

## Vernonia Freewheelers *continued from front page*

clubhouse on Suppes property where they hold BBQ's and parties. The group is a way for friends to gather together and have fun.

But it's also a way to give back and serve. The club meets on a regular basis to work on projects. Among the several previously mentioned ongoing projects the group works on, they also cut and deliver firewood to the elderly. Each year they adopt a local family in need at Christmas time. This coming summer they will be pouring concrete at the Vernonia Pioneer Museum. They also assist with the annual motorcycle show at Jamboree—the show is named in honor of their good friend Kesterson.

Membership is open to anyone, but there are restrictions and requirements. Suppes says anyone who



*Joe Suppes is the President of the Vernonia Freewheelers Club.*

is interested in being part of the group is welcome to pay their \$20 and get their sticker. "We have a six month probationary period," explains Suppes. "New members are required to show up for every meeting and every volunteer event during that time. They need to show us that they are really serious and really want to help." After the six months is up the requirements are relaxed but the expectation is still there—group members are expected to take part in community projects when they are able.

Suppes says the group is trying to set a good example for children in the community through their service and volun-

teerism. "That's the way it was in the past and that's how it should be in the future," says Suppes. Apparently it's working. Suppes' daughter Anika, a fifth grader at Vernonia Elementary, is often seen helping at group projects, as is son Jeremiah Hammons, a graduating senior at Vernonia High School. Hammons just finished serving a two year term on the Vernonia City Parks Committee and has enlisted in the Army National Guard.

Suppes says a lot of the costs involved in their group projects often come straight out of the pockets of the members. There is an account set up at Wauna Federal Credit



Union where donations can be made to help the work of the Vernonia Freewheelers.

The Vernonia Freewheelers are a group of hard working and hard playing citizens who give their time and energy to help improve the community. They don't do it because they want recognition. They do it because it's fun and it's the right thing to do.

You can find the "Freewheelers Club of Vernonia Oregon" on Facebook.



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## New Sign at Vernonia Lake



A new sign now greets visitors to Vernonia Lake. The sign is the creation of citizen Sally Harrison and displays Harrison's signature artistic style. Harrison raised the funds to print the sign and received volunteer assistance to install the sign, complete with small bird houses at the top of the sign poles. Many thanks to Sally for spearheading this project to make Vernonia Lake a little more welcoming.

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