

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

ウエーブ
茅ヶ崎 波 倶楽部

Sea breezes are like precious friends, easing your mind, and whispering encouragement to you.

Chigasaki surfing stories (3) A new wave of wetsuits

You may have noticed that surfers wear colorful wetsuits these days; some wear suits in black, blue, gray or other colors, and some wear multi-colored ones. Wetsuits also have a wide variety of design: with or without stripes; a front, back or cross-shoulder zipper; a high or normal neck; and whatnot. The clothing should be good at maintaining a comfortable body temperature, and be easy to put on and take off. But it should not inhibit the wearer's movement.

Nouvelle Vague International Japan (NVIJ), in Midori-ga-hama, is a wetsuit manufacturer. Yasuhiro Igarashi set up the company on his own in 1983 after working in the industry for many years. NVIJ annually supplies around 8,000 suits made to order under four brand names via about 200 sporting goods stores in locations stretching from Hokkaido to Okinawa. When these stores receive orders, they take the customer's measurements and send the figures to the company along with the written orders.

NVIJ's storeroom is filled with colorful suit materials. They are closed cell foam neoprene rubber sheets, three to five centimeters thick, backed or sandwiched with jersey fabrics of various colors. Bubbles of gas within the rubber enhance its thermal insulation properties. One suit consists of about 30 pieces and these pieces are glued to each other with adhesive. Then, the glued areas are taped and blindstitched. The process makes the seams stronger without diminishing its waterproofing capability, because this sewing method does not make holes through the rubber sheet. Igarashi says the sewing technique of domestic manufacturers is superior to their foreign competitors. NVIJ holds a patent on no zipper suits, utilizing highly elastic material.

Did you know a small amount of water enters the suits? This is the reason why they are called *wetsuits*. But the water trapped between the suit and the surfer's body works as an insulation layer. *Drysuits* are designed to prevent water from entering, and used by, for example, scuba divers. NVIJ takes its products as trade-ins, which are recycled as solid fuels. URL: <http://www.nouvellevague.co.jp/>



September - Disaster Prevention Month

The Great Kanto Earthquake, which occurred on September 1, 94 years ago, destroyed 2,112 of Chigasaki's 3,426 houses. Another devastating earthquake hit eastern Japan six years ago. The M7.3 Kumamoto earthquake struck central Kyushu in April last year. Torrential rains cause floods in western Japan almost every year. Japan is a natural disaster-prone country. You should always be prepared.

As for Chigasaki, however, a large fire is a big concern. The conflagration in Itoigawa, Niigata in December last year could occur in the city, as [many districts](#) to the south of the Tokaido Line are cram-full with houses.

District disaster prevention drills will be conducted from September 9 (Sat) in Nango to November 19 (Sun) in Shyorin. [Various hazard maps](#) and [information](#), including tsunami temporary evacuation places and even what to do when ballistic missiles are coming, are on the City's Website. Take a look at them when you have time.



Gathering for peace memorial Sadako's paper crane lands on Chigasaki

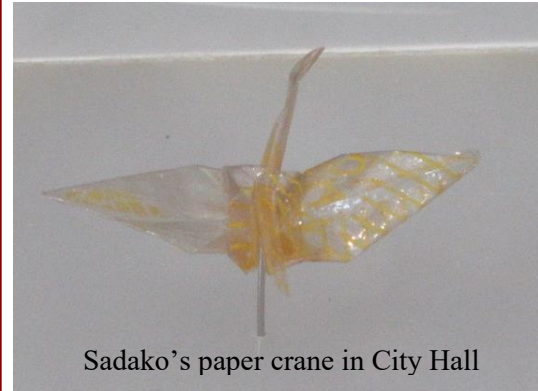
The City of Chigasaki has annually held a peace memorial meeting on August 15, the anniversary of the end of the Pacific War, since the city declared itself a peace city 55 years ago. The annual meeting aims to confirm that Chigasaki will make an effort for the realization of permanent peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. The executive committee of the meeting consists of citizens and delegates dispatched from several groups as well as City Office. This year's meeting was held at the Community Hall of the City Hall annex. Primary and junior high school students who drew excellent posters or wrote good essays about peace were awarded and works by them were exhibited in the hall.



In the meeting, one of Sadako's paper cranes was presented to the city by her elder brother, Masahiro Sasaki, who is the representative of

NPO 'The Sadako Legacy'. Her paper cranes have so far been presented to five cities in Japan and 13 cities in foreign countries, including museums in Austria and the USA. Mr. Sasaki told the participants that his sister developed leukemia at 10, and had to die at only 12 years old.

Sadako folded paper cranes while she was confined to bed in the hospital, hoping for her recovery. Sadako's statue holding a paper crane at Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima is also known as a peace symbol. He said it was important to strive for mutual understanding by respecting other people's opinions, although it was not easy. How one thinks of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, for example, depends on whether or not one is Japanese.



Sadako's paper crane in City Hall

Chigasaki co-operates with Fujisawa and Kamakura to promote a campaign to realize a world without nuclear weapons by 2020. The crane she folded with a sewing needle is exhibited on the first floor of City Hall.

Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

Group To Record Shonan Area

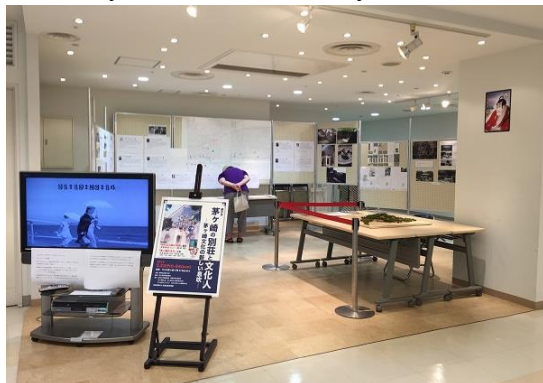
Group To Record Shonan Area has dug deep into the Chigasaki of the Meiji Era, focusing on people, and put its achievements on record. A member, Kusunoki says the development and modernization of Chigasaki as a cottage area started in 1898 when Chigasaki Station started its business on the nation's busiest railway, the Tokaido Line. In addition to a Kabuki actor, the ninth Danjuro Ichikawa, who had built a villa in today's Heiwa-cho a year earlier, government bureaucrats, scholars, show business people, including Otojiro and Sadayakko Kawakami, built their cottages in Chigasaki.

When the exhibition of the Kawakamis was held at Chigasaki Museum of Art in 2011, Mr. Kusunoki and his friends helped gather information on the actor and actress. (See the photo on the right.) They continued to inquire into people connected to the city, and set up the group of their own in June 2013 to further promote their research activities.

With a grant from the city office in fiscal 2015, the group displayed their research results on Shogoro Tsuboi (1863-1913), one of the founders of anthropology in Japan, who had his cottage in the city, at LUSCA in May, and at the city library in September.

The group introduced details of his wide-ranging achievements, for example, archaeological activities, unique toys he designed and picture books as well as many of his friends. (See the photo on the left.)

The group investigated old shipping tools in the warehouse of the Toma family, an ocean-freight forwarder in the Edo Era. They made a list of items, and noted down each of them on a card with its photo. They also inquired into singer-songwriter Azenbo Soeda, a contemporary of Otojiro. Mr. Kusunoki says they want to share their findings with other volunteer groups and citizens.



Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 苦は楽の種

KU WA RAKU NO TANE

KU means pain, WA to be, RAKU pleasure, and TANE seeds.

Making a strenuous effort to solve a pressing issue is equivalent to sowing the seeds of pleasure in the future. Your hard work will surely bear fruit. This proverb was in *Shinobigasa-jidai-makie*, a book for amusement, published in 1828, the late Edo Period. A similar proverb, noted as *the Horse of an Oldman in northern China*, says pleasure is the seed of pain, and pain is the seed of pleasure, or a joyful evening may follow a sorrowful morning.

Its English equivalents are:

- Ⓞ No pain, no gain.
- Ⓞ Every cloud has a silver lining.
- Ⓞ There is no pleasure without pain.

(2) 転ばぬ先の杖

KOROBANU SAKI NO TSUE

KOROBANU means not to fall down, SAKI NO before and TSUE a walking stick.

If you walk with a stick, it will support you when you stumble. Figuratively, this proverb says preparations for a rainy day will save you, if anything should happen. People take out insurances on themselves and their properties even though they do not expect such emergencies to happen, do they?

This proverb appeared in *Igagoe-dochyu -sugoroku*, a Japanese ballad song. It was first played in Osaka in 1783, the middle of the Edo Period.

Its English equivalents are:

- Ⓞ Forewarned is forearmed.
- Ⓞ Prevention is better than cure.
- Ⓞ Good watch prevents misfortune.

History of Chigasaki

Pathways in Kowada and Hishinuma (2)

Hama-michi

Before World War II, there were seven families in Kowada which owned fishing nets and boats, on either side of the Tokaido (today's Route One): Motofune (Original Net in English), Nii-ami (Kind Net), Nishi-ami (Western Net), Hadaka-ami (Bear Net), Ko-ami (Small Net), Toku-ami (Virtuous Net) and Shin-ami (New Net). They did beach seining on Kowada beach. These families employed laborers, who were called *hikiko*, or people to haul the net. There were three pathways to the beach from Kowada. ([The street view for one of them](#))

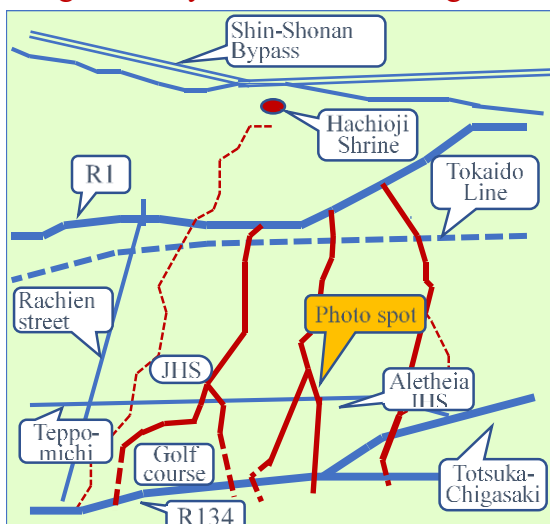
Beach net fishing was carried out several to many times a day depending on weather and the tide. Fresh fish were sold on the beach to brokers, and peddlers called *botefuri*, who carried two baskets filled with fresh fish on either side of a pole. As young sardines were usually caught in large quantities, any leftovers were dried on the beach and used as fertilizer.

When fishers got a good haul, a group of a few *hikiko* ran back along the hama-michi to the god Inari, the guardian deity of their districts, in order to offer several fish threaded through their gills on a string, shouting *yogou* or *kakeyo*. It is said the residents learned of the big haul when they heard the voices. *Kakeyo* stems from *kake-uo*, a string of fish. The families held parties called *okiagari*, the blessing of the sea, to appreciate the labor of their *hikiko*.

Local people walked along a hama-michi to the beach carrying a bag on their backs to collect pine leaves for fuel. They also picked up a variety of edible mushrooms called Truffle, or Shoro in Japanese, which are rarely seen today, and Beach silvertop, or Hamaboufu, to eat its boiled leaves.

In those days, there was a broad dune called Kowada bathing beach. Somewhere on the shoreline, the sea water recedes far to sea. Such places were called *okime*. Older people taught children they must keep away from the danger zones. Such places are inhabited by edible shellfish called Umbonium giganteum, or Danbeikisago, and fishers, wading in up to their chests, gathered the shellfish with metal nets.

Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage booklet 1



Nature in Chigasaki

Autumn Darter, or *Akiakane*

The red dragonfly is a general term for the twenty-one *Sympetrum* species, and the autumn darter (*Sympetrum frequent*) is the most familiar species in the genus *Sympetrum*. The adult autumn darters live longer than those of other species. They live in the mountains during scorching summers and we see them flying in schools over rice paddies and swamps after the autumn rainy season has finished. The body length ranges from 32mm to 46mm, having a brown-colored head and chest, and red-colored abdominal section. When the autumn darter rests, its transparent wings sit lower than its body, which is one of the characteristics of this species. Their eggs hatch into larvae in spring, followed by the emergence of adult dragonflies in early summer. They lay eggs in pools such as rice fields in late autumn and end their lives in December.



It is reported that the number of autumn darters has substantially decreased, and the decrease started around the year 2000, which was probably caused by a new pesticide, according to researchers. Another reason is loss of wetland.

A children's song entitled '[Red dragonflies](#)' is so popular in Japan that most people can sing it. Chigasaki citizens are attached to the song, and volunteer groups constructed monuments of 'Red dragonflies' in Chuo-park (the photo on the left) and Takasunaryokuchi in honor of a famous composer, Kousaku Yamada, who once lived in the city and set the lyrics, written by Rofu Miki, to music. The groups were also instrumental in persuading the City to play the music at 5:00 pm (4:30 pm in winter) from loud speakers set all over the city.



Welcome to the Chigasaki People's Museum!!

The people's museum is preparing for an exhibition, from October 14 to March 31, 2018, on the history of Nanko-In (today's Memorial Taiyo-no-sato Garden). Nanko-In was built by doctor Koan Takata as a sanatorium for tuberculosis in 1899 and developed into one of the best sanatoriums in the East. In 1945, it became the Japanese Navy's property, and discontinued medical services. After World War II, it was used by the allied forces. The first ward of the sanatorium (photos on the right) was renovated and reopened in April, 2017.

One of the first three patients was the widow of Kaishu Katsu, who contributed greatly to promoting the Meiji Restoration in 1868. Famous novelists, including Jukichi Yagi and Doppo Kunikida, were also hospitalized. The upcoming exhibition will surely deepen your knowledge about the historical value of Nanko-In.

Kaishu Katsu (1823-1899): he is noted for his role in the peaceful surrender of Edo Castle. As one of the leading figures of the Tokugawa Shogunate, he negotiated with Takamori Saigo, the commander of Satsuma, today's Kagoshima, and made an effort for the peaceful transition of power from the Tokugawa shogunate to the Meiji government.

《About people's museum》

■Opening dates/hours: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays
April-October: 10am-6pm (enter by 5:30pm), November-March: 10am-5pm (enter by 4:30pm)

■Access from the south exit of Chigasaki Station.

1) 20 to 25 minutes' walk 2) 5 minutes' ride on Kanachu Bus bound for the south exit of Tsujido St. (#02 or #13) /Get off at Higashi-Kaigan-Kita-5-chome and walk for 5-8 minutes 3) 8 minutes' ride on the Community Bus bound for Matsugaoka/ Get off at the Kaiko Takeshi House and walk for 1 minute

For more information go to:

http://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/shisetsu_info/s_kyoiku/1013649.html



Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce & Industry Photo Exhibition

Photos taken by Chigasaki CCI Photo class members were exhibited at the Citizen Gallery, on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki, from Aug 9 to 13. Thirty-four scenic pictures by eleven members and instructor Hironobu Mada invited visitors to the world of light and shadow. Some of them were fantastic and some were realistic. Some were vivid and some were monochromatic. The group has a regular monthly meeting at the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry on every second Friday.

Access: ono@chigasaki-cci.or.jp ☎ 0467-58-1111



The 43rd Southern Beach Fireworks Display

About 3,000 fireworks were launched off Southern Beach Chigasaki on the evening of August 5. Rapid successive launching, underwater fireworks, and many original rocket fireworks provided a wonderful fifty minutes for spectators who placed themselves at favorite spots along the long shore. On Nango beach, children shouted for joy when large flowers came out against the backdrop of the night sky. Blessed with fine weather, visitors fully enjoyed the traditional mid-summer event.

Videos are in Chigasaki Wave (responsive) and Pictures of the Month (responsive).

Invitation to Kamakura – Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine

Just walking for a few minutes from Kamakura Station to Wakamiya-Oji Street, you can see Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine standing majestically surrounded by trees over a Torii gate. The shrine was originally built by an ancestor of Great General Shogun Yoritomo Minamoto, who took power in the Kamakura Era (1192-1333).

It was revolutionary in those days for a samurai warrior, Yoritomo, to have come to power after more than 480 years of aristocratic rule under the command of the Emperors. Yoritomo dedicated a guardian deity for the samurai government to the shrine.

When you enter the precincts, you'll find two ponds on each side of the approach. There are three islands in the Genji (the Minamoto clan) pond on the right, and four islands in the Heike (the Taira clan) pond on the left. Three is pronounced 'san' (産) in Japanese, meaning 'productive', and four is pronounced 'shi' (死), meaning 'death', which reflects Yoritomo's wish for Genji's victory against Heike. In summer, there used to be white lotus flowers on the right and red lotus flowers on the left, symbolizing the color of each clan's fighting flag: Genji's flag was white, Heike's was red, but nowadays the two ponds are a riot of red flowers and white flowers.



Reitaisai (the most important festival of the shrine) will be held from September 14 (Thurs) to 16 (Sat). Yabusame (horseback archery) will be performed on the 16th.

This 'Invitation to Kamakura' was contributed by a Kamakura citizen who is interested in Chigasaki Wave. The new series will provide readers interesting information on her old city.

Events in September and early October

Chigasaki City Museum of Art (<http://www.chigasaki-museum.jp/>)
☎ 0467-88-1177 FAX: 0467-88-1201)

Across the Ocean, the exhibition of the Hawaiian kilts owned by Honolulu Museum, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the city's incorporation, and the third anniversary of the sister city relationship between Chigasaki and Honolulu. From Sept 10 (Sun) to Nov 5 (Sun)



Chigasaki City Museum of Art



The 50th Japan Women's Softball League in Chigasaki

Softball games between four teams in the supreme division of the JWSL will be held at [Chigasaki Park Baseball Stadium](#).

Sept 2 (Sat) at 10:30 Taiyo Yuden vs SG Holdings, 13:00 Hitachi vs Nihon Seiko

Sept 3 (Sun) at 10:30 Hitachi vs Taiyo Yuden, 13:00 SG Holdings vs Nihon Seiko

Admission fee (¥ at the ticket window of the stadium): adult 1400, JHS and HS student 1000, ES student and younger free. General seating.

Citizen Gallery (☎ 0467-87-8384) at the exhibition room on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki

Weekly exhibitions of paintings, handicrafts, photos and all that.

Admission free

- The 12th Yuki-kai Exhibition (Yuki-kai): Aug 28 (Mon) to Sept 2 (Sat)
- Bihoukai sketch exhibition (Bihoukai Chigasaki): Sept 3 (Sun) to 8 (Fri)
- The 18th exhibition of the Chigasaki Bokuga (Indian-ink drawing) Association: Sept 15 (Fri) to 18 (Mon)
- Exhibition of uni-color works (Patchwork quilt circle): Sept 22 (Fri) to 24 (Sun)
- The exhibition of Seisai-kai (Shonan art): Sept 28 (Thurs) to Oct 1 (Sun)

The 21st Chigasaki Mayor's Cup Amateur Surfing Contest

The traditional surfing contest will take place near the headland beach on Sept 3 (Sun). The opening ceremony starts at 7:00 am. More than 150 surfers from Chigasaki and neighboring cities will participate. When waves and other conditions are considered unsuitable, the contest will be postponed until Sept 10 (Sun).

Contact: Shonan festival implementation committee in the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry

☎ 0467-58-1111 URL : http://www.chigasaki-cci.or.jp/shonan_festival/, <http://nsachigasaki.blog.fc2.com/>



Yabusame at Samukawa and Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrines

Samukawa Shrine will perform annual horseback archery at 14:00 on Sept 19 (Tues), the day before Reisai, the shrine's most important festival.

Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine on Sept 14 (Thurs). See the article *Invitation to Kamakura* on page 5.

Chigasaki Jamboree 2017 An open-air bluegrass music concert will take place at Chigasaki Satoyama Park on September 23 (Sat) from 10:00 to 17:00, rain or shine. Admission free. About fifteen local bands will gather. You can enjoy shopping for American food, trinkets and local specialties.

Contact: Chigasaki City Tourism Association on 0467-84-0377

For more information: go to <http://www.chigasaki-kankou.org/jamboree/>



The 10th Koide River Higanbana Festival

The festival will be held at several sites in Chigasaki, Samukawa and Fujisawa on Sept 23 (Sat, Autumnal equinox day) from 10:00 to 15:00. The flower season will be from late September to early October.

Festival sites: Shin-michi bridge in Serizawa, Oidashi bridge in Ozo, and Daikoku bridge in Fujisawa. Contact: Chigasaki City Tourism Association on 0467-84-0377, Samukawa Tourism Association on 0467-75-9051, and Fujisawa on 0466-55-4141

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!