



Newsletter Knights of RIZAL



Issue 43

Volume 8

September 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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- **June Independence Celebrations**
- **Rizal's Birthday Celebration**
- **Visit Rizal Family member to Belgium**
- **Den Haag (NL) Chapter**
- **Trip to Zeeland (NL)**
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Knights of Rizal - Diamond Chapter - 2015

Introduction

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

Dear friends of our organization,

Again summer in Belgium is almost finished as well as the summer vacations! But this also means that we will resume our activities within the order.

Looking back at the past months, we had a lot of celebrations in June and we even continued in July with a trip to Zeeland. Hopefully everyone has uploaded their batteries and has new energy for the next period!

As our Chapter will be the host for next year's Independence Celebrations, we will need a lot of preparatory work. And also we will celebrate the 125th year of the publication of Il Fili in Gent. We will prepare a detailed program for this in the coming months. In the near future we will need the help of a lot of volunteers for these preparations.

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Of course there are still the upcoming activities like our yearly autumn activity in 'De Schuur'.

So enjoy this issue of our newsletter and I hope to see you all very soon!

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

Pictures of PIC festivities June 2015



Rizal's Birthday Anniversary - June 19

On June 19 the Knights of Rizal celebrated the birthday of Jose Rizal in the Philippine Embassy.

The audience was welcomed by H.E. Victoria Bataclan. During her speech, she mentioned the newly published book from Emmanuel Franco Calairo about our brother Knight Sir Lucien Spittael. Sir Lucien donated a copy of the book to the Ambassador.

Amongst the invitees was also Mrs Maria Lourdes (Malou) Villaroman and her daughter Maria Beatriz (Bea) who recited in a beautiful way a poem of Jose Rizal. Mrs Lourdes is the great-grandniece of Dr Jose Rizal and the great-granddaughter of Rizal's oldest sister Saturnina Rizal-Hidalgo.



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Visit of a Rizal family member to Belgium.

Diamond Chapter had the honor to be visited by Mrs. Maria Villaroman (great-grandniece of Dr. Jose Rizal) accompanied by her daughter Beatriz.

Sir Lucien hosted them and brought them to Rizalian places in Brussel and Gent. They also visited the Holy Blood Chapel and made a boat trip in Brugge. Mrs. Villaroman already visited Sir Lucien some years ago and she brought the Spittaels to Calamba and Taal Volcano and other Rizalian places during his visit to the Philippines in



2013. The Rizal family graciously hosted the Spittaels in Manila for two months.

After a courtesy call to Ambassador Victoria S. Bataclan, Mrs. Villaroman and her daughter attended the commemoration Rizal's 154th Birthday at the Embassy. Mrs. Villaroman gave an address to the attendees and her daughter presented a poem of Dr. Jose Rizal. (a tribute to my town).

Sir Lucien officially launched and donated the book: "Belgian Rizalist, Sir Lucien and his rediscovery of the foremost Philippine National Hero" during the KOR program.

On Saturday 20 June Sir Lucien brought them to Heidelberg/Wilhelmsfeld where they visited the Rizalian places and markers. They were invited by Dr. Fritz Hack-Ullmer (great-grandchild of Pastor Ullmer) for a dinner.



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On 21 June they attended the commemoration Rizal's 154th Birthday at the Rizal park in Wilhelmsfeld. The book "Belgian Rizalist" was launched in Wilhelmsfeld and a copy was donated to H.E. Melita S. Sta. Maria Tomeczek, Ambassador to Germany and Mayor Zellner of Wilhelmsfeld.

After the KOR program Mrs. Villaroman and Mrs. Madeline Spittael accompanied the Ambassador to the town of Speyer where they attended a program of a Philippine choir. Sir Lucien went to Dr. Fritz Hack and discussed a special project about Rizal's novel "El Filibusterismo" for 2016.

The next day Mrs. Villaroman and her daughter went to Switzerland and Sir Lucien and Madeline drove back to Belgium.



Chapter Knights of Rizal Chapter established in The Hague, The Netherlands

On June 26, 2015 the Den Hague Chapter was re-established at the residence of H.E Jaime Victor Ledda, ambassador to the Netherlands.

At the same time two new Knights were dubbed by Sir Peter Plückebaum, KGOR from The Supreme Council, Manila assisted by Sir Lucien Spittaël, KGOR and Sir Francois Ooms, KGOR.

Sir Lucien gave a "Rizal in Europe" lecture and officially donated the book: "The Belgian Rizalist, Sir Lucien Spittaël and his rediscovery of the foremost Philippine National Hero".

Ambassador Jaime Victor Ledda, Sir Peter Plückebaum and Sir Anton Lutter officially launched the "Sentro Rizal" collection.

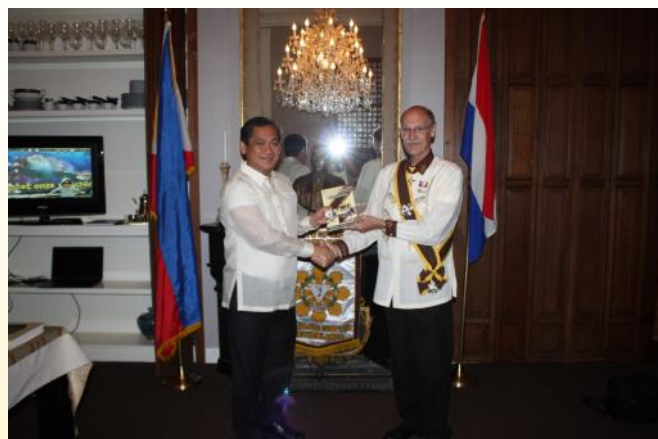


Members The Hague Chapter: L-R: H.E Jaime Ledda, Sir Olaf baron van Boetzelaer, Sir Honorary Consul-Generaal Eppo Horlings, Sir Anton Lutter, Sir Steef Klarenbeek, Sir Bob Juchter van Bergen Quast

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**L-R: H.E. Jaime Ledda,
Sir Francois Ooms, Sir
Peter Plückebaum, Sir
Anton Lutter**



**Sir Lucien donated a
copy of the book to
H.E Jaime Victor Ledda**



**L-R: New dubbed Knights with Ladies: Sir Olaf baron van Boetzelaer and Sir Bob Juchter van Bergen
Quast**



**Members of Den Haag Chapter with Sir Peter Plückebaum and members of the Diamond
Chapter.**

Trip to Zeeland



On July 21st, the Diamond Chapter held its first informal activity. The destination was Zeeland, Netherlands. Although it was initially the intention to have also a fishing trip, we had to cancel this because of lack of 'sailors'. However there were enough captains on the shore in order to make this a successful first gathering. About 30 knights and their spouses came to Kattendijke. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather and whilst some were enjoying the nice company, others also collected oysters and creases.



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Rizal Autumn Activity 31st October 2015

In De Schuur, Broekdam-Noord,
Kruibeke

Program

- ❖ 5 pm Presentation 'The Unknown Rizal'
- ❖ 6 pm: bbq
- ❖ 7.30 pm: Bonding & Tombola

Tickets & reservation

Please make timely reservations with one of the board members but surely before 17th October 2015. We prefer bank transfer at 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 4.30 pm



The Unknown Rizal

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

Decisions from last board meeting in September

Following items were discussed in our last board meeting.

- 1. A Rizal stamp will be published by the Belgian and Philippine post offices. The design will be finalized in the coming weeks. The stamp will be ready around January 2017.*
- 2. A project team will be formed out of the members in order to prepare the 125th anniversary of the publication of the Il Fili.*
- 3. Reminder for BBQ Friendship of the Philippines on 27th September*
- 4. Preparations are made for the Rizal Autumn Activity on the 31st October.*
- 5. We have managed to obtain a much better price for the dinner of our next Chartering Anniversary.*
- 6. Philippine Independence Day: the Diamond Chapter is assigned as host for the celebration. We will need the help of our members to make this event a success. People interested to be part of the team can contact the chapter commander or board.*
- 7. We are looking for new members of the order.*
- 8. Our sponsoring last year went to the Welcome Home Foundation in the Philippines (children with disability, especially deaf children). This year our sponsoring will go to Friendship of the Philippines, the organization, run by a.o. Sir Dominiek, for helping street children. For next year we have not defined a project yet.*
- 9. The information about the projection of Philippine movies of Lav Diaz and Lino Brocka was already communicated. The projections are mainly in Brussels but in October also in Antwerp.*

CALENDAR

- ♦ *Sunday September 27th: 13th Anniversary Friendship for the Philippines*
- ♦ *Saturday 31st October : Autumn activity 'De Schuur' Kruibeke*
- ♦ *Sunday 16th November: Winterbbq Cadaatan - Kortemark*
- ♦ *Wednesday 30th December: Commemoration of Rizal's Death Anniversary*
- ♦ *January 2016: 16th Chartering Anniversary, De Watermeulen, Kruibeke*

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Our next Newsletter will be published in November 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 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 Verheyse, KR

Sir Daniël ARKESTEYN, KR

Sir Dirk VANDEWEGHE, KOR

Sir Geert VERHAEGEN, KCR

Sir Guy WATERLOOS, KCR

Sir Peter De Bruyne, KOR

Sir Eric BORGHUIS, 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 Thomas ROMAN (Hon. Member)

Sir Grégoire VARDAKIS, KCR (Hon. Member)

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

Sir Alain RENS, KCR (Hon. Member)