

FILIPINOS

In the Central Coast

Culture shock!!

What does being Filipino-American mean to you?



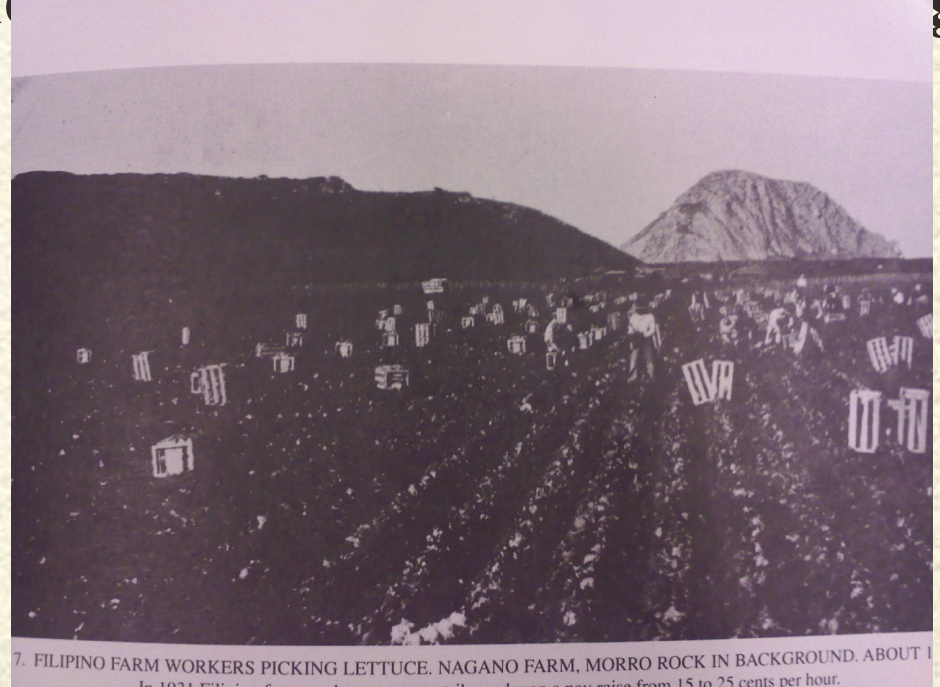
The Central Coast stretches from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara

San Luis Obispo
County: Cambria, Cayucos,
Morro Bay, Los Osos, and San
Luis Obispo

Did you know?

The first Filipinos landed on American soil on October 18, 1587 at Morro Bay, CA on the Manila Galleon *Nuestra Senora de Esperanza*

The Luzon Indios (Luzon Indians), a group of Filipino seamen were sent to California to conquer the land for the Spanish king



7. FILIPINO FARM WORKERS PICKING LETTUCE. NAGANO FARM, MORRO ROCK IN BACKGROUND. ABOUT 1911. In 1921 Filipino farm workers organized a union and won a pay raise from 15 to 25 cents per hour.

Filipinos in the Central Coast

- Over 30,400 Filipinos in California according to the 1930 US Census.
- Most were working in the agricultural industry.
 - Guadalupe Produce Farm



Carlos Bulosan



"The old world is dying, but a new world is being born. It generates inspiration from the chaos that beats upon us all. The false grandeur and security, the unfulfilled promises and illusory power, the number of the dead and those about to die, will charge the forces of our courage and determination. The old world will die so that the new world will be born with less sacrifice and agony on the living ... "

[America Is in the Heart]

- Carlos Bulosan

Carlos Bulosan

- Born in 1911
- During childhood, exposed to American presence in the Philippines
- Moved to Seattle and sold to work in Alaskan canneries
- After, went around job to job working in crop fields all over the US
- Spent a good amount of time in the Central Coast working in the farm fields and getting involved with politics behind the farm worker strikes

Farm Workers in the Central Coast

- Filipino agricultural workers tried to get the help of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) with creating a union. They refused to be associated with the Filipinos.
- In order to fight low wages, poor working conditions, and racial discrimination, they created their own workers unions.
 - Of the seven resulting unions, the Filipino Labor Union had the strongest influence.
 - "Ang lakas ay nasa pagkakaisa" or "Strength is in union"

Discrimination of Filipino Farm Workers

- Resentment from the white working class arose from job displacement.
 - Filipinos were hired for a much lower wages
- Competition between Filipinos and white men
 - Filipinos mingling with white women
 - White men would burn down homes, organization headquarters, etc.
 - Services and goods denied to Filipinos

The heart and pride of the Filipinos

Despite the discrimination and hardships the Filipinos experienced after arriving in America, they still kept their morale and persistence.

- They always supported one another because they valued each and every member of their community
 - They were a family

