

## Bikers Threatened With Hefty Noise Fines in Carefree, Arizona; Call Measure 'Discriminatory'

PHOENIX - Carefree has posted signs threatening recreational motorcycle riders with \$750 fines if their bikes make too much noise. The signs went up Monday despite neighboring Cave Creek's protests that the signs are discriminatory. Local bikers oppose the signs and the fines, which previously were only \$50.

However, motorcycle manufacturers generally applauded Carefree's efforts to get bikers to ride responsibly. The signs are part of a program Carefree launched to encourage bikers to throttle down as they ride through Carefree on their way to popular biker bars in Cave Creek. Bikers must ride through Carefree to get to Cave Creek.

The program emphasizes education as well as consequences. Carefree also plans to spend \$250,000 for increased law enforcement with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

The maximum number of decibels allowed is 80, down 5 decibels from the town's 2002 noise ordinance. Eighty decibels is slightly quieter than a kitchen garbage disposal.

Carefree Councilman Bob Coady estimated that only 10 percent of bikers cause problems, but there are so many bikers coming into Cave Creek on the weekends during the cooler months that the noise is unbearable.

At the Nov. 8 Carefree Town Council meeting, resident Mike Beck said many of his neighbors are so fed up they want to sell their homes, but it is too noisy to even show them.

Rebecca Bortner, spokeswoman for the Harley-Davidson Motor Co. in Milwaukee, said the industry is keeping an eye on Carefree's program, particularly the educational aspects in which the community is reaching out to bikers.

"It's a cool model," Bortner said. "We support the effort and are interested in the resolution."

Jen Dreis, media administrator for the Motorcycle Industry Council, said her national organization is considering giving Carefree a grant to carry out its sound reduction campaign.

Carefree had hoped Cave Creek also would post signs, but Cave Creek Town Manager Usama Abujbarah refused. Critics have accused Cave Creek of protecting bikers because of the huge amount of revenue they generate for that town. "That's not it," Abujbarah said. "It's about not discriminating against people."

## AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007 to Celebrate H-D's Sportster

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) has announced that the Harley-Davidson Sportster will be the "Featured Marque" at AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007, to be held July 27-29 at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.

Introduced as the XL in 1957, the Sportster will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2007. This landmark line of motorcycles has become an indisputable icon in American motorcycling and has had a significant impact on American culture.

In addition to the XL, AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007 will honor the Sportster's earlier siblings, including the K, KK, KH, KR and XR models.

Owners of Sportster XL motorcycles, as well as owners of Harley-Davidson K, KK, KH, KR and XR motorcycles, are invited to bring their machines to AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007 for display in the Sportster Corral. A select group of early and significant examples will be chosen for a special Marque of the Year display. For more information, contact Will Stoner at 2. wstoner@amacycle.org or 614-856-1900 ext. 1227.

AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007, which will benefit the Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum, will include exhibits of classic motorcycles and memorabilia, the all-brands AMA Swapmeet, bike shows, a full slate of vintage racing, and other features to be announced in the coming months.

As in previous years, AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days will kick off a ten-day celebration of motorcycling at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, concluding with the AMA Honda Super Cycle Weekend presented by Dunlop Tire the following weekend, August 3-5.

For the latest news about AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2007, visit [www.AMADirectlink.com](http://www.AMADirectlink.com) or call 1-800-AMA-JOIN. For tickets and more information about Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, visit [www.mid-ohio.com](http://www.mid-ohio.com) or call 1-800-MID-OHI

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