

Did You Know . . .

By Chief Mathew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



I hope everyone has been enjoying the sunny weather and moderate temperatures. Please remember the improved weather

means an increase in bicyclists and motorcyclists on the roadways. I counted around 30-40 motorcyclists driving down Hwy 47 on Sunday. Remember to drive more cautiously; the weather can be deceiving as there are still areas of black ice, frost, and heavy gravel on the road surface.

Thank you to everyone who came out last Monday (January 22) for the Drug-Free Community Coalition Meeting at the

Scout Cabin. A member of the East-Metro Gang Task Force gave a great presentation on the European Kindred (EK). The EK is a white supremacy prison gang that has now moved some activities out into society. EK has some very violent members as well as being involved in many other criminal activities. EK has some members in Columbia County and even the Vernonia area. Watch for more great presentations

coming to future coalition meetings.

Besides learning about the EK this past Monday, I also learned about Vernonia's version of a "Fight Club" after being dispatched on a fight in progress call at the Equestrian Arena. Upon our arrival we found 15-20 people standing and sitting around by the covered area. It was determined that there had been a "fight" going on prior to our arrival and

that the gathering was Vernonia's version of a "Fight Club."

Fight Club was the 1999 movie starring Brad Pitt and Edward Norton, who created a global organization to vent male aggression. I have been told that Vernonia's version of the Fight Club is similar in that there are established rules designed to keep the participants "safe," at least as safe as you can be while fist-fighting. Dur-

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