



GLENN COUNTY PLANNING & PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY

John F. Linhart, Director
Willows, California 95988



FACILITIES DIVISION
125 South Murdock Avenue
Willows, CA 95988-2966
Office: (530) 934-6545
FAX: (530) 934-6542
Email: blewis@countyofglenn.net

For Immediate Release

Friday, May 7, 2010

Contact: Bobbé Lewis
(530) 934-6545

As a result of some remodeling work underway at the Orland Memorial Hall, a new sign for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post 1992, was fabricated and now hangs on the north side of the building. Jackie Billings, Glenn County's Development Manager and Project Manager for the remodeling project, was contacted by Robert Keener, Commander of the VFW Post 1992, who inquired about how to get a new sign that publicized that VFW Post 1992 was active at this Hall. Ricardo Valdez, the County's Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, was called and asked to meet with Mr. Keener. During their meeting, it was decided that the sign be mounted on the north wall of the building near the door where the Veterans enter. Mr. Keener was not specific regarding what to put on the sign. Ricardo asked if he could borrow one of their widely recognized VFW emblems, which he got from a Member Benefits brochure. Ricardo was able to resize the emblem and created a draft version of the proposed sign so Mr. Keener could share it with the veteran members at their next meeting.

The draft sign was discussed with the veteran members who agreed that the VFW emblem should be completed in full color and asked to add information to the bottom of the sign saying when the regular meetings are scheduled. Ricardo said he'd make the sign with the changes requested even if he had to do it on his off hours. Bobbé Lewis, Glenn County Facilities Manager, agreed and offered to fund all of the material and labor costs.

Ricardo was able to complete the sign using his spare time hours and during lull work periods. The sign was made on surplus sign material obtained from Todd Murray, the County's Public Works Maintenance Supervisor. Ricardo cut the metal material to the size discussed, painted it, and laid out the emblem and lettering. All paint used to make the sign was obtained from supplies already on hand except for the four colors needed to duplicate the VFW emblem. Ricardo Valdez's artistic abilities perfectly replicated the emblem. Chuck Scritchfield, a County temporary worker, helped to paint the lettering. The sign was completed in less than three weeks and was installed by Ricardo and Dennis Pool, a County Buildings and Grounds Worker, on April 27, 2010. The sign now hangs on the north wall of

May 7, 2010

Page | 2

the building next to the door that leads into the kitchen area. After viewing the sign hung on the building, it was suggested that a Plexiglas cover be added to protect it from the weather and from possible vandalism. Ricardo agreed and new Plexiglas was purchased and added to the top of the sign. Robert Keener was called and asked to check the sign out and its installation. Upon his arrival, he expressed great pleasure in the overall appearance and thanked the County staff for its creation.

Future projects were discussed between Mr. Keener and the County staff. Assistance was requested for hanging up five older military flags in the veterans meeting room which the County staff agreed to do. Ricardo suggested that before hanging the flags, the walls be repaired where an old roof leak had caused some damage and then repaint the entire meeting room. Currently the walls are painted a brown color which does not reflect the light making the room dark even during the daytime hours. Mr. Keener was elated at the idea and said he would discuss the project with the veteran members during their next regular meeting. Also discussed was assisting the Veterans to relocate some belongings from the tower room to their meeting room. Ricardo agreed to schedule some help. The tower room is up a very steep set of stairs making it difficult to access.

The construction of this sign is a small demonstration of the County's continuing commitment to honor and support the local veterans and the organizations they represent. All veterans deserve to be honored for their services and contributions to our country.

If you are a veteran and are interested in joining the Orland VFW Post 1992, you can contact Robert Keener at (530) 228-9308.

END OF NEWS RELEASE.

cc: **Press/FAX List:** Tri-County Newspapers, FAX 934-6815
Valley Mirror, FAX 934-9208
Chico E-R, FAX 342-3617

cc: Glenn County Board of Supervisors
John Linhart, Glenn County Planning & Public Works Director
Facilities Division Files