

Free USO-style Show at Lake Quinault Lodge May 18

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

Posted on : May 2, 2013 at 6:00 am

Lake QUINAULT, Wash. - Wearing vintage World War II military uniforms, vocalist Dina Blade, WWII veteran and storyteller Ray Puddicomb, and pianist Hans Brehmer will perform a 1940s USO-style show in honor of Armed Forces Day (May 18 this year). A 15-minute Q & A will follow. The event is free of charge and will be held in the Quileute Room at the Lake Quinault Lodge, 345 South Shore Rd, Quinault, on Saturday, May 18 from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. The performance will feature popular songs from the World War II era featuring vocals with piano accompaniment, matched with stories by storyteller and WWII veteran, Mr. Puddicomb, who will speak about his wartime experiences. Topics will include anecdotes about the draft, soldier life, films, radio, railroads, returning home to the Northwest, and of course, the timeless music of the era. Puddicomb's memorabilia such as dog tags, military uniforms, photos, letters, train schedules/tickets, a Nazi flag, armband and helmet will be on display. Dina Blade is a vocalist who specializes in singing American popular songs from the 1930s and 40s, preserving the work of master composers and lyricists from that era. She has performed and toured in the U.S., Canada, Cuba and Brazil. Her relaxed and swinging sound has earned her acclaim with radio airplay both worldwide and at home in Seattle, on KPLU's "Best of the Northwest" list. She maintains a busy schedule recording, teaching vocal classes and performing.

Ray Puddicomb is a Seattle resident who served as a soldier on the German Front Line during the Rhineland Campaign of 1944. He has acted in dozens of plays at the Northwest Mountaineers-sponsored "Forest Theater," playing Merlin, the Wizard of Oz, a gorilla, a tramp, a lifeguard, a knight and other diverse roles. Hans Brehmer has been working with Blade for ten years and has performed for more than 25 years in the Pacific Northwest. A pianist, singer, songwriter, and arranger, he has also worked as an accompanist for the jazz vocal department at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. Brehmer considers accompanying singers to be an art form with unique demands. Sentimental Journey follows an open house at the Lake Quinault Museum, across the street from the lodge. The performance is sponsored by the Friends of the Amanda Park Timberland Library and the Lake Quinault Museum and Historical Society. Venue donated by the Lake Quinault Lodge. For more information, please contact the Amanda Park Timberland Library at (360) 288-2725 or visit www.TRL.org.