

# Editorial



## Dear AKMG family

And, finally .... the much awaited 45th Annual Convention is here !! It is with immense pleasure and pride that I welcome you all to San Diego - as Convention Chair (and Chief Editor of this souvenir).

Every possible effort has been made to give you a fabulous experience, so that you will return home with fond memories of San Diego, and our team !!. At least a few of you will hopefully stay behind to visit some local attractions, and enjoy the natural beauty of the California coastline.

AKMG conventions are wonderful opportunities to network, and make new friends, and here is a quick summary of what's in store. First class hotel amenities, and gourmet food await you on all days. An ocean cruise with dinner will kick-start festivities on Thursday, **Day 1**. An Onassadya (and serenade by musicians Vivek, Supraja & Vishnu) and chenda mela by Sreejith and team will follow on **Day 2**, but both days have great educational programs offered by the CME team, with excellent topics and speakers on both mornings

of the event. There will be posters, and reports from our students and trainees with awards offered for the best presentations. Aspiring residency applicants will have on-site mentoring sessions also. For the spousal & family members, we have Yoga sessions, Women's & Kids forums, Business talks, and Literary forum on Day 2. An Art display and workshop on mural art follows on **Day 3**. If you have not already registered, walk in during the event and join these activities. On the same afternoon we will host a glamorous fashion show, 'Allure Of Silk', a much awaited spectacle that will showcase our beautiful ladies and gentlemen in stylish attire. In addition, we have exciting and colorful cultural programs on both evenings. **Day 2** (Friday) has vibrant dances and musical performances by our own talented AKMG family on **Campus Talent night**. The cultural highlight of the convention will be the **Gala night** finale (Tarotsavam) on Day 3, Saturday with stellar performances by the likes of movie-star / singer Manoj K Jayan, Manjari, comedian Ramesh Pisharody, and actress-dancer Divya Unni; Pradeep Babu, Vivekanandan & Sumi Aravind are the other entertainers in this fabulous troupe (organized by Sri Vijayan Menon). So, fasten your seat belts, and be prepared for an exciting ride !!

As for the **Souvenir**, we have made every attempt to include and print almost all the articles, messages, and photos that you have kindly forwarded for publication. Due to the overwhelming response, we have had to put aside a few submissions for future publication in another AKMG reporter or souvenir. We hope you will bear with us, as the editorial committee had to accommodate all angles, with limitations to the size, space, and costs of publication. Any inadvertent omissions, and errors in

the editing or printing process may also be excused, as we are all amateurs, and do the best we can in the middle of busy professional lives.

On behalf of the Souvenir committee, here is an appeal to find time to leaf through the articles, stories, poems etc, and interact with some of the event sponsors, whose advertisements are shown in the magazine. We are greatly indebted to these financial sponsors, especially our Patrons and Champions, for coming forward to support this convention, and also to Sindu Pillai (President) and Anila Thampy, our fund-raisers in chief !!

Profuse thanks to my **Editorial team** of Venkit Iyer, Krishan Prasad, Ashok Krishnan, Nisha Nigil Haroon, Anoop Iqbal, Govindan Kutty Nair & Sony Thomas for all their help, suggestions, and inputs - not to forget the round-the-clock administrative support from Preetha Nair our representative in Kerala. Without Preetha and Rath Menon, our event manager, much of the event itself could not have been staged the way we planned. That gratitude also extends to all our vendors, caterers, AV team, and decorators.

Last, but not the least, let me also acknowledge the invaluable support from my friends in Kerala - formatting artist Gireesh, and Sreekumar-ji, top journalists from Tiruvananthapuram, who have worked tirelessly for many weeks to bring things together and help design the magazine.

A special shout-out to our President, Co-Chairs, committee Chairs, leads, friends & volunteers in SoCal, as well as our Chief Guests, past Presidents & mentors who came together to make this a memorable event... and to my own family, who had to put up with all my unavoidable absences !!

**Dr Ravi Raghavan**

Convention Chair & Chief Editor  
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