



TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

WHERE LEADERS
ARE MADE

NEWS LETTER

District 76 News and Events

International Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio: August 21-24, 2013

By Kiichiro Ohmi, District Governor 2013-2014

Toastmasters International Convention 2013 was held in Cincinnati, Ohio from August 21 through 24. This is a report on the convention to share some information with you on how it went.

On behalf of members of District 76, we the District Trio - District Governor Kiichiro Ohmi, Lieutenant Governor

Education and Training Hisashi Watanabe, and Lieutenant Governor Marketing Kiminari Azuma participated in the convention to learn more about the organization and its governance



including elections of our new international leaders. Please click on the link <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members.aspx> to virtually enjoy watching the highlights of Board Briefing, Opening Ceremony, International Speech Contest, and Annual Business Meeting.

August 21 (The 1st day)

Board of Directors Briefing and some educational sessions and **Opening Ceremony** were held on the first day. The parade of national flags was a very impressive event for many members.

August 22 (The 2nd day)

In the **Hall of Fame** on the second day, our District 76 was recognized as achiever of President's Distinguished District two years in a row, as one of the Toastmasters' top-achieving districts. It is the highest honor that we were awarded. Immediate Past Trio and many members who came from Japan were invited to the stage. Thank you very much for these members to come all the way from Japan to join us.



Semi-final contests Eighty-eight contestants competed in the semifinals. The nine semifinals winners – representing regions from around the world – advanced to the World Championship of Public Speaking on Saturday. Our representative contestant TM Naoki Tamura (semifinal contest 6) made a great speech! However, unfortunately, he could not proceed to the final contest.

District 76 Gathering was held after the semifinal contest. And we enjoyed it till midnight. Twenty or more members including some members living in US gathered in one room and had a nice time together.

August 23 (The 3rd day)

Candidate's Showcase which held in the morning was similar as Table Topics. MC asked some questions for each candidates running the same office. And he or she had to answer the questions immediately. That was one of the moments of truth which we decided which candidate is qualified.

August 24 (The 4th day)

World Championship of Public Speaking started at 8:30am. The best of the best as nine finalists competed for the title of World Champion of Public Speaking.

The title of 2013 World Champion of Public Speaking was awarded to TM Presiyan Vasilev of Chicago, Illinois, District 30, for his speech "Changed by a Tire." Second- and third-place winners were, respectively, TM Kingi Biddle of Rotorua, New Zealand, District 72, for his speech "The Sitting Place" and TM Shurooq Al Banna of Dubai, UAE, District 20, for her speech "Finding the Pearl."



Annual Business meeting was held from 12:00 to 3:00. Our new leaders were elected during this meeting.

During the four days' convention, we, District 76 trio, actively met with other districts' leaders, International Directors and Region Advisors to learn their best practices of how they serve their members. We, District 76 trio, will capitalize our experience this time to work effectively and enthusiastically for members of District 76.

The most impressive word we got at the convention is **"It's the Member not the Number"** mentioned by Cris Rio, one of the candidates of International Director.



'A gigantic victory trophy in my heart' from TM N. Tamura!



TM Naoki Tamura is a member of Tokyo, Sunrise, and Fantasista TMC. He participated the international convention and shared his experiences in an interview. Hope you enjoy the atmosphere of the international convention!

Will you tell us the atmosphere of the world convention, and the difference between the world and Japanese convention? Also, were there any speeches from each country's representatives which you would like to share with Japanese audience?



It is simply amazing. I cannot find an adjective to describe this super event. It is more than dynamic, fantastic, and gorgeous! Seeing is believing, you should see it, hear it, and smell it! First of all, the stage for the world championship final is really cool with national flags of about 150 different countries being displayed in the back. The educational programs such as key note speeches and workshops are also extremely beneficial to attend. These are awesome entertainment shows by, for example, former world champions, charismatic comedians and leaders. Second of all, you can have talks with various Toastmasters from all over the world. They may be a district governor with more than ten years of experience in Toastmasters or may be a member who joined Toastmasters just several days ago; however, every Toastmaster has one thing in common. That is "willingness to help members grow as leaders." You may be a little worried about your English in communicating with those fellow Toastmasters, but you don't have to be because all of the participants are very friendly and willing to share their thoughts with you. Third of all, the speeches are brilliant! You will be able to find out what you would never find out on video. You will be able to get the new perspective; you can feel that it is not the content that matters, nor the delivery technique. It is all about connecting with your audience. There is no doubt that the best speech I witnessed there was the one that Presiyan Vasilev, this year's world champion, made at the final. I want to encourage all of you to see his speech. The speech title is "Changed by a Tire." (Go to www.toastmastersondemand.com to check it out) This is absolutely the one you don't want to miss. The core message is very simple: have the courage to reach out for help, which never means you are a weak person. Presiyan is not a native English speaker, but that doesn't detract from the value of the speech at all. The speech was really funny, and he instantaneously connected with the audience from the opening and kept them curious enough to go along with his life changing story. It is one of the simplest but the most powerful speeches I have ever seen.

What did you want to experience/gain and what did you want to bring home with you from attending this world convention?



I was planning to bring home the trophy of the world champion... no, just kidding. I just wanted to say this, but to be honest; I meant it. I thought I had a chance to win in the SemiFinal because of the three reasons. First, this was my second time to compete in the SemiFinal level in the world convention. I knew exactly what I was supposed to do throughout the entire process. I had more room to breathe this time around. Second, I had the most powerful message to deliver in my 6 years of Toastmasters experience, You Decide. And last but certainly not least, I had so many Toastmasters friends help me maximize my experience. Although I brought home nothing but a certificate of participation, I got a psychological gigantic victory trophy in my heart.

There must be many encounters by attending the world convention.
Would you share the most memorable encounter?



That's true. The world convention is a place where friends are made. I had prepared 100 business cards originally made only for the 4-day conference. I had talks with about 70 Toastmasters coming from all over the world and handed my cards to all of them. The most inspiring Toastmaster I met in the convention was TM Lilly Simmons. She became the president of her club for the first time for this fiscal year. She drove 6 hours to Cincinnati all the way from Chicago by herself. She wanted to make her club better by providing feedback on what she sees in the convention. She has the passion to help other people grow as better leaders. I felt inspired by her dedication to the club, and I also realized that there are thousands of leaders with passion like Lilly in the Toastmasters community.

What does Toastmasters mean to you?



It is a tool to push myself to go beyond my comfort zone, in other words, it is an infrastructure to keep creating a new challenge against myself. I am going to push myself into the final stage of world championship of public speaking somewhere in the near future.

When you walked on to the stage, what came to your sight first?
And during you were giving speech, what were you looking at?



What I saw first on stage was exactly what I had envisioned before the contest began.
I think I made the most out of the 2-minute microphone test.
Before the contest begins, you are given a chance to stand on stage to test your microphone. You can check the quality of your voice, and also make sure it doesn't fall off or conflict with any other part of your clothes. You have just 2 minutes to do so. What should you do?
As I observed the other contestants testing it, most were just focused on the sound.
However, I think the 2-minute microphone test gives you the opportunity to ENVISION. Envision what you will see first when you walk up on stage, envision the big applause from your audience when your name is called, and envision the opening of your speech. If you get off to a good start, you can get into a good rhythm for the rest of your delivery. So, simulate what you will see when your name is called and test the opening, that's what I did in the microphone test.
This way I was able to see what I had imagined earlier.

Do you have any message to us?



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Toastmasters at District 76 who have supported me to make it happen. I am grateful to members of three clubs I belong to: Sunrise TMC, Tokyo TMC, and Fantasista TMC for taking the trouble to rearrange the meeting agenda just for me. Also I really appreciate the opportunities to practice, feedback comments, and inspiring messages from Leadership TMC, Key Force TMC, Nihonbashi Century TMC, Yokohama TMC, Tozai TMC, Sakura TMC, and Tokyo Metropolitan TMC. Thank you for giving a lot of "LIKE" with encouraging messages on my facebook comments. Thanks for coming and cheering for me at a public viewing event. Last but definitely not least, I want to thank all of those who came to Cincinnati and provided me with fabulous unforgettable memories.

2013-14 Educational Award Program

Hisashi Watanabe
Lt. Governor Education and Training, 2013-14

Fellow Toastmasters! Here is the list of the Educational Award Programs. The objectives of these programs are to celebrate your achievement and to encourage moving up to the next level in the educational program. By taking advantages of this program, I hope all members develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

■■■ For Individual Members ■■■

■ Leadership Track ■

● To CL (Competent Leader) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a manual from The Leadership Excellence Series, and a Competent Leader Ribbon via your club president. The Leadership Excellence Series contains following manuals.

The Leadership Excellence Series

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - The Visionary Leader | - Giving Effective Feedback |
| - Developing A Mission | - The Leader as a Coach |
| - Values and Leadership | - Motivating People |
| - Goal Setting And Planning | - Service And Leadership |
| - Delegate To Empower | - Resolving Conflict |
| - Building A Team | |



● To ALB (Advanced Leader Bronze) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a High Performance Leadership Manual and an Advanced Leader Bronze Ribbon via your club president.

● To ALS (Advanced Leader Silver) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a Toastmasters Key Ring and an Advanced Leader Silver Ribbon via your club president.

■ Communication Track ■

● To CC (Competent Communicator) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a manual from The Better Speaker Series, and a Competent Communicator Ribbon via your club president. The Better Speaker Series contains following manuals.

The Better Speaker Series

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| - Beginning Your Speech | - Impromptu Speaking | - Preparation And Practice |
| - Concluding Your Speech | - Selecting Your Topic | - Know Your Audience |
| - Controlling Your Fear | - Creating An Introduction | - Using Body Language |
| | | - Organizing Your Speech |

● To ACB (Advanced Communicator Bronze) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a manual from The Better Speaker Series, and an Advanced Communicator Bronze Ribbon via your club president.

● To ACS (Advanced Communicator Silver) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a Toastmasters Key Ring and an Advanced Communicator Silver Ribbon via your club president.

● To ACG (Advanced Communicator Gold) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a Toastmasters Key Ring and an Advanced Communicator Gold Ribbon via your club president.

■ DTM ■

● To DTM (Distinguished Toastmaster) Achievers

District 76 will provide you with a DTM Badge, with your name on it, a DTM Pin, and a DTM Ribbon via your club president.



■■■ For Clubs ■■■



● To Early DCP (Distinguished Club Program) Points Achievers (Limited to 15 clubs)






District 76 will provide a set of Club Officer Pins, worth \$60, to 15 clubs that achieve 5 DCP points early. I recommend you to register your DCP points early. Please note: This program does pertain to the qualifying requirements of DCP, such as 20 members at the end of the year or net growth of 5 members.

Let's move forward with Toastmasters' Educational Program!

Interview to Division F Officers

District Officers are supporting us. A series of brief interviews to District Officers by Division is planned to get to know them more.

- 1) What changed after you started TM activities ?
- 2) How do you spend holidays without TM activities ?
- 3) What do you take a pride in the place you were born ?

	<u>Division F Governor : Sumiko Futana</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I've come to be able to speak in public without preparation. 2. watching movies 3. fresh seaweeds and fish
	<u>Area 61 Governor : Kazunari Kotajima</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I became a good boy to do home-works. (TM officer gave much home-works almost every week.) 2. Do physical training like aerobics, karate and so on to keep strength. 3. I love Hiroshima full of nature. Fresh air, green mountains and beautiful river.
	<u>Area 62 Governor : Yoshimi Nitta</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I could conquer the stranger anxiety. 2. I attend the wind orchestra which I belong to. 3. Many historical events happened in the history, in my hometown, Shimonoseki.
	<u>Area 63 Governor : Lyle Allison</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I was shy but I changed a lot as most people cannot believe that I am still a very shy person. 2. As a school counselor and teacher, I prepare my lessons. I also enjoy gardening. 3. The Northern Lights, wild animals, fresh air and wide open land in Fairbanks
	<u>Area 64 Governor : Tomoyoshi Mori</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I've changed my way of thinking. 2. Reading, exercise and so on. 3. My home town has a famous hot spring and old traditional theater.

Results of Educational Campaign 2012-2013

Clubs that achieved three points of DCP: especially 2CCs, 1 AC, and 1 CL, AL, or DTM were awarded \$20 gift certificate from District 76. Clubs that completed Triple Crown and additional 2 points of DCP; especially 2 more CCs, and One more AC, CL, AL, or DTM were awarded \$50 gift certificate from District 76.

Following Clubs amazingly achieved this campaign. Congratulations! Gift certificate will be sent soon.

Quintuple Crown Clubs !

Div.A) Eight Princes, Tachikawa, Tokorozawa, Chofu Free Flight, Kichijoji, Sendai, Urawa, Hibiki

Div.B) Omotesando, Sakura, Meguro, Tokyo, Kagurazaka, Sunrise

Div.C) Tsukuba, Nihonbashi Century, Leadership, Tokyo International, Pioneer, Chiyoda, Chiba Central, Ichikawa

Div.D) Kawasaki, Minato-Mirai, Kanagawa, Yokohama Frontier, Kamakura, Shonan, Atsugi-Zama, Den-en Toshi

Div.E) Osaka

Div.F) Hiroshima, Momiji

Triple Crown Clubs !

Div. A) Ageo,

Div. B) Tozai, Kanto, Green Hills

Div. D) Mizonokuchi,

Div. E) Sakae, Kyoto

Div. F) Quantum, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka

Educational Achievers in August

Div. A

ACS	Ohmi, Kiichiro Keith	Kichijoji
ACB	Noborizato, Kazuo	Eight Princes
	Tsukui, Keiko	Sakitama
CC	Baykas, Tuncer	Sendai
CL	Takeuchi, Yasuhiko	Tokorozawa
	Tominaga, Fumiko	Saitama

Div. B

ACB	Yanagisawa, Hiromori	Edo
ALB	Golden, Drian Von	Tozai
CC	Suzuki, Miki	Shibuya
	Golden, Drian Von	Sunrise
CL	Nirmala, Junko	Sunrise

Div. C

ACS	Howser, Ruskyle Lindsay	Tokyo
ACB	Kobori, Noriyuki	Tsukuba
	Chikako, Koike	Leadership
	Mori, Taeko	Chiba Central
	Hosaka, Yuki	Ichikawa
CC	Wakiyama, Noboru	Nihonbashi Century
	Sugiura, Koji	Nihonbashi Century
	Matsushima, Isao	Tsukuba Wago
	Hiyama, Shigeru	Tsudanuma
CL	Takasuga, Taeko	Akihabara

Div. D

LDREXC	Kurimoto, Tomoko	Sakurazaka
ACS	Kato, Tsuneo	Shonan
ACB	Kiribayashi, Taeko	Shonan
	Ishii, Yosuke	Atsugi-Zama
ALB	Katsukura, Ayumi	Sakurazaka
CC	Sato, Rieko	Machida Bilingual
	Junko, Mizoguchi	Kanagawa
CL	Gupta, Nirupam	Yokohama
	Imaoka, Keiko	Machida Bilingual
	Yazaki, Tatsuya	Kanagawa

Div. E

ACB	Kanbara, Toshiko	Toyota Friendship
	Kan, Akiko	Kansai
	Ando, Akiko	Kochi
	Hirano, Minori	Takamatsu
CC	Watanabe, Sanae	Naniwa
	Kohiro, Sotaro	Senri
	Yamanaka, Toshiyuki	Kansai
	Nanba, Emi	Takamatsu

Div. F

ACS	Fujii, Teruaki	Nakakyushu
ALB	Otsuka, Yumiko	Kitakyushu
CC	Nadolny, Timothy	Oki Orators
	Tokubuchi, Akiyo	Kurume
	Fukuhara, Miyuri	Aki

Editor's Postscript

I visited an island the other day. I was hoping to have some encounters with locals. Unfortunately, there were no such opportunities and I was feeling a little lonely.

However, on the ship on my way back, I met some locals and had a great time talking with them. My trip to the island became a more memorable one because of this encounter on the ship. Having interesting encounters with people is indispensable to making memories unforgettable. This summer, I realized that encountering people is also what makes Toastmasters so enjoyable.

Our first newsletter was published last month. I would like to thank everyone who supported us. We were able to publish this month's edition with support from countless people. Many thanks to Div.F members and Mr. Tamura who participated in the international convention! We, the news letter team, enjoy working together to make our newsletter better. If you have comments or opinions regarding the newsletter, please let us hear them!

D76_Newsletter_2013-14@yahoogroups.jp

Your voice will help motivate us to make the newsletter even better!

Thank you again and hope you enjoy the article! Mai Nakashima

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Hisashi Watanabe

**Lieutenant Governor
Marketing**
Kiminari Azuma

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Public Relations Officer
Takayuki Fujiwara

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Akihide Inoue