

Fellow Club Cruceros members,

During my years as your treasurer, I have tried to be completely open and transparent giving you complete financial statements on a monthly basis. Counting and accounting for funds and preparing these statements required significant effort especially when people charged with managing club events chose to not follow the rules or my direction which made it easier for them and much harder for me. I have given up time with my family and husband to do all that I could do to fulfill my duties as your treasurer. I am very proud that during my tenure not 1 peso of club funds entrusted to me were ever unaccounted for. When it became apparent that Bill and I differed in our approach to the bylaws I made some attempts to adapt however when I became aware of funds that should have been turned over to me hadn't, I requested them on the weekend and I was told I couldn't have them until the following Friday. Why because he didn't have the money? I know he had been given the funds. When Bill was given advanced funds I was at times given receipts for expenses and was told he would hold the extra money for the club instead of returning it to the treasury. All these things were not in compliance with the bylaws and certainly not evidence of being a good steward of the club's assets.

Now that the financial review has been completed and we are aware of a significant sum of money missing from the club treasury, it has become apparent that all last year's board members have overlooked many of the situations that should have been confronted. For an example, I am personally aware of a time in February Bill took donation money from the person collecting the funds and when told the money hadn't been counted yet he said it was okay he would count it. That money did not appear in the next financial statement, it only appeared after he was confronted about it.

I will only say that at best Bill has not shown that he was a good steward and has not met the expectation of our club to protect us from this sort of malfeasance, at worst I leave to your own opinion.

The news that in just six months Commodore Bill Holbrook squandered away significant amounts of the Club's treasury, apparently with the tacit neglect of the Board, fills me with deep sorrow, almost uncontrollable anger, and severe disappointment. I resigned the first of November 2018 because Bill refused to comply with the rules set forth in the Club by-laws which made a difficult job untenable. I made it clear to the board why I was resigning and that they would have to be vigilant.

I challenge the membership to demand the current Board to take definite action to right this horrible wrong and to ensure there is never a reoccurrence.

Sandra V. Elterich

May 21, 2018