



PINNACLE

Volume 4, Issue 1

July 2013

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE
www.toastmasters.org

The official newsletter of Active Minds Toastmasters Club
Club-2446, Area-62, Division-I, District-20

NEW
MEMBERS

CLUB

AREA

DIVISION

DISTRICT

BRANDED!



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Club Mission

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

President's Retrospective of 2012-2013

Thank You!

When I joined Active Minds Toastmasters Club four years ago, I made my solemn pledge to serve as an officer when called upon to do so. I have come a long way after that. A year later, I was called to serve as Vice President for Membership and in 2011 as Vice President for Education. At about the same time last year, the call to serve as President beckoned.

As Club President of a ten year old, established club with very diverse and active members, I knew that the tasks at hand were challenging, overwhelming and enormous. My mentors reminded me of my role: I was going to be the chief executive officer, managing director, cheerleader and coach. With clear goals, adequate experience as an officer and with the support of my mentors, it was easy for me to create and work on my tag line: 'Achieving Our Goals Together'. I have lived by this mantra for the last year and shared them with the Executive Committee officers and with the most important element of the club – the members.

In retrospect, the past year has been a fulfilling experience. Modesty aside, we have been steadfast in our goals. At the end of my term, I have to sincerely extend my words of gratitude to our members, EXECOM Officers, Division I and District 20 leaders for helping the club achieve its goals.



Thank you. Bai Dankie. Shukran. Salamat. Merci beaucoup. Muchas Gracias. Shukriya. Danke! Thank you to our leaders, especially Reuben D'Lima, Arlene Pinho, Colleen Lopez, Mohammed Hussein Mohammed, Shinan Meethal, Biji Gittens, Dana Winner, Hussein Abdel Al Monem and Emy Badiang. Thank you for 13 Educational Awards, the most educational awards for any club in the Division (see Club Achievements page). Active Minds was then recognized by the LGET with the 'Club High Achiever Award'.

So after 21 new members and earning three membership building awards in the process, I would like to say thank you to our members. We earned three (maximum possible) membership ribbons from Toastmasters International - The Talk Up Toastmasters, Smedley and the Beat the Clock Awards. After posting a membership base of 42, The Lt. Governor for Marketing (LGM) recognized us with the LGM Super Club Award.

President's Retrospective of 2012-2013

Thank you to our members and leaders whose joint effort, hard work and team work led to the club being a 'Select Distinguished Club' for the second year in a row, scoring 8 points in the Distinguished Club Program. Thank you to the EXCOM Officers for achieving the goal of posting 6 points before December 31, 2012 in the Distinguished Club Program. LGET recognized this achievement with the 'Club DRP Achiever' award.

Thank you to the four Competent Communicators - Biji Gittens, Dana Winner, Hussien Abdel Al Monem and Raymond Hernandez for completing your awards before December 31, 2012. LGET recognized this achievement with the 'Club Fast Track Communicator' Award.

Thank you to the Club Officers for conscientiously attending the Two training and workshops – earning the club the SUPER COT CLUB Award from the District Lt. Governor for Education and Training.

Thank you to the super photographer and creative talent of Rodel Cuaton, whose photo and creative idea earned accolades from Toastmasters International and was chosen as the winner of the 'Show Off Your Brand' Contest for April 2013. Chosen from more than 13,500 clubs across more than 130 countries is a prestigious honor. Thank you to Arlene Pinho, the Editor of our newsletter, PINNACLE. It was chosen as one of the best newsletters in the District and was recognized by the District 20 Leaders. The newsletter was awarded the 'Captivating Communiqué' plaque, besting more than 280 clubs in 7 countries.

Thank you to TM Dana Winner, whose hard work and writing prowess was recognized during the District Toastmasters Annual Conference in Dubai. Her article in the Arab Times last January 2013 was recognized as one of the best articles about Toastmasters printed in a newspaper, magazine or blog. Dana received the much coveted 'Talk of the Town Award'.

Finally, thank you for the opportunity to learn and lead. I am now gearing up for a new challenge, as I embark on the next Toastmaster year as your Area 62 Governor. In the process, I hope that as a leader, I have truly headed that call to serve and produce more leaders for tomorrow.

I could never thank you enough. Truly, being President of this club is both a responsibility and a privilege. I know you will give you new President, Hazel Davids the same great support that you gave me!

Introducing Active Minds President for July 2013-June 2014, Hazel Davids:



Editorial: Dana Winner

*It was an honor to win the **TALK OF THE TOWN AWARD** for the article “Active Minds Toastmasters 10th Anniversary Celebration” which was published in the Kuwait Arab Times, December 9th 2012. Here is summarized version of the article which can be read in its entirety on the Kuwait Arab Times websites. - Dana*



The Active Minds Toastmasters Club celebrated its 10th Anniversary with the theme ‘Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future’. Led by President Raymond Hernandez, members gathered to thank the leaders who had contributed to the club’s growth over the past decade, enjoyed a great meal, music and dancing. Toastmasters District 20 Governor, Mr. Alex Ginete, Distinguished Toastmaster and Lt. Governor Education and Training, Ms. Maria Vicky Ferrer, Distinguished Toastmaster, were the special guest speakers. Mr. Ginete was the first president of Bahrain Filipino Toastmasters Club. He has served in many leadership capacities in the Division and has been recognized for excellence by Toastmasters, International. In his speech to Active Minds, Mr. Ginete inspired the members with an idea that has inspired him all of his life; “You are all stars”. Ms. Ferrer has earned her Master’s degree in Development Communications and is a candidate for Ph.D. in Communications. Seeking to inspire the Active Minds, Ms. Ferrer urged the members to “go beyond your limits” especially regarding the role that others assign to people based on nationality.

Both Ms. Ferrer and Mr. Ginete were presented with Special Appreciation Awards for their leadership. Special Appreciation Awards were also presented to two founders of Toastmasters in Kuwait, Mr. Don Prades DTM and Mr. Abdullah Al Mahdi, who were recognized for their seminal contributions to Active Minds Toastmasters Club over the past decade. Three Past Presidents of the club were present, Henelyn (Babes) Collis, Stephen Erasmus and Colleen Lopez, who all received Special Appreciation Awards. A message from the 2nd President of Active Minds, Mr. Lorenzo Baquilod, encouraged Active Minds to continue the good work. Division I Governor, Distinguished Toastmaster, Mr. Salu John, was also recognized with a Special Appreciation Award. Current Area 62 Governor, Ms. Colleen Lopez conducted the installing ceremony of the new club officers. Immediate Past Area 62 Governor inducted new Toastmasters to the club that included the New Members pledge ceremony. Members who had recently achieved major Toastmasters program milestones were recognized. Competent Leader Pins were awarded to Raymond Hernandez, Reuben D’Lima, Arlene Pinho & Emy Badiang. Competent Communicator Pins were awarded to Raymond Hernandez, Biji Gittens and Hussein Moneim. Advanced Leadership Bronze Pins were awarded to Raymond Hernandez and Reuben D’Lima. Active Minds Toastmasters Club enters 2013 and begins its second decade, with renewed vision and energy to share the benefit of Toastmasters International Communications and Leadership program with the residents of Kuwait.

New Members

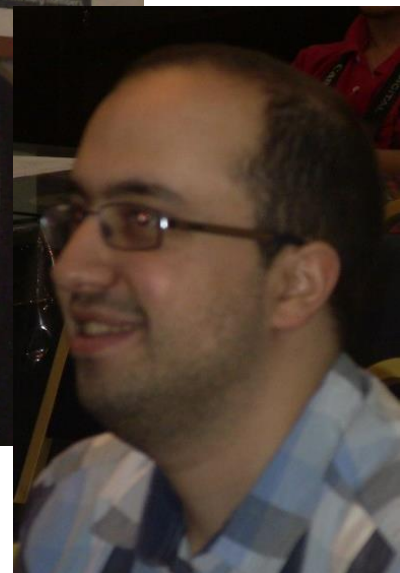
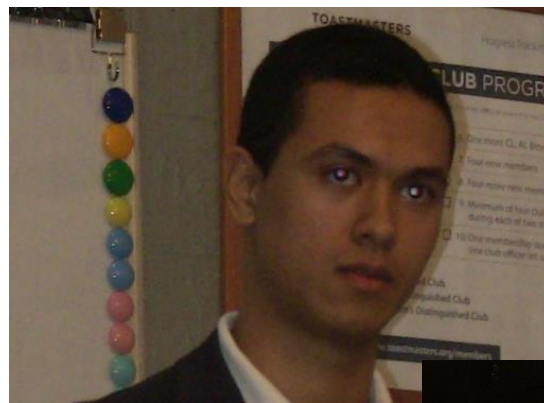
TALK UP TOASTMASTERS AWARD Spring 2013:

Huda K Al Qallaf
Abdullah Ahmed Al Quoz
Kareem Mohammed Amin
Khadar Abdillahi Mohammed
Samer Odeh
Nino S Ruiz
Sandra Rose Stein

New Members since Spring 2013:

Hareth Alasaadi
Bader Al Enezi
Roberto V. Bulquiren Jr.
Reham Mohammed Hussein
Yousef Majed Nayef
Faten A Osseili
Anas Mohammed

A Few of Active Minds Club Newest Members!



Club Achievements

Education Individual Achievement Awards

Name	Month	Award
Raymond Hernandez	July	Competent Leader
Reuben D'Lima	July	Competent Leader
Emy Badiang	July	Competent Leader
Biji Gittens	August	Competent Communicator
Arlene Pinho	August	Competent Leader
Reuben D'Lima	August	Advanced Leader Bronze
Raymond Hernandez	October	Advanced Leader Bronze
Raymond Hernandez	October	Competent Communicator
Hussein Moneim	December	Competent Communicator
Colleen Lopez	December	Advanced Leader Bronze
Hussein Abdul-Monem Ahmad	January	Competent Communicator
Dana Winner	February	Competent Communicator
Mohammad Hussein Mohammad	April	Competent Leader
Abdul Rahman Shinan Mohammed Kunhi	April	Competent Communicator



Active Minds achievement awards for 2012-2013:

- 1. Club Fast Track Award - for the number of Competent Communicators we have awarded before December 31, 2012.
- 2. Club High Achiever Award - for the highest number of educational awards for the entire division, having registered 13 awards
- 3. Club Super 7 COT Awards - because the EXCOM Officers joined the club officer's training
- 4. DRP Achiever Award - we registered 6 out of 10 points in the Distinguished Club Program
- 5. LGM Super Club Award - for registering more than 30 members

Active Minds Toastmasters Club won the 'Show Off Your Brand Contest. our entry is the best among the more than 13,500 clubs all over the world.



This is how the Active Minds branding photo looked on the TMI website!

Clubs: Show Off Your Brand!

Get your club worldwide recognition for the excellence you have demonstrated in adopting the Toastmasters brand! Congratulations to the winners of the Clubs: Show Off Your Brand! contest. You are having fun and looking great doing it!



April 2013 Winner: Active Minds Toastmasters Club 2446, Area 62, Division 1 (Kuwait), District 20



District 20 Captivating Communique Award – one of the best newsletters .

Talk of the Town Award to TM Dana Winner for her article about Active Minds 10th Anniversary published in the Arab Times.



Active Minds Speech Contest

The Active Minds Speech Contests were conducted on February 1st and 14th. The Table Topics contest had so many competitors it had to be conducted in two parts.

International Speech

- 1-Omar Abi Al Hosn
- 2-Raymond Hernandez
- 3-Dana Winner

Evaluation

- 1-Dana Winner
- 2-Stephen Erasmus
- 3-Yogeendra Desai

Humorous

- 1-Dana Winner
- 2-Hussien Abdel Al Monem
- 3-Lisa Waite

Table Topics

- 1-Omar Abi Al Hosn
- 2-Raymond Hernandez
- 3-Dana Winner



Area 62 Contest



March 10th 2013 Toastmasters, International, Area 62, located in Kuwait, proudly announces the winners of the 2013 speech contest conducted on March 8th 2013 from 3-8PM at Panasonic Headquarters on Mohammed Al Kasim Street in Al-Ardiya Industrial area. Thanks to Dr Adel Al Yousifi for his support. The Speech Contest was conducted by Area 62 Governor, ATM Colleen Lopez and the judging team was led by Chief Judge Henelyn “Babes” Collis. The Speech Contest included four parts. The first part was the extemporaneous speech contest – called Table Topics by Toastmasters – which requires all of the contestants to deliver a 1-2 minutes impromptu speech on a topic for which they have no advance preparation. The second part of the contest was for the Humorous speeches, which are prepared in advance and which should be 5-7 minutes. The third part of the contest was for the evaluation of a prepared speech for which the contestants were able to make a few minutes of preparations. In the fourth part of the contest, the International Speeches are, delivered by the contestants prepared within 5-7 minutes. The clubs taking part in the contest were Active Minds, Al Koot, KAT and KAICO.

The trophies for the speech contest were presented by Area Governor Colleen Lopez, in 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for each part of the speech contest: Table Topics - (1st) Yogeendra H. Desai, (2nd) Dana Winner, (3rd) Omar Abi AlHosn; Humorous Speech - (1st) Dana Winner, (2nd) Yogeendra H. Desai, (3rd) Lisa Waite; Evaluations - (1st) Anil Loba, (2nd) Dana Winner, (3rd) Yogeendra H. Desai; International Speech - (1st) Ray Hernandez, (2nd) Yogeendra H. Desai, (3rd) Fatma Salem. Thanks to contest timers, Melwyn Pereira, Tarabya El Aidin and Randeep Pradeep, the Sergeant At Arms, Gerry Collis, Mohsen Al Huisany and Nada Almahasneh, as well as the Tally counters, Barissa Abdulfatah, Nawaf Al Marzouq and Shermaine Kay Esplana. Thanks to the registration team led by TM Hazel Davids and our catering team lead by TM Beth Awwad. Thanks to the contest chairs TM Rhea Usman, TM Maha Al-Sumaiti, TM Stephen Erasmus, TM Vinod Raman.

Division I Contest



International Speech
Contest Winner:
Ray Hernandez,
“Life Goes On”

Table Topics &
Humorous Speech
Contest 2nd place:
Dana Winner



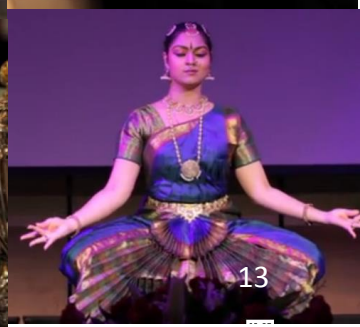
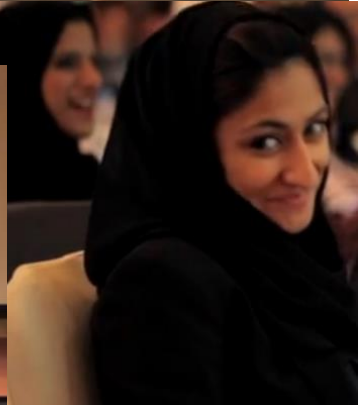
District Toastmasters Annual Conference - DTAC 2013

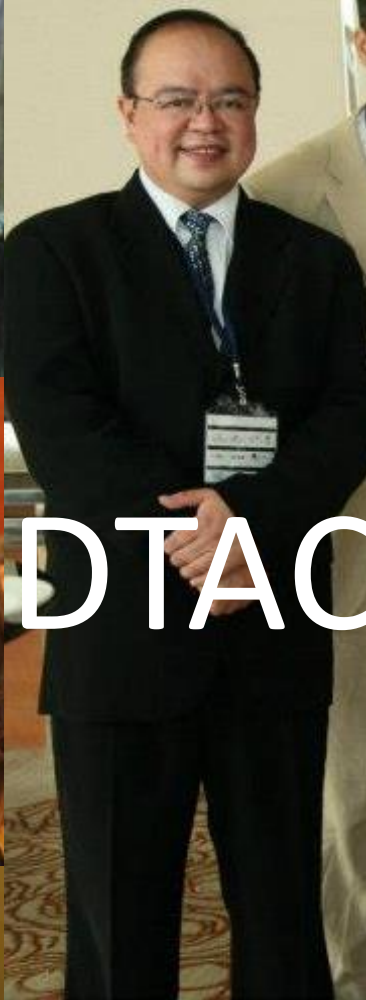
At DTAC 2013 in Dubai, according to Alex Ginete, the District “distributed over 300 Plaques and Trophies, more than 3,000 members award certificates and hundreds of appreciation certificates. Active Minds brought home five Clubs Awards which are listed on the Club Achievements Page.





DTAC 2013





DTAC 2013





The 2013-14 Active Minds Executive Committee



Thanks to the outgoing Executive Committee members for all their hard work.



Welcome to the incoming Executive Committee:



Ray, Past President
Hazel, President
Emy, VP Education
Dana, VP PR
Luis, Secretary
Lisa, VP Membership
Sandy, Sgt.-At-Arms

Club Office Training was conducted
June 14th 2013.