## **DENIS RODILL: A FILIPINO RASCAL**





4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday, September 13, 2015 Social Hall, Hawaii's Plantation Village 94-695 Waipahu St, Waipahu, HI 96797

## Reception to follow Free and Open to the Public

Denis Rodill, a 14-year-old runaway from Manila, arrived in Seattle in 1908 aboard a U.S. Army transport ship. He was among the earliest Filipinos to set foot in the United States, arriving well before the crest of the 1920s' Filipino immigration wave. His saga includes working in Seattle's 1908 waterfront, Kauai's 1910 sugar plantations, Kodiak's 1915 salmon canneries, and Weyerhaeuser's 1926 lumber industry. His story reveals a rascal youth whose maritime passion and resilience propelled him to overcome enormous challenges.

This presentation about the life of Denis Rodill, 1894-1977, serves as an example of the mostly unrecorded lives of early Filipino *sakadas* who moved from place to place to fulfill the American dream.



Dr. Diane Rodill lives in Seattle, Washington. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Sorsogon, Philippines, worked for the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and Peace Corps Headquarters in Washington, D.C. and Peace Corps in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2008 she saw a poster on the

discrimination of WWII Filipino Merchant Marines at the Cincinnati Museum which inspired her to conduct research on her father's life, a life heretofore largely unknown to her.

This event is sponsored by Filipino-American Historical Society of Hawaii, UHM Office of Multicultural Student Services, Hawaii's Plantation Village & 4Culture

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