

YOU ARE INVITED...

THE CONGRESS OF VISAYAN ORGANIZATIONS AND
THE UH CENTER FOR PHILIPPINE STUDIES *PRESENT*

Florentino Das' Solo Voyage from Hawaii to the Philippines

By Cecilia Noble

Panel Discussants:

- Sylvia Day
- Dr. Jun Colmenares
- Dr. Patricia Halagao



In Celebration of the 27th Anniversary of the Congress of Visayan Organizations

Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Philippine Consulate General Lanai, 2433 Pali Highway, Honolulu

PROGRAM

- 4:00 Welcome
- 4:15 Lecture, Panel Discussion
and Open Forum
- 5:45 COVO President's
Report
- 6:00 COVO Recognition
Awards
- 6:30 Dinner and
Entertainment

On May 14, 1955, Florentino Das left Kewalo Basin aboard his home-made wooden boat Lady Timarau, powered only by two 25-hp outboard motors and a canvas sail and with no modern communication or navigational instruments except a simple compass and the stars. His goal—to cross the Pacific Ocean and reach his native Philippines. He encountered several storms along the way and had to stay in Ponape, Micronesia for several months to repair his boat. Told by his sponsors to abort his journey, he refused because he felt that Filipino national pride was on the line. He finally reached Siargao, Mindanao, Philippines on April 25, 1956. For his formidable feat and patriotic zeal, he was received and honored by no less than then Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay who bestowed on him the Legion of Honor and the honorary title of Commodore of the Philippine Navy. After the initial adulation, however, he slipped into obscurity. Unable to return to Hawaii, he got sick and died in Manila, impoverished, on October 7, 1964, at age 46.

For RSVP and inquiries, please call Jun Colmenares at 510-734-4491.