

TO THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL CAPTAINS - URUGUAY APRIL 2018

Dear Brothers,

March 2018

The Brotherhood of the Coast is an international organization and its global position and prestige depends to a large extent on our own effective cooperation. This depends very much on our ability to communicate quickly and precisely with each other.

At the moment our main medium of communication is The Tortuga Post newsletter. It is a very useful medium, but in my opinion insufficient because:

- works with a long delay; appears only once a quarter,
- works essentially only up-and-down and *vice versa*, vertically, between SECOIN and countries. Urgent or current matters can be handled only by individual mails addressed to specific people.

I observe the lack of a common forum for all the Brothers in the world, which would make possible direct and immediate contact between all of them. A convenient medium of communication that operates horizontally, between brothers and BOC's of other countries – not necessarily engaging and bothering SECOIN. We once had the "Yahoo Group" giving a generally accessible forum for the Brotherhood. Alas, it was discontinued because of Yahoo behaviour. Replacements do not work as required. Who of Brothers in the world knows about <http://www.brotherofthecoast.org> site on the internet and uses it? It was not mentioned in TTP for years. Neither <http://www.secoin.org> is active in a proper way and does not fulfill the task. But such a working general forum is vital and necessary for the international Brotherhood. Let us arrange and use one!

The second postulate from Poland also concerns action on the world wide web. That was already placed by Poland on the agenda of the CNC in Buenos Aires in 2006. It has been forgotten or neglected – anyway, not implemented. That is about creating an online Gallery – The List From Past – "Eternal Musterrole" - BOC Crew List - or any other appropriate name. That should list all of our late Brothers from the whole world sailing on the Oceans of Eternity – since foundation of Hermandad.

That worldwide Gallery should include: photograph, name and surname, 'nome de guerre', date of birth and death, the table where he was from, directions to the place of burial - and a brief note about him written by his close Brother (acquainted, family member).. We always solemnly, ritually and readily declare that we will remember him forever. Alas, only few of us, who were close, are at least able to do that.

For others, the reality is quite different. In most cases we forget them almost instantly. But how to remember since we often do not know a thing about Him and we do not have any possibility to learn? Such missing information belongs to an inevitably fading history of Hermandad de la Costa! Such gallery should be an expression of our real Memory of Our Late Honorable Brothers. And mind you - further postponement will ensure that soon, nobody will be available who could reminisce and publish anything about deceased... I realize that my project is a long shot, hard to do, tedious and difficult, but are we not obliged?

With fraternal greetings

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Jerzy Knabe #2
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National Captain POLAND