

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.

Project T for Japanese-made Tourbillon Watches YUKI Precision (3)

When it comes to watches, many people would think of quartz and radio-controlled watches. These have the highest accuracy and yet retail at affordable prices. However, there is another group of watches which have different values from those manufactured by automated mass production.

Some people may know gravity adversely affects the precision of watches, and around 1795 a French watchmaker invented a mechanism called tourbillon (French for “whirlwind”) for countering the effect. The insides of the tourbillon watches are filled with gears, screws, plates and so many other elements that only a limited number of gifted watchmakers are able to make them with a long and sustained effort. Therefore, watch-collectors regard the timepieces as elaborate art works rather than industrial products, and they sometimes pay more than \$100,000 for such handcrafted, sophisticated watches.

YUKI Precision, a machining company in Enzo, has been participating in “Project T” since Hajime Asaoka, an independent watchmaker, proposed in 2012 to develop Japanese-made tourbillon watches. The other member is OSG, one of Japan’s major cutting tool manufacturers.

The role of YUKI Precision is to provide Asaoka, a designer and an assembler, with most parts; one tourbillon watch consists of about 140 different elements, every one of which is microscopic, thin and light. See the photo on the left. In addition, they must have enough strength so difficult-to-machine metals such as titanium alloy and stainless steel are also used. Needless to say, extremely high precision is required for all parts; the tolerance range for several is only ten micrometers. These requirements have made cutting operations quite challenging. YUKI Precision, however, already had excellent ultra-precision machining techniques when the project started. The

machining company has accumulated a great deal of know-how, while supplying various products to aerospace companies.

The project’s watches have incorporated a lot of their own ideas. For example, the case has three-dimensional curved surfaces, and about half of the ruby jewel bearings were replaced with ball bearings whose external diameter is 1.5 mm, the world’s smallest bearings. These and other specifications have provided their products with elegance and beauty as well as higher shock-resistance, along with high precision and high competitiveness.

About YUKI Precision, also see CWs 8 and 9.



Photo by YUKI Precision



Photo by YUKI Precision

The flu season has started.



Classes at primary and junior high schools in the city started to be temporarily closed due to flu in November, and since mid-December the number of flu sufferers has been rising sharply. During the third week of December, the average number of patients at eleven monitoring hospitals jumped to 15.3, exceeding a warning level of 10, which is in marked contrast to the 5.5 recorded in the same period last flu season, according to the Chigasaki municipal health center. The season usually peaks sometime in January or February.

Infected children, and adults too, develop a high fever. Have you had a flu shot? And there should be no need to emphasize the importance of washing your mouth, throat and hands when you come home.

Hospitals during New Year holidays

Emergency hospitals

Chigasaki municipal hospital: Honson 5-15-1 ☎ 0467-52-1111
Shonan-tobu general hospital: Nishikubo 500 ☎ 0467-83-9111
Chigasaki Tokushukai hospital: Saiwai-cho 14-1 ☎ 0467-58-1311

Night time emergency hospital

Regional medical center 1F
Honson 5-9-5 ☎ 0467-52-1611
Internal medicine 09:00 ~ 23:00
Pediatrics, surgery and dentistry
09:00 ~ 17:00

Public facilities will be closed during the holiday period

City Office, branch offices, gymnasiums, heated pool and care centers: December 29 (Fri) ~ January 3 (Wed)
Sports parks and sports grounds, community centers and public halls: December 28 (Thurs) ~ January 4 (Thurs)
City library and branch libraries: December 25 (Mon) ~ January 5 (Fri)
Chigasaki support center: December 27 (Wed) ~ January 3 (Wed)

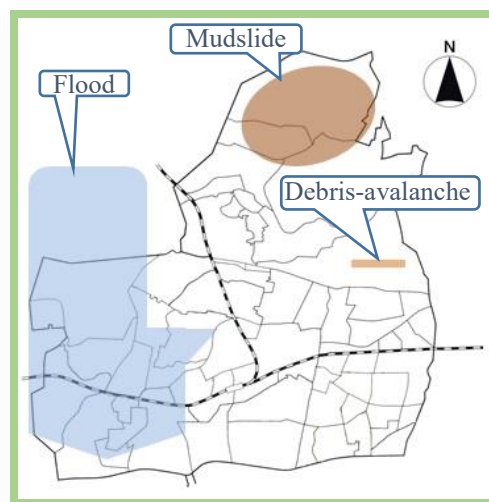
Flood and landslide hazard maps

Over the past ten years, torrential rains have caused more floods and landslides than before. The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, and Kanagawa Prefecture have jointly published the areas which are expected to become submerged when 567mm of rain falls in 48 hours, the maximum rainfall in the past, over the Sagami River system. In December, based on this information, the city of Chigasaki updated flood and landslide hazard maps, which are posted on the following website.

http://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/_res/projects/default_project/page_001/027/854/map_high.pdf

According to the hazard maps, districts which would suffer 1-3 meters inundation are those: between the Sagami and Koide Rivers (Hagisono and Nakajima); between the Koide and Sen-no-Rivers (Shimomachiya); and south of the Sen-no-River (Nango, Matsuo and Hamamidaira).

Debris-avalanches would occur along the edge of Akabane plateau, and mudslides in Namegaya and Serizawa. The map on the right gives an outline.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

Workshop Rakuan (1)

A workshop called Rakuan, in Hamatake near JR Tsujido Station, has been supporting people with higher brain dysfunction since 2003 so that they can lead a normal life again. Their brains have become impaired from various causes: traffic accidents, the economy-class syndrome, brain diseases or other accidents. The current head of the group, Hiromi Kondo, says even though some people look as if they have almost recovered, residual damage in their brains makes it difficult for them to return to society.

In 1993, Ms. Kondo's husband, a computer engineer, exerted himself to gather and repair used PCs in order to provide opportunities for many disabled people to use PCs, as he had learned that PCs were a useful communication tool for them, and also helped them to recuperate. In those days PCs were almost five times as expensive as today. In 2003, the regional workshop *Rakuan* was set up at its current location. And in April 2006, he established the Specified Nonprofit Corporation *Chigasaki Universal Design Square*, after the Law to Support Independence of Disabled People was enforced, and the City Office brought a regional welfare plan into operation. When her husband passed away several years ago, she took over his activity.

The workshop with eight staff members is not a large facility, but has been doing a lot of activities. It is open from Monday to Friday and has accepted everyone who wants to come. Currently, about 30 people come to the workshop to learn how to use PCs, or to enjoy weaving, sewing or making pottery. In addition, some people cultivate vegetables on its farm in Namegaya, northern part of Chigasaki. A kiln to bake the pottery is also set up on the farm.

They will have an exhibition of their works on January 8 (Mon) and 9 (Tue) from 10 am to 3 pm at Rakuan to sell some of them. In addition, Aya Kojima will give a concert of Okinawan folk songs on January 9 from 2 pm also at Rakuan. Why don't you take a look at their works and listen to her songs?



Interested in Japanese proverbs?

(1) 笑う門には福来る

WARAU KADO NIWA FUKU KITARU

WARAU means to laugh, KADO a family or a house, NIWA to, FUKU happiness and KITARU to come.

A house filled with laughter invites good fortune. If you behave cheerfully even when you have a hard time, good fortune will come to you. This proverb was in Koshoku-mankintan, a popular story about everyday life in the Edo Period.

Another proverb says laughter is the best medicine. Modern medical science tells us laughing activates immune cells, including NK cells, and suppresses the secretion of stress hormones. May the new year bring laughter to everybody. Its English equivalents are:

- Laugh and be fat.
- Laughter will make one fat.
- Be always as merry as ever you can; for no-one delights in a sorrowful man.

(2) 目は口ほどに物を言う

ME WA KUCHI HODO NI MONO WO IU

ME means eyes, WA to be, KUCHI the mouth, HODO NI as much as, MONO things and WO IU to speak.

An expression in the eyes is as eloquent as the mouth. Therefore, even if you keep silent, others can tell what you are thinking about from your eyes. This proverb was in Yanagidaru-shyui, a collection of senryu in the Edo Period.

Eyes not only betray your secrets, concern or plots. They also express your desire to be friendly, polite, sincere and kind. A person with a gentle look in his or her eyes seems to be more likely to get people's sympathy and support. This is something worth remembering, isn't it? Its English equivalents are:

- The eyes have one language everywhere.
- The heart's letter is read in the eyes.
- I know your meaning by your winking.

History of Chigasaki

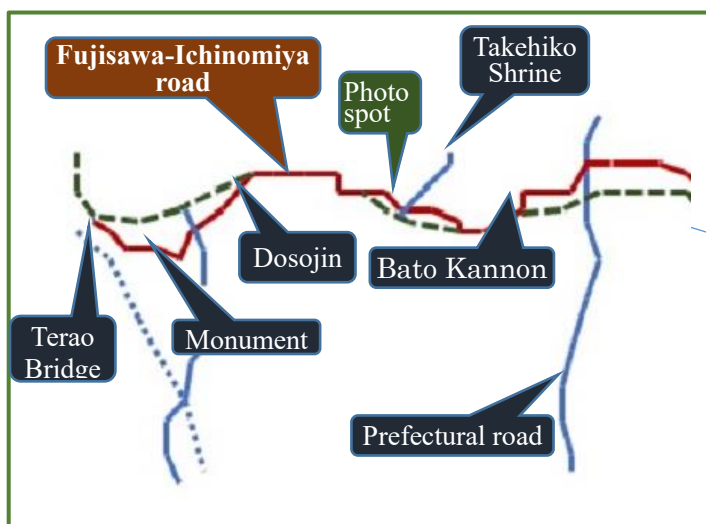
Pathways in the Koide district (2) Fujisawa-Ichinomiya Road (2)

Going further west after crossing the prefectural road, Fujisawa-Ichinomiya road curves to the left, and at the right side (the north side) of the curve, stand three stone images of the Buddha. One is Bato Kannon, or a horse-headed Kannon in English, installed in 1862. On its right side face (the eastern side face) "Ichinomiya road", and on its left side face (the western side face) "Fujisawa road", are engraved*. But these words indicate opposite directions. Presumably, this Bato Kannon used to stand on the other side of the road (the south side). Along with a name Hachirouzaemon, who promoted the construction of these images, thirteen stewards: three in Fujisawa, one in each of Onba (which is today's Ebina), Fukaya (today's Ayase), Zengyoji (Fujisawa), Kowada and ?gaya (unreadable) as well as five residents of Tsutsumi are carved. A group of people who used horses for work are also engraved, which indicates that the road played an important role in those days.

* the faces of the stone images are so eroded that it is difficult to figure out what is written on the surfaces.

Passing through this point, the road merges with Tsutsumi-Shimoterao road. On the right corner of the intersection, there is Soto Sect Shogakuin Temple with a red gate, in which Hotei of Koide Seven Deities of Good Fortune is enshrined.

Fujisawa-Ichinomiya road still goes west, passing by the entrance of Takehiko Shrine, then, branches off to the right but merges again. Before reaching Chigasaki Hokuryo High School, the road branches off to the left, where Dosojin, or a travelers' guardian deity in English, stands. Fujisawa-Ichinomiya road, after crossing the street which goes to JR Kagawa Station, reaches a monument of a complete seven-structured temple compound. This area has attracted attention in archaeology as the remnants of an ancient temple which is assumed to be a complete seven-structured temple compound have been uncovered there. See the next article. In the playground of the high school, remains of a moated settlement of the Yayoi Period and the government office of Takakura Gun were found. Fujisawa-Ichinomiya road, rich in historic remains, continues over Kanega Bridge, which is called Terao Bridge today, before finally reaching Ichinomiya. (Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage booklet 1)



The 60th anniversary of erecting the statue on the site of Shichido-Garan Temple Compound

The 60th anniversary of erecting the statue with the inscription “the site of a seven-structured temple compound”, 3.6 meters high by 0.45 meters wide, was celebrated on the morning of December 16 (Sat) in front of the statue. The ceremony started with the address of the leader of the remnant preservation association, followed by those of Mayor Hattori and other guests. In the second part, 6th graders of Koide Elementary School presented a lot of plans for utilizing the site.

Historians and residents of Chigasaki and Samukawa, 142 in total, promoted the building of the statue. They were sure that a large temple complex was there, and the statue would help their belief to be handed down from generation to generation. As one of the speakers pointed out, if it had not been for the statue, the site would have been developed without leaving any trace.



Blessed with fine weather, the 1.5-hour ceremony proceeded in a calm atmosphere. Some attendants would have thought over the ancient county office, officials, residents and society. The writer thought about the enthusiasm and efforts of the 142 people. Later, in 2015, their wish bore fruits when the Shimoterao Kanga Remains: the county office, the county temple, a wharf and a religious service ground, were designated as a national historic site.

On the following day, a symposium on cultural assets and remains was held at City Hall. Akira Matsuda, a Tokyo University Professor, said in his lecture that it is important that local residents become familiar with the cultural asset, and that the city office and residents should jointly study how to utilize the asset.

(Events in December)

Photo exhibition, the last event of Citizen Cultural Festival

A photo exhibition was held by the Chigasaki art group federation, which consists of five groups, at Nespa Chigasaki from December 1 to 3. It was the final event of the Chigasaki Citizen Cultural Festival, which lasted from October 8 to December 3. Most of the 45 photos were scenic pictures: the beach, mountains, skies, woods and whatnot. Some were quite colorful and some were restrained in color. But many photos made visitors feel like going to the spots.



Christmas Concert at Chigasaki Municipal Hospital

The 2017 Chigasaki Municipal Hospital Christmas Concert was held on the evening of December 8 (Fri) from 17:30 to 18:15. Despite the drizzling rain, a large room on the second floor was filled with a warm and festive atmosphere. The concert consisted of three parts; three clinical laboratory staff members played wind instruments, three doctors played violins and one of them juggled skillfully, and the Shorin Junior High School chorus group sang with gestures. Many hospitalized patients and their relatives enjoyed popular melodies.



Welcoming Spring Nebuta Lights at Samukawa Shrine

Customary Nebuta lights (9 meters long by 2.6 meters high) on the gate of Samukawa Shrine will be turned on at sunset, from January 1 (Mon) to February 3 (Sat, Setsubun). This time, the Nebuta features the main building of the shrine, commemorating the 20th anniversary of its construction. On the evening of December 20, about 300 LED lamps installed inside were lit on a testing basis and Nebuta bayashi was performed.



Daruma market at Dairokuten Shrine



Daruma markets used to be seen everywhere in the year-end season. However, the number of those markets have been growing smaller and smaller. Here in Chigasaki, it is held only in the precinct of Dairokuten Shrine in Jyutsukenzaka on December 27, regardless of the day of the week.

This year, seven shops opened. Most of them were from Hiratsuka. Around 5 pm, the precinct became a little crowded mainly with local residents. On the following day shops moved to Ichinomiya in Samukawa, and then will open at Samukawa Shrine in the new year. Daruma is a symbol of tenacity. Even if tumbles seven times, it rises eight times.

Nature in Chigasaki

Nipplewort

Quite a few Japanese people still preserve the tradition of eating rice porridge with seven spring herbs on January 7. This custom came from China in the Heian Period (794 ~ around 1190 AD). Ancient Chinese people believed that rice gruel with seven different vegetables repels evil spirits. Japanese people believe that the porridge gives a rest to their stomachs and intestines which have been fatigued because of eating sumptuous feasts and drinking too much alcohol during New Year holidays.

One of the seven spring herbs is nipplewort. Its Japanese name is 'ko-oni-tabirako'. The herb is also called 'hotoke-no-za'. It is a composite biennial grass, having yellow flower heads and groveling rosette, which make people think of a Buddhist's pedestal, or hotoke-no-za in Japanese. As the plant grows on damp ground, it is often observed in rice paddies and on raised footpaths.

What makes things confusing is the fact that there is another 'hotoke-no-za' (common henbit in English). The wild plant belongs to the mint family, but is inedible. The plant with purple little labio-shaped flowers is often seen from March to June at waysides and corners of a garden.

The seven spring herbs are: Japanese parsley (Japanese name, seri), shepherd's purse (nazuna), cudweed (ogyo), chickweed (hakobera), nipplewort (hotoke-no-za), radish (suzuna) and white turnip (suzushiro). Junior high school students once memorized these names as well as the old names of the months. The simplest way is to repeat the names to tanka's 57577 rhythm - seri nazuna / ogyo hakobera / hotokenoza / suzuna suzushiro / haru-no-nanakusa.



Ko-oni-tabirako: photo by Kazuhiro Kishi



Hotoke-no-za: photo by Kazuhiro Kishi

Invitation to Kamakura (3) The Great Buddha of Kotoku-in Temple

(A bimonthly serial)

At the mention of Kamakura, most people immediately picture the Great Buddha in Kotoku-in temple. Leaning slightly forward as if he is trying to whisper into our ears, the 11-m high and 121-ton sitting statue stands out against the backdrop of the blue sky and greenery. The Great Buddha looks gentle and generous.

An estimated 500,000 people a year visit to see the statue. However, few people know the fact that there are almost no records about the Great Buddha. Of course, we hear various stories about the statue, but real stories, for example, about who built the statue and for what purpose, have been lost in the mists of time. How and why the wooden statue was rebuilt in bronze, also, according to an expert, remains a mystery.

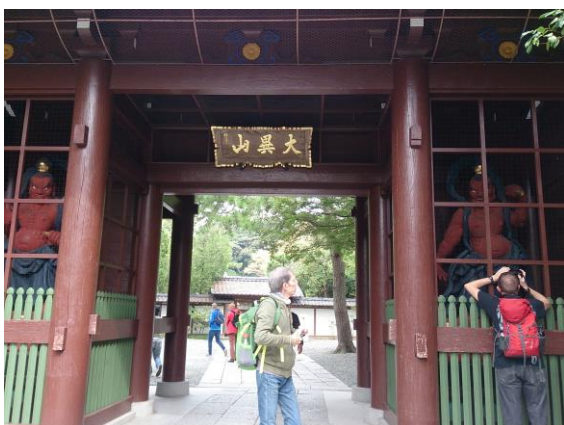
What we do know is that the statue was originally made of wood, located in a large hall and completed in 1243. But it was subsequently replaced with a bronze one, apparently

due to the ravages of typhoons and tsunami waves, since we know it has sat in the open air since a tsunami in 1495.

Some experts say that the great general Yoritomo Minamoto planned to build the Great Buddha to show his power.

Unfortunately, he died without realizing his wish, and his successors took over his scheme. Others say that the Great Buddha was built by a rich person, Tokuro Morinaga Adachi, who owned the area of the Kotoku-in temple, to pacify vengeful spirits. Mysteries arouse our curiosity.

(A Japanese sweet shop near Kotoku-in)



Don't you think the Great Buddha looks rather mysterious?



Events in January and early February

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

●Exhibition of works by Kosuke Oka: from Dec 10 (Sun) to Feb 4 (Sun) Admission Fee (yen): adult 500, college student 300, HS student free

Ekiden

●The 94th Hakone Ekiden

Hakone Ekiden will be held on Jan 2 (Tue) and 3 (Wed). Runners will run through Chigasaki between 10:00 and 11:30 am on both days. They run really fast! The Yanagishima Kite Club will fly chain kites also on the two days.

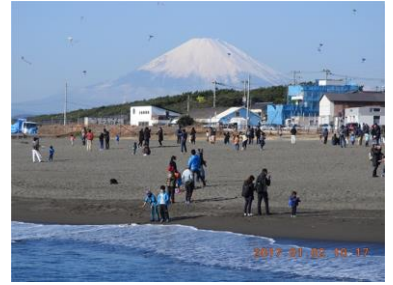


Photo: by Yanagishima kite club



●The 80th Konan Ekiden

The 80th Konan Ekiden, the oldest Ekiden in Kanagawa, will be held on the morning of Jan 8 (Mon). Commemorating its 80th anniversary, a dream team consisting of runners who participated both in Konan and Hakone Ekiden, will take part. The starting and finishing lines as well as the takeover zone are all in front of Comprehensive Gymnasium. Women's races will begin at 8:15 am and men's at 8:55 am.

The New Year's display by firefighters

The New Year's display by Chigasaki city firefighters will be held on TOTO Chigasaki plant's ground on Jan 7 (Sun) at 9:30. Acrobatic performances on a ladder by the members of the Chigasaki old fire-fighting preservation association, and water discharging all at once from fire pumps by the city fire department members will take place.

Dondo-Yaki

Dondo-Yaki is a festival usually held on January 15 marking the end of New Year celebrations. People throw their old ornaments onto a big bonfire. The event is held at various places in the city around the second weekend. At Satoyama park, for example, on Jan14 (Sun) from 13:00 to 15:00

Solar cooking at Satoyama Park

How about trying solar cooking? All you have to do is bring food materials. Every first Sunday from 10:00 to 14:00 at Sato-no-Ie in Satoyama Park.



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

Picture and plastic art exhibition by Takasuna sunny bee kid art class - Jan 11 (Thurs) 13:00 ~ 18:00, 12 (Fri) 11:00 ~ 18:00, 13 (Sat) 11:00 ~ 17:00

Hiroshi Tomoyasu photo exhibition by Dept. Media expression, Bunkyo Univ. Jan 14 (Sun) 13:00 ~ 19:00, 15 (Mon) 11:00 ~ 19:00, 16 (Tues) 11:00 ~ 18:00

Calligraphy by Kagetsu calligraphy group – Jan 19 (Fri) 12:00 ~ 19:00, 20 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 19:00, 21 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Painting exhibition by Atelier Latsucum – Jan 22 (Mon) 13:00 ~ 19:00, 23 (Tues) 10:00 ~ 16:00

The 47th woodprint exhibition by Chigasaki woodprint group 'Ai' – Jan 25 (Thurs) 12:00 ~ 17:00, 26 (Fri) & 27 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 28 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Painting exhibition by Dessin group Amigo – Jan 30 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 31 (Wed) to Feb 3 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, Feb 4 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00



Setsubun Festival

A bean-throwing ceremony marking the last day of winter takes place annually on February 3, no matter what the day of the week, at temples and shrines. For example, [Enzoji](#), [Dairokuten](#) and [Hachioji Shrines](#) in Chigasaki, and [Samukawa Shrine](#) in Samukawa.

Enzoji: around 11:30 am, Dairokuten shrine: around 4 pm

Hachioji Shrine: around 3 pm, Samukawa Shrine: 11 am and 2 pm

Thanks for reading our stories. We wish you a Happy New Year