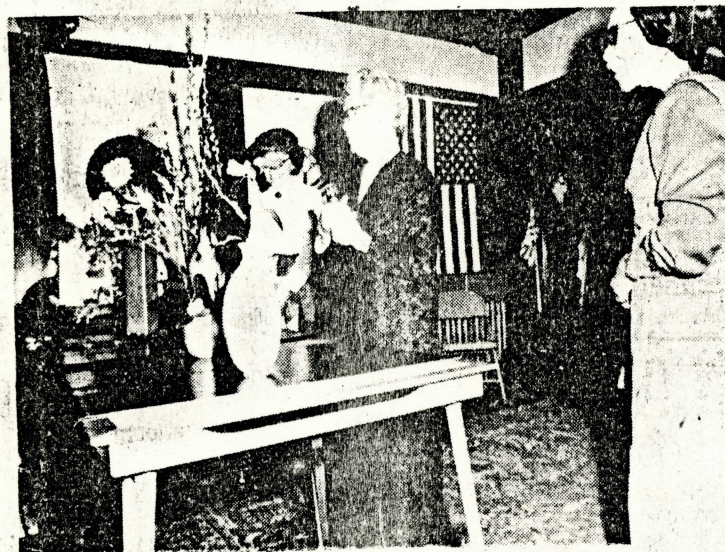


10th Anniversary of Association



Berkeley Mayor Widner Reports of Hospitality Enjoyed at Sakai Sister City

BERKELEY — A special dinner and program at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Charles Koch on Feb. 13 marked the 10th anniversary of Berkeley's Sister City organization. Association members presented a program featuring facets of traditional Japanese culture which delighted the more than 100 members and guests in attendance.

Mayor Warren Widner began the program on an enthusiastic note as he recounted his visit to Japan last August. He told of the hospitality shown him in Sakai, the reception for him at City Hall, sightseeing in Kyoto, and visiting the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department.

Ikebana, the art of Japanese flower arranging, was deftly demonstrated by Mme. Haruko Obata, teacher for over 60 years in the Bay Area, and her talented assistant, Mrs. Asao Sakaki. An explanation of the art by Mrs. Henry Takahashi enhanced the demonstration. Stunning arrangements by Mrs. Robert Bergman, Mrs. Susumu Nakamura and Mrs. Takahashi graced the dining hall.

Shigeru Jio, founding father of the Berkeley - Sakai Association, shared one of his many talents with a demonstration of Sumi-e, Japanese brush painting. Several of his paintings were then donated to the silent auction being conducted by students of the Student Exchange

Alumni Club, the proceeds of which will be used to entertain Sakai Exchange students who will visit Berkeley next August.

No program of Japanese culture would be complete without a demonstration of one of the martial arts. This was supplied by Asao Sasaki, 5-dan,

black belt, and his student, David Aoyagi, who donned judo suits and showed many of the holds of the sport.

The local availability of Japanese objects of art as well as everyday accessories for Japanese dining was made known through exhibits by Mrs. Bernice Ellis of Robert Bruce of Berkeley on Telegraph Ave., and Mr. & Mrs. Ted Ono of the Gift Basket on Solano Ave.

Dancing of the traditional coal miners' dance, Tanko Bushi, by the Alumni Club students and Sakai visitors finished the evening's program with a flourish.

During the business meeting, the following new officers for 1976 were elected: Marie Gilchrist, chairman; Roger Bales, vice-chairman; Fumi Nakamura, recording secretary; Barbara Takahashi, corresponding secretary; Henry Garber, treasurer; Marlin Fulrath, publicity; Kim Koch, Alumni Club chairman. Directors elected were: Claudia Bugatto, Tad Hirota, Marie Mitchell, M. E. "Gus" Moore, Asao Sakaki, Rick Sherman, Gretchen

Wulfinf and Frank Yamasaki. Honorary board members are: Shigeru Jio, chairman; Mayor Warren Widner, Eugenie Bugatto, Fern Harger and Tess Koch, directors.

Special guests for the evening were Sakai visitors Katsumi Murakami, Noboru Masuda, and Izumi Yasui. Also, Councilpersons Shirley Dean and John Denton were introduced.

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PICTURED ABOVE shows Mme. Obata (center) and Mrs. Henry Takahashi (left) describing an Ikebana arrangement. (Photo by Harger of Berkeley)