitten die die Spanier
nicht begreifen könnten.

Dr Kern's Aeusserung, dass der Ursprung Malayischen

Letter from J. Rizal to F. Blumentritt who he addresses as 'Mein Bruder' (my brother)

Invitation



ASIA festival & fair 2014

En culturele, sociale en toeristische ontmoeting met het Oosten

De Benelux informatie & contacteurs rond Azië bij uistek! Met officiële delegaties, sociaal-culturele verenigingen & organisaties rond ontwikkelings samenwerking, Kunst & cultuur. Artisanale producten en Aziatische eetstandjes. Toeristische diensten, luchtvaartmaatschappijen en touroperators. Aan info-standen adviseren Aziëkenners over bestemmingen. Conferenties over economische, politieke & sociale onderwerpen (m.m.v. EIAS en India Platform). Toeristische presentaties. Workshops Indische dans, Taiko drums, Japanse theeceremonie en Tibetaanse Yoga. Kookdemonstraties en -lessen. Optredens van Japanse Taiko drummers, Filipijnse en Bollywood-dansers. Mongoolse Kasjmir modeshow & muziekgroep. Fototentoonstellingen.

Une rencontre culturelle, sociale et touristique avec l'Orient

La foire de contact et d'information par excellence sur l'Asie dans le Benelux! Avec des délégations officielles, des associations socio-culturelles & des organisations pour la coopération au développement. Art & culture. Produits artisanaux & la gastronomie d'Asie. Des offices de tourisme, des compagnies aériennes et des tour-opérateurs. Des stands où des voyageurs expérimentés informent les visiteurs. Des conférences sur des sujets économiques, politiques et sociaux (en collaboration avec EIAS et India Platform). Présentations touristiques. Workshops danses indiennes, tambours Taiko, cérémonie du thé et yoga tibétain. Démonstrations et cours de cuisine. Des performances de tambours Taiko, danseurs Bollywood et philippins. Présentation de vêtements de cachemire de Mongolie et groupe musical mongole. Expositions de photos.

A cultural, social and touristic encounter with the Orient

The information & contact fair on Asia by excellence in the Benelux! With: Official delegations, socio-cultural associations & organisations for development cooperation; art & culture; handicrafts & gastronomy of Asia; tourism boards, airlines and tour-operators. Information stands with experienced travellers. Conferences on economic, political and social subjects (partnership with EIAS and India Platform). Touristic presentations. Workshops on Indian dance, Taiko drums, tea-ceremony and Tibetan yoga. Cooking demonstrations & lessons. Performances by Taiko drummers, Bollywood dancers and Philippine dancers. Mongolian Kashmir fashion show & Mongolian music band. Photo exhibitions.

ASIA festival & fair 2014 15-2 (11:00-19:00) & 16-2 (10:00-18:00)

• INFO: www.belasia.be • E-mail: belasia@telenet.be •

Tickets: € 6 • kinderen/enfants/children < 16 gratis/gratuit/free

Korting bon beschikbaar • Bon de réduction disponible • Discount voucher available

Centrum - centre De Zandloper - Kaasmarkt 75, 1780 Wemmel (Ring Brussel/Bruxelles/Brussels - exit 8 & 9)

Openbaar vervoer - transport en commun - public transport: www.delijn.be

Official partner: EIAS - European Institute for Asian Studies • www.eias.org

verantwoordelijke

CALENDAR

- ♦ *Saturday 25th January 2014: 14th Chartering Anniversary Diamond Chapter in “De Watermeulen”, Kruiseke*
- ♦ *Sunday 6th April 2014: Rizal Activity in 'De Schuur', Broekdam Noord, Kruiseke*
- ♦ *Thursday 19th June 2014: Birthday Celebration Jose Rizal - Philippines Embassy Brussels*
- ♦ *Sunday 28th September: Friendship for the Philippines - Jeugdhuis 't Verzet, Duinenwater 45, Knokke-Heist*
- ♦ *Tuesday 30th December: Commemoration of Rizal's Death Anniversary*

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Our next Newsletter will be published in February 2014.

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 - board@knightsofrizal.be

*Sir Paul VERLOO, KCR – ☎ 03 5424411
CHAPTER COMMANDER 2011-2013 — DEPUTY AREA COMMANDER BELGIUM 2012-2014*

*Sir Dominiek SEGAERT, KGOR - ☎ 050 601320 – Mob. 0479 691 865
PAST AREA COMMANDER BELGIUM 2010-2012 — PAST CHAPTER COMMANDER 2008-2011*

*Sir Peter VAN BOGAERT, KGOR – ☎ 03 3257116
ADVISOR – TRUSTEE*

*Sir Tony GUANSING, KGOR – ☎ 03 2191491
TRUSTEE – PAST REGIONAL COMMANDER FOR EUROPE (2008-2012), LIFE TIME MEMBER*

*Sir Kris VAN THILLO, KCR – ☎ 03 6664385
CO-SECRETARY – PAST CHAPTER COMMANDER*

*Sir Roy DE MOL, KCR – ☎ 03 5419482
EXCHEQUER – DEPUTY COMMANDER*

*Sir Rik VAN TIGGEL, KCR – Mob. 0475 763663
DEPUTY COMMANDER*

*Sir Ronny FELIX, KCR – ☎ 03 252 77 81 - Mob. 0473 491 482
ARCHIVIST - LAYOUT & CO-EDITOR NEWSLETTER*

*Sir Danny VANDENBOGAERDE, KCR - Mob. 0478 420 404
CHANCELLOR*

*Sir Kristoff Mortier, KOR – Mob. 0486929628
Webmaster
webmaster@knightsofrizal.be*

THE MEMBERS

MEMBERS (UPDATE SINCE Jan. 2011)

Sir Lucien Spittaet, KGOR

Sir Frank VAN OVERLOOP, KOR

Sir Marc WOUTERS, KR

Sir Gert MEEUWSEN, KOR

Sir Hugo SPEELMANS, KOR

Sir Sylvain HERREMANS, KOR

Sir Joseph SNEYAERT, KOR

Sir Guy WATERLOOS, KOR

Sir Marc HELSEN, KOR

Sir Martin HEMELAER, KOR

Sir Julien Kusé, KR

Sir Willy De Meyere, KR

Sir Albert BIJLOOS, KOR

Sir André FROEHLINGER, KR

Sir Daniël ARKESTEYN, KR

Sir Pros SLACHMUYLDERS, KGOR, Chartering Commander (Hon. Member)

Sir Francois Ooms, KGOR

Sir Dirk VANDEWEGHE, KOR

Sir Geert VERHAEGEN, KCR

Sir Kris Ortmanns, KCR, Former Chapter Commander

Sir Frankie VERCAMMEN, KOR

Sir Eric BORGHUIS, KOR

Sir François VERRIJT, KR

Sir Willy Hermans, KOR

Sir Andre Heyse, KOR

Sir Peter De Bruyne, KOR

Sir Luc Raes, KR

Sir Peter Uhrig, KR

Sir Joeri VERTONGEN, KR

Sir Christian VANDERZEYPEN, KR

Sir Serge Vandenesse, KR

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 Grégoire VARDAKIS, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Fr. BAGO, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Fr. Paul ZWAENEPOEL, KCR, (Hon. Member)

Sir Thomas ROMAN (Hon. Member)

Sir Alain RENS, KCR (Hon. Member)