

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.

A Silent Force behind Deep-Sea Exploration SGK SYSTEM GIKEN CO., LTD

SGK SYSTEM GIKEN CO., LTD, in Matsuo near the Hamamidaira housing complex, has been making a significant contribution to deep-sea exploration through its excellent underwater acoustic technology. Since radio waves and light are strongly absorbed by seawater, acoustic technology plays a major role in underwater research. The company's products have been supporting various kinds of underwater projects: transducers for behavioral research on marine mammals such as whales off the Ogasawara Islands, and river dolphins in India; and acoustic communication systems for seabed resource, methane hydrate for example, exploration projects. The company has business relations with the University of Tokyo, a national research and development agency called the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, and many others.

Its product line consists of acoustic transducers, which transmit and receive underwater sound waves; acoustic positioning systems to locate the position of underwater objects; acoustic imaging systems to explore and avoid obstacles underwater; and acoustic communication systems for data and command transmission. The cylindrical device in the photo below is a deep-sea transponder used in the exploration of the world's deepest Mariana Trench (which reaches a maximum-known depth of approximately 11,000 meters), lying just southeast of the Japanese archipelago. The device, perhaps the only one of its kind around the world, kept working during the exploration against a pressure of one ton per cm² and caustic effects of seawater.



Deepwater transponder



Towing Vehicle with the device on

President Tetsuo Fukuchi established the company in 1983 after working for Oki Electric Industry Co., a major communication equipment manufacturing company in Japan, for over thirty years. At Oki he was engaged in the development of underwater acoustic systems, which have been one of the company's mainstay technologies since it started business 34 years ago. Japan has the world's sixth widest exclusive economic zone, while its land area is 61st. Mr. Fukuchi says their underwater acoustic technology will continue to be instrumental in ocean exploration in the future.

URL. www.sgktec.co.jp/

The beach was less crowded this summer.

Southern Beach Chigasaki had about 138,000 visitors this summer, a 7% drop from the same period last summer. In July, blessed with fine weather, the number of visitors increased by 7%, compared with the same month last year. But in August a long spell of wet weather and stationary Typhoon No. 5 saw the figure drop by 15% from the same month last year, making the total number during the two summer months smaller than last year.

The number of visitors in Fujisawa and Kamakura also substantially decreased. Fujisawa had 1,540,000 visitors, a 36.3% drop, and Kamakura 596,700, a 13.7% drop from last summer, respectively.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

Ryuto-kai, a lantern-making group

The leader of *Ryuto-kai*, Tsuguo Yamaguchi, said he started making lanterns with his friends in 2010, hoping their hand-made paper lanterns would lighten their local area, *Yanagishima*, and facilitate the development of an enjoyable, culturally rich community. As there are many families which have lived in *Yanagishima* for generations, he has many childhood friends. Some of them and one of his teachers at primary school felt sympathy for his desire.

The paper lantern is made of a square boxy wooden frame and four sheets of laminated Japanese paper with pictures on, and has a small LED bulb inside. About 20 regular members, and supporting members, including 7 *Nakashima* Junior High School students and some from a kids group called Acorn Club, draw pictures full of creativity and imagination to decorate four big lanterns and 40 small lanterns. These pictures consist of ink-wash paintings, Japanese calligraphies and water-color paintings. Pictures are annually replaced with new ones, but the frames are used repeatedly for as long as possible.

Members replace pictures in January and February. These handiworks are displayed six times a year: at *Yanagishima* Shrine on the eve of *Hamaori Festival* in July; in the *Bon-odori* festival of the local women's association, and *Nandemo-yoichi* in *Chuo koen* in August; at the exchange party between local residents and *Nakashima* Junior High School, and in *Reitaisai*, the most important festival of *Yanagishima* Shrine, in September; and also at the shrine from December 31 to January 2.

These lanterns are water- and wind-proof. Hisayoshi Imasawa, one of Mr. Yamaguchi's friends from his childhood, exclusively takes on the maintenance of the frames and the fitting of LED bulbs. When all lanterns are lit, a fantastic atmosphere is produced. Group members hope the viewers will share a desire for a joyful community with them. Mr. Yamaguchi engages in the activities with an old saying in mind. "*Buddha* was more pleased with one lantern a poor woman donated from her heart than with 10,000 lanterns a rich man did for show."



Nature in Chigasaki

Daurian redstart

The Daurian redstart, slightly smaller than the sparrow, is often spotted nationwide in winter. The migrant bird comes from Northeastern China and the neighboring area of Lake Baikal. The visitor is not that shy of humans; it sits on branches of trees, including *Eurya Japonica* and *Pyracanthas*, and stays on the ground in our house yards or parks. The bird's breast, belly and tail are yellow, and there is a white spot at the center of each wing. The male has a colorful appearance with a gray head and black face as well as an orange belly, but the entire body of the female is covered with grayish brown feathers. The Daurian redstart is a territorial bird, and fond of a solitary life. Its Japanese name 'Jyobitaki' is derived from [its song](#), which is like the sound of a flint being hit with a piece of steel.

According to [an observation record by the city and a volunteer group](#) in 2007, the small bird was observed in almost every area of the city. The northern districts such as Chigasaki Satoyama Park, Amanuma and Shimizuyato were not its only habitat. It also lived in residential areas near and between the Sagami and Koide Rivers, including Hagisono, Hamanogo, Enzo and Honson. The bird was observed even along the coastal strip to the east of R134: the beach, groves between the beach and R134 and Eboshi Rock. It was observed that the bird ate nuts as well as small insects such as centipedes and ladybugs.

It will soon be here!



Interested in Japanese proverbs?

(1) 言うは易く行うは難し

IU WA YASUKU OKONAU WA KATASHI

IU means to say, WA to be, YASUKU easy, OKONAU to practice and KATASHI difficult.

You can say anything, if you only say. But to practice is not as easy as just saying. Therefore, boasters are generally unpopular. But there are some people who deliberately make promises something that cannot easily be kept, and drive themselves into a corner so that they have no choice but to accomplish it. As is often said, a desperate man can do anything. So it may be a good way to concentrate one's efforts on their task.

This saying was in *Entetsu-ron*, which was compiled in China in the 60s BC. The many-volume proceedings faithfully recorded arguments about a monopoly on salt (en) and iron (tetsu) in the 80s BC.

Its English Equivalents are:

- There is a great difference between word and deed.
- Sooner said than done.
- From words to deed is a great space.

(2) 酒は百薬の長

SAKE WA HYAKUYAKU NO CHO

SAKE means rice wine, WA to be, HYAKUYAKU 100 medicines, NO of and CHO the best.

As rice wine relieves your tension, and makes you feel fine, it is better for health than any other medicine as long as you take it moderately. This proverb was in *Kanjyo*, or [Book of Han](#), a Chinese history book completed around AD 80. Essayist Kenko Yoshida (1283 ~ 1350), however, said in *Tsurezure-gusa* that most diseases were caused by sake. Therefore, don't drink too much. How about tasting sake quietly on a long night in autumn, as haiku poet Bokusui Wakayama (1885 ~ 1928) recommended.

Its English Equivalents are:

- Good wine makes good blood.
- Wine is the panacea of all ills.
- Wine begets blood, and water phlegm.



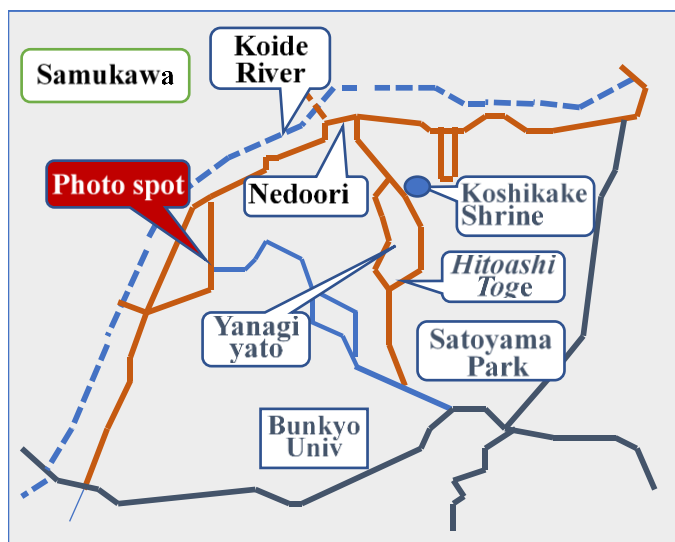
History of Chigasaki

Pathways in Koide (1) - Serizawa

There is only one place which is called a mountain pass in the city. Going north toward *Koshikake* Shrine through *Satoyama* Park, you will reach *Hitoashi Toge*, or One Step Pass, where a *koshinto* stands by the roadside. There is a legend that *Yamato Takeru-no-mikoto*, an Imperial prince of ancient Japan, got off his horse to take a rest at the shrine when he came to *Kanto* to subjugate the area. During the rest, he sat down on a stone and viewed Mt. *Fuji*. Therefore, the shrine is called *Koshikake* Shrine, or Sit-down shrine. Overlooking east from the pass, you will see *Zenkoku* Temple, houses and a downward slope.

To the west a narrow pathway covered with fallen leaves goes down a steep slope to *yato*, or a low, wet land. The trail used to be called *mikoshi-michi*, a pathway for a portable shrine, as *mikoshi* went along the path to visit settlements in *Serizawa*, after it returned from *Hamaori* Festival. Therefore, the trail was also called *murawatari-no-michi*, or a trail through which *mikoshi* went around villages. The downward slope splits into several paths at the bottom of *Yanagi-yato*, where a traveler's guardian deity is enshrined. One goes up to a ridge, and another goes along the edge of the low, wet land. The latter, which is relatively flat and preserves the atmosphere of *yato*, reaches a rice paddy, and then meets the above-mentioned path from *Hitoashi Toge*. *Serizawa* is located at the southernmost point of *Koza* Hill, and is called *Kujuku-yato*, or ninety-nine low-lying wetlands in English. There are many undulations which create the geographical features of *yato*.

Going further northwest along the pathway from *Hitoashi Toge*, it merges into *Nedoori*, or a path going around the foot of a hill. As the name implies, it goes along the northern edge of the hilly area. Passers-by have a view of paddy fields on either side of the *Koide* River. The east end of *Nedoori* was *Daikoku* Bridge in *Fujisawa* and its west end *Kitakata* of *Shimoterao* in *Chigasaki*. *Nedoori* played an important role in everyday life of villagers. They started expanding the path ([Google street view](#)) in 1976 and finished it in 1996.



Autumn – the Season of Exhibitions, Cultural Festivals and Field Events

Exhibition of Indian-ink drawings

The Chigasaki Bokuga Association held its 18th exhibition from September 15 to 18. About 60 works drawn by its ten members were displayed in the exhibition room on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki. Black and white fantasy worlds attracted visitors. Some used not only black but red, yellow and other colors as well. Most of the members had learned other categories of painting before joining the association. They practice together for



three hours under the tutelage of Toyoko Miyasaka, a Chigasaki citizen, on second and fourth Saturdays at Nespa Chigasaki.

The picture of crabs (on the left) is one of five works of an ES fourth grader. She has studied for only a few years. Leader Kazuto Kurachi, who has been drawing for six years, says it is a great pleasure to see his drawings gradually nearing completion.

Hawaiian Quilt Exhibition at the City Museum – Across the Ocean

Twenty quilts, owned by the Honolulu Museum of Art, are being exhibited in Chigasaki City Museum of Art in collaboration with the Hawaiian museum. The exhibition will be held until November 5 (Sun).

It is said quilts originated in northern Europe. In early days, quilts were three-layered textiles: two cloths and cotton between them were sewed together, and people used them to keep off the cold. Puritan emigrants took quilts to the US, and then the wives of American missionaries brought them to Hawaii around the first half of the 19th century.

Many of the twenty quilts have a large pattern of the subtropical flora of the islands with axially symmetric designs. Some others have a pattern of flags and crowns, indicating quilters' reminiscences of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

The textile on the right is entitled "In the beginning" finished in 1989.

See the event article on page 6, too.



Yabusame at Samukawa Shrine

Around ten archers performed horseback archery at *Samukawa* Shrine on Sept 19 (Tues), the day before *Reisai*, the shrine's most important festival. The traditional event, praying for a bumper crop and peace, has continued for more than 800 years since the *Kamakura* Period.



History of the main shrine of Samukawa Shrine

A diorama of the *Samukawa* Shrine in the early 14th century, and detailed scale models of the main building in the Edo, Taisho, Showa and Heisei Periods were exhibited from September 16 to 22, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the completion of the current main building. These models showed how the building became larger each time it was rebuilt.

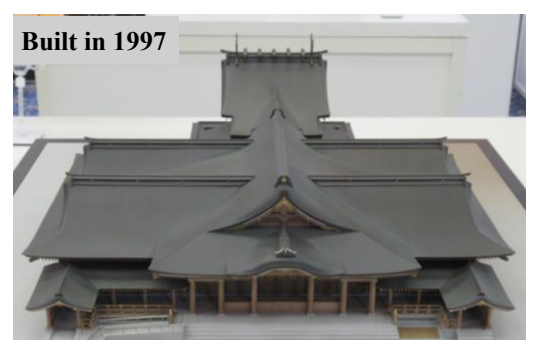
The shrine was founded in 727 and has since been the most prestigious in the neighborhood and later in the ancient Sagami-no-kuni, today's middle and western part of Kanagawa Prefecture. It was often reconstructed with major repairs in between. A lot of exhibits indicated that the shrine was under the protection of successive emperors and then feudal warlords, including Emperors Yuryaku and Ninmyo, and warlords Yoritomo Minamoto, the Odawara Hojo family, Shingen Takeda and the Tokugawa family as well as the Meiji government.



Early in the 14th century



Built in 1741



Built in 1997

Events on Sept 23 (Sat, Autumnal Equinox Day)

The 10th Koide River Higanbana Festival

The annual *Higanbana* Festival was held in Chigasaki, Fujisawa and Samukawa.

Despite the cloudy sky and a muddy trail due to the rain early in the morning, hikers enjoyed strolling through several kilometers of red belts on the *Koide* River banks. Fresh vegetables raised by local farmers attracted visitors, too.



Chigasaki Jamboree 2017

About fifteen bands from Chigasaki and other cities performed bluegrass music. The multipurpose square of *Satoyama* Park was filled with cowboys and cowgirls. There were more middle-aged and elderly people than those in their 20s and 30s. It was fun to watch quite a few visitors enjoy country dancing to the music.

Chigasaki Environmental Fair 2017

Various events were held in City Hall and Comprehensive Gymnasium. Many groups and companies explained their activities for environmental protection using exhibition panels.

Dancing groups, a brass band and a Japanese drum group performed on the stage. Applicants were offered a test ride on *Mirai* or other electric vehicles.



Events in October and early November

Chigasaki Citizen Cultural Festival

The 57th Chigasaki Citizen Cultural Festival will be held at public facilities near the station from October 2 (Mon) to December 3 (Sun). All events except the tea ceremony will be free of charge. Those in October and early November are in the table below. Enjoy watching and listening to various performances!

Performances on stage

Noh Chant Festival - Oct 8 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:15 at [Elderly People Welfare Center](#)

Japanese Dance - Oct 8 (Sun) 10:30 ~ 16:00 at [Welfare Center Hall](#)

Classical Concert - Oct 8 (Sun) 13:00 ~ 17:00 at [Youth Hall](#)

Chanson & Canzone - Oct 14 (Sat) 13:00 ~ 16:00 at [Studio Berceau](#)

Classical Vocal Concert - Oct 15 (Sun) 14:00 ~ 16:00 at [Youth Hall](#)

Autumn Concert - Oct 22 (Sun) 13:00 ~ 16:30 at [Youth Hall](#)

Chigasaki Ohayashi Festival - Oct 22 (Sun) 10:30 ~ 15:50 at [Community Hall](#)

Biwa Concert - Oct 29 (Sun) 12:30 ~ 16:00 at [Community Hall](#)

Ginkenshibudo (Japanese dancing with a sword while reciting Chinese poems) - Nov 3 (Fri) 9:40 ~ 17:00 at [Welfare Center Hall](#)

Exhibition

Chrysanthemums - Nov 1 (Wed) ~ 13 (Mon) 9:00 ~ 16:00 in front of [Comprehensive Gym](#)

Calligraphy - Nov 3 (Fri) & 4 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, Nov 5 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00 at [Citizen Gallery](#)

Literary Art

About samurais in Sagami - Oct 2 (Mon) 11:00 ~ 16:30, Oct 3 (Tues) ~ 5 (Thurs) 10:00 ~ 16:30, Oct 6 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 16:00 at City Hall 1st floor

Haiku Festival - Oct 8 (Sun) 9:00 ~ 16:30 at [City Library](#)

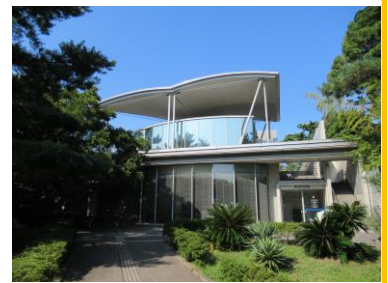
Tanka Festival - Oct 21 (Sat) 13:00 ~ 16:00 at [City Library](#)

Tea Ceremony - Nov 3 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 15:00 at [Shorai-an](#) (fee: 700 yen)



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

Across the Ocean, the exhibition of Hawaiian quilts 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. Until Nov 5 (Sun), Admission fee (yen): Adult 700, Univ. Student 500, HS Student and younger free, See the *Across the Ocean* on page 4.



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 7th photo exhibition (Shonan photo club): Oct 5 (Thurs) to 9 (Mon)
- The 7th exhibition of pictures and sculptures: Green secret base (Kitamachi molding studio) Oct 13 (Fri) to 15 (Sun)
- Handicraft work exhibition: Works by the Etsuko Chuma hand-knitting circle: Oct 17 (Tues) to 19 (Thurs)
- Picture exhibition: MOA Museum Chigasaki children works exhibition (MOA Chigasaki healthy life network): Oct 20 (Fri) to 22 (Sun)
- Photo, woodcut and cloisonné ware exhibition: Joint exhibition (Saiyukai): Oct 26 (Thurs) to 29 (Sun)



Morning Fish Market at Chigasaki Fishing Port

The autumnal morning fish market will be held on Oct 17 (Tue) from 9:00 am at the shipping area of Chigasaki Fishing Port. Fresh fish caught off Chigasaki and in neighboring fishing areas will be on sale. This and the early summer morning market are so popular that most of the fish are usually sold out in thirty minutes.
Contact: Chigasaki fishery cooperative on 0467-82-3025

Hiking along the Sagami Line

The annual hiking event will take place on Oct 21 (Sat). A long course, about 10.3 km, starts at *Iriya* ES in Zama, passes through Zama Park, Sky Arena Zama and Sagami Giant Kite Center, and finally reaches Nojima Football Park. A short course, about 7.7 km, also starts at *Iriya* ES, passes through Zama Park and reaches Nojima Football Park. The first 800 applicants will be accepted. Reception desk and time: *Iriya* ES near *Sagami Iriya* Station on the Sagami Line between 9:30 and 10:30. Application: the urban policy section of City Hall on 0467-82-1111, or 0467-57-8377 (FAX). Applications have been accepted since Sept 1.



Citizen Fureai Festival

The 34th Citizen Fureai Festival will take place at Chuo Koen on Nov 3 (Fri, Culture Day) from 10:00 to 15:00. Nearly 80 groups will set up their stalls and about 20 groups will perform dance or play musical instruments on the stage. In addition, Hawaiian workshops will be open.

Agricultural Festival in Autumn will also be held on the day.

Chigasaki Velo Festival 2017

Velo Festival will take place at Chuo Koen on Nov 11 (Sat). The details of the event have yet to be announced. But usually in addition to the road races, many games related to bicycles are played, and bicycle parts shops open.



Chigasaki Makana Hula Festival

The international event takes place at the Comprehensive Gym and City Hall from Nov 3 to 5. Entrance fee (yen) to each of the daytime and night-time competitions on Nov 3: Adult 3,000, JHS student or younger 2,000. Workshop on Nov 4 and closing event on Nov 5.



The 21st Chigasaki Rainbow Festival

No details have been posted yet. Perhaps around Nov 12 (Sun) at *Satoyama* Park. Brass bands, hula dance groups, a high school cheerleading club, and a university Japanese drum club will perform on the stage. Local farmers' market will open. Many food stalls will also be set up. There will be gardening and kids corners, too. Free buses will be operated from Chigasaki and Kagawa Stations.

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!