

# Berkeleyan Jio Originally Began Exchange Program

Berkeleyan Shig Jio can be called the one responsible for taking the first step to establish the Sakai-Berkeley student exchange program.

Long a resident of Berke-



SHIG JIO

... Sakai exchange founder

ley, the former Naval Intelligence language instructor and prominent member of this city's Japanese community, Jio took it upon himself several

years ago to contact Yasunosuke Kawamori, mayor of Sakai in Japan.

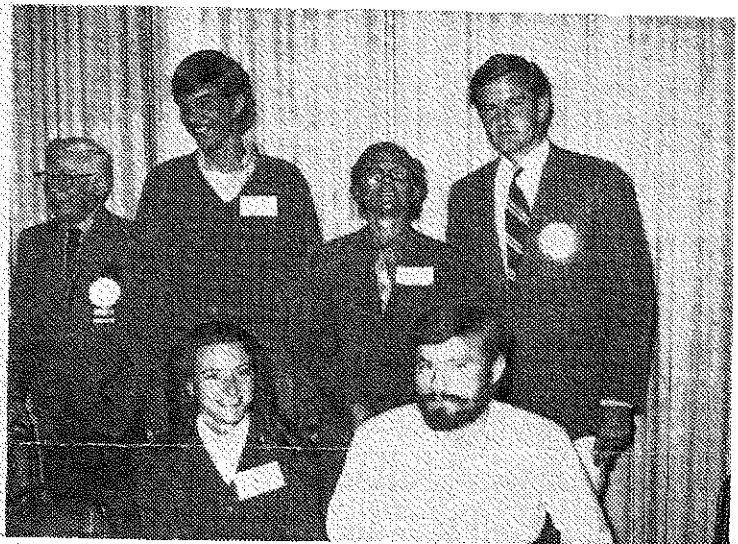
"Mr. Mayor," he said, "in 1956 President Dwight Eisenhower proposed that a people to people exchange might prove to be a major step toward the realization of world peace. Let's you and I propose an annual exchange of student between Berkeley, California and Sakai, Japan."

From this start the now successful program came into being.

A bi-annual Mayors Conference in Berkeley, Mayor Kawamori and Mayor Wallace Johnson enthusiastically supported the idea and the Sister City project was launched.

Berkeley families are invited to host the ten boys and six girls coming from Japan next July 25 to Aug. 10. American students in the host families will be given priority for a place in next year's exchange which will be held in Sakai. Any family interested may contact Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harger, Mrs. Nancy Shimada at the YMCA or other officers and board members Tad Hirota, Jio, William Burton, David Marshall, Mrs. Julian Adams and Mrs. Dwight Gilchrist.

Marty McNair was called on to emcee the program and he announced that he had four outstanding young students from Berkeley who had travelled to Japan as exchange students, with our sister City Sakai being the host for our speakers.



Gene and Marty flank our travellers, Roger Comerford, George Mallman (standing) and Claudia Bugatto and Gregg Branden (seated).

Gregg Branden started the short talk sessions off and told of his impressions of this trip. Gregg is a student at U.C. and he seemed to be extremely sincere in his feelings toward the Japanese family he stayed with and the young people he met in Japan. He trusts that this type of meeting will establish and foster deep relationships between the sister Cities of Sakai and Berkeley.

Claudia Bugatto, a charming young lady, with a fine speaking voice, told of the Rotarian Spirit in Sakai. The Club has 4 branches in the City. One from each point on the compass. The Kids that came over from Berkeley met with these groups and were treated royally. They were given many gifts and taken to many places. They were not treated as tourists, but were accepted as human beings, that came as ambassadors to their country.

George Mallman, was really enthusiastic about his trip to Japan, and all of the side trips the young people had been taken to by their hosts. George now wants to be certain that the same type of thing is done for the 16 youngsters who will come from Sakai next year to Berkeley. He asked the Rotarians present to be a host family to a youngster from Japan, particularly if they have a high schooler in their family. He also asked anyone having a business that they felt would be interesting to the group, to so inform Marty McNair.

Roger Commerford was introduced as one of those who had visited Japan, but he had no talk to give.



Members of the 1971 Berkeley-Sakai Student Exchange donned kimono and happi coats for the wine tasting which benefited the sister-city exchange program. Pictured welcoming a guest are, from left above in lefthand photo, Mia

Kodani, Roger Commerford, Lynn Kreider, Sandra Granich. Ken Lynch poured a taste for Mrs. Steve Davis, above right, while Mrs. William Commerford, left, sampled wine served her by Mrs. Eugene Kodani.

## Berkeley-Sakai Student Exchange Stages Benefit

Brandon Gregg, spokesman for this summer's Berkeley-Sakai Student Exchange, is pictured at left enjoying cheese and wine in adjoining photo while Lynn Kreider, right, explained exchange program to guests. Berkeley students will fly to Japan via JAL July 20, returning Aug. 14. Mrs. Robert L. Bergman, in whose garden on Tanglewood the benefit wine-tasting was held, is pictured center, below.

Balmy weather and summery sunshine blessed the Sunday afternoon chosen for the wine tasting party which benefited the 1971 Berkeley-Sakai Student Exchange. More than 200 guests gathered in the Robert L. Bergmans' spacious garden on Tanglewood for the event, at which the excellent wines served had been generously supplied by the Charles Krug Winery of St. Helena in the Napa Valley.

Students, attired in kimono and happi coats, greeted guests while their parents assisted with pouring.

This summer's will be the fourth exchange of students between Berkeley and her sister city, Sakai, Japan. The students will visit Tokyo, Nikko, Kamakura, Hakone, Mt. Fuji and the Fuji Five Lakes area before arriving at Sakai. There they will be guests in homes while participating in an exciting schedule which has been prepared for them by a committee made up of members from the Rotary Clubs, Lions Club, YMCA, Sakai Board of Education, Physical Training Association, Ladies Society, Boy Scouts, and Sakai-Berkeley Student Exchange Alumni Club.

In addition to visiting many points of interest in Sakai City, the Berkeley visitors will be taken by their hosts to Osaka, Nara, Kyoto and a YMCA Camp on Shikoku Island. Their visit will coincide with the Annual Midnight Fish Fair held on July 31, a tradition of 800 years.

The final fund raising event planned by the Student Group is a Garage Sale on June 19 at 2967 Avalon Ave. (corner of Avalon and Claremont.)







**OFF TO SAKAI** — Mayor Warren Widener gives a smiling send-off to these Berkeley youngsters and chaperones who will depart today for a visit to Berkeley's Sister City in Japan. Making the trek to Sakai are, front row, left to right, Brandon Gregg, Jean Kreider, Derek Dang, Sandra Granich, Robin Taylor and Benja-

min Gregg; second row, Bob Morris, Claudia Bugatto, Chris Frasco, Jio Shigeru, Mia Kodani, Roxanne Shack, Mrs. Jack (Fern) Harger, Chris Koch, Lynn Kreider and Madeleine Bergman; and third row, David Hirota and Roger Commerford.

—Gazette Photo

## Young Berkeleyans to Visit Sakai

Seventeen young Berkeleyans and their tour leader leave this morning for Sakai, Japan, on the fourth student interchange between the sister cities of Sakai and Berkeley.

They are taking to new Mayor Hanroku Haze of Sakai a framed letter from Mayor Warren Widener of Berkeley.

The month-long visit marks the second Berkeley group of young people to visit this city's adopted Japanese partner in the student exchange portion of the program.

THE CITY has also exchanged adult delegations and gifts since the sister city relationship was established in 1967. The second group of young Sakai residents visited here last summer.

Ages of the new Berkeley group of travelers range from 14 to 23.

They will visit various points of interest in Japan before staying in Sakai July 26-August 13.

On the itinerary are Tokyo, Nikko, Kamakura, Hokone, Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Okayama, Tokushima, Takamatsu,

Mount Fuji and the Fuji Five Lakes.

EACH STUDENT will stay with two different Sakai families.

The young delegates, led by Mrs. Fern Harger, group leader, and travel co-ordinator Shiergu Jio, visited briefly with Mayor Widener yesterday.

Widener told the young people he is particularly interested in how the Japanese view Berkeley and suggested a "rap session" between himself and the students on international relations when they return.

## Benjamin Gregg's Diary

# Berkeley's Young Japan Travelers See Many Sights Before Sakai Stay

Berkeley's second student interchange travellers to Sakai, Japan, immersed themselves in Japanese culture during their first week touring Japan, Benjamin Gregg writes.

The delegation, due back Aug. 14, marks the fourth interchange of students between the two cities since the Sakai-Berkeley sister city relationship was established more than four years ago.

Gregg, the Gazette's man on the 17-member delegation, has sent this report back:

Their first night in Tokyo, the Berkeleyans were literally immersed in Japanese culture. After a meal of sashimi (raw fish) eaten while kneeling on tatami mats, many of the students enjoyed a furo, or bath. This traditional Japanese ritual takes place in a large room with hot and cold water faucets at either end.

EACH STUDENT washed while sitting on a foot-high stool and then rinsed down with small wooden buckets.

Following this, according to Gregg, "one soaks luxuriously, sitting neck-deep in a three-foot deep pool in the center of the room." The ritual is completed by drying off with a damp towel.

The next two days were spent sight-seeing about Tokyo. "Japanese taxis are appropriately called 'kamikazes,' says Gregg. "Our driver spared nothing getting us to the Sony Factory where we, a bit shakily, joined an

impressive tour of their factory."

But Japan is far more than the factories, hair-raising traffic, and glitter of Tokyo's modern city life. It is also a country of fabulous natural beauty and Berkeley's exchange students were fortunate to view much of it.

THEY TRAVELLED to "beautiful" Lake Chuzenji which is reached by means of twisting mountain highways. One highway goes up, the other down and the tour bus had to negotiate 45 hairpin curves in the round trip which concluded with a stop at Kegon Waterfall, a favorite tourist attraction, Gregg wrote.

In his diary, Gregg recalls that "large elevators, carrying more than 20 people, lowered us to platform from which to view the falls, reminiscent of Yosemite."

The students continued to tour the lush Japanese country side. Stopping in Kamakura, they visited the Daibutsu or Great Buddha. This immense 93-ton bronze image of 42 ft. high with a hollow interior and stairs that make it possible to walk up into the image's head.

Cast in 1252 and having survived a tidal wave in 1495 that washed away the hall housing it, the figure "brought awed exclamations from all," according to Gregg.

THE TOUR stopped at Hakone Barrier which, in feudal isolationist Japan, served as a customs station where travelers were required to present passports and state the purpose of their journeys.

A structure of traditional Japanese architecture, it contains many wax figures of "frightening-looking samurai, swordsmen and runners."

Mountains provide some of the most striking sights to be experienced anywhere and Japan's Mt. Fuji is one of the world's most famous. The contingent of exchange students were housed briefly in an inn, or ryokon, within view of this dramatic mountain, Gregg said.

He describes an exciting day for the travelers:

"After an early breakfast, the group was driven to the fifth station of Mount Fuji. There are ten 'stations' on Mount Fuji, each indicating a higher elevation. At each, food and drink are available, though expensive.

"MOST OF us bought a hiking stick at the fifth station

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and at each station thereafter one could have a mark burned onto the stick signifying attainment of that elevation, for 30 yen (less than 10 cents).

"There were many people that day, mostly Japanese, and although the climbing on Mt. Fuji's volcanic rock is not easy, we saw children and old people alike walking up.

"There is one route for climbing up and another for sliding down. A few of us only went as far as the sixth station, more to the 10,000-ft. eighth station but four students, Brandon Gregg, Claudia Bugatto, Jean Kreider and Roger Commerford hiked to Mt. Fuji's peak."

Gregg casually concludes that the six-hour climb to the top was difficult because of the "rain and sleet that were constant after the eighth station." Understandably, everyone slept soundly that evening on their futons, or Japanese bedrolls.

ON THE final day of Gregg's report, the group finally arrived in Sakai, Berkeley's sister city. On the way, they took in Owakudani, a valley of sulfur fumes and hot springs. Of more interest to the students, however, was a long line of some 600 uniformed Japanese schoolgirls as several stops were made to shake an infinite number of hands.

After travelling for three hours aboard an express train known as Kodama, or The Bullet, the Berkeleyans were enthusiastically welcomed by Japanese BSSE students who had visited Berkeley last summer.

Introductions and speeches followed at Shiminkaikan, the local Citizen's Hall, as each student finally met the host family with which he will live for the next week.

This "emotion-filled evening" is the start of perhaps the most important and enriching experience the group will have, Gregg wrote.



# Seeing Japan Through Eyes Of Berkeleyan

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of articles written by student Benjamin Gregg, who has been reporting a day-to-day account of the recent trip to Sakai, Japan, by members of the 1971 Berkeley-Sakai Student Exchange Program.)

By BENJAMIN GREGG

Today, (Aug. 6) the Berkeley students viewed a segment of the vast industrial might which characterizes 20th century Japan.

The three large factories we visited are all located in the littoral industrial zone — an area entirely reclaimed from the sea.

Shortly after 10 a.m. we arrived at Shinnittetsu, the largest steel mill in Sakai, there to be greeted by one of the company's administrators, who happened to be the father of "Duke" Kaneko — a member of the 1970 Sakai-Berkeley Student Exchange. After a brief introduction to the plant's physical layout, the students donned grey company jackets, steel helmets and white gloves. Only petite Claudia Bugatto was small enough to fit the Japanese-sized clothing.

AS WE CLIMBED out of the bus after a half-mile ride from the administration building to the oxygen blast furnaces, we were greeted by a wall of heat. We climbed the stairway into the main furnace area, standing on a 20-foot high catwalk which crisscrossed the building. As we viewed the giant furnaces, engineers hurried past to make periodic checks on the modern machines. As the iron ore, limestone and coke were fed into the furnaces, they were super-heated into a white-hot molten liquid.

The Berkeleyans were again awed at the rivers of molten steel which ran below them, often forced to turn their backs to shield their faces from the inferno. Soon the heat became too much to endure, and the students were driven, completely soaked with perspiration, from the building.

Next we visited the forming mill, where the red-hot steel is formed into a variety of block "I" shapes. Giant conveyor belts transported the steel from one area to the next in this mammoth building, where, at the end, finished "I" beams were unloaded. Once, while watching the beams being formed, sparks and chunks of red-hot steel the size of buck-shot exploded from the processing machine below towards us. Were it not for a steel-mesh safety screen, our heavy jackets, and helmets, several of us would have received burns. Although highly automated, this mill was greatly lacking in safety features; in the blast furnaces our lungs were burned by breathing some of the particles emitted into the air.

THE FINAL STOP on our tour of the steel mill was the rolling mill, where red-hot rolls of steel were firstly flattened into rolls of 25-inch thickness, 8 feet in width and perhaps 100-125 feet in length. The second and final flattening followed, with the still-hot steel being showered with water as it moved quickly on the conveyor belt to a machine which flattened it into a strip one third as thick as before. After their impressive tour, the students had lunch at Shinnittetsu, courtesy of Kaneko.

Our second visit of the day was to Hitachizosen, or Hitachi shipyards — builders of the world's largest tankers, having dead-weights of over 100,000 tons. Here a new

## Berkeleyan Reports On Japan Trip

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super-tanker is built at the rate of one every 2½ months. The Total tonnage of ships produced by Hitachi is more than that of Sweden, the world's third-ranking ship-building country. Again the students were given steel-helmets for protection. We were not allowed to take photographs inside the buildings, as the techniques which Hitachi pioneered and employs are still secret. Inside the plant we were instantly dwarfed by our surroundings: massive sections of future super-tankers, and cranes as tall as a 10-story building. Basically, Hitachi's method is to build ships in sections; each of the many shops turn out just one type of section, and later the several large sections are joined together. We observed much computerization in Hitachi's works.

OUR THIRD and final stop was to Mitsuikoatsu, a large chemical plant. The students learned that Mitsuikoatsu's production of urea is among the largest in the world. After a brief film on the various methods used to make different chemicals, we took a short bus ride to view the storage tanks and a vast network of pipelines. Returning to Shiminkaikon, we were met by our host families, and each student left for his Sakai-home.

Aug. 7 — Free day with host families.

Aug. 8 — Free day with host families.

(To be continued.)