

Mori Family International Newsletter

#9, September 2016

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Mori Family International celebrates its 22nd. Annual Meeting in 2016

Mori Family International celebrated its #22 Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 4th, 2016. This was held in the Rotary Club of Yauco starting passed 11:00 in the morning and lasting until 5:30 in the evening. The Meeting began with the opening speech given by the presenter Angel (Tony) Mori followed by a welcome speech given by the Chairman of the Board, Bienvenido Caraballo Mori.

A novelty of this meeting was the presentation by Eva Mori of the descendants of Francisco Ignacio Mori Romani identifying them according of their descent from an offspring of the Patriarch. Also, a minute of silence was observed for the recently deceased relatives. The Invocation was in charge of Rev. José A. Cedeño, Yauco-born and resident of the SJ Metro Area, with historical links to the Mori Family.

The proposed amendments to the Regulations were handed out at the meeting to be discussed at a future amendments meeting. Also, congratulation messages sent by family relatives in Hawaii and the continental U.S. were shared with everyone in attendance.

Before lunch break, we enjoyed the presentation by the group *Juventud Boricua* ("Boricua Youth"), who delighted everyone and displayed various typical instruments of Boricua music and their voices, giving life to a wide selection of our musical repertoire belonging to the Puerto Rican folklore. Among the musical group members was a grandson of Andrés Mori Caraballo, member of our Board of Directors. The youngster was given a Mori Family International polo-shirt that he wore after the groups' presentation.

The day's activities continued with the Dedication of the 22th Meeting to the Children and Youth Founders read by Eva Mori in the act with the assembly as a witness. Adult representatives of children and youth came forward and a symbolic act of generational transfer was made.

These were the words read by Eva Mori in this occasion:

"Today we celebrate 22 years of uninterrupted meetings... On occasions we had dedicated the Annual Meetings, to the elders, the widows, the children, to the coffee, to Monserrate Mori and family and to Margarita Moris, among others.

Today's meeting, on September 4th 2016, is dedicated to the youth and children founders of this Organization or that joined thereafter. They are now young adults, maybe with small children or college kids.

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These young people are those that will take the reins of this Organization inviting all of the descendants of Ignacio Mori, 'el corso' (the Corsican), to acquire a general knowledge of the origin of his last name, of the Patriarch Mori, and how this organization was formed. We deliver these children and youth the responsibility that our generation cultivated with pride, determination, effort, satisfaction and great results.

Throughout the next year these young people will participate in workshops that will be offered in order to prepare them for the leadership positions that they will take up as part of the generational transfer”.

Plans for 2017 include preparing young people for the generational transfer: invite them to meetings and activities, assign tasks and hold preparatory workshops on the organization. In the final part of the activity, Onelio Caraballo Torres was recognized as an honorary member as recommended by the Board of Directors and accepted by the Assembly.

The day’s activities ended with the musical presentation of ‘Zayas y su Trova’ that gave way to a very enjoyable dance. There was also a raffle for 24 CDs.

According to the Registry, 92 people attended the activities of which 17 were children. We thank the various committees who work hard for the success of this activity. To them, particularly to Lito Velázquez, who coordinated the committees, our heartfelt thanks.

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Annual Report of the Board of Directors

It was the intention of the Board of Directors - and thus appears on the agenda of the meeting – to make a report of the activities emanating from the Annual Work Plan as part of the annual meetings of Mori Family International. This time, however, the report prepared by the President and the various committees could not be submitted for reasons of time and logistics in the meeting. We do now in this special bulletin dedicated to this 22nd. Annual Meeting.

During 2016, the Board of Directors has been composed of:

President: Bienvenido Caraballo Mori

Vice President: Angel A. Mori Rodriguez Tony

Secretary: Andy Rodriguez Mori

Treasurer: Andrés Mori Caraballo

Historian and Communicator: Roberto Mori Gonzalez

Directors: Eva Mori Galarza, Harry Irizarry Mori, Livia R. Mori Ortiz-Kelly and Nancy Pacheco Mori

To carry out the Work Plan for 2016, several committees were formed: Editorial and Communications Committee, Visiting Committee, Finance Committee and Activities Committee. For the purpose of this meeting, several temporary committees were also formed: Credential and Registration Fees, Organizing Committee and Committee of Ushers and Support Staff.

Regarding the Work Plan, 5 objectives were established for this year:

1. Growth
2. Communication
3. Finance
4. Corporate Legal Status
5. Regulatory Situation

In relation to these 5 objectives, many activities and goals were proposed and these are now analyzed in terms of compliance and strengths and limitations.

Work Plan 2016:**First Objective: Growth**

Objectives / Activities

- 1-Increase the number of members of our organization
- 2-Getting more members to participate in the Annual Meeting.
- 3-Plan for visits to the homes of the Mori Family who are not attending.
- 4-Holding Board meetings in homes of members of the Family.
- 5-Celebrate Summer Activity in Aguas Blancas.
- 6-Celebrate the Annual Octavitas Activity.
- 7-Mori pilot meetings by geographical areas. Three areas were created: North-East, South-West and the Metro Area

Goals

- 1-Bring 100 more new members to the organization.
- 2-That 150 members attend the 2016 meeting.
- 3-Visits to 10 households per month.
- 4 That entire Board be part of the visits.
- 5-At least 100 people were present on 7/24/2016. It was a success despite the rain.
- 6-The goal is to have 100 people on January 8, 2017.
- 7-We have identified the villages where Mori families live. We have the postal and email addresses. We still need to get phones numbers.

Strengths and Limitations

- 1) Loss of membership for different reasons: 1 Movers, 2-deceases, 3-sicknesses and 4- lack of interest. We should worry about the last one because of the message the younger generation receives. This also has a direct effect on the economic situation and finances of our organization the regulatory fee is not paid. Those who do not attend meetings, do not pay the annual fee. There are few cases who pay although they cannot come. We encourage you to participate even if they can not afford! You may pay the fee later! We know that you will help us!
- 2) the Board, looking at the minutes of previous years, points out the low attendance at the Annual Meeting. That is worrying. We must participate in the activities!
- 3) You already saw the excitement in the pictures presented of the activity celebrated this past Summer. We fulfilled our goal. The food and desserts were fantastic. Many wondered where the Octavitas activity will take place.
- 4) The Pilot Plan has not been carried out as expected. However, we found much interest in the people with whom we has spoken. We must start at least with one or two households per area. We need to encourage them with more activities and visits.
- 5) We have visited homes. It is not easy because not everyone may afford to spend the time necessary for such visits. We have visited some families with those that had the time (mostly retirees). We are greeted with joy and enthusiasm.

Second Objective: Communication

Objectives / Activities

- 1-improve communication.

- 2-Establish a regular means of communication.
- 3-Update addresses database.
- 4-Establish an official website of the Mori Family International.

Goals

- 1-Achieving communication with members and non-members every month.
- 2-Publish a monthly newsletter.
- 3-Make a directory of members.
- 4-We have a website: <http://familia-mori-internacional.com>

Strengths and limitations:

- 1) The Board of Directors has established regular communication with members and other descendants of the Mori Patriarch.
- 2) We can say that the newsletter is currently being institutionalized. Many members look forward to the new bulleting month after month. There is an English version. Thank you Lisa! The addresses have been updated. Many are still missing. This is an ongoing process and request your help. There is a newsletter subscription form. Prepare Directory with permission.
- 3) Since we published our webpage, a lot of information, pictures and videos are available to the family members. Beyond Forsa Corsa, organization is the only or one of the few of Corsican descent that have modern webpage.
- 4) We want to involve young people in this task. They dominate the technology and even the younger ones. It is an effective tool for communication with everyone. We want your help with Bulletin! Please write about their aspirations and how they can strengthen our Organization.

Third Objective: Finance

Objectives / Activities

- 1-To strengthen the finances of our organization.
- 2-Create permanent records of all our members.
- 3-Open checking account and change firms in the cooperative.
- 4-Printed or online form for joining the organization according to the regulations.

Goals

- 1-Receive payment of the annual fee on time.
- 2-Update financial records and of members.
- 3-After several delays we have for the first time a checking account.
- 4-Quote readiness for Family Tree

Strengths and weaknesses

- 1-We need to strengthen our finances. We know that we will achieve this with your cooperation. When we read the minutes of past years we may see the ongoing concern of the Board.
- 2-We can not rely only on some sales activities. The fee of \$ 20 per year is very low. If all we set a goal to pay the membership fee and we attract new members this will strengthen our finances.
- 3-We exhort members to redouble our commitment to our organization. The young men and women to whom this meeting is dedicated will give continuity to the work of the Mori Family International organization.

- The analysis of income and expenditures for this year will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

Fourth Objective: Legal Status of the Corporation

Objective: Address the legal status of the Mori Family International Corporation.

Goal: Reinstate our Organization as a legal corporation.

Minimum chronology:

- 1) The organization was recognized as legal corporation on September 9, 1997.
- 2) On 14 February 2015, the Department of State by written notification indicated that for the years 2008 to 2012, the Corporation had not complied with the filing of reports.
- 3) On April 14, 2014 the Registry of the International Family Mori Corporation was cancelled for not submitting the information requested. We need to reinstate our Organization as a legal corporation.

Important note: After the meeting and the preparation of this report, the State Department certified the organization after a petition was filed. Here you can see a copy of the certificate of registry. More information in the next newsletter and www.familia-mori-internacional.com/documentos.

Fifth Objective: To amend the regulations.

Objective: To update the regulatory status of our organization.

Goal: Convene an Amendments Extraordinary Assembly.

- 1) When the regulation was adopted in 1996, it was incomplete and we need to update it.
- 2) The Board created a committee of Amendments on June 7, 2015.
- 3) The Committee submitted a report to the Board in Nov. 2015.
- 4) The report is available for our members to receive it today. So we fulfill the requirement to run amendments to discuss them. You may also submit your own amendments.
- 5) The Board will continue to evaluate any proposals and next year, it shall convene the Assembly.

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