

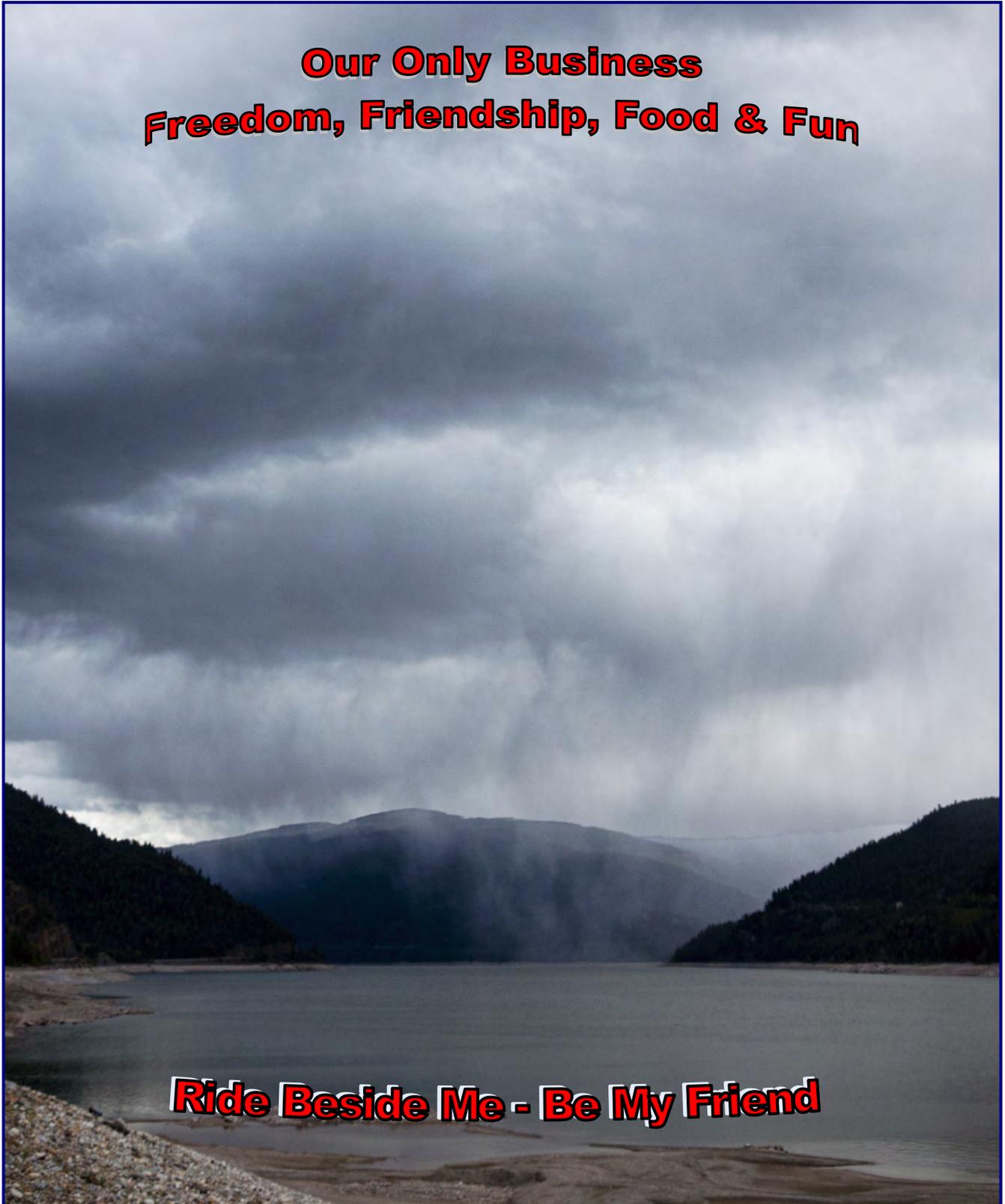


The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



**Our Only Business
Freedom, Friendship, Food & Fun**



Ride Beside Me - Be My Friend



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Table of Contents

Announcements & Tid Bits	Page 3
International Rep's Two Cents	Page 4
Inland Northwest News	Page 5
Events On The Horizon	Page 6
Commemorative Air Force Tour	Page 7
Sky Valley Motorcycle Show	Page 8
Washington State Rally Epilogue	Page 9
Earplugs 101 - Part 1	Page 13
Earplugs 101 - Part 2	Page 16
Season Finale	Page 19
For Sale	Page 20
UMCI Reps & Breakfast Schedules	Page 21

[International Website](#)

[Washington State Website](#)



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Announcements & Tid Bits

Sky Valley Motorcycle Show

Snohomish, WA

1st Street - Historic Downtown - See Flyer

September 12, 2021

Free of Charge

Know anyone that would like to receive The WASH Newsletter?
Send the editor First and Last Name, email address, City & State.

US Mail delivery optional; \$2.50 a month, includes gratuity!



Seattle Area Lunch Rides

Cover Photo

Looking south from Rocky Gorge Campground, on Lake Kooconusa, MT.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



International Rep's Two Cents

Hi everyone! I hope that you are making it through this abnormally high heat. It was 104 here in Othello, today and this note is being written on July 6th. Yes, I am trying to get started on this note early. Last month, I'll be honest, I completely spaced it off sorry about that, but you more than likely enjoyed the break.

Well, the Washington State Rally is in the books and David, Susan and Duane, did a fantastic job. There were about 19 of us at the event and it was a little warm, weather wise, but everyone seemed to have fun playing musical chairs following the shade.

David led a ride on Saturday, and according to David, they saw some roads that he had not been on before. Some of them came by way of unknown detours that were not expected. As we say when we lead a ride, we are not lost, we are temporally misplaced, at least that is my response. But everyone had a great time and lots of laughs and stories were shared.

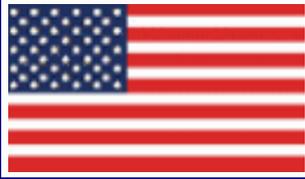
Duane brought over two BBQ grills that he made for the State Rally two years ago. David went to town and bought a bunch of chicken and hamburgers, and Duane and I did the cooking. We had plenty of food, salad and the sweetest corn on the cob. Susan made a fantastic red velvet cake for dessert and it was a hit of the dinner. Great job to everyone that helped and attended it was a great event.

Now, it's on to the International. I am hoping that by now all of you have sent your registrations in and I know from talking to Larry, the Idaho Rep, it will be another great event.

Well, as I will finish this up, we're only a couple of days away from the International and I am really looking forward to it. It is so much fun seeing all of your old friends and making new ones. I know that the Idaho group always puts on a great rally and Larry has been stressing about it coming out, but I have all of the confidence in Larry's abilities to put on a great event, and he has some really good people to help him.

When you come to the rally, bring some ideas you might have and please express them. The Rep's want your input and I know for sure I do. I hope to see you at the International and sharing friendship and some good stories will be the goal.

Love you all and God Bless!!! Kevin and Kevi



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Inland Northwest News

July 3, 2021

Picked up my rider (Christine) and rode into Denny's on Pines for a UMCI meeting. We had 14 show. It was good to see everybody. We have a pretty good club. We covered the coming rallies. Hopefully we will have a bigger turnout for the International.

I rode to the State Rally. There were around 19 there. We had a lot of fun. Took some good rides. No rain, good people. Dave and Susan did a good job. I hope to see them at the International.

We had a ride after the Spokane meeting. The riders were myself and Christine, Johnny Fast, Rich and Joyce and Dave and Mary Hill.

Joyce had a ride laid out to Boundary County (via back roads). We rode through Sandpoint to Boundary County. A lot of the roads were new for me. Rode on paved roads. Real nice riding. Came across a five acre junk yard with all kinds of old cars and motorcycles.

Rode into Bonners Ferry and had lunch at the casino there. It was a busy place.

We rode back home from there. We had a good time and saw a lot of new country. It was a little warm riding home. It was a 261 mile ride.

Charlie





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



2021 - Events On The Horizon

Washington, Idaho & Oregon

May 19-21, Brewster Campout, Rock Garden RV, Brewster WA

[408 Highway 173](#), (Mile Post 4), \$10.00 per bike, per night,
RSVP, Pay Upon Arrival, David Fitzgerald, route66@outlook.com

Jun 4-6, Washington Alpine Campout - Alpine RV Park (No RV's/Trailers)

60751 Hwy 20, Marblemount, WA ([Map](#)), Duane Wood, 360-766-6603

Jun 24-26, Washington State Rally - Hidden Village RV, Lynden WA

David Fitzgerald, email: route66@outlook.com

Jul 20-22, UMCI International - [KOA](#) @ Kamiah, ID ([Map](#))

Larry Phelps, email: spanky51@cablone.net, *Please Reserve Early*

Jul 29-Aug 1, North Cascades Campout - Off Hwy 20, near Mazama

Klipchuck Campground ([Map](#)), Register upon arrival.
Dennis Parsley: dparsley63@gmail.com

Aug 19-21, Coos Bay Campout - Coos County Fair Grounds

Myrtle Point, Chris Williams, 541-404-5286

Sep 4-7, Oregon State Rally - Tygh Valley, Wasco County Fairgrounds

81849 Fairgrounds Rd, Ben Altman, email: ben.altman47@gmail.com

Sep 10-13, Fields Spring State Park - Anatone, WA ([Map](#))

David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034, [Reserve ASAP](#) for best availability

Sep 15-17, Season Finale @ Rock Gardens Park, Brewster WA

[408 Highway 173](#), (Mile Post 4), \$10.00 per tent, per night, No RSVP
Pay Upon Arrival, Jan & Gordon Dale, flhrdr17@gmail.com [Online Flyer](#)



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Worlds Largest Flying Museum



- Jul 12-19 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Pocatello, ID
- July 20-25 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Great Falls, MT
- Jul 24 • [Wild West Airshow](#): Cheyenne, WY
- July 26-Aug 1 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Bozeman, MT
- Aug 2-8 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Missoula, MT
- Aug 7 • [Rocky Mountain Car Show](#): Broomfield, CO
- Aug 9-15 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Nampa, ID
- Aug 16-22 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Walla Walla, WA
- Aug 23-29 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Madras, OR
- Aug 25-29 • [AirPower History Tour](#): Denver, CO
- Aug 30-Sep 6 • [Flying Legends of Victory Tour](#): Salem, OR

Aircraft Rides Available

Check above dates and schedules



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



ABATE of Washington Sky Valley 24th Annual

MOTORCYCLE SHOW

- Manufactured Custom
- Mild Custom
- Metric Custom
- Radical Custom
- Metric Chopper
- Old School Chopper
- Stock
- Metric Full Dresser
- American Full Dresser
- Metric Half Dresser
- American Half Dresser



- Antique / Vintage
- Classic
- Factory Trike
- Custom Trike
- Sport Bike
- Rat
- European
- Japanese
- Sidecar
- 250cc & Under
- Women Rider

SUNDAY SEPT 12 2021

DUAL POST
RIDE PINS

EVENT SHIRTS

Snohomish, Washington

1st Street Historic Downtown

Live Music * The Seattle Cossacks

Ride-In Motorcycle Show Registration \$15.00 9:00 am – Noon

Advertise your Business with a Sponsorship!

Vendor Registration \$150.00 10 x 10 Spaces – 1st Come!

Information (360) 926-4265 ☼ www.skyvalleybikeshow.com

Proceeds Benefit Food Bank and Senior Center



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Washington State Rally

1 of 4

The Washington State Rally at Lynden is history. It was a nice event. There were nineteen members from Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Great people, great food, great location and great weather. A big thanks to Duane Wood for use of his custom grills and thanks to everyone for participating.

A special thanks to Kevin Besel and the Columbia Basin UMCI for their strategic financial contribution, which helped preserve our credit rating and compensate the weatherman.

David



Thanks Kevin,
all is appreciated
Susan + Dale Stanley
Thanks for what you do!

Thank you
Randy + Marjorie
Dannemiller
John Fisher
Ed Glasgow
A note of thanks
for you
Thanks for your support
of the Washington State Rally
at Lynden.
Doreen + Susan
Frazzini
Re: Crude Oil
Duane Wood
Ron Miller
Thank you
Donna
Dorothy
Hosson
Mike
HOBBS



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Washington State Rally

2 of 4





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Washington State Rally

3 of 4





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Washington State Rally

4 of 4





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Earplugs 101

by David L. Hough

Part 1

My motorcycling career has spanned about 45 years—so far. For the first 30 or so years I didn't wear any hearing protection. I figured that being a big, tough biker involved a bit of pain and suffering here and there. Getting battered by sun, grit and wind was just part of riding a motorcycle.



Of course, back in my early days of riding no one was paying much attention to noise exposure. If you worked in a steel mill, gravel crushing plant or on the Boeing flight line, you just learned to ignore the noise and assumed you'd be wearing a hearing aid later in life. But as more and more hearing loss claims started hitting businesses in the corporate wallet, researchers began to look into noise, and eventually the federal government Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed some rules about on-the-job noise exposure.

Although OSHA doesn't say anything about recreational pursuits like motorcycling, it's obvious to me that the noise rules are applicable to motorcyclists. Once I understood what was happening about 10 years ago, I started wearing earplugs, and these days I wear them on every ride. If you aren't wearing hearing protection when you're riding, you need to hang with us as we take a quick ride through Earplugs 101.



You might think that the primary noise culprits would be loud pipes or diesel turbos, but it turns out that the major culprit is wind noise. Wind noise around a rider's head is very loud, but at a low frequency that fools the brain into thinking it's not as bad as it really is. Noise is measured in decibels, or "dB" and there are various scales for measuring dBs. The scale for human hearing is "A." So, for measuring noise as it affects the human ear, the level is measured as "dB(A)".

OSHA has determined that hearing damage occurs as a combination of noise level and exposure time. You can tolerate a very loud noise (say a jackhammer) for a short duration, or a modest noise (say the inside of an airplane) for many hours. If you listen to a loud noise (say a wood router) for a long duration (6 hours) you will have some hearing damage. If you're curious about your hearing, you can get tests at an audiologist's lab.



The WASH

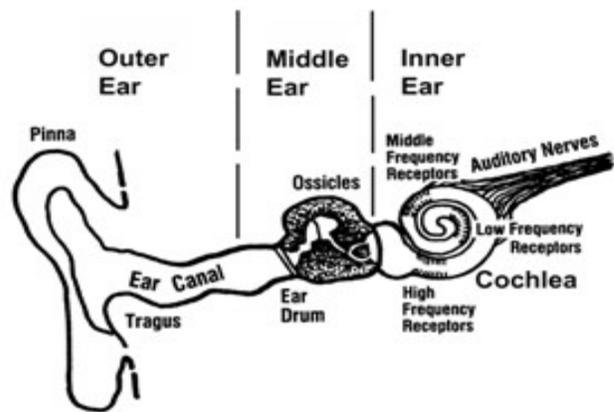
UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Earplugs 101 - Part 1

How Hearing Works

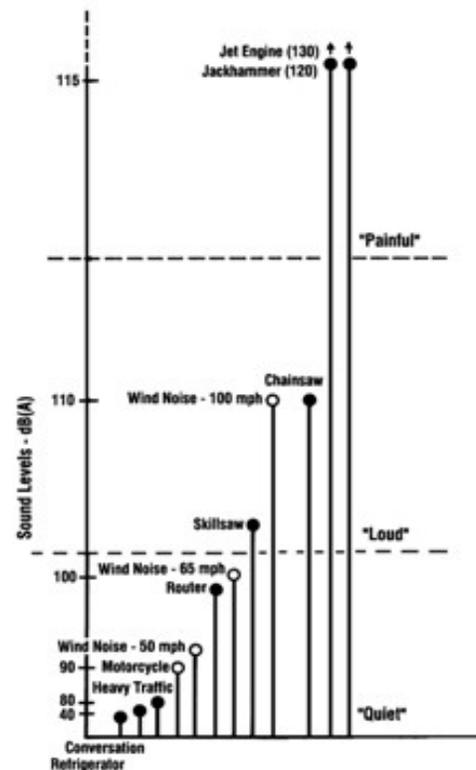
To understand what sort of "damage" we're talking about, it might be helpful to understand how hearing works. Sound is transmitted in waves of air pressure. The sound waves are directed up the ear canal by those big skin funnels. When the waves bump into the eardrum, the movement is amplified by a clever connection of bones in the Middle Ear called "Ossicles." The Ossicles transmit the pulses to a snail-shaped tube in the Inner Ear, called a Cochlea. The Cochlea is lined with tiny receptor hairs, and it's filled with a hydraulic fluid to damp the pressure waves. The tiny receptor hairs provide electrical impulses to the Auditory Nerves, and the brain comprehends the impulses as sound.



If the sound pulses transmitted to the Cochlea are very loud, the sudden pressure can break off the receptor hair one by one, gradually diminishing hearing. Repeated loud noises will gradually break off more and more receptor hairs. The position of the receptors in the Cochlea determines the frequency range. If there is constant high volume noise in a certain frequency range, you will gradually go deaf in that range. The problem is that the little receptor hairs in the Cochlea don't grow back. Once they snap off, they are just useless debris, like broken cylinder fins. And let's note that big, bad bikers don't have stronger Cochlea hairs than anyone else. Toughing out a noisy ride won't prevent hearing loss.

Wind Noise

It turns out that wind noise is at a low frequency—more like the rumble of a bass drum. The low frequency fools the brain into ignoring it, even while some of those little hearing receptors are getting snapped off. What's really insidious about wind noise is that the brain learns to ignore it, even as your hearing is being damaged. It doesn't hurt when a hearing receptor snaps off.





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



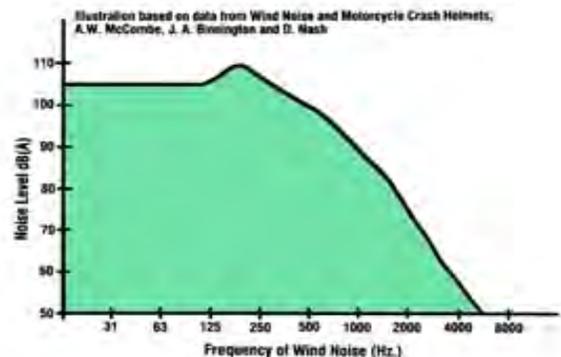
Earplugs 101 - Part 1

How loud is wind noise? Tom Mehren and I had a chance to do some measuring with a sound meter stuck out of an open car window. We found that the noise level was around 100 dB(A) at speeds over about 50 mph. The noise didn't increase when we passed a noisy truck, and it decreased with the window rolled up, so we have to conclude that the loud source was mostly wind noise. Our measurements agreed with what the noise researchers have found.

Tom's meter didn't give us the option of measuring frequency. But some researchers in England carefully measured wind level, and determined that wind noise is very loud at low frequencies, drops off steadily after about 250 cycles per second ("Hz") and goes quiet by about 6000 Hz.

Exposure Limits

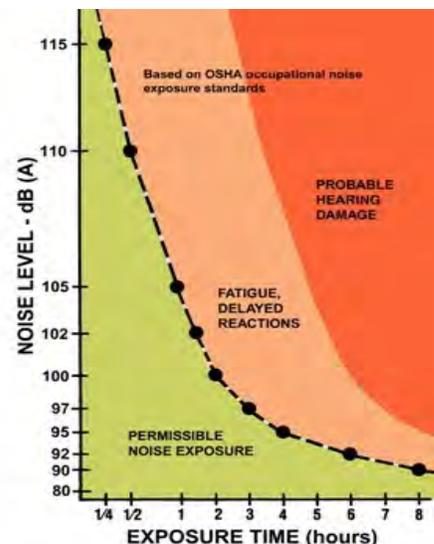
OK, we have to believe that wind noise is potentially damaging. But do I have to wear hearing protection while riding around town, or for a half-hour run on the freeway? OSHA considers noise level and exposure time, and has a chart that applies to motorcycling as much as to industrial jobs. No, you don't have to wear earplugs at speeds under about 40 mph, even for several hours. And for speeds over 55 mph, you can tolerate up to about 2 hours and still be within OSHA limits. But if you're going to ride more than two hours at greater than about 55 mph, you'll need hearing protection to avoid damage.



Doesn't a high priced helmet reduce wind noise?

The shape of a helmet shell, and the smooth fit of a face shield can reduce buffeting, but air is constantly moving around the helmet, and it generates noise. The noise doesn't necessarily travel in the same direction as the air. And some helmet components can actually generate noise. I'm skeptical of any advertising claims about a helmet being "quiet." I have yet to see any noise testing of helmets that proves any attenuation in the wind noise frequencies.

With that background in how wind around your helmet relates to hearing damage, stay tuned for Part 2, where we'll discuss the different types of earplugs and how to use them.





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Earplugs 101

by David L. Hough

Part 2

In part 1 , we described how noise can permanently damage hearing, and why wind noise around a rider's helmet at road speed is the main culprit. As it happens, there are some other issues with noise exposure that relate to risk management.

Fatigue

It's normal to get fatigued riding a motorcycle for hours at a stretch, but noise contributes to fatigue. When you spend long hours in the saddle exposed to loud noise, you get even more fatigued. That's especially an issue for those of us who ride aggressively, since riding at higher speeds demands intense focus and quicker reactions, even as the higher wind speeds generate louder noise.



Fatigue is not just a matter of muscles getting tired, but the brain failing to keep track of the important stuff that's happening around you. Imagine a long ride where you find yourself entering congested city traffic during the evening rush hour. If you're fatigued, you're much more likely to make a mistake that leads to a nasty crash.

Reaction Time

Noise exposure also leads to your reactions slowing. Let's say that you have really good responses, and at the start of the ride your reaction time is a very quick 0.5 second. In other words, if a driver makes a quick left turn across your path, you'll be able to take evasive action in just a half second. But after several hours of exposure to loud noise, your reaction time will typically be twice as long. So when some driver suddenly swerves into a collision course, you might cruise along for a full second before you take action. Those of us over 55 will typically have reaction times slower than 0.75 second, and our "fatigued" reaction time will be 1.5 seconds or longer.

If it's not obvious, the combination of fatigue and slow reaction time can get you seriously killed and permanently dead, whether the hazard is a left-turning car or a delayed-apex corner you didn't expect.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Earplugs 101 - Part 2

Ear Plugs

The solution to wind noise is simple: wear ear plugs. There are different types of ear plugs, including custom molded, re-usable shaped, and disposable foam. The different types can all have good noise reduction ("attenuation"). The easiest to slip into your ear canals (and the most expensive) are custom molded. A technician will take a mold of both ear canals, and have custom plugs made to fit. The left and right plugs will typically be slightly different shape, but each will slip into your ear canal with little effort—if you don't mix them up. Often, there will be ear plug vendors at rallies and you can get a pair custom molded within a few hours.

The downside of custom molded plugs is the expense—somewhere between \$75 and \$150 per pair. For me, it's not so much the initial expense, but that I tend to lose things. It would be just my luck to drop one of my custom molded plugs while pulling off my helmet, and not notice it's missing until I need it tomorrow morning.

There are re-usable shaped plugs with various sealing lip designs. What makes them re-usable is that the surface is smooth, so you can wash them. The downside of shaped plugs is that some people find the sealing lips to be uncomfortable, and they are somewhat more expensive than disposable foam plugs.

My personal preference is for disposable ("throwaway") foam plugs with a bullet shape, and made of what's called "low pressure" foam. Low pressure foam is very soft, and slowly expands just enough to make contact with the ear canals. Disposable plugs are cheap and comfortable. And if I lose one, it's a non issue.

The downside is that you can't reuse foam plugs too many times, so you need to carry several pairs to get you through a trip. I've found that I can re-use a pair of "throwaway" plugs for two or maybe three days before I pitch them. Foam plugs require you to shape them before insertion. After a couple of days of use the foam loses its ability to stay compressed, which is the main reason to toss them.

Noise Reduction Rating

Ear plugs are rated for their ability to reduce ("attenuate") noise level. When I'm buying plugs, I wouldn't consider anything with a NRR of less than 30. As far as I know, the attenuation is across a wide spectrum of frequencies, so industrial type earplugs made for the factory or flight line should be fine for wind noise attenuation.





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Earplugs 101 - Part 2

Buying Ear Plugs

You'll find earplugs for sale at motorcycle dealerships, gun shops, hardware stores, and outdoor equipment suppliers. If you're not sure what type of ear plug you'll find most comfortable, buy several samples, try them out, and figure out what type you prefer.

My personal preference is for the "low pressure" throwaway foam, bullet shaped, uncorded, like the Howard Leights, which come packaged in pairs in little plastic bags and are available in sets of ten from the Sound RIDER! online store .

Insertion

The trick to inserting a disposable foam plug is to gradually roll the plug between your fingers until it's a small cylinder. Rolling it gradually tighter avoids trapping creases that you would feel while wearing. I suggest you wash your hands before rolling a plug, to keep them cleaner. The low pressure foam has some "mystery" chemistry that allows it to expand very slowly—say 10 seconds. That gives you time to get it inserted. When inserting an ear plug, it helps to grab the top of the ear (the "Pinna") with the opposite hand and pull up, to straighten your ear canal.



Ear Plug Virgins

If you've never worn plugs before, expect some difficulty getting them inserted, and then a bit of disorientation as your brain gets used to the feel and the reduced noise levels. You may be amazed to hear sounds such as your boot heels hitting the ground as you walk. It's always been there, but you can hear it because the masking noises are attenuated. You'll probably have to look down at the tach to determine your engine RPMs, but you'll feel the vibrations better without all the noise. After a few times wearing plugs, you'll also be amazed at how loud the wind noise is if you forget to stuff the plugs in.



Oh yeah, are those rugrats in the next booth making too much noise during your coffee stop? Smile as you slip your earplugs back in. Ahhh.





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Season Finale Rock Gardens Park

408 Highway 173 • Brewster WA
September 15th - 17th, 2021

Camp on nice green grass. Reservations not required. Camping is \$10 a night per tent or tent trailer, pay upon arrival. Nice restrooms and free showers. Fire Ring and free firewood. No RV hookups.

Barbecue/Potluck on Friday the 17th. Bring what you want to grill and something for the potluck. Bring your own utensils, they will not be provided.

Grocery stores and gas stations just minutes away at Brewster or Bridgeport.

- Coffee provided in the mornings.
- Please bring your own cup.
- We hope to see you there.

Any questions? Please call:

Gordon Dale, 509-423-3256 or Jan Dale, 206-953-4701



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



For Sale

Motorcycle / Sidecar Outfit

1996 Yamaha Royal Star 1300cc

V4 • 5 Speed • Champion Escort Sidecar
Fully Equipped with Running Boards • Fairing
Studded Leather Saddlebags • Special Road Lights
Special Patriotic Themed Painted Tank and Fender
Color Matched Sidecar • Good Tires

Sidecar mounted on bike was ~~\$10,000~~

Asking: \$6000 or Best Offer



Call Dave at: 208-210-8088 OR 208-627-8945

Email: sidecarbikerbillie@hotmail.com



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Freedom, Friendship, Food & Fun Our Only Business

UMCI Representatives

International Representative	Kevin Besel, Othello, WA	509-531-1942
WA State & Columbia Basin Rep	Kevin Besel, Othello, WA	509-531-1942
Inland Northwest Area Rep (1)	Charlie Crane, Spokane, WA	509-238-4677
Inland Northwest Area Rep (2)	John Fast, Spokane, WA	509-238-2341
Okanogan Area Rep & Treasure	George & Willie Penner, Okanogan, WA	509-429-1736
Seattle/Puget Sound Area Rep	David Fitzgerald, Kirkland, WA - Temp	206-300-5034
Sedro Woolley Area Rep	Duane Wood, Bow, WA	360-766-6603

Monthly Breakfast Schedules

Columbia Basin Area, 2 nd Sun.	9:00am, Bob's Restaurant, 1807 E. Kittlestone, Moses Lake
Inland Northwest Area, 1 st Sat.	8:30am, Denny's Restaurant, 6 N Pines Rd, Spokane
Okanogan Area, 1 st Sat.	8:30am, Cariboo, 233 Queen Street, Okanogan
Seattle/Puget Sound, 2 nd Sat.	8:00am, Denny's Restaurant, 132 - 128th St. SW @ I-5, Everett
Sedro Woolley Area, 1 st Sat.	9:00am, Bonnie Joe's (Hometown Café), 818 Metcalf St, Sedro Woolley

David Fitzgerald, Editor
UmciNewsWash@gmail.com

