



Newsletter Knights of RIZAL



Issue 41

Volume 8

February 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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- **Memberships**
- **Chartering Annioversary**
- **Dr Rizal's death commemoration**
- **Presidential award for Sir Dominiek Segaert**
- **Special stamp for the 125th commemoration of the El Fili publication in Gent**
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Knights of Rizal - Diamond Chapter - 2014

Introduction

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

Dear friends of our organization,

A new year and a new beginning!

I hope that 2015 will be a prosperous year for all our knights and their families.

A new beginning also for the Diamond Chapter. After Sir Paul Verloo led the Chapter for 4 years, Sir Ronny Felix took over the Commandership during the 15th Anniversary Celebration of our Chapter in 'De Watermeulen' in Kruibeke.

During my inauguration speech, I mentioned that I would like to give more responsibility to our members in the functioning of our Chapter. Standing still for our Chapter results in weakening. We will therefore evaluate the current working of our Chapter. For this purpose, we will send out an evaluation list to all our members in which they can also fill in their own ideas and aspirations for improving our Chapter. We will consolidate and discuss the results in our first board meeting on Friday 13th March.

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And, if needed, we will take further steps to discuss certain topics more in detail with all of the members involved.

Of course we will not be able to make eventual changes overnight. But as my predecessors gave the first steps, like Sir Dominiek for giving the start of a newsletter and website and by further improving the website with Sir Paul, we want to improve the communication with the members.

The coming year, we also will have to prepare for next year's celebrations like the 125th year that Jose Rizal's second novel *Il Filibusterismo* was first published in Gent. For this purpose I count on the participation of many of our members in order to make this a memorable event. Also for this purpose, Sir Dominiek Segaert is preparing a special Rizal stamp.

In April this year, we will have our yearly bbq in 'De Schuur' in Kruibeke. During this occasion and with the help of our members, we will explain the results of our Chapter evaluation. Also we will have a small presentation of the international meeting of the KOR in Vigan, Philippines which was attended by a few of our members.

I hope to welcome all of you during the coming Independence Day and Rizal celebrations. For your information, the Diamond Chapter is co-host of the Philippines Independence Day celebrations and next year we will be the main host.

And of course we expect a lot of input from you by means of articles, suggestions, announcements, etc.

Thank you again for your continued contribution to the good working of our Chapter!

Non Omnis Moriar

Sir Ronny Felix, KCR

Chapter Commander 2015-2016

Distinguished Service Medal

Diamond Chapter - Antwerp

Board 2015

Sir Ronny Felix, KCR, Chapter Commander 2015 = 2016

Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, Past Chapter Commander

Sir Tony Guansing, KGOR, Trustee, Past Regional Commander for Europe

Sir Dominiek Segaert, 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 Danny Vandenbogaerde, KCR, Chancellor

Membership!!!

Lidmaatschap 2015

Beste vrienden Knights,

Het lidgeld voor 2015 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 spijsen 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.

Membership fee 2015

Dear brother Knights,

The membership fee for 2015 accounts to 45 EUR. Part of it will be transferred to HQ OKOR in Manila. Another part is destined to cover certain inevitable costs. Nevertheless 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.

Chapter Chartering Anniversary 2015

Last January 24th, our Diamond Chapter celebrated its 15th anniversary in 'De Watermeulen' in Kruibeke.

We were honoured that we could welcome Her Excellency Victoria Bataclan, Ambassador for the Philippines in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Unfortunately, Sir Cesar 'Bhoy' Alcoba, KGOR, our Regional Commander for Europe, was excused because of illness. But we could welcome Sir Mario Fajardo, KGOR, Belgian Area Commander and Sir Lino Paras, KGCR, Special Advisor to the Supreme Council. We could also welcome Lady Jane Mushake, President & over-all coordinator of the Kababaihang Rizalista Europe.

From the Diamond Chapter, Sir Dominiek Segaeert, KGOR, was excused because of another activity. And all our active members were present.



After the official ceremony and the transfer of Commandership from Sir Paul Verloo, KCR, to Ronny Felix, KCR, we could again enjoy the sumptuous buffet, offered by Marc Van Raem-



donck of the Watermeulen.

After the dinner, a number of our knights and ladies participated in a play that showed the last hours of Jose Rizal. Thank you Sir Lucien Spitael for launching the idea for the play and for adjusting it to our occasion!



Also a lot of kudos to Lady Marisa Van Thillo Insay who took the role as director of the whole operation with a fantastic result! Also thanks to

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Sir Kris Van Thillo for arranging the attributes for the play.

And of course thanks to all the actors who contributed each of them for a wonderful performance!

And, as you will see on the pictures, there was still time for bonding and dancing!



The logistics team

Pictures of the play



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Commemoration of Dr Jose Rizal's death anniversary

On the occasion of this commemoration, hosted by the Philippine Embassy in Brussels, quite some KOR and ladies of our counterpart organisations were gathered, in spite of the early hour in the afternoon.

The official program started with the Philippine National Anthem, followed by the Belgian National Anthem.

Following the national anthems, the Knights of Rizal Hymn was sung.

After the pledge to the Flag, the invocation took place, after which the Area Commander for Belgium gave some welcome remarks.

Then, the different participating organisations laid flowers to the buste of the national hero.

As Her Excellency Ambassador Victoria Bataclan was

not present, the vice-consul Ralph Abarquel, addressed his word to the people present.



Magalie Segart

The official part was a first time paused for a poem brought by Misses Magalie Segart, the daughter of Sir Dominiek Segart, recent awardee by the Philippine President Benigno Aquino himself.

Following the nicely brought poem, all chapter commanders, then representatives for our counterpart organizations, former area commanders and former regional commanders brought their messages.

The official part was for a second time paused by the daughter of Sir Abeth Arrevalo, KCR, former Area Commander for Belgium, who brought us part of the poem "Mi Ultimo Adios".

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Last but not least, we had the fraternal message from our regional commander for Europe, Sir Cesar "Bhoy" Alcoba, KGOR.

After this ceremonial part, pictures were taken, during an extended photo session and after that everybody was invited to have some drinks and some food, all provided by the different participating organisations.

The official part was then concluded by the Rizalian Pledge, the fraternal Sign and by singing all together "Pilipinas Kong Mahal"

As usual, it was a nice occasion to greet our fellow knights and ladies, devoted to Dr José Rizal, the principal Philippine hero and to bring honor to Him and his heroic deeds.

Non omnis moriar - Hindi lahat sa akin ay papanaw - Not everything in me will die.

Presidential award for Sir Dominiek Segaert

Last December 5th, our own Sir Dominiek received a presidential award for his continuous passion with his organization 'Friendship for the Philippines' in improving the life of street children and supporting educational projects around Davao, Philippines.

Because of professional occupations, Sir Dominiek could not be present but his award was received by His Excellency Roland Van Remoortele, Belgian Ambassador in the Philippines.

Following is the profile like it is mentioned in the Souvenir book.

DOMINIEK SEGAERT

Belgium

A recipient of the 2012 Knight of the Crown of the Kingdom of Belgium conferred by the King of Belgium; A Knight Grand Officer of the Knights of Rizal and President of his Friendship for the Philippines (FFTP) foundation, Mr. Dominiek Segaert is without feigning an "Ambassador of Goodwill".



The awardees with His Excellency Roland Van Remoortele (7th of last row)

His ability to easily fulfill the role of an outstanding leader commands respect, loyalty and support of colleagues and friends to readily assist him in his initiated projects for Filipino people. Traced from here is his not only being married to her Filipina better half, Ms. Leah Gallego of Davao, but his love for the Philippines. Their yearly visit from Belgium to the Philippines since they got married on 1998 made him realize of something for the improve-

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ment of the quality of education in Davao. As a Belgian educator, said field caught his attention that started his deep commitment and involvement in the areas of Davao City and Davao del Sur since 2002. Case in point was when he volunteered for a year as a teacher in one of the schools in Padada, Davao del Sur.

Mr. Segart's motivational skill to support his projects for the students and street children keeps his partners from Belgium for years in supporting his cause for the Filipino people. With their assistance to his foundation, FFTP, triumphant fundraising activities were organized for the benefit of granting scholarship programs to less-privileged students; provision and renovation of school facilities; book-donation; and funds for the street children. For 12 years, FFTP spent almost Euros 80,000 (Php4, 731,336.00) for their programs and services. He personally checked the assistance extended to the school beneficiaries during their yearly visit as he is much inclined at monitoring the impact to the students. Indeed, a very much focused to the welfare of his beneficiaries. Undeniably, his sincere efforts made him known thoroughly by the locals of Davao City and Davao del Sur.

When super typhoon Yolanda's wrath to the Southern part of the Philippines shocked the world on 2013, to no surprise, his love for the victims brought 10,000 Euros when he persistently convinced the City Mayor and Councilors of the City of Knokke-Heist in Belgium to donate.

Involvement with promoting Philippine tourism is also another serious business of Mr. Segart for the Philippines. He usually takes advantage to flaunt the beauty of the Philippines and the hospitality of Filipinos in every gathering and forum in Belgium. He also writes articles about tourism in the Philippines. His enthusiasm to the advancement of Philippine culture and tourism contributed to the perception of Belgians about the Philippines. Evidently, his continuous partnership with Belgian organizations and government with FFTP is a show off of his exertions.

For the beneficiaries whom he is used to extending his helping hand, Mr. Segart is really an exemplar of bringing difference to the lives of less-privileged and neglected ones that goes beyond borders.

A video of the event can be seen on Youtube with following link: <http://www.dwdd.com.ph/2014/12/2014-presidential-awards-for-filipino-individuals-and-organizations-overseas/>

Sir Dominiek's award is shown at around 20 min 50 seconds.

by Sir Dominiek Segart, KGOR

Dear brother knights

In 2016 we will commemorate the 125th year of publication of the El Fili, the Rizal masterpiece, published in Gent, Belgium. Together with some brother knights I have expressed the idea of publishing a commemorative Rizal post stamp in 2016 around the date of Sep. 18 or, if this would be impossible, on Rizal Day Dec. 30, 2016. With the assistance and help / support of brother knights Sir Dirk Vandeweghe, KOR, his friend and designer Mr. Rick Driesen, Sir Cesar "Bhoy" Alcoba, our Regional Commander KOR Europe, Sir Lucien Spittaël, KGOR, Sir Felino Paras, KGCR, Sir Mario Fajardo, KGOR, our Area Commander KOR Belgium and our current Chapter Commander Sir Ronny Felix, KCR, it will be the intention to publish the stamp not only in Belgium by BPost (or a private initiative in case BPost does not want to take the proposal in their publishing program 2016) but also in the Philippines. It would be a great achievement, a milestone in the history of the Knights of Rizal in Belgium but also in the Philippines and even worldwide. Some adjustments on the design will still be made but let us already enjoy the dream! Soon a working committee will be formed if we have green light from the Philippine Postal Corporation. They are interested in the publication. We keep you informed and possible during our April 11 meeting and barbecue at De Schuur in Kruibeke, we will give you an update of this project.



To be continued!

Rizal Spring Activity 11th April 2014

In De Schuur, Broekdam-Noord,
Kruibeke

Program

- ❖ 4.30 pm: presentation of the Vigan meeting results
- ❖ 6 pm: bbq
- ❖ 7.30 pm: presentation of the Chapter evaluation results
- ❖ Tombola

Tickets & reservation

Please make timely reservations with one of the board members but surely before 31st March 2015. We prefer bank transfer ot 979-6095137-50 of Diamond Chapter, Deurne but payment at entrance can also be accepted.

Adults: € 22.00 6-12 years: € 12.00 < 6 years: free

Beverage at democratic prices.

You are welcome as from 4 pm

Invitation



On Sunday Sep. 27, 2015 from 12.30 noon you are all cordially invited for the yearly barbecue to support the 13th anniversary of the small NGO Friendship for the Philippines (a street youth and educational project in and around Davao City by Sir Dominiek & Leah Segaert-Gallego). Participation is 18 EURO. Venue: Zaal 't Verzet at Duinenwater near Sportoase and Lakeside Paradise in Knokke-Heist. More news on www.vvfilippijnen.be or contact dominiek.segaert@skynet.be

CALENDAR

- ♦ *Friday 13th March: Board meeting*
 - ♦ *Saturday 11th April: Rizal spring activity - De Schuur - Kruibeke*
 - ♦ *June 14th: Philippines Independence Day Celebration*
 - ♦ *June 19th: 154th birthday of Jose Rizal - Philippines Embassy*
 - ♦ *Sunday September 27th: 13th Anniversary Friendship for the Philippines*
 - ♦ *October or November: Autumn activity 'De Schuur' Kruibeke*
 - ♦ *Sunday 16th November: Winterbbq Cadaatan - Kortemark*
 - ♦ *Wednesday 30th December: Commemoration of Rizal's Death Anniversary*
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NEXT NEWSLETTER

Our next Newsletter will be published in April 2015. 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 Ronny FELIX, KCR – ☎ 03 252 77 81 – Mob. 0473 491 482
CHAPTER COMMANDER 2015-2016

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

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. 2014)

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

Sir Lucien Spittaet, KGOR

Sir Frank VAN OVERLOOP, KOR

Sir Frankie VERCAMMEN, KOR

Sir Gert MEEUWSEN, KOR

Sir Marc WOUTERS, KR

Sir Sylvain HERREMANS, KOR

Sir Joseph SNEYAERT, KOR

Sir Marc HELSEN, KOR

Sir Julien Kusé, KOR

Sir Martin HEMELAER, KOR

Sir Willy De Meyere, KR

Sir Eddy Verheye, KR

Sir Daniël ARKESTEYN, KR

Sir Dirk VANDEWEGHE, KOR

Sir Geert VERHAEGEN, KCR

Sir Guy WATERLOOS, KCR

Sir Peter De Bruyne, KOR

Sir Eric BORCHIJS, KOR

Sir Luc Raes, KR

Sir Willy Hermans, KOR

Sir Andre Heyse, KOR

Sir Peter Uhrig, KR

Sir Joeri VERTONGEN, KR

Sir Marinus Eijke, KR

Sir Wolfgang Nieman, 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 Fr. BAGO, KCR (Hon. Member)

Sir Grégoire VARDAKIS, KCR (Hon. Member)

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

Sir Thomas ROMAN (Hon. Member)

Sir Alain RENS, KCR (Hon. Member)