# THE GRAINS OF RICE

Cincinnati Chapter Japanese American Citizens League

Published Quarterly January 2008

## Cincinnati JACL members meet Linda Hattendorf at the Art Museum showing of Cats of Mirikitani



Photo by Steve Rindsberg

Helen Rindsberg, Gail Murao, Emily Momohara, Jacqui Vidourek, Linda Hattendorf, Kono Naegele, Cathy Yoshikawa, Frances Tojo, Gordon Yoshikawa

## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS ON THE SEASON

by Betsy Sato

This is the season of the year when we turn to thoughts of peace and hope. We also look back to see what has been accomplished and look forward to see what remains to be done. It seems somehow counter-intuitive that in the darkest period of the year, when daylight is the shortest, that we humans ponder what peace means and how to remain hopeful in the face of countervailing evidence. Perhaps we know intuitively that the short days will gradually become longer and in that there is hope and peace.

The Dalai Lama has said "As human beings we all want to be happy and free from misery...we have learned that the key to happiness is inner peace. The greatest obstacles to inner peace are disturbing emotions such as anger and attachment, fear and suspicion, while love, compassion, and a sense of universal responsibility are the sources of peace and happiness."

So, as we look back at our accomplishments let us honor those done with love, compassion and a sense of responsibility. As we look forward, let us resolve to put disturbing emotions behind us and move forward with love, compassion and a sense of responsibility. We can then proceed in harmony and peace to becoming better human beings.

## JACL/OCA 2008 Washington DC Leadership Conference

Application Instructions/Procedure

- 1. All applicants must be national JACL members in good standing who have not previously attended this conference. Tuition costs including lodging and food are generally paid by the district. Airfare is paid by the participant's chapter.
- 2. Applications must be approved by the applicant's district. Upon approval, all

applications and supporting materials should be forwarded together by the District Governor to the DC Office by the deadline below.

> JACL/OCA Leadership Conference c/o JACL Washington Office 1828 L Street, NW, Suite #802 Washington, DC 20036 Phone: (202) 223-1240 Fax: (202) 296-8082

- 3. Complete applications with all supporting materials must be received by mail or fax at the JACL DC office by the deadline. Applications received after the deadline may be disqualified.
- 4. Districts are encouraged to submit up to three candidates, of which they can designate two as "delegates" to the Conference. All Districts that submit complete applications for their two delegates by the deadline are guaranteed participation in the program. The third candidate shall be considered an alternate.
- 5. Any slots that are not claimed by Districts will be allocated to the remaining applicants on a competitive basis. These participants will be selected by the DC Office, and the district will be notified.
- 6. Attendance is mandatory for all seminars/sessions of the conference including meals. The program agenda for a previous DC Leadership Conference can be accessed (by clicking here) which provides an overview of the schedule and the nature of the topics covered. Please note that while the schedule will be similar in format, some sessions and speakers will be changed for the 2007 conference. See DC Leadership Conference FAQ for further information.

#### 2008 DC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

DATES: Friday February 29, through Tuesday, March 3, 2008

DEADLINE FOR APPROVED APPLICATIONS TO DC OFFICE: **January 15, 2008** 

Check with your governor for district deadlines.

# The Grains Interviews the Director of "The Cats of Mirikitani"

by Chad Yoshikawa

Recently, *The Grains of Rice* staff interviewed Linda Hattendorf, director and co-producer of the award-winning documentary "The Cats of Mirikitani". The film is about the life of Tsutomu "Jimmy" Mirikitani, a Tule Lake internee who was born in Sacramento, grew up in Hiroshima, and was one of the renunciants who relinquished U.S. citizenship under duress from U.S. government officials. Sixty years after being released from Tule Lake, Jimmy Mirikitani was living homeless on the streets of New York City drawing pictures of camp, cats, and other things. In January 2001, Linda Hattendorf's chance encounter with Jimmy led to this fascinating documentary which explores Jimmy Mirikitani's artwork, personal history, and also the tragedies of Hiroshima, the Internment, and 9/11.

It's a small world, and it turns out that Linda Hattendorf has local ties to the Cincinnati area. As a young girl, she went to College Hill Elementary where her third grade teacher was our very own Sachi Kariya. After elementary school, Linda attended Anderson High School, graduated from the University of Cincinnati, and eventually moved to New York City where she presently resides. The transcript of the interview follows below.

For more info on the movie www.thecatsofmirikitani.com

To order the DVD www.thecatsofmirikitani.com/contact.php

To contact Linda or submit your ideas for the upcoming "Peace" documentary, e-mail to: <a href="mailto:peace@thecatsofmirikitani.com">peace@thecatsofmirikitani.com</a>

Center for Asian American Media www.asianamericanmedia.org

Independent Television Service <u>www.itvs.org</u>

Tule Lake Pilgrimages <u>www.tulelake.org</u>

The Japan Foundation New York www.jfny.org

New York State Council on the Arts www.nysca.org

Grains: After Anderson High school, what took you to New York City?

**Linda**: After High School I went to the University of Cincinnati, my father worked there, and I came out of there with a dual degree in Art History and English Literature and I wasn't sure how to make a living with those types of degrees, so I worked in publishing in Cincinnati for Dramatics magazine. From there, I went to Boston where I attended the Radcliffe Publishing program. From there, everyone said if you want to work in publishing you have to go to NYC. So I showed up (in New York). A friend from Cincinnati had called and told me about an apartment his sister was moving out of. I came down to New York and ended up working for a little while at the Natural History Museum. I then got a job at TIME Inc. in their magazine division. From there, I went back to school at the New School for Social Research and got a Master's in media studies and that's where I first got my hands on film and just found that I really love editing. So I then changed careers and became an editor of film and worked with some great people including Ken Burns and Robert Koppel and learned a lot on the job. "The Cats of Mirikitani" is my first film as director and producer.

#### **(G):** Why do you prefer documentaries?

(L): I think that real life is much more interesting than you could possibly make up. I enjoy people, and I enjoy great stories that might not be known unless we tell them. In documentaries, I like helping people whose lives may have been invisible have a voice. To me, that's what history is all about – the voices of the ordinary people who make up this country.

#### **(G):** Is this like fighting for the underdog?

(L): I would not use that phrase. Again, I think that often history is written by those who have access to mainstream media and the ability to tell their stories. For instance, in the Internment camps, there were no cameras allowed except those sanctioned by the government. So there were really no images of what happened there. I think that is one of the reasons that Jimmy was drawing pictures of his experience to make sure it remained visible and not forgotten. So, for me, it's really important to tell those kinds of stories so that we have a fuller picture of what history really is.



Betty Goorman (Linda's 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher), Linda Hattendorf, Sachi Kariya (Linda's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher)

(G): When 9/11 happened, Jimmy kept drawing...

(L): Yeah, I think that Jimmy's art was always a way he was able to survive so many traumas throughout his life. I think it's something that he has inside that no one can take away from him and he relies as a touchstone to process whatever he's experiencing. He was really an example for me in a way after 9/11, which was a verv frightening time here in New York, it was everywhere, but especially here in New York where we didn't know what was going to happen to us next. Jimmy just kept drawing and so I just kept shooting video and it really actually helped me process that period through his example of using art to survive trauma.

#### (G): You started filming 9 months before 9/11 – how did you originally envision the film ending?

(L): I wanted to explore the link between his having lost homes in such a profound way through the bombing of Hiroshima and the incarceration of Japanese Americans in the camps during WWII. I wanted to make a link between losing his home in that respect to the past and then winding up in the street in the present. I thought I would make four seasons in the life of this artist in the street and look at his past through the art. When 9/11 happened, I realized I couldn't wait for somebody else to come along and help I had to do it myself. But that was a completely impulsive decision. I'm glad that I entered the story and changed the ending. I don't know what the ending would have been if it hadn't been for 9/11. I think 9/11 in a lot of ways broke down a lot of barriers. It helped people realize that we are all really one community here. It certainly affected me when those solid walls which had anchored the horizon at the end of the neighborhood were suddenly no longer there; the wall between my life's and Jimmy's no longer made sense.

### **(G):** Has Jimmy kept in touch with his sister?

**(L):** Yeah, Jimmy enjoys going on these pilgrimages back to Tule Lake and they are held every 2 years thanks to the hard work of the Tule Lake pilgrimages committee. I want to be sure to mention the Tule Lake web site (tulelake.org) where anyone who would like to attend the pilgrimage (there's another one this coming July, it's usually over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend). Jimmy really enjoys going back on these pilgrimages every 2 years, so Masa Yoshikawa (the co-producer) and I take him every 2 years. So after we go to the site of the camp, which is up near Klamath Falls and the Northern part of California, then we go on the bus on up to Seattle and see Jimmy's sister Kazuko there. She is about 92-93 now, so she doesn't travel much, and Jimmy doesn't like talking n the phone so they see each other in person every couple of years.

**(G):** Jimmy's 88th Birthday is coming up. Are you planning anything special?

**(L):** He's definitely looking forward to another party. Ever since the film has come out, whenever we have screenings, we invite everyone to Jimmy's birthday. Last year 400 people showed up! We've been holding them in his little 1 room apartment. This year, we may have to find a bigger venue to hold it.

**(G):** What agency gave Jimmy the apartment?

**(L):** There's a wonderful agency in New York called Village Care of New York and they have several different facilities including the adult day health program that he attended and this fairly new retirement facility. It's an assisted living facility. I just got lucky – when I brought Jimmy home, I was looking for assistance and I didn't know where to start. I get a little local newspaper here in Greenwich Village that listed the adult day care program that was in this neighborhood. I know that he likes the Village so I called them up and those were the social workers who were in the film who really helped me negotiate the maze of bureaucracy of benefits and so on and help get him in both the adult day care program and ultimately into the housing and Village care. It's a program that is an experiment in mixing low and moderate income housing. There are about 20 low income units mixed in with the general facility which has a large number of units (it's a six floor building).

**(G):** This is paid for by New York City taxes?

**(L):** It's a combination of Social Security and SSI which pays his rent. He's in a program called enriched housing. His rent is considerably lower than others in the same facility based on need.

**(G):** I read that "Cats" took 1 year to shoot, but 4 years to raise funds. Roughly how much do these types of films cost?

**(L):** Under \$500,000, which in the independent film world is a pretty low budget for doing something like this. The important thing was to be able to hire additional people to edit, coproduce, compose the music, help with archival research, and finish the online so it was broadcast quality. All those things cost money. I wanted to hire really good people that I knew would do a good job. So, most of the funds went for those kinds of things, as well as paying for archival rights.

**(G)**: How does that work? I noticed some CNN clips played during the movie.

(L): I had to pay for all of that.

(**G**): Did they give you break for .....

**(L):** for being a good person (laughs)?

**(G):** ...for making a documentary?

**(L):** No, they were very helpful but it cost over \$100/second for that kind of material.

**(G):** What about the video camera?

**(L):** It was a professional-level quality camera. It's a Sony 3 chip TRV 900. It's a nice small camera. I love the ease of working with a small camera. I think it helped give the film a kind of intimacy because I was able to just film him so casually and just carry the camera in a backpack with me whenever I went past. But I did have a good mic – I was fortunate to have a friend who loaned me one. Because it's important – it's always important in a documentary to have good sound.

**(G):** For the aspiring filmmakers out there, how would they do this?

**(L):** I think that the tools for making documentaries are increasingly accessible to people. You can get a decent camera for under \$2000 and you can get an editing program you can use on your computer. And that's how I started. I started with just using the camera as a deck and my laptop for editing and as I raised more funds I was able to add additional equipment and staff. And anybody who wants to make a documentary, I say just get hold of a camera somehow and start shooting. And once you have a good 5 or 10 minute sample of what you want to tell, start sending it to foundations and start fundraising. Independent Television Service (ITVS), one of our major funders, is a great group that is also very supportive of the independent vision and will give you great feedback. Even if they do not fund you on the first round they'll help you see where you might improve your project. Their website is itvs.org. Our other funders include the Minority Consortium, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) was also a very important funder, as well as the Japan Foundation New York, and the New York State Council on the Arts. The Center for Asian American Media is now distributing the educational version of "The Cats of Mirikitani" and is doing a brisk business with schools and libraries all over the country.

**(G):** How long did it take to secure funding?

**(L):** It was little by little. Early on, there were a few individuals who believed in the project and based on a small amount of footage or even just knowing about the story gave contributions. The New York State Council on the Arts was the first agency that contributed and then that money enabled me get footage logged and begin a rough cut, and then the CAAM money came in and that enabled me to hire my editor Keiko Deguchi and co-producer Masa Yoshikawa. And with their insight and work we were able to do another rough cut that eventually brought in funds from other organizations but it took a long time. So we would just work while we had money and when the money ran out we would take a break and start again when the money came in. .... A lot of good people came together to help Jimmy and help this project. All kinds of happy synchronicities occurred that made me believe that it was a story that the world needed to hear and it would be told.

**(G):** What about your future plans? We hear that you are going to create a documentary about Peace?

**(L):** It's just in the planning stages now. It's in my head but not on paper yet (laughs). I hope to have time in the coming months to start raising money again for the research and production of it. It's a look at peaceful societies all over the world in both past history and present. We know a lot about the history of war, but we don't know so much about the history of peace. It's a subject that I'm personally interested in and I hope to begin that research. I'm working on it even now.

**(G):** If people wanted to help fund the next film, is there a website that people could donate to?

**(L):** They could contact me through the Cats website (www.thecatsofmirikitani.com). And they can write to me at <a href="mailto:peace@thecatsofmirikitani.com">peace@thecatsofmirikitani.com</a> I'd love to hear from anybody who has ideas on (the next film).

#### **(G):** How is Jimmy doing?

**(L):** Jimmy is doing great – he's 87 and still going strong. He's happy in his nice warm apartment, still making lots of art and looking forward to his next birthday party and his next trip to Tule Lake.

The Cincinnati JACL and Grains of Rice staff would like to thank Linda Hattendorf for her time and for her wonderful documentary. CY

## Awards won by "The Cats of Mirikitani"

Audience Award Tribeca Film Festival
Grand Jury Award at the San Diego Asian Film Festival
Audience Award at the Hors-Ecran Festival in France
Frida Award for best new director at the Sun Valley Spiritual Film Festival in Idaho
Best Documentary at the Dallas Asian Film Festival

"Cats" screened internationally in festivals in France, Germany, Ireland, Croatia, Italy, Thailand, Korea, Australia and South Africa and came home with six new awards

Also, will show in festivals in Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Brussels, Lyon, Yamagata, and Warsaw

## U.C. Bearcat's Haruki Nakamura



Haruki Nakamura is a senior and defensive star playing safety for the 9-3 U.C. Bearcat football team. He led the team with 76 tackles in 2005, had 66 tackles in 2006, and was named to the prestigious All Big East defensive team in 2007. Athletics run in his family – his late father, Ryozo, and his mother were in to judo, his older brother Yoshi was a two-time NCAA wrestling champion, and his sister Kimiko, a volleyball player. Academics also run in his family – Yoshi went to the Wharton School of Business, a brother Mako is a high school teacher, and a sister Mitsue teaches math at the University of Houston. In addition, Haruki was named to the 2006 Bearcat Honor

The Grains of Rice asked Haruki several questions during the busy football season. Haruki was kind enough to take the time to answer our questions – here are his answers:

(G): Could you tell us more about your mother and father? We understand that your father taught Judo and coached a team to the Olympics, and that your mother has a black belt.

(HN): My father was an eighth degree black belt in Judo and my mother was a fourth degree black belt.

My father died when I was younger so my mother raised my family all by herself basically.

(G): How are your siblings doing? We understand that one of your sisters is on the UC volleyball team.

(HN): My siblings are great, especially my little sister. She is a freshman on the volleyball team and received some playing time this year.

#### (G): How did you get recruited to play for U.C.?

(HN): I was recruited by Coach Dantonio and was part of his first recruiting class. He was very impressed by the way I played the game of football and offered me a scholarship. My brother Yoshi was the one who actually got all my highlights together and sent them to all the colleges.

(G): What are your plans after U.C.? Will you go to the NFL combine and hope to play in the NFL?

(HN): Well I will be graduating from U.C. at the end of spring quarter with a degree in Criminal Justice and a focus in Communication. Hopefully I get an invite to the combine but I would absolutely love to play in the NFL.

Congratulations to the U.C. Bearcats for winning the 2007 PapaJohns.com Bowl 31-21 against Southern Miss!

The Bearcats recorded their first 10 win season since 1951 and a likely Top-25 spot in the year-end national rankings.

# From Kobe, Japan to West Chester, Ohio by Brenda Baird

My husband Jim Baird and his job with Procter & Gamble took me from Cincinnati, OH, to living four years in Brussels, Belgium, then seven years in Kobe, Japan. While overseas, I enjoyed the fresh flower markets of Europe and the memorable visit to Keukenhoff Gardens near Amsterdam, Holland. I was convinced that the colors there were a glimpse of the colors in Heaven.

For more than fifteen years, I had worked in Cincinnati in the craft/floral industry both retail and wholesale. I was not interested in the study and discipline of Ikebana. But other life changing events were about to shake up my world. My friend Rosie invited me to take an Ikebana class from the Misho School. The lesson was the day before the great Kobe Earthquake. At 5:45 A.M. January 17, 1995, the earthquake hit. Our home was a complete shambles inside! Over 5,000 people lost their lives in that devastation. Photos of our home revealed that my first Ikebana arrangement rode out the earthquake and stayed on my husband's desk! I took this as a sign that, as soon as life was back to some kind of normalcy, I would resume regular weekly Ikebana lessons. This went on for the next five vears.

I learned to love the discipline, symbolism, fellowship and, most of all, the culture of Japan. There is so much to love about Japan and the art of Ikebana! The sense, simplicity, harmony, and time to appreciate and reflect on nature was so deeply refreshing! God blessed me with a wonderful Sensei – Kurimoto san.

When I left Japan in 2000, I promised Kurimoto Sensei that I would continue to pursue the art form. I and co-founder, Rosie Callicott, formed an ikebana group that later was named Moto Ikebana. The kanji for Moto (origin, root, book) fit perfectly as it not only honors my sensei but also indicates the Christian symbolism of the school – honoring "Christ" the man on the tree who came to put roots in the Earth and is written about in the book of scriptures. So, the

relationship between Heaven, Man and Earth are the key elements to Moto Ikebana.

Art in Bloom at the Cincinnati Art Museum was a recent event for me and several Moto students who shared their Ikebana skills. It was a wonderful experience.

Moto Ikebana meets monthly September to May, each second Thursday. In the future, I hope to offer a Wednesday evening class. Moto Ikebana is a non-profit organization with all proceeds supporting Christian ministries (Focus on the Family, Pregnancy Care and Prison Fellowship). For more information, check the Moto Ikebana website at www.motoikebana.org. Misho, Ikenobo and some forms of Ohara can be compared to the Moto Ikebana style. In 2008, I will serve as President of Ikebana International, Chapter #52, Cincinnati. This group hopes to stir interest in Ikebana in our area and double in size by 2009. Ikebana International meets from March to October, each first Thursday, Ikebana is the link that keeps me tied to the culture and beauty

So, out of a devastating Earthquake in Kobe came the birth of Moto Ikebana in West Chester, Ohio.



Brenda Baird with her arrangement in the classical Rikka style popular in the 17<sup>th</sup> century

#### **INSTALLATION DINNER 2008**

# Special Guest Speaker JOHN TATEISHI JACL National Executive Director 1999-2006

In his tribute to John Tateishi on May 19, 2007, U. S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye wrote:

"John Tateishi has been a dedicated and tireless champion of civil rights and of Asian American Communities.

His leadership and vision were critical in ensuring the passage of redress legislation in the late 1980s. As a writer who chronicles the traumatic experience of the massive incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, he has significantly added to our understanding – and the understanding of future generations – of that dark chapter in U. S. history.

John's 30-year legacy reaffirms the vitality of our nation's democratic ideals. It also gives strength to our shared belief in justice for all."

Date: Sunday, February 17, 2008

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: China Cottage – phone 434-2622

6290 Far Hills Ave.. Centerville, OH

Directions: North on Far Hills Avenue from Exit 4A on I-675 off I-75. It exits onto Alex Bell Pike then

left onto Far Hills Avenue.

Dinner: \$30 Chinese Banquet style

Make check to: Cincinnati JACL

Mail to Hiroko Nishiyama, 2857 Ridgewood Avenue

Cincinnati OH 45213-1055

Deadline is February 3, 2008. However your immediate

RSVP is imperative as space may be limited.

#### **PERSONALS**

#### **Births**

Lucas Yuji Tanaka was born September 5, 2007, to Patti Presto and Mark Tanaka of Castro Valley, California. The proud grandparents are Shiro and Fumiko Tanaka.

Here is the latest on the great-grandchildren of George and Mary Fugikawa:

Kevin's son, Carlito Thomas, was born Oct. 2006.

Janet Fugikawa-Smith's sons, Eric and Owen James, were born in Aug. 2007.

Jason's son, Francis Xavier, was born in Aug. 2007.

#### **Condolences**

We extend our sympathies to Charles Longbottom whose father, Leo E. Longbottom, passed away on December 9 at the age of 94 years. Leo Longbottom worked for 42 years as a machine press operator for Ilsco Corporation.

#### Ken Burns' THE WAR

Two members of our community were featured in 30-minute interviews by WCET that were seen as a prelude to promote "The War" documentary that started on PBS on September 27. Roy Aka told of his experience with the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific. James Tojo's interview covered his internment in Heart Mountain, Wyoming, followed by service in the MIS.

#### **Emily Momohara**

The Center for Photography in Woodstock, NY selected Assistant Professor Emily Momohara as artist-in-residence from May 30-June 15. During the month of July, she completed an artist residency at I-Park, an artist enclave in rural East Haddam, CT. She had a solo exhibition titled "Desert Sands" at the Clara M. Eagle Gallery at Murray State University. The exhibit ran from September 26 to October 18. Emily is on the faculty of the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Emily will also have several pieces on display at the University of Cincinnati campus (DAAP Building) on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

#### **DONATIONS**

# Cincinnati Chapter gratefully acknowledges the following donations:

#### **General Fund**

Kazuya and Betsy Sato had a neighborhood yard sale and donated \$50 to JACL.

#### To the James Takeuchi Scholarship Fund

In memory of Ichy Kato's birthday, donation was received from Mitzi Kato and her son, Dennis, and daughter, Diane.

### To the Okura Family Scholarship Fund

Jo Okura in memory of Joseph Cloyd.

#### Welcome to new Friend of Cincinnati JACL

Noriko Tsuchiya 8574 Concord Hills Circle Cincinnati, OH

#### **Cold Case Congratulations**

Midwest Director, William Yoshino, commended the creators of "Cold Case" episode, "Family 8108," which aired Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 2007. His letter, in part, reads:

"The episode accurately reflected major aspects of Japanese American internment during World War II including in the storyline the race prejudice directed at Japanese Americans, the condition of interment camps at Manzanar and Tule Lake, the bravery of the segregated 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and symbolic restitution that Japanese Americans were provide in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which affirmed that there was no justification or basis for the exclusion and detention of this community during World War II.

The episode also properly handled the issue of racism and violence perpetuated against many Japanese Americans during that dark period of our history. Furthermore, we appreciate that you developed characters with sensitivity and depth rather than relying on shallow characterizations that detract from the humanity of those who suffered the humility of the internment."

#### SCHOLARHIPS FOR 2008

#### **JACL National Scholarship Program**

March 1, 2008 will be the postmark deadline for submission of JACL Freshman Scholarship applications. The submission of Freshman applications will be to Ruth Takeuchi at the address shown below.

All other applications (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative & performing arts, and financial aid) must be postmarked by April 1, 2008 and sent to the National JACL Scholarship Committee (address stated on application). Applications must be complete (3 copies) and accompanied by ALL supporting documents.

Applications are available on the JACL website (<u>www.jacl.org</u>).

#### **Local Scholarship Program**

The following scholarships are available:

Terry Ishikawa Scholarship The Okura Family Scholarship Archie and Sachie Takigiku Scholarship James Takeuchi Scholarship Rufus Tojo Scholarship

Deadline for the five local scholarships is May 15, 2008. Applications for graduate students are also being accepted by the local chapter.

All applicants must be members of JACL.

Applications for local scholarships are to be mailed to:

Ruth Takeuchi, Scholarship Chair 6194 Hillsdale Lane West Chester, OH 45069 Tel: (513) 759-2056

#### Mike Masaoka Congressional Fellow for 2008

JACL established this fund in 1988 to honor Mike M. Masaoka (1915-1991) for a lifetime of outstanding public service in promoting justice, civil rights and human dignity. The major purpose of the Fund is to develop leaders for public service by providing opportunities for college seniors or students in graduate or professional programs to work for a Member of Congress or a Senator. The Fellows' assignments include a variety of tasks where they will be exposed to all facets of the work of the Representative or Senator and his/her staff.

Students interested in applying for this Fund should contact the Washington DC office of JACL, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 730, Washington DC 20036 or visit the JACL website at <a href="http://www.jacl.org/masaoka">http://www.jacl.org/masaoka</a> html. Deadline is April 1, 2008.

#### JAVA Memorial Scholarship Program (MSP)

Terry Shima, Executive Director of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) announced that JAVA has established a Memorial Scholarship Program of three \$1000 scholarships to be awarded at the second quarterly membership meeting of JAVA.

There are two requirements: (1) the application, supported by documentation, must show a record of academic excellence and a seriousness of purpose in pursuing post-secondary education goals; and (2) the applicant must provide information showing that he or she is related, by blood or marriage, to a person who served in the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, or other units or to a person who served in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service; or to a person of Japanese ancestry who serves or has served in the Armed Forces of the United States; or to a person who has been a member of JAVA for a period of no less than one year.

Applicant may be high school seniors, current college students, or graduate or professional school students. Trade, vocational and other institution students may apply. Interested students can check online at <a href="https://www.admin@javadc.org">www.admin@javadc.org</a>.

#### THE GRAINS OF RICE

Cincinnati Chapter Japanese American Citizens League 7761 Gwenwyn Drive Cincinnati, OH 45236

www.geocities.com/cincinnatijacl

### 2008 CALENDAR

January 20 Board Meeting 1:30 p.m. Home of Lois Nizny

February 17 Cincinnati-Dayton JACL Installation Dinner

4:00 p.m. China Cottage, 6290 Far Hills Ave.

Centerville, Ohio

Feb 29-March 3 JACL-OCA Leadership Conference, Washington DC

MDC will sponsor two delegates.

Contact Bill Yoshino at <a href="mailto:JACLMRO@aol.com">JACLMRO@aol.com</a> by January 15