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appearing on the cover is a Chinese character meaning "Peace" and "Harmony", which has been used since ancient times with the implication of Japan itself or Japanese legacy. This design was made out of a wish that Toastmasters in Japan will help contribute to materialization of peace and harmony in the world by pulling together our passion.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 76 JAPAN 10TH ANNIVERSARY



DISTRICT 76
JAPAN
10th
ANNIVERSARY
Sixty-Year History of
Toastmasters in Japan
1954-2004-2014

和

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

www.toastmasters.org

www.district76.org

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL



Sixty-Year History of
Toastmasters in Japan
1954-2004-2014

First published 2014

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CONTENTS

4	Highlights: Towards Our Bright Future
6	Introduction
7	Messages
10	1954-1986 Early Days
12	1986-2000 Japan Toastmasters Council (JTC)
14	2000-2004 Provisional District 76
16	2004-2005 District 76 1st Year
18	2005-2006 District 76 2nd Year
20	2006-2007 District 76 3rd Year
22	2007-2008 District 76 4th Year
24	2008-2009 District 76 5th Year
26	2009-2010 District 76 6th Year
28	2010-2011 District 76 7th Year
30	2011-2012 District 76 8th Year
32	2012-2013 District 76 9th Year
34	2013-2014 District 76 10th Year
36	Heroes & Heroines
	Club Highlights
48	Summary of Appendices
Appendix	Chronological Chart of District 76 Development
	Chronological List of District 76 Clubs

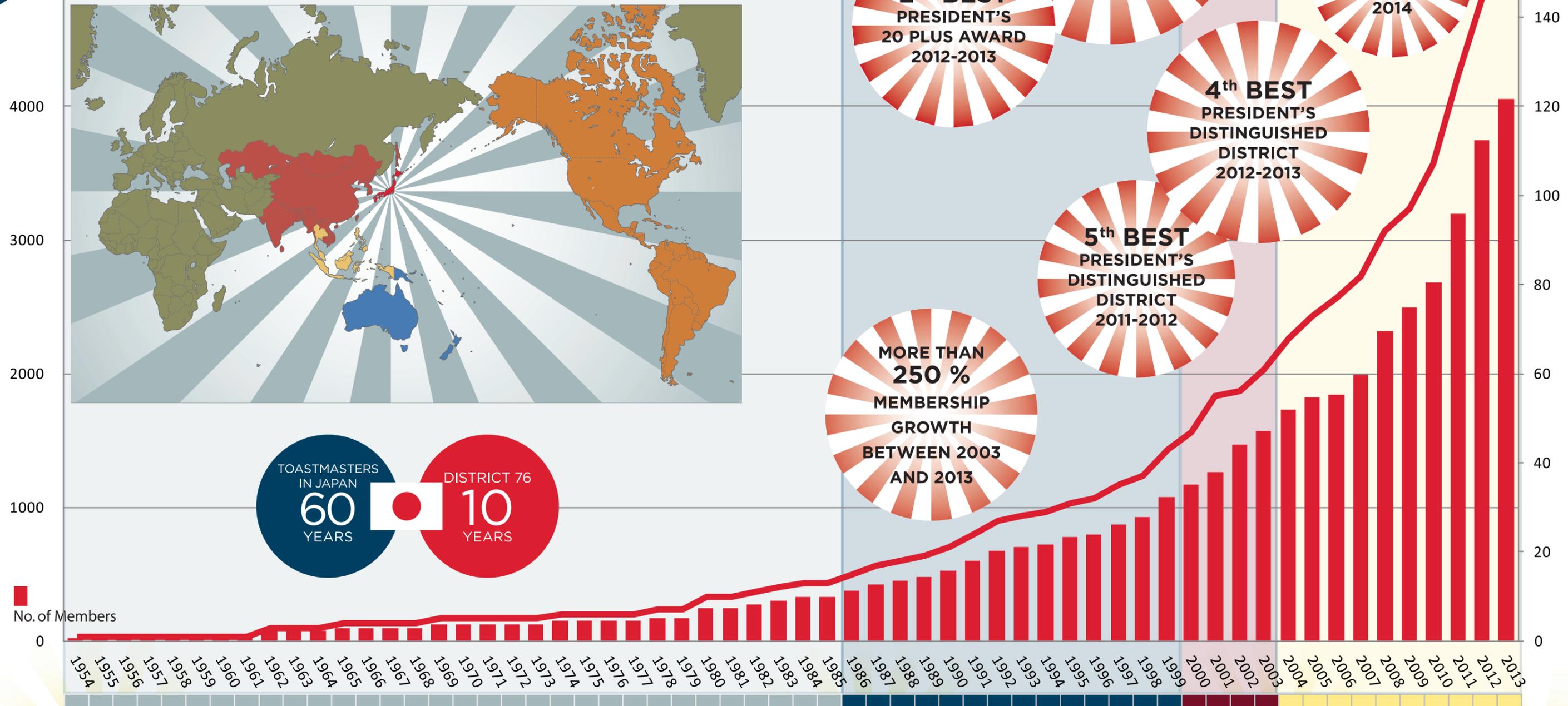
HIGHLIGHTS

TOWARDS OUR BRIGHT FUTURE



TOASTMASTERS IN JAPAN
60
YEARS

DISTRICT 76
10
YEARS



NO. 1
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL RATE IN THE WORLD 2004-2013

2nd BEST
PRESIDENT'S 20 PLUS AWARD 2012-2013

4th BEST
PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED DISTRICT 2012-2013

5th BEST
PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED DISTRICT 2011-2012

155 CLUBS
AS OF JUNE 30th 2014

4,055 MEMBERS
AS OF JUNE 30th 2014

MORE THAN 250 %
MEMBERSHIP GROWTH BETWEEN 2003 AND 2013

EARLY DAYS

JTC

D76P

DISTRICT 76

1954
Tokyo Toastmasters Club at Haneda Air Base, as the first club chartered in December, 1954.

1986
Japan Toastmasters Council was established in April, 1986.

2000
JTC promoted to a Provisional District 76.

2004
District 76 became a full-fledged Toastmasters District.

2014
DISTRICT 76
10th
ANNIVERSARY

Introduction



Sixty years have passed since the first Toastmasters Club was chartered in Tokyo, Japan in 1954. Fifty years later, on July 1, 2004, Toastmasters International approved District 76 as a full-fledged district. In July this year, we celebrated our 10th anniversary, a significant milestone. Therefore, in June 2013, "Past District 76 Governors Committee" was created within the district. Nine past district governors brought together their rich experiences and wisdom, to discuss how to commemorate this historic event. We, the committee members, decided that we would record the history of Toastmasters in Japan in a written document as a commemorative project.

We believe it is important to record our history as accurately as possible, before memories fade away, especially the history of the first 50 years. As past district governors, we thought it our duty and mission to pass on our zeal and passion to those who are now and will in the future be learning communication and leadership skills at Toastmasters Clubs in the district.

Thanks to those who introduced Toastmasters to the people of Japan, and chartered the first club sixty years ago, there are now over 4,000 registered members and more than 150 clubs. Considering how much these members have benefitted from Toastmasters' education programs, and other activities it has provided to us, especially for mitigating stage fright and improving leadership skills, members of the district are determined to work hard to steadily contribute to the progress of the district. We will always appreciate our predecessors' foresight and great leadership.

Historically, we who live in Japan are gentle and think highly of keeping order. Even when we encounter unexpected surprises, we endeavor to follow the rule of common sense. We treat each other with respect and kindness and live peacefully. This was proven three years ago, as you may recall, when the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami struck on March 11, 2011. As it was reported in the international media, despite the scope of the great tragedy, the Japanese people managed to survive, never losing hope or giving in to despair. On the contrary, even in the worst situations, the people supported each other cheerfully and kept order gracefully without complaining. It was an admirable display of strength, grace and courage.

At that time, many Toastmasters Clubs suffered due to rolling blackouts and serious damage to their meeting venues. Some clubs were unable to hold meetings regularly and were forced to suspend meetings for the next several months. However, the warm encouragement and wholehearted support of other districts, especially Taiwan, District 67, International Officers, International Directors and World Headquarters members, we recognized that "A friend in need is a friend indeed!" Despite these unusual inconveniences and our uncertain future, all clubs in the area, and all over Japan, worked very hard as one great team to achieve our cherished goal of becoming a President's Distinguished District for the first time in our history! This was priceless! We members of the district worked hard to prove our resilience to our Toastmasters friends around the world by not only retaining the number of clubs and members we had, but by continuing to grow.

We will expand Toastmasters activities without political, religious or racial prejudice, in the hope that Toastmasters Clubs can play an active part for many of us as a "life exercise hall" or "Jinsei Dojyo" of lifelong learning opportunities.

We do hope that Toastmasters continues to develop in Japan and worldwide for the next 10, 20, 50, more than 100 years and forever into the future. It would make us extremely happy if, through this commemorative booklet, you can come to understand and appreciate our journey here in Japan. District 76 has been steadily growing and progressing and will continue to do so in the future.

Kazuko Kawauchi, DTM
Chair of Past District 76 Governors Committee 2013-2014

Congratulatory Message



On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my honor to congratulate you on the occasion of your district's 10th anniversary!

For most members, their club activities represent the sum total of their Toastmasters experience. For others, the opportunity to serve at other levels, such as the district level, present themselves which members take on with great benevolence. Our organization's success depends on our customers' satisfaction. Everything else in our global organization supports the front-line delivery of our product and service to our customers—the members.

You and your leadership team are the alchemists that transform lives one at a time. Indeed, Toastmasters' founder, Dr. Ralph Smedley, wrote on his 80th birthday in February 22, 1957, about the magic of a successful club experience:

*It leads to the discovery of hidden abilities, bringing these latent talents into use, and thus enriching the man's life.
It broadens the man's conception of how to live with people.
It helps in the integration of personality.
It brings out for use the leadership traits and abilities and thus helps to prepare the man to be a leader.*

As you and your team perform your servant leadership roles, you will notice the transformation happening within. Beyond the improvement in your communication and leadership skills, you might notice the gradual transition from a "taker to a giver". If so, congratulations, you are on your way in your leadership track, be it in district leadership or in your profession. Also, congratulations to the members whom the leadership team serves; you are in good hands.

Keep our passions burning ever so brightly. Congratulations again on the district's 10th anniversary!
Toastmasters: Where Leaders Are Made!



George Yen, DTM
International President 2013-2014

Messages



It is a great honor that I celebrate with all of you the 10th anniversary of District 76 becoming a full district. It is great news that we have published our memorial booklet.

Ten years ago, July 1st, 2004 when District 76 became a fully fledged district we opened a new chapter of the District. During the past ten years, members experienced many happy events, however I must admit that we had tough times and a never-to-be-forgotten huge disaster; however members worked together and got over their ordeals by having a courageous will and exercising strong teamwork. I am really proud of my friends who never gave up and made our District fantastic. You will also be proud of being a part of this great team when you see our history on every page of this booklet.

We at District 76 were lucky. We had many Past District Governors, leaders from other districts, International Officers and World Headquarters staff who extended excellent helping hands to us. Our District's leaders have learned a lot during the past ten years about how to operate our District's events, how to support each individual member, and how to efficiently manage clubs. The 10th anniversary is just one milestone, and I understand learning from the past is very important; however, as the third President of United States, Tomas Jefferson, wrote, "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."

We at District 76 have to start a new journey together toward the next 10 years. Every member knows the value of Toastmaster, and the members get respect from others. Many leaders in this country emerge from the Toastmasters organization. ... It is my dream. But I believe we have the power to make this dream come true in the next decade. I will give you one example of why I feel this can happen. Three years ago, on March 11th 2011, there was a catastrophic, tsunami, disaster in District 76; however, today I am happy to announce to you a new club, named Morinomiyako Toastmasters Club, located in that tsunami hit area was newly chartered last November. This is a symbol of recovery and an example of our potential power.

Finally, I would like to give special thanks to the members of the committee who edited this memorial booklet and the Past District Governors who worked so hard to produce such a fantastic booklet.

Let us work together to make our future successful!

Kiichiro Ohmi, DTM
District Governor 2013-2014



My Life with Toastmasters!

I can clearly recall the day when I encountered with a group of Toastmasters for the first time though I cannot tell where and when. It was a long time ago. I was deeply moved by the method of the group handling a meeting. Some years later, I officially joined in the Japan Toastmasters Council (JTC) with creating a club in Shonan area with Hide Kobayashi and Yoko Tanabe. That was in 1993.

I started attending the International Conventions from New Orleans in August 1997 where I met with many wonderful world leaders, if named, Stan Stills, Dan Rex, Debbie Horn, Tim Keck, Johnny Uy and many others.

Toastmasters in Japan consider Past International President Timothy R. Keck as a mentor for Japan who frequently visited Japan with proper guidance to materialize the "Vision Twenty-Twenty". It is the Toastmasters International's vision to have 20,000 clubs around the world and 400,000 members by the year 2020. With this objective in mind, Japan should have 100-120 clubs by 2020 after applying for a provisional district in the year 2000. In the term 2011-2012, however, we had 127 clubs, thus we cleared the goal and now projecting to have 200 or more clubs by 2020. What a marvelous progress we have made in these ten years!!

Adding to the progress in expanding the Toastmasters organization in Japan, Kazuko Kawauchi, DTM, has been appointed by the Toastmasters International Board as Region 13 Advisor for 2014-2015 term (from March 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015). She is the first officer to go into an international seat representing District 76. We are proud of her and do what is necessary for her long-term success.

It was a special honor to receive a presidential citation at the 2007 International Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. Taking this opportunity, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for their continuous assistance and support given to me and District 76.

When looking back my past thirty years, I have been deeply involved in Toastmasters in some way or other which, in turn, added a rich and enjoyable page to my life. Thank you all!!

Keiko Omachi, DTM
District Governor 2005-2006
Recipient of Presidential Citation 2007

Let me offer you my heartfelt congratulations on this memorable occasion marking the tenth anniversary of District 76. Anniversaries are always a time to reflect – and to look ahead.

I am overwhelmed by the sheer size (more than 150 clubs with an aggregate membership of approximately 4,000) District 76 has grown to. As one who was instrumental in creating Japan Toastmasters Council in 1986 (with 14 clubs), I know what it takes to build up an organization on such a scale in ten short years.

And I wish to express my deep appreciation for the earnest efforts leaders of the successive District administrations have made for the cause of Toastmaster in this country.

On a personal note, I would like to share with you what Toastmasters means to me. Toastmasters is the best mentor I have encountered in my life journey. It has made me keenly aware of my shortcomings as well as potential. Small success I have achieved in various roles I was assigned to at club meetings helped me build self-confidence, which is the powerful engine that propels you forward in whatever endeavor you undertake. It also provided me with opportunities to help fellow Toastmasters move ahead in their business career. I'm proud of being a member of this great organization.

Toru Mori, DTM
Japan Toastmasters Council

Toru Mori won recognition as a Distinguished Toastmaster in 1984, the first ever in Japan, served as founding governor of Japan Toastmasters Council, received a Presidential Citation and was admitted into the Hall of Fame of Toastmasters International in 1988.

The Last Ten Years and the Future

A Japanese proverb says, "Ten years can bring a lot of changes." On July 1, 2004, District 76 became a full-fledged district.

Since then the District has been developing at a much faster rate than it had been in the previous 50 years. During the past decade, technology has progressed by leaps and bounds, and in District 76 the number of clubs and registered members has also rapidly and steadily increased.

Ten years ago, the high hurdle to achieving the Distinguished District recognition seemed very difficult. However, the mind-set of the District's leaders was changing year by year. Seven years after becoming the full-fledged district, and the last year of the former Distinguished District recognition program (2011-2012), District 76 achieved the President's Distinguished District recognition for the first time and ranked as the fifth best district. Also in the first year of the new Distinguished District recognition program (2012-2013), District 76 again achieved the President's Distinguished District recognition and ranked as the fourth best district. These recognitions were what District 76 members really wanted to actually achieve and not be seen as just a dream. These brilliant performances are due to excellent teamwork of the District's members.

To work and serve locally as well as globally has been a goal among District 76 leaders over the years. On March 1, 2014, Kazuko Kawauchi, Distinguished Toastmaster, who played an active part as Lieutenant Governor Education and Training and District Governor in the two consecutively successful years mentioned above was appointed the Region 13 Advisor for 2014-2015 by the Board of Toastmasters International. In view of the proverb, ten years have surely brought many good changes to District 76.

It is thrilling to imagine what new and good things will occur and be written about in the twentieth anniversary commemorative booklet when that time comes ten years from now. It is almost certain that there will be wonderful improvements in District 76 over the next ten years.

Toastmasters in District 76 will strive to make this world a better one by improving and honing communication and leadership skills through Toastmasters activities. The leaders of District 76 hope that its members will provide continuous support and motivation in the many years to come.

District 76 Past District Governors Committee





The Early Days of Toastmasters in Japan

Yoshitaka Okamoto, DTM

As is well-known, Toastmasters International (TMI) was founded in Santa Ana, California by a visionary named Dr. Ralph C. Smedley 90 years ago in October 1924. Thirty years later, in August 1954, Lt. Colonel Frederick Wolff founded Tokyo Toastmasters Club at Haneda Air Base, as the first club chartered in December in Japan. Afterward in 1958, Mr. C. H. Bennett of Pan-American Airways was installed as 1st civilian club president.

In the initial years, the Toastmasters' message of self-improvement was slow to spread and the Toastmaster movement was limited only to military personnel in the US bases. However, as Tokyo Toastmasters Club and others opened their door to Japanese nationals, the movement began to catch on. More specifically, Fukuoka TMC held its first meeting under the joint leadership of Mr. Yoichi Usui and others in May 1954 albeit with no approval by the TMI. Subsequently, the club obtained a Certificate of Permission to include the word "Toastmasters" in its club name in July 1957, and finally the club was chartered in November 1962 as the second (non-military) club in Japan. In addition, Mikasa TMC was chartered in January 1963 at Yokosuka Naval Base as the third club in Japan, Kansai TMC in December 1965, and Atsugi-Zama TMC in May 1970 at Atsugi Air Base as the fifth club.

Meanwhile, the first All-Japan TM Speech Contest was held at Sanno Hotel in 1973, and the contests were held in 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980.

Fussa Speakers TMC was chartered in June 1975, and Kanto TMC was founded by ATM Toru Mori in November 1978 by splitting Tokyo TMC in accordance with TMI's regulation of splitting a club having more than 40 members. Hiroshima TMC was chartered in July 1980, ACCJ (American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, currently Aoyama Lunch) TMC was founded by ATM Toru Mori in September 1980, and Osaka TMC in December 1980. Nagoya TMC was founded by ATM Toru Mori in August 1982 as the first bilingual club in Japan, and Kasugai TMC by DTM Toru Mori in May 1984 as the first Japanese-language club. Tsukuba TMC was founded by DTM Toru Mori in April 1985, and Aichi TMC was chartered in March 1986 as the second Japanese-language club, and Okinawa TMC followed.

In August 1973 TMI opened its membership to women, and the first lady member was admitted at the Tokyo TMC in August 1976. TMI President Robert. W, Blakeley, DTM visited Tokyo for 5 days in February 1977. A Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award was conferred to ATM Toru Mori as the first in Japan on October 26, 1984. (In addition, he received a Presidential Citation of TMI on August 18, 1988.)

Finally, Japan Toastmasters Council was established in April, 1986 with the above 14 clubs except for Hiroshima TMC by DTM Toru Mori.



Fukuoka TMC's Charter Ceremony
Jan. 21, 1963
President Sakae Morioka is receiving the charter certificate.



Tokyo TMC, Old Time Toastmasters, 1960s



Tokyo TMC, President R. Reis & EC Officers, 1969



Tokyo Toastmasters Club 20th Anniversary, 1974



Tokyo TMC, VIP Guest
British Ambassador
Sir Michael Wilford, Mar. 1977



Robert W. Blakeley, DTM, International President 1976-1977 at
All-Japan Toastmasters International Speech Contest, Feb 1977



Tokyo TMC, VIP Guest
Economic Minister, H.E. Nobuhiko Ushiba,
Feb. 1977



Tokyo TMC, Newly-Installed President, Mary Von Hirsberg
and Outgoing-President D Arora, June. 1977

* Photographs on this page were reprinted from the Tokyo TMC's 50th anniversary booklet with permission.

Clubs: 15

Corporate Club ** Advanced Club ■ English Club ■ Japanese Club ■ Bilingual Club

Clubs dissolved before the establishment of District 76 on July 1st, 2004 may be omitted.

Tokyo 1954/12/1 Tokyo	Fukuoka 1962/11/28 Fukuoka	Mikasa 1963/1/1 Kanagawa	Kansai 1965/12/1 Hyogo	Atsugi-Zama 1970/5/1 Kanagawa	Fussa Speakers 1975/6/1 Tokyo	Kanto 1978/11/1 Tokyo	Hiroshima 1980/7/28 (-1996/9/30) Hiroshima	ACCJ→Aoyama Lunch 1980/9/1 Tokyo	Osaka 1980/12/1 Osaka
Nagoya 1982/8/1 Aichi	Kasugai 1984/5/1 Aichi	Tsukuba 1985/4/1 Ibaraki	Aichi 1986/3/1 Aichi	Okinawa 1986/3-1986/6 (-2002/7-2003/6) Okinawa					



My Toastmaster's Experience – Vibrant Age of JTC

Peter Fujiyama, DTM

JTC Governor 1997-1998

Recipient of Presidential Citation 2000

First and foremost, let me thank former chairpersons of Japan Toastmasters Council (JTC), the predecessor to District 76, for the earnest efforts they had made for the development of Toastmasters in Japan, and for the contribution made by the past Governors of District 76. Among them all, one of the most notable toastmasters is Distinguished Toastmaster Toru Mori, the founding governor of JTC, who created it 28 years ago in 1986. Coincidentally, in the same year, I first visited Tokyo Toastmasters Club after seeing the club publicity on the Japan Times. The club was chartered in 1954, the oldest in Japan.

Tokyo TMC, 28 years ago, had had 60 members. One third of them were from other countries. Before my joining the club, it had been split into two clubs: Tokyo TMC and Kanto Toastmasters Club, which was led by DTM Mori. Meeting venue of the two clubs had been located at a fabulous building of the head office of Mitsui & Company in Ohtemachi, Tokyo. The Chairman of the company who had been a Toastmaster in London, generously offered Tokyo TMC the facility free of charge. One day, my evaluator said to me, "TM Fujiyama, my recommendation is you will try to repeat your project number." Wow, I was so shocked, but encouraged to repeat my speech many times until I improve to proceed to the next project number. Unfortunately, nowadays I hardly hear any evaluators make such recommendation in his/her evaluation.

In 1993 to 1994, I volunteered as PR & Publicity Officer of JTC under TM Robert Glino



Members of Tokyo TMC led by President Neal Stovicek, 1989

(Tokyo TMC). Our activity at the time was to secure close coordination between various clubs in Japan and organize main events such as All Japan Speech Contest. When JTC Chairman, Takashi Hayashi, DTM (Tsukuba & Saitama TMCs) was Commissioner of the Nominating Committee, he asked me to run for the chairmanship of JTC Chairman. Encouraged by his strong sense of commitment to boosting the JTC to a District 76 Provisional (D76P), I gladly accepted his proposal and vowed to achieve our goal of elevating the JTC to a district.

Another strong support was assured by Timothy R. Keck, DTM, 1999-2000 President of Toastmasters International (TMI) who was at that time serving the Vice President of TMI. He was a Librarian of the US Air Force in the Pacific Region based in Hawaii and had visited Japan regularly. We struck up a strong friendship since we held a joint meeting of Toastmasters of Japan and Hawaii in 1992. DTM Keck always encouraged me to promote JTC to D76P, and helped me organize several workshops - inviting all past JTC Chairmen and available incumbent club officers - at the U.S. military facility, New Sanno Hotel in Tokyo.

I cannot forget our fine colleagues who had contributed lots to JTC at that time; who played an active role in building momentum to achieve the status of a district were: Akira Saito, DTM and Haresh Kirpalani, DTM.

The Council had 24 clubs when I took the office, but their number finally increased to 34 clubs during my tenure of the office, six clubs short of the requirement to become a district. Great work was done by DTM Kirpalani who served as Chairman in the term of 1999-2000, and we achieved the goal of 40 clubs.

In October 1998, I organized for the second time a joint meeting with Hawaiian toastmasters. Twenty Japanese Toastmasters from ICF Chiba, Tokyo, Shonan TMCs and others attended the meeting held at the Turtle Bay Hilton Hotel in Oahu Island. During that time, DTM Omachi and I visited a Hawaii's advanced Toastmasters Club which held meetings at the U.S. military hospital. We were impressed by the club meeting, and after coming back to Japan, we created Japan's first advanced club called "Tokyo Phoenix (advanced) Club" with DTM Mori. We took the name of "Phoenix" because it symbolized the hope of survival of our members.



2nd Joint Meeting for Japan and Hawaii TMCs held in Honolulu, Oct. 31st, 1998



Charter Ceremony of ICF Chiba TMC, Founder Peter Fujiyama, DTM and Takashi Hayashi, DTM June 29th, 1997



Members of Tokyo Phoenix TMC congratulating DTM Mori who published a Japanese-English dictionary, Dec. 27th, 2013

New Clubs: 29

Corporate Club ** Advanced Club ■ English Club ■ Japanese Club ■ Bilingual Club

Clubs dissolved before the establishment of District 76 on July 1st, 2004 may be omitted.

Kumamoto 1988/6/1 Kumamoto	Yokohama 1988/6/1 Yokohama	EDO 1988/11/1 Tokyo	Breakfast 1990/5/1 Tokyo	Sakura 1991/3/1 Tokyo	Den-en Toshi 1991/4/1 Tokyo	Iwakuni 1991/07-1992/06 (-2011/6/30) Yamaguchi	HAMA 1991/11/1 Kanagawa	Tozai 1992/6/1 Tokyo	Iizuka 1993/3/25 Fukuoka
Sendai 1993/6/1 Miyagi	Tokyo Bilingual 1993/6/1 Tokyo	Shonan 1993/12/1 Kanagawa	Saitama 1994/10/1 Saitama	East West 1995/7-1996/6 (-2002/7-2003/6) Tokyo	West Tokyo 1995/11/1 Tokyo	ICF Chiba 1996/9/1 Chiba	Okayama 1997/4/1 Okayama	Kitakyushu 1997/8/1 Fukuoka	Higo 1997/10/1 Kumamoto
Sapporo Pioneers 1997/10/1 Hokkaido	Niigata 1999/1/1 Niigata	Pacific Pearls 1998/7-1999/6 (-2008/6/30) Okinawa	Dazaifu 1999/6/28 Fukuoka	Musashi→Urawa 1999/10/1 Saitama	Tokai 1999/12/1 Aichi	East-Kobe 2000/4/1 Hyogo	Tokyo Phoenix ** 2000/6/1 Tokyo	KeyForce 2000/6/20 Tokyo	