

からくり新聞

KARAKURI NEWS #41
Jan. 2013

 We'd like to wish you a happy new year.

We hope you are enjoying the new year. It has been cold since the end of last year. However, the sky is so clear that we can see the beautiful mountains of Hakone. We would like to create a variety of Karakuri boxes this year, while we gaze upon such beautiful scenery.

Information of the fifth Karakuri Puzzle Idea Contest



The Karakuri Puzzle Idea Contest themes for this year are "Free shaped Karakurai Box" and "Square Shaped Karakuri Box".

The second theme is associated with the well known Secret Box in Hakone and Odawara.

We will accept a variety of ideas whether they resemble the Secret Box or not. We are looking forward to receiving many innovative and unique ideas.

You can download an application form for this contest from our Homepage. The deadline for receiving applications is March 31st, 2013.

Looking back in 2012

There were many Karakuri Creation Group activities in 2012. All of the activities are listed below. (There were so many that we once hesitated to write about them all, however we managed to do it.

★2011/12/29 ~ 2012/1/10 : 「Wa No Tewaza Exhibition of Japanese Handicraftmen」 at Ikebukuro Store of Tobu Department Store.

It was held over Year-end and New Year holidays and the space was so enjoyable that a variety of handicraft skills were learned.

★2012/1/4 ~ 2012/1/10 : 「Exhibition of Karakuri Box and Inlay of woods」 with Creative Kobo at Takashimaya Department Store in Yokohama. Most visitors tried Karakuri Boxes for the first time and seemed to enjoy themselves. The wood inlay which was exhibited concurrently was also popular.

★2012/2/1 ~ 2012/2/14 Valentine Gift Fair, 「Sundriesalley × LOVE × NIPPON MONO ICHI」 at Shinjuku Store of Odakyu Department Store.

★2012/2/8 ~ 2012/2/10 : 「Gift Show In The Spring Of 2012」 at Tokyo Big Sight.

★2012/2/16 「Nature Trail」: factory tour of Karakuri Group in Kuno

★2012/3/18 ~ 2012/4/1 : 「The Second Ibuki Exhibition」at Seikan-tei in Odawara city. Kakuda, Kawashima and Saito joined it. It was such a colorful event showing a variety of crossed woods, Sashimono, Rokuro, furniture, sculpture, lacquer and Karakuri Boxes.

★2012/3/17,18 : 「Muse Festa」at Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History : Handicraft class, Exhibition of gadgets and silhouette puzzles made of sustainable wood.

★2012/3/26 ~ 2012/5/13 : at TOKYU HANDS Nagoya Shop



Exhibition of Japanese Handicraftmen



Valentine Gift Fair



Ibuki Exhibition

★2012/4/25 ~ 2012/5/1 : Presentation of new products : 「Even Adults Want To Play : Karakuri Box × Living」 at Wanoza stage on the seventh floor of Matsuya Ginza : We applied "Practical" as the theme of this presentation for the first time.



Matsuya Ginza

★2012/5/31 : Interview : [Motto × 2, Puzzle of God]

We were interviewed on TV for the first time. The interview was between the Prince of Puzzle and Mr.Kamei.

★2012/7/8 : Handicraft class(Karakuri Change and Magic Of Coins)
: PTA Family Education Class at Koze Elementary School



Motto × 2, Puzzle of God

★2012/7/11 ~ 2012/8/18 : 「 Summer Vacation Special Project : Treasure Hunter : Let's explore a mysterious castle!」

Exhibition : 「Room Of Stubborn Father」at Oita Prefectural Art Center

★2012/7/20 ~ 2012/7/22 : 「 Traditional Handicraft of Odawara – Exhibition : Odawara Where People Feel Seasons : Takumi+Waza Exhibition In Summer」

Exhibition : small Karakuri boxes etc...; on the second floor of Odawara-Juku Nariwai Kouryukan.



Odawara-Juku Nariwai Kouryukan.

★2012/7/21 ~ 2012/9/2 : 「Special Exhibition : Puzzle Exhibition」

Exhibition : some small Karakuri boxes, at the multi-purpose hall on the second floor of the Tsukuba Expo Center 2012/8/19.

Special handicraft class : 「Let's make Karakuri puzzle, the money collection box」
Instructor: Mr. Kamei

Tsukuba Expo Center
Special handicraft class

★2012/7/31 ~ 2012/8/6 : 「Exhibition of Japanese Craftman skills」
at Sogo Yokohama Store

★2012/8/1 ~ 2012/8/21 : at TOKYU HANDS Nagoya Shop

★2012/8/9 ~ 2012/8/21 : at Tobu Department Store Ikebukuro Store
2012/8/11 : handicraft class 「Tamate-box」, Instructor: Mr. Kamei

★2012/8/5, 8/15, 8/19, 8/26 : handicraft class 「Kamaboko-no Sato Natsu No Ichi」
at Odawara Suzuhiro Kazamatsuri Shop.

★2012/8/12 : 「Handicraft class for adults and Products Exhibition」 at U-me Salon on the fifth floor of Odawara Lusca. In response to many who desired to experience it, we held it for the first time this year. An exhibition held concurrently was also such a great draw that every visitor seemed to enjoy both events.



★2012/9/8-9 : 「The Second HKP」

It was an event to deeply enjoy Karakuri Puzzles. Held in Odawara and Hakone.

We held a handicraft class, an exhibition of products and a factory tour for this event, with the theme, "Secret Box".

★2012/9/14 ~ 9/30 : 「Kimijika-Kimujika Exhibition」at SuSu store(Kakuda joined).

It was an exhibition for 8 of our junior members wooden handicraftmen.



Kamaboko-no Sato Natsu No Ichi



Tobu Department Store Ikebukuro Store



The Second HKP

★2012/10/3 ~ 8 : 「The Ninth KIRAKU Exhibition」 at Gallery Shinkurou
Ninomiya's personnel exhibition was held at Gallery Shinkurou in Odawara.
It was such a great draw that his admirers waited in line for the opening of the premiere.
Some eager foreign visitors were also seen there. He prepared a variety of products.
The most impressive product was a five-storied pagoda made of crossed wood.
He made it more than thirty years ago. However, he continually thought of making a newer
version of it, so he redesigned it and made a new one. The new five-storied pagoda was
made more evolved by making the shape of the roof more profound and by newly designing
Kyurin and Suien on the roof. Young handicraftmen thought they must put forth more effort
so that they aren't left behind because of such an exhibition.



★10/11 ~ 10/17 : 「The 38th Exhibition Of Craftman Skills」
at Kintetsu Department Store. 10/13,14 : a handicraft class was held there.

★11/08 ~ 11/18 : 「Exhibition Of Three Materials」(Kakuda joined it.)
at Kanazawa Crafts-Hirosaka

It was an exhibition for three handicraftsmen who specialize in metal, lacquer and wood.
Many visitors came because a big museum was located next to it.

★2012/11/16 ~ 2012/11/18 : 「Exhibition Of Traditional Handicraft of Odawara
: Odawara where we feel seasons : Exhibition Of Takumi+Waza in Autumn」
on the second floor of Odawara Nariwai Community House
Exhibition : Silhouette Puzzle made of thinned wood.



The new five-storied pagoda

★2012/11/16 ~ 2012/11/29 : 「Karakuri Box Akio Kamei Exhibition」 at Soubi-kino-atelier
in Kawagoe city. We were invited as part of a commemorative event celebrating the 30th
anniversary of the atelier. While the event was planned at first as Kamei's personal
exhibition, some other products of our research party were also exhibited.
Of course, his past products, which we can rarely see, were exhibited.



Kintetsu Department Store



Kanazawa Crafts-Hirosaka



Soubi-kino-atelier



We won the Encouragement Prize of 「Kanagawa's Region Society Enterprise」

The 25th Kanagawa's Region Society Enterprise Prize was sponsored by Kanagawa Newspaper
Kousei-Bunka Gigyou-dan of Kanagawa Newspaper Office sponsors and Hiromeru-kai, our
research group which assisted them, won the Encouragement Prize.

The ceremony was held on December 1st and Ninomiya, who is an honorary president of
Hiromerukai, participated in the ceremony.



About Christmas presents

Did you open our Christmas presents ? Products will be displayed for the exhibition at
Matsuya Ginza. Please come.



Hoshino



Kawashima



Kakuda



Kamei



Ninomiya



Tajima



Miyamoto



Iwahara



Tsuburai