



THE LECTOR

A Newsletter from Al Khor Toastmaster

Vol. 3 Issue 3 June 2005

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Fellow Toastmasters,

For the Excom and me the year 2004 -2005 is ending with a sense of pride and satisfaction of varied accomplishments. We started the year with a mission of “**A NEW MEMBER, A NEW IDEA**” as part of our drive to induct new members, it was successful and we inducted 12 new faces into our club.



The Excom is very proud to have been part of the AKTM team in conducting Club, Area and Division level contests very successfully. Taking lead and conducting such events gave us tremendous satisfaction and experience.

Most heartening was AKTM members winning in club level, area level and representing in Division level contests in DTAC 2005 in Amman, Jordan. **TM Amar Jha**, **MTM Aney Mathew**, **TM Atul Srivastava**, and **TM Mantha Srinivas** contribution towards this is praiseworthy. **MTM Aney Mathew** represented Division E, for Table Topics in Amman, for DTAC 2005. AKTM is proud of you all.

This year is significant in having achieved the “**Select Distinguished club**” award from TMI, a Falcon Award of “**Most Improved Club-2005**” and proud to have another award in the individual category “**Toastmaster of the Year 2005**” to **CTM Sundaresan S** for his significant contribution in managing and maintaining, Al Khor Gavel Club.

Year 2005 is memorable for the re-release of our newsletter “LECTOR”. With innovative ideas and in a remarkable way, **TM Mathew Jacob** gave new life and brought it back on to its wheels.

I had all the support from the excom members, club members and guidance from Area and Division levels officials whatever we did.

Our initiatives of introducing suitable awards, improvements in Gavel Club functioning etc are accepted and appreciated by one and all.

I sincerely thank you all for the support and guidance given to me and may excom members through out the year 2004-2005, and we wish all the best for incoming new excom.

B. Krishnakumar
President

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www.alkhortoastmasters.com

**REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS : 6:45PM, 2nd & 4th Mondays,
SIMAISMA HALL, AI WAHA CLUB**



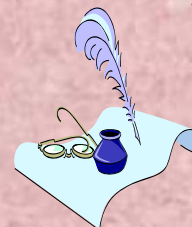
THE LECTOR – Your window to Toastmasters

We have come to the end of another term on the Toastmasters' calendar. The thought that comes to my mind as I pen these words, is the incredible capacity that lies dormant in each of us, which we are unaware of, most of the time. Toastmasters certainly offers a platform for most of us to bring out some of our hidden talents.

Looking back, we can definitely say that those who showed a commitment and put in some effort, have certainly gained in some aspect and hence benefited from Toastmasters in the past year. Most members have improved their speaking skills and some have honed their leadership skills; but what I achieved was a recognition in my ability to bring out this newsletter. Our newsletter was in a state of dormancy and it was a challenge to revive it. I had no past experience or knowledge, on how to go about it. Yet, a commitment was made and to keep that commitment, I put in all my efforts to bring out an interesting newsletter. I am happy that I took up the challenge; it has taught me a new skill and has shown once again that we do not have to be afraid of stepping into unknown territory.

I am satisfied with what I've achieved with the three issues that have been brought out, considering my limited experience. Each issue was an improvement in design and layout over the previous one. I am also quite aware there is plenty of scope for improvement, especially with regard to the educational value of the contents, as a Toastmasters magazine. This aspect can be improved with more positive contribution from our members.

This is the last issue which I will bring out as the editor. I hope you've enjoyed reading it as much as I enjoyed bring it to you. Now let me hand over the writing quill to TM Mantha Srinivas who will take up the editorship for the year 2005-2006. Let us all contribute towards the success of this newsletter for the coming years.



Mathew Jacob

COMPETENT LEADERS AND COMPETENT TOASTMASTERS

As one of our Toastmaster said “Life is a series of Targets”. In Toastmasters too we have targets like CTM, CL, ATM, AL and DTM. Some of our fellow toastmasters achieved the first level recently in their journey towards excellence in public speaking and leadership. These achievements helped our club to win the Select Distinguished Club status. TMs **Krishnakumar, Amarnath Jha, Sundaresan Subramaniam** and **Kalyan Sundaram** achieved the goal of becoming Competent Toastmaster, while **CTM Faisal Aboobaker.** achieved Competent Leader status. **CTM Amar Jha** has completed his CL objective; we are hence assured that our club is being led by a competent leader.

SELECT DISTINGUISH CLUB

Al Khor Toastmasters has once again achieved the status of Select Distinguish Club. Being a young club with almost all members fresh in the Toastmasters movement this is indeed a great achievement. Now the club has got eight competent Toastmasters and three competent Leaders. Soon our club will achieve the status of Presidents Distinguished club.



Fellow Toastmasters,

It has been my pleasure to be part of the last year's EXCOM and working together with you to achieve the status of "*Selected Distinguished Club*" under Toastmaster International Distinguished Club Program and to receive the award of "*The Most Improved Club*" in Qatar under the Divisional Falcon Award program.

It is a matter of pride and honor to take over the office of *President* of such an elite and vibrant club of Qatar. This bestows upon me a sense of great responsibility, to lead a team of highly talented toastmasters.

With your support and commitment, it will be my endeavor to carry forward the success story of the Club along the following dimensions:

Provide resources and support for continuous improvement in the quality of speech delivered by the club members.

- Improving the quality of the club meetings to give best value for time for the attendees. This would include starting a new series of lecture called "*Distinguished Chair of Speakers*", whereby I plan to invite eminent professionals to deliver motivational speech during the meetings.
- In the coming year we target to have 4 Competent Toastmasters (CTM), 2 Competent Leaders (CL) and at least one Advanced Toastmaster (ATM).
- We would strive to achieve the status of "*President's Distinguished Club*" recognition under TI program.
- Starting the "New Member Orientation" and "Mentoring" program is quite high in my agenda.

May I call upon all the club members to invite your friends and colleagues to join this prestigious club - toastmaster's movement and "*Reaching Beyond*".

Amarnath Jha
President Elect 2005-2006
Al Khor Toastmasters

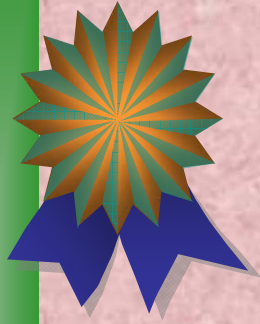


Dear Fellow Al Khorians,

- *I rose to the post of Area-18 Governor from the post of Sergeant-At-Arms at our club three years back with your support. If I can do it, each one of you can do it. It is very simple. Just maintain the perseverance with the toastmasters' mission. Try to attend each club meeting actively. Remember, Al Khorians are on the rise!*
- Al Khor toastmasters Club (AKTM) provides one of the best-equipped venues and platforms for public speaking and leadership. This is the reason that our club has been requested to host many of the contests at Area and Divisional Level in the past. We have to maintain this prestigious tradition and provide the best exposures to our members and the Al Khor Community.
- I want to congratulate AKTM for achieving Select Distinguished Club status for the second consecutive year (2003-2004 and 2004-2005). I am sure 2005-2006 will decorate AKTM with President's Distinguished Club status. All the best!
- Area-18 which consists of AKTM, QTM (Qatar Toastmasters), (ITM) Ideal Toastmasters, MTM (Megchiani One Toastmasters) and PTM (Professional Toastmasters) has an ambitious plan for the term 2005-2006 which includes helping Qatar Division maintain its President's Distinguished Division status, conducting free and fair Area Contest around March 2006, enhancing the qualitative and quantitative standards in educational and leadership achievements and being open to all innovative ideas. For this, I urge all of you to please provide your valuable support in whatever forms you can do.
- Area-18 EXCOM consists of myself and a line-up of seasoned toastmasters such as **Sudhir Pandra** (Asst Governor-Education & Training from QTM), **Krishna Kumar** (Asst Governor-Marketing from AKTM), **Joseph M.V.** (Secretary from ITM) and **Abid Hussain** (Treasurer from PTM). Please invite them to your club's events and share your experiences with them.
- Area-18 and AKTM, in particular, have got unstinted support and visionary leadership from outgoing Area-18 Governor **Shoaib Kasem**. We all have to work hard to maintain his legacy and guidance.
- I once again thank AKTM for posing confidence in me and being instrumental in giving me an opportunity to serve from a higher platform. Please count me in during all your activities. I will provide you all the support I can. You can rely upon me as your best friend and approach me whenever you need me.

Atul Srivastava

Area 18 Governor Elect 2005-2006



WINNERS 2005



CONTESTS

CLUB CONTEST WINNERS

Prepared Speech Contest

Winner: **Atul Srivastava**

Runner Up: **Sunderesan Subramanian**

Second Runner Up: **Amarnath Jha**

Table Topics Contest:

Winner: **Aney Mathew**

Runner Up: **Koshy Sam**

Second Runner Up: **Geraldine Banon**

Evaluation Contest

Winner: **Amarnath Jha**

Runner Up: **Atul Srivastava**

Second Runner Up: **Faisal Abubacker**

Humorous Speech Contest:

Winner: **Atul Srivastava**

Runner Up: **Mantha Srinivas**

Second Runner Up: **Krishna Kumar**

AREA 18 AKTM WINNERS

Table Topics Contest:

Winner: **Aney Mathew**

Evaluation Contest

Winner: **Amarnath Jha**

Prepared Speech Contest

Runner Up: **Atul Srivastava**

Humorous Speech Contest:

Runner Up: **Atul Srivastava**

2nd Runner Up: **Mantha Srinivas**

DIVISION E AKTM WINNER

Table Topics Contest

Winner **Aney Mathew**

AL KHOR TOASTMASTERS HOSTS DIVISION CONTEST

Al Khor Toastmasters once again hosted the Annual Division Contest. This year as Qatar clubs by themselves formed the division, the conference was given an acronym QTAC 2005- Qatar Toastmasters Annual Contest. Division Governor Vicky Mustafa opened the event. TM Ruth Beals a lecturer at the VCU University in Qatar was the master of ceremony. Qatargas sponsored this year's annual conference. Hamad Al Baker, COO-Administration Qatargas was the chief guest of the contest.

The contests were well conducted. It must be said that the quality of the speeches and their delivery has improved tremendously over the past years. The speakers have definitely been showing greater potential and the competitions have been stronger. The benefits of the Toastasters programme are definitely showing.



Winners at QTAC 2005 with Hamad Al Baker and Office Bearers

An additional significance of the event was the Falcon Awards instituted by Qatargas. The day ended with an exquisite dinner accompanied by soft piano music with the lovely ambience around the swimming pool.

QATARGAS INSTITUTES FALCON AWARD

QTAC 2005, the annual toastmasters conference held an additional significance as special awards designated the 'Falcon Awards' were instituted by **Qatargas** in order to recognise outstanding performers among all the Toastmasters in Qatar. These awards included rolling trophies for the '**Best Toastmasters Club**' and '**Most Improved Club**'. Individual trophies were given for '**Best Toastmaster of the year**', '**Best Leader of the Year**', **Best Newsletter** and '**Best Website**'.



Falcon Rolling Trophies



Falcon Individual Awards- 2005

Al Khor Toastmasters received four nominations, Most Improved Club, Best Toastmaster, Best Newsletter and Best Website. Our club received the Falcon awards for **Most Improved Club** and **CTM Sundaresan Subramanian** was selected the **Best Toastmaster of the Year**

Other winners of Falcon Awards were

Best Club	Doha Toastmasters,
Best Leader	ATM Shoaib Kasem
Best Newsletter	Eloquence, Doha Toastmasters
Best Website	ICC – One Toastmasters



An Experience to Cherish..

The DTAC 2005 was a great experience in more ways than one. Just observing and listening to some of the best speakers from the different Divisions was more than just an inspiration or motivation – it was a very educative experience.

As for having been able to take part in the event, along with so many eminent speakers – it was certainly an honour. It was while actually taking part and competing against such worthy opponents, that the full impact of the achievement actually hit me. While I am glad that I had the privilege of representing our Division and hence our club, I also realize that there is plenty to be learnt and so much more to be achieved, both at individual levels and club level. I would encourage all our members to attend conferences at such levels, if possible.

As for the organizers of the DTAC, it must be said that our Jordanian hosts were not merely efficient and friendly, their graciousness and warm hospitality could be felt everywhere. They completely won over their guests with their genuine cordiality and courtesy. This benevolence of spirit was in fact evident not merely at the conference, but through our entire sightseeing trip even after the conference.



Toastmasters from Qatar at DTAC 2005

Last but not the least, I would like to thank the generosity of Al Khor Toastmasters for sponsoring my trip to Jordan. Let me be honest here, even in the midst of some of the finest clubs in the District, I was proud to be representing our club – the Al Khor Toastmasters. May our spirit of mutual encouragement and support, continue in the years to come.

In conclusion let me wish each of our Toastmasters greater success this year and look forward to seeing a greater representation of our Club and hence our Division at the District level.

Aney Mathew

Toastmasters _ History at a Glance

- 1929 – First Toastmasters Club founded by Ralph C Smedley.
in Santa Ana California
- 1930 – The name Toastmasters International adopted.
- 1935 – First Club outside USA in British Columbia Canada.
- 1935 – Club No. 100 chartered.
- 1964 – First Toastmaster club in the gulf & middle east.
Manama Toastmasters, Bahrain
- 1973 – Membership opens to women.
- 1993 – Membership charter 8000th club.
- 1996– First Toastmasters Club in Qatar formed.
Doha Toastmasters.
- 1997 – Second Toastmaster Club in Qatar formed
Qatar Toastmasters
- 2002 – Third Toastmaster club in Qatar formed. Al Khor
Toastmasters (AKTM) with Mathew Jacob as president
AKTM launches website.
AKTM release its first newsletter **“The Lector”**
- 2004 – TI membership Charter 10,000th club and more than
200,000 members in 90 countries..
- 2004 – AKTM becomes Select Distinguished Club
AKTM launches the Al Khor Gavel Club.
- 2004 – Our District – District 79 wins the top award being the
No. 1 District in the world.
- 2005 – AKTM wins Falcon Award. Most improved Club in Qatar.
AKTM member CTM Sundaresan Subramaniam wins the
Falcon Award “ Best Toastmaster of the Year”.
AKTM member MTM Aney Mathew wins the
Division Contestin Table Topic Session.
AKTM wins Select Distinguished Club.
AKTM member CL Atul Srivastava elected
Area 18 Governor.

Al Khor Gavel Club

Highlights:

- The new EXCOM has been installed for this Year and is active now in arranging meetings and is ready with several ideas. To add a feather in Gavel club's cap, 3 members represented us at the Qatar Open Youth Public Speaking Championship and succeeded in reaching the second round.
- 'Gavel Club' day was conducted after some good planning by the EXCOM, on 6th May 2005 with more events during regular meetings. Some Parents responded to the meeting and even voluntarily involved themselves in the Table Topic session thus competing with the members. Last year the 'Best Speaker' of every meeting was given a gift as a token of appreciation and to motivate other members.
- To focus on the evaluation area – the Coordinator along with the help of 4 senior Toastmasters arranged one education module called 'Evaluate the Evaluator' on 6th May 2005. This helped members to display their skills while evaluating another members with a positive note and to suggest improvements in some areas.
- Parents of members met both the Coordinators and volunteered to form a 'Committee' to facilitate the activities of Club cheerfully.
- We have planned to conduct meetings in the months of July & August to encourage the new members to complete their P1 and P2, with the help of available Toastmasters in Al Khor Community.

The Gavel Club members take this opportunity to thank all Al Khor Toastmasters for extending their valuable experience by attending our meetings and guiding our members.

And to end with a Chinese proverb.

'Be not afraid of going slowly, be afraid of standing still'.

AL KHOR GAVEL CLUB EXCOM

2005-2006 OFFICE BEARERS



Amarnath Jha, President

'REACHING BEYOND' is our slogan.



Sarma Nemani, VP- Education

My goal is to help achieve the "Presidents Distinguished Club" status.



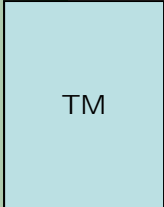
Mantha Srinivas VP- Public Relations & Editor, Lector

Will enhance AKTM's image through media and "The Lector".



Ummerkutty – VP Membership

Will aggressively pursue to make the forum more international and thus bring in "Unity in Diversity".



TM

Moshsen Akhlasmand, Secretary



Sheikh Mohammed Aslam, Treasurer



Ganga Dekka, Sergeant@arms

Will ensure that the rooms are well arranged to ensure all meetings follow the timing schedule.



Krishna Kumar, Past President

Will support the new committee in all aspects and continue working on my mission "A new member – A new idea".

OUR SPONSORS

