

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.

Electric Power Development Company, or J-POWER (1)

Since Japan's postwar rehabilitation started, power shortages have created chronic situations. J-POWER, officially Electric Power Development Company, was established as a state enterprise in 1952 to minimize electricity shortages. Today, the company has nearly 100 power plants: geothermal, biomass and wind power plants as well as hydroelectric and thermal power plants, generating about 18 million kW, which makes it the sixth largest among Japan's 11 power companies. Besides this, it has its own power cables extending about 2,400 km across the nation. In addition, the company is constructing a nuclear power plant in Aomori. However, J-POWER is quite different from other power companies in that it does not sell electricity to citizens. It sells it to other power companies.

It has also constructed power plants in Asia and the US and helps operate these plants. In 2004, about 50 years after its establishment, the state enterprise turned into a private company.

Its Chigasaki Research Institute started in 1957 as a storage space for machines and materials used for dam construction. Three years later, the civil engineering laboratory was established on its grounds. Since then, several other laboratories have moved to Chigasaki, and today the institute has four laboratories, each of which studies civil engineering technology, thermal power generation, material technology, and power generation and



transformation technology, with about 170 researchers and technicians together with various simulation systems and machines.

From this point on, several studies at the civil engineering technology laboratory will be described. A graph on a wall of the experimental building attracts visitors' attention. "The 100-year experiment" shows that dam concrete, the main building material, becomes stronger with time. After 50 years, the compressive strength of concrete blocks, made in the laboratory about 55 years ago from the concrete used for two dams which were finished in the early 1960s, was double what it was when those concrete blocks were first made. The next data will be collected when the blocks become 100 years old. URL: <http://www.jpowers.co.jp/>

The former residence of the Toma family is open

The garden of the Toma family's former residence, which was donated to the city last year, is now open to the public for free every Friday and Saturday from 9:00 to 16:00. (No parking spaces.) There is a modern western-style main building, which is a national cultural asset, and the foundations of a three-story warehouse of the Edo Period in the garden. The main building will be opened later.

Documents, tools and other folk material from the late Edo to early Showa Periods (around 1800s to 1940s), and art works as well as antiques will be exhibited after their investigation and classification is finished. Some of the ukiyoe owned by the family have been exhibited at Chigasaki City Museum of Art. See the events of May and early June.

Address: [Yanagishima 2-chome 6-30](#)



Let's observe nature in Chigasaki

The results of the third environmental evaluation were reported at City Hall annex on April 15. The evaluation is carried out every five years by a group of citizens, specialists and city officials with the first evaluation having been finished in 2005. This time, six teams of citizen members conducted field work from February, 2016 to November, 2017, in which they checked whether 163 pre-selected indicator species of plants, insects, birds, reptiles, mammals and fish were observed. Observation of creatures except fish were conducted in nine areas and that of fish at 24 points in five rivers, three irrigation canals and several wetlands. The nine areas included Yanagiyato, Namegaya, Shimizuyato and Yanagishima, and the five rivers were the Sagami, the Koide, the Komayose, the Sen-no and the Matsuo rivers.

The results were compared with those of the 2003-2005 evaluation. In several areas, including Yanagiyato and Shimizuyato, more species were observed. On the other hand, environmental deterioration was found in Namegaya and Nagayato. *Ayu* were observed at two points in each of the Koide and Sen-no rivers for the first time, indicating water quality in the two rivers has improved. It was also reported that the city's green coverage has decreased from 33.8% in 2005 to 31.7% in 2015. Capacity listeners, about 70, filled the large conference room. After the six group leaders announced their results, two university professors explained their research on biodiversity.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

Maruhaku-tomo-no-kai

A group named *Maruhaku-tomo-no-kai* (Maruhaku friend circle) was set up in November 2016. It consists of about 80 citizens who have completed the basic course of the *Maru-haku* campaign established by the city. One of the members, Teruaki Kikuzaki, said their activities are to support the Chigasaki ecomuseum project, which was launched by the city in April 2006. (See Nature in Chigasaki on page 4.) For example, at a special exhibition held at the Shorin community center for a week in late February, group members worked together with the city office as curators. To visit such exhibitions may give residents good opportunities to learn about their own areas deeply.



The *Maru-haku* campaign's guide group is divided into five subgroups: the management, research, guide, public relations and child-education groups. They study by themselves about historic sites in the city several times a year. They also hold seasonal events, for example, neighborhood tours, nature observation meetings and lecture meetings, sometimes involving Bunkyo University students. The members hope that their activities will help citizens learn about Chigasaki and have a feeling of attachment to their areas. They also hope that their work will help communities become more active. (Photo: the 60th anniversary of erecting the statue of Shichido-garan Temple on December 16, 2017.)

Interesting in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 過ちては改むるに憚ること勿れ

(AYAMACHITEWA ARATAMURUNI HABAKARU KOTO NAKARE)

AYAMACHITEWA means if you make a mistake, **ARATAMURUNI** to correct, **HABAKARUKOTO** to hesitate and **NAKARE** not to be.

If you find you made a mistake, you have to correct it immediately. You must not hesitate to do it. Confucius said this is one of the rules that leaders should have in mind to regulate themselves. But it seems not to be easy for recent political leaders and senior officials to observe his teachings. People have not changed a bit since the days of Confucius? The saying was in the Analects of Confucius of China. Its English equivalents are:

- It is never too late to mend.
- Repentance never comes too late.
- He that errs and mends to God himself commends.

(2) 命あっての物種

(INOCHI ATTENO MONODANE)

INOCHI means life, **ATTENO** to be alive and **MONODANE** the source.

Unless people are alive, they cannot do anything. Nothing is more important than life. But more than 20,000 Japanese people committed suicide last year. In the Middle East, young people who value honor above life decide to be martyred for their faith. So many men, so many minds. If only they thought of their parents, their families and those who loved them!

The saying was in a kabuki play, Amimoyou-tourou-no-kikugiri. Its English equivalents are:

- There is always life for a living man.
- While there is life, there is hope.
- He that fights and runs away may live to fight another day.

History of Chigasaki

Jyoshoji Temple

There is a standing wooden statue of Prince Shotoku and a stone lantern in the temple, both of which were designated as the city's cultural assets in 1974. A folktale about the statue, which is believed to have been carved between the 1500s and 1700s, says it represents the scene in which Buddha's ashes spilt from his hand when two-year-old Shotoku recited "Namubutsu" (I believe in Buddha sincerely.) towards the east.

The stone lantern was one of the lanterns feudal lords donated to Kan-ei-ji Temple in Ueno, Tokyo for the souls of successive generals, as the



temple housed the Tokugawa family's graves. But the battle

between the Tokugawa shogunate and the union of western feudal lords at the end of the Tokugawa Era, the Great Kanto Earthquake and bombardments during WWII seriously damaged the temple. After the war, many people, including Mr. Oyagi in Chigasaki, donated money for the temple's restoration. The temple sent him ten stone lanterns in return for his aid. The lantern in Jyoshoji Temple, for the fourth general Ietsuna Tokugawa, is one of them. Four lanterns were moved to other cities. Of the remaining five, four are in the City Hall garden, and one is in Kowada community center.



Memory of the war

The photo on the right, taken by US combat engineer Louis Heyman in 1945, depicts a black market in front of the north entrance of Chigasaki Station. It indicates that social confusion reached even a small provincial town like Chigasaki. Photos showing the city just after the war are quite rare, as it was almost impossible for ordinary people to get film as everything was in short supply. Mr. Heyman arrived in Chigasaki in late 1945 and stayed for six months before moving to Sendai. He visited the city again in 1988. Members of the Chigasaki history research group found the photo in his album at his house in the US in 1990. Two torii in the photo indicate Itsukushima Shrine was located near the north entrance in those days. (Now to the north of Twin Wave.)

The photo, owned by Louis Heyman, was reprinted from *Chigasaki of Showa 20* (1945) by permission of the City. Reproduction forbidden.



Kumaji Fabric Craft Center in Tomoe

Kiyomi Iwasawa has managed the Western and Japanese clothes shop *Kumaji* in Tomoe since she was in her 20s. She says the original *Kumaji* was founded in Nango in 1888 to deal in *kimono* fabrics, futon, *tabi*-shaped outdoor shoes and cigarettes. During the war, the shop was maintained by her father's elder sister. Ms Iwasawa's father returned home from Siberia after a four-year internment. He set up a new *Kumaji* shop near Chigasaki Primary School and started selling dress fabrics in addition to those for *kimono*, as an increasing number of working women liked Western clothes.

Around 1968, an apartment building was constructed to develop a vacant lot on a corner of the south of Chigasaki Station. The building was going to house many shops on its first and second floors. Her father opened a new Western clothes shop on the first floor and a kimono shop on the second. Seeing his hardship, she naturally felt a strong desire to help him and has since worked for these shops, making efforts to develop and promote their characters and reputations.

Ms Iwasawa supports women's activities as a member of the Soroptimist Club. For example, drawing upon her specialties, she makes over old *kimono* (Japanese dress), *obi* (belt) and dresses brought to her shop. Recently, she made a dress for the violinist, Madoka Nakamaru, who was born in Chigasaki and is now performing in Belgium, from an *obi* of a well-known composer, Kosaku Yamada (1886-1965), who lived in Chigasaki. Ms. Iwasawa says she sometimes hears the memories of her late parents and husband from neighbors and customers at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Rotary Club. To her surprise, a ninety-year-old man who used to be one of her junior high school teachers recently visited her, and they had a nice time. That is thanks to her family business that has been run here in Chigasaki for a long time.



Nature in Chigasaki

Chigasaki Ecomuseum

The Chigasaki ecomuseum project started in December 2003. Its basic concept is to consider the whole city to be a museum. The project aims to pick out the so-called urban assets, such as valuable culture, history, nature, scenery, industries, commerce, public facilities and people in the city, then to study these assets and to let every resident know their values. Based on the guideline drawn up in April 2006, citizens and the municipal office have been driving forward co-operatively the *Chigasaki-marugoto-hakubutsukan plan* (literally, a plan to consider the whole of Chigasaki a museum and to develop the museum by citizens and the city), the nickname of the ecomuseum project.



The city office in charge annually hold 11 basic lectures on the plan to raise residents' interest in the city's urban assets. It also holds a guide training course, which is recommended to those who have received the basic lectures. At the graduation ceremony held on March 28, a member of the project's research group, Kazuoki Ohhara, a professor at Yokohama State-run University, lectured on what the landscape is. A landscape is the scenery of an area of land and it includes landforms created by nature, human elements such as buildings and roads, and the

results of the interactions between these two factors. According to UNESCO's definition, a cultural landscape contains clearly-defined landscape like baroque gardens, organically evolved landscape like plantations and wine fields, and associative cultural landscape like Mt. Fuji.

Ohhara said the next International Council of Museums (ICOM) will be held in Kyoto from September 1 to 7 in 2019. So, he plans to look around Chigasaki ecomuseum with ICOM members after the Kyoto convention.

***Ecomuseum: an idea born in France in the late 1960s. A museum focused on the identity of a place, largely based on local participation and aiming to enhance the welfare and development of local community.**

Invitation to Kamakura (5) Kenchoji-Temple

(A bimonthly serial)

Kenchoji-Temple was founded by Tokiyori Hojo, the fifth regent to the Kamakura shogun, in 1253. The Hojo clan practically controlled the government under the name of regents (1203~1333). He was renowned as a benevolent lord who gave careful consideration to people in general, so they showed loyalty to him.

However, it was a chaotic war-torn period, so warriors had to fight and often raised rebellions against the government, and natural disasters got people in dire straits. Amid such confusion, people turned to religion for peace and happiness in their mind.

Dogen, a founder of the Soto school of Zen in Japan, heard about the situation in Kamakura. In 1247, the newly installed shogun's regent, Tokiyori Hojo (21) invited Dogen (48) to come to Kamakura to teach him. Dogen made a long journey from Echizen province. He was also asked to be the chief priest of a Zen temple named Kenchoji-Temple which Tokiyori planned to build for the repose of souls. However, he refused the offer and



then trudged back to his home temple. Soon after that, a priest named Rankei Doryu, who was in the Rinzaï sect of Zen, came from China and accepted the position. At last, the first Zen temple in Japan was built in Kamakura.

Over 1,000 priests gathered there to learn Zen teaching through zazen (sitting meditation). Tokiyori also became one of the priests.

***Kenchoji-Temple** is a 15-minute walk from Kita-Kamakura station. You can experience 'zazen' and copying of a sutra.

Saburo Shiroyama (my favorite author)

A contributed article

I am fond of reading the novels and essays of the professor-turned author, Saburo Shiroyama, who lived half a century in Chigasaki, from 1957 to 2007. He won the 40th Naoki Literary Award for “Sokaiya racketeers Kinjyo.” He wrote many biographical novels in which he depicted men with backbone who confronted established power and organizations in the economic and political arenas. A lot of readers, including me, feel a great deal of sympathy for the dignified and graceful attitudes of the main characters in his works.

Among Shiroyama’s masterpieces, I was most impressed with “A War Criminal,” which described a diplomat-turned prime minister before the war, Koki Hirota, who was the only civilian executed as a so-called class-A war criminal in the Tokyo Tribunal. It was proved that he had not been involved in any atrocity directly or indirectly. However, he was charged with having been unable to prevent the military from invading China.

He took responsibility for poor supervision of the Japanese military, being hanged without making any excuse or justifying himself at all. He was not a military man but was described as a man of Samurai spirit.

In addition to novels, the author wrote numerous essays which make us feel at ease. One of them is “Shonan with a Shining Sea.” Let me quote my favorite passage from the essay in my poor English.

“Since I have come to watch the sea through a window every day, I’ve found the sea surface is shining. At the time when I finish my main work of the day, the golden sea increases its brightness more and more, and asks me in a friendly tone, ‘Has today been a golden day for you?’”

While taking a walk on the Chigasaki beach in the evening, I am very happy to be able to share the same feeling with him.



Katsuhiko Chichikawa

The 63rd Oka Echizen Festival

● Joken Temple Jimoto matsuri

The festival took place in the square next to the former residence of the Wada family on April 21 from 10:00. On an unusually hot day for this season, the venue was crowded with several hundreds of people. About 15 stalls sold local fresh vegetables, noodles, beverages and trinkets. On the stage, local groups and JHS, HS and Univ. clubs showed various performances, including wind music performances, hula dancing, live concerts, cheer dancing, and samisen and Japanese drum performances. Many photos related to Tadasuke Oka were exhibited in the main building of the Wada family.



● Mikoshi & Big parades

Four portable shrines paraded the shopping area north of the station from 12:30 on April 22, filling the area with festive holiday atmosphere. About 30 groups paraded through the city’s central area. They started from Chigasaki Elementary School at 1:00. Powerful displays of HS marching bands and a group from Onahama, Fukushima captivated spectators who filled the north entrance of Chigasaki Station and the crossing near Yokado.

Chigasaki Industry Fair

The 1st floor of City Hall, the lobby of Comprehensive Gymnasium, and the space between the two buildings were filled with food stalls, panels and visitors on April 21 and 22. About 75 food shops and manufacturing companies in the city exhibited and sold their products. Heat from the stalls made people feel as if summer had already come to the corner. Rikuzen-takata and four other cities related to Chigasaki also sold their specialties. At the workshop corner in the City Hall, children and their mothers engaged in making trinkets, sweets, soaps and/or aroma stones.



Events in April



The 34th Spring Citizen Festival & Spring Agricultural Festival

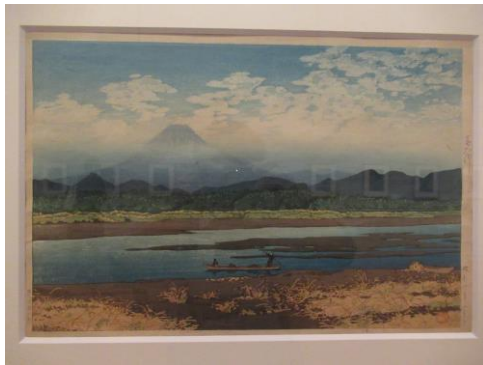
Spring Citizen Festival and Spring Agricultural Festival took place at Chuo Koen on April 22. Over 60 groups explained their activities, sold food and beverages at their tents. At the flea market corner, about 15 groups opened their shops. On the stage, various groups performed hula, jazz and hip-hop dancing as well as aerobics and cheer dancing all day.

In the agricultural area, fresh vegetables, Chigasaki pork, potted plants, cut flowers and compost were on sale. Novice farmers also sold their fresh vegetables. Not a few people showed their interest in potted flowers.

Events in May and early June

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

Ukiyoe of the Toma Family and woodcuts owned by the museum are being exhibited. Admission fee (yen): Adult 200, Univ. student 100, HS student and younger, and over 65 citizen and handicapped citizen, free. The exhibition will continue until May 13 (Sun). The woodcut on the left: Selected Masterpieces of Tokaido Scenery “*The Banyu River*” by Hasui Kawase. Ukiyoe on the right is one of the Toma family’s collection.



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

- The 17th Serie Exhibition (oil, watercolor and India-ink paintings) by Group Serie:
 May 1 (Tues) to 5 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00
- The 27th Sharakusai photo exhibition by Photo club Sharakusai:
 May 8 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 18:00, 9 (Wed) to 12 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, 13 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00
- The 7th Syashinkai photo exhibition by Syashinkai:
 May 15 (Tues) 13.00 ~ 18:00, 16 (Wed) to 19 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, 20 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00
- The 19th Seisho-kai ten (painting exhibition) by Seisho-kai:
 May 22 (Tues) 12:00 ~ 18:00, 23 (Wed) to 26 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, 27 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00
- 2018 Culture II Shonan photo exhibition by Culture II Shonan:
 May 29 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 18:00, 30 (Wed) to June 2 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, June 3 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Chigasaki Aloha Market 2018

Aloha Market will be held on the site of the former prefectural parking lot on May 12 (Sat) and 13 (Sun) from 9:00 to 17:00.

On the stage various hula groups will perform. Hawaiian food and goods, and popular Japanese foods will be on sale at many tents.

Visitors will be able to learn about Hawaiian culture at several workshops. In addition, you can learn Hawaiian language. It will be wonderful if you understand the lyrics and sing Hawaiian songs with good pronunciation.

Come, enjoy and feel Hawaii!



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!