



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	3
International Reps Two Cents	4
Inland Northwest News	5
Events On The Horizon	6
Spring Banquet Registration	7
Idaho State Rally	8
2023 UMCI International Registration	9
North Cascade Highway Opening Campout 2023	10
Unpleasant Photo Opportunities	11
Sincere Flattery / So Sue Me, Say The Chinese Factories	13
For Sale	18
Reps & Breakfast Schedules	20

[International Website](#)

[Washington State Website](#)



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Announcements & Tid Bits

April 22, 2023
The [Northwest Motorcycle Classic](#) - Swap Meet and Show
[Northwest Washington Fairgrounds](#), Lynden WA

April 29-30, 2023
Spring Banquet @ Othello Senior Center, Othello WA

May 21st, 2023
[Sky Valley 26th Annual Motorcycle Show](#)
[Snohomish](#), WA

June 21 - 24, 2023
2023 [International Norton Owners Association Rally](#)
[Pine Near RV Park](#), Winthrop

July 17 - 20, 2023
UMCI International @ [Chelan County Fairgrounds](#), Cashmere WA

September 24, 2023
[40th Annual Oyster Run](#)
Free event • No official starting point • No time schedule • No required route
[Oyster Run - Motorcycle Run](#) - Anacortes WA

[Seattle/Tacoma - Sedro Woolley Lunch Rides](#)

Cover Photo
One of many deteriorating steel doors at [Fort Worden](#), Port Townsend WA.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



INTERNATIONAL REPS TWO CENTS!!!!

I don't know where you live, but I thought April was supposed to be the time that things warmed up and you can ride almost any day of the week, but this year, not so much. Will it ever warm up?

We changed our breakfast meeting to Sunday, April 16th. After our meeting, five of us decided to go for a short ride although it was not any too warm and it looked like maybe rain, but we decided to brave it anyway. We headed out to Grand Coulee Dam. It was a little chilly, but wonderful being out on the bike and on a ride with good friends.

Anyway, when we got to Grand Coulee it started to rain and that made it even colder. But then again, I thought how great it was to be with friends and enjoying just riding even in the rain, crazy but so very true. I hope that all of you have had a chance to get out and ride this season, even in the rain. What a great feeling.

We had a discussion on the upcoming Spring Banquet. Things are all set and we are looking forward to a great get together. It should be a lot of fun. I told the group that I had about forty already registered and expecting about another ten to twelve. That'll make a fantastic turnout.

It's the time of year that we can do what we all enjoy, and that's ride, and share those rides with the friends that we have made in the UMCI. I know that we are not large in numbers, but we are very large when it comes to deep friendships that we've developed in our small group.

As is so very true in all our functions, the one thing that always stands out to me are the friendships that Kevi and I have been able to make in this club. It's hard for me to believe that I still have friends in the club I met as long as 20 years ago and those friendships are still just as strong as when we first met.

It's my hope that in this letter or note, or whatever you call it, you too will take a few minutes to reflect on the friendships that you have developed in the UMCI. I'm positive that it will bring back some great memories and put a smile on your face.

I hope to see you at the Spring Banquet or at one of the many functions that are planned for this year. Until then thank you for letting us call you a friend.

Ride Safe, Ride Lots, but most of all have a ton of fun and make a new friend!!!!

Kevin and Kevi



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Inland Northwest News

HAPPENINGS OF UMCI SPOKANE AND INLAND EMPIRE APRIL

The meeting was brought to order by President, Charlie Crane. There was snow in his driveway so he couldn't ride to the meeting. Dave Hill and John Fast rode. John Guam had gone to emergency the day before with suspected Pneumonia, but came to the meeting and appeared to be in better health. Hopefully it wasn't Pneumonia after all.

This spring like weather can fool you. One day it is sunny and bright and the next day it is snowing again. With this kind of weather, it is a good time to check out your bike before riding season. The tires always deflate in cold weather. If your battery isn't sealed, make sure to top it off with distilled water. Make sure your battery is fully charged before taking your first ride. Especially if you have heated gear. You don't want to ride somewhere and have your battery die and then the bike won't start. I speak from experience.

Charlie, announced all the coming events for the riding season. There is a full schedule of riding if the weather will just cooperate. The first event is the Spring Banquet at Othello this month.

Last year, we had pouring down rain all spring and half the summer. It finally quit in the middle of July and then we had triple digit temperatures till September, and then it snowed. We have had snow on the ground since September. It never left. We had over 5 feet here at Twin Lakes. We had a warm spell in January, where there was a slight thawing period that melted a foot and a half off. The nights are still cold, with temperatures down in the 20's. We haven't been able to ride yet because of the ice on the roads and the pea gravel that Idaho uses to "sand" their highways.

We are all anxiously awaiting spring and warmer weather.

Billie



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



2023 Events On The Horizon Washington, Oregon & Idaho

Apr 29-30, Spring Banquet - Othello Senior Center, Othello WA

Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com - Registration attached!

Apr-May? North Cascade Highway Opening Campout - Date TBA

Duane Wood, 360-766-6603, See Flyer for Info *Fun, short notice excursion...*

Jun 2-5, North Cascade Campout - [Loup Loup Campground](#), Twisp WA

Dennis Parsley, 360-672-1901 - No Resv, FCFS, ([map](#)) ([Google Earth](#))

Jun 11-17, Idaho Panhandle Tour 2023 - *Includes Idaho State Rally*

Daniel Magee, 403 878-5859 - [Panhandle Tour Information](#)

Jun 13-15, Idaho State Rally - Clearwater River KOA, Kamiah ID

Larry Phelps, ljphelps1951@gmail.com - See Flyer for information

Jun 20-23, Farragut State Park (Snowberry Campground), Athol ID

David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 - [Reservations](#) (Non-Idaho Residents = \$\$\$)

Jun 26-29, Laird Park Campout - [Laird Park Campground](#), Harvard ID

1101 Palouse River Rd ([map](#)), FCFS - David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034

Jul 17-20, International - Chelan County Fairgrounds, Cashmere WA

Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com - See Registration - Complete ASAP

Aug 7-11, Silver Falls Campout - [Silver Falls State Park](#), OR

David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 - Popular; [Register ASAP](#) for best selection

Aug 8-10, Clyde Holiday - [Clyde Holiday State Park](#), Mount Vernon OR

Dick Hohstadt, 541-786-0230, [dhohstadt007@gmail.com](#)

Aug 25-28, Lost Resort, Cabins & Campground ([map](#)), Ozette WA

David Fitzgerald, route66@outlook.com, No Resv, [Info](#)

Sep 1-4, Tygh Valley, Wasco County Fairgrounds ([map](#)), Tygh Valley OR

Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 - Reservations not required



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



SPRING BANQUET

Othello Senior Center

755 N. 7th Ave
Othello, WA



We will be at the Senior Center in Othello, April 29th and 30th. All we need is for you to get out of the house and come and enjoy a festive event. We will try to hear from all Rep's and get there views of the coming riding season. We'll have door prizes, raffles and make it a fun evening.

Dinner will start at 6:30pm and served Buffet Style. Cost is \$25.00 per plate. There's a shortage of restaurants in Othello for breakfast, so we'll have breakfast before you leave.

Please Register ASAP

Name _____

Address _____

Registration Dinner \$25.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Breakfast \$10.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Mail registration to:

Kevin Besel, 1045 East Oak St, Othello WA 99344-1651

... Othello Motels ...

[Othello Quality Inn](#), 1020 E. Cedar St. (509-488-5671)

[Othello Inn and Suites](#), 665 E. Windsor St. (509-331-5722)

2023 Idaho State Rally

Clearwater River KOA

June 13th - 15th

Kamiah, ID

Register for Rally Upon Arrival

Singles 15\$, Couples 25\$

Camping Reservations

Tent • RV • Motel

800-562-9038

2023 UMCI International Chelan County Fairgrounds

July 17th - 20th

Cashmere, WA

Wescott Dr. & Kimber Rd.

Please Register ASAP
(by June 1st is desirable)

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Travel distance to Cashmere, WA: _____ Miles/Kilometers

Registration and Banquet per person \$25.00 x _____ = \$ _____

RV Camping per night \$25.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Tent Camping per night \$17.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: George Penner

Mail Registration to:

Mr. & Mrs. George Penner

77 Brugh Road

Oroville, WA 98844-9400



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



North Cascade Highway Opening Campout 2023

Crossing the North Cascade Highway (SR20) on opening day is becoming a tradition.

This year, I'm going to try something different. Instead of waiting for west gate to open to travel east, we going to the east gate and head west.

We can gather the day before North Cascade Highway opens. When is that? Not quite sure at the moment. Historically, the opening date is announced a few days in advance via TV, radio, WSDOT and word of mouth. I was planning around the beginning of April or the 1st of May, that the gates might be opening, but we will see what the snow plow progress and the weather has in store.

From the East:

Anyone who wants to ride over Stevens Pass, we can meet at [Alta Lake State Park](#), Pateros, WA. We will be camping here the night before SR20 opens. The following morning, we'll ride to the pastry shop in Twisp, for coffee and goodies. Then, we'll continue west on SR20 toward the east gate at Early Winters ([Milepost 177](#)) to hopefully arrive about 10am. Traditionally, the east and west gates open simultaneously. From the east gate, we'll continue west to Washington Pass for a pit stop and more coffee. I'm aiming to be here for a little bit, hoping between 12-1pm.

From the West:

If you desire to assemble at the west gate (Milepost 134), also known as the [Tootsie Clark Memorial Gate](#), located at the [Ross Dam Trail Head](#), then continue and meet at Washington Pass (Milepost 162), the halfway point, between Noon and 1pm. Otherwise, we can wave as we pass each other, but hopefully we can meet and have more coffee and chat.

To keep up with everything or if you have any questions, please contact Duane Wood at 360-766-6603 and leave a message. If I don't answer, please leave your name and a good number on the machine so I can call you back.

Duane Wood



*May 15, 2020 - North Cascade Highway opening.
Lunch at Washington Pass.*



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Unpleasant Photo Opportunities

Why I always carry a camera

It was Friday night in the city and I was inside the pub throwing some darts and chatting with friends when the waitress came through and asked if anyone owned a motorcycle. That would be me. I rushed outside to find a Volvo station wagon sandwiching my bike in between it and a Toyota pickup truck. People walked by in dismay and a woman came over who had witnessed the event. Turns out the owner left the car parked 25 feet up the street. The owner also happened to leave the Volvo in neutral without the parking brake on. My bike was in the right place at the wrong time.

Being that I ride about 20,000 miles a year, my harem of three are always vulnerable on pretty much a daily basis. I once had the pleasure of having a Salvation Army truck back into two of my gems parked on the street outside the house. Despite photos and an eye witness the Army's insurance company, a sneaky slimy crew out of Anaheim CA, refused to pay the claim. After I sent Progressive Insurance after them and did a avalanche phone campaign, the claim was finally accepted and paid by the sleazy ones.

What I'm saying here is that I've had a bit of experience with incidents that were the other parties fault involving my motorcycles. Filing an insurance claim is an art you will want to master. I'll take this space to share with you some tips that will better your chances in your next claim when someone hit's your pride and joy.

Carry a camera. Even if it's just a pocket disposable with a flash, it's critical to have one handy. You'll be interested to know that few police departments provide every officer with a camera and won't send a staff photographer out on a non injury call. Your only protection is to have your own camera. If your shooting with a nice digital, set the flash to 'slow' when shooting at night - this will greatly enhance the quality of most of your shots. Carry an extra roll of film/memory card too. You may need to shot a bit. This is also fun, you own the photos and can send them to friends and family over the web.

Keep Your Cell Phone Charged - If you carry a cell phone it's a good idea to keep it charged up, or have a spare battery. You may need to spend up to an hour of time on the phone with police and insurance companies. Get the claim number when you initiate the call, in case you get disconnected and need to call back from another phone later.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Be Complete - Be sure to take down the name, address, phone number, license plate and drivers license number of the person who hit your bike. In the case of a 'hit and wasn't around to see it happen' the car was opened by the police department who provided me with the proof of insurance card from the owners glove box. I contact his insurance company while he was in a local theater enjoying the movie.

Get it Right - Insurance companies can be nasty when it comes to claims. Every move you make, every word you say, every number and letter you provide must be correct. Never tell them more than they ask for. Remember they are taping your conversation.

Know Your Tow - If your bike needs to be towed, don't let just anyone tow it. Carry the number of a local tow company that provides 'qualified' trucks for Motorcycles. Shame on thee who chains a perfectly awesome cruiser to the back of a tow truck. Flat bed with 4-6 tie downs has to be a must. Insist on it. That nifty job on the right (look closely at the back of the bike) is courtesy of Lincoln Towing.

Use Your Insurance Company - Although the incident may not be your fault, it may be worth your while to contact your insurance company and provide the details. If the other parties insurance company tries to do an end run on you, your company will typically back you up and make it right. They are the pros, use them to your advantage when needed.





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Sincere Flattery? / So Sue Me, Say The Chinese Factories

Intellectual property is all very well, but only if you can protect it
by The Bear



Rolls like a GS, quacks like a GS... so it's a GS. But not like we know it, Jim. Photo Vinto Motor.

I worked for MOTORRAD magazine for a while as a correspondent when I was living in England. Ever since, I have had a huge amount of respect for staff and management of this fortnightly publication, which claims the largest circulation of any motorcycle magazine in the world. I stand ready to be corrected by Indian or Chinese inmates! One reason for MOTORRAD's success is the way they tackle difficult questions—as they have here, with an inquiry into the legal side of Chinese motorcycle manufacturing.

You can see Google Translate's version of it here, but here is the gist of the write-up. They pulled no punches. "Why do the Chinese copy with impunity?" they asked. "Stealing and copying. Chinese motorcycle manufacturers like to help themselves to Japanese, European and American technology. How is this possible?"



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Among the countless new motorcycles from Chinese manufacturers, the chances are good that you will find one or more features that have previously appeared on “premium” products from Japanese, American or European manufacturers. Styling, name, sometimes the logo, usually the engine and sometimes the frame and running gear from China resemble well-known models, often precisely. Why are manufacturers from China allowed to do this, MOTORRAD asked? Why do the established manufacturers allow this?

The most copied engine is Honda’s current 500 cc inline twin-cylinder CB engine. Honda began producing the engine with its 180-degree crankshaft in 2013. Since then, the shape of the cases as well as the clutch and crankshaft covers have been seen on many Chinese brands such as Voge and Brixton, and especially Loncin. Depending on the manufacturer, with the same performance or with different displacements. The basic design follows Honda’s in all variants. Interestingly, in MOTORRAD’s fuel consumption tests, the copies typically used up to 20 percent more fuel with much the same performance.

How, wondered MOTORRAD, can it be that the probably most successful motorcycle engine over 125cc can simply be copied? Did Honda allow this? Does Honda get any royalties?



Advice from the specialists of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office was simple. A reciprocating engine can in principle no longer be patented. Likewise, a specific bore-stroke ratio cannot be protected. Only a special, new technical solution like the shift cam technology from BMW can be secured as a patent. After 20 years the patent protection expires, and then anyone can use the invention.

Hey hey, it’s a Monkey... except it isn’t. Photo The Bear.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Advice from the specialists of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office was simple. A reciprocating engine can in principle no longer be patented. Likewise, a specific bore-stroke ratio cannot be protected. Only a special, new technical solution like the shift cam technology from BMW can be secured as a patent. After 20 years the patent protection expires, and then anyone can use the invention.



That GS look is irresistible, here on the MX500-7D. Photo Moxiao.

Not that the Chinese factories are waiting the two decades. Chinese factory Moxiao “cheekily” in MOTORRAD’s word, came up with the 500 RR as a Panigale 959 imitation in 2021 as well as the MX Ducati V4 clones and the new MX500-7D as a BMW GS clone. Clearly inspired by the current BMW R 1250 GS, it features a front end for which “a spare part number from BMW can certainly be found” according to MOTORRAD. “Also very GS-like are the tank line and the lush aluminum carriers for cases and top cases... and they even offer a little more GS style with the single-sided swingarm”.

There is another reason beside the simple theft of technology and cosmetics. “It is considered desirable in Chinese culture to come as close as possible to the original with a copy,” according to MOTORRAD.

A new design for a motorcycle can in principle be registered for protection, but it must not already exist in one way or another. And it must – like a patent – have individual character, a unique selling point. The overall impression of the design must differ from the existing design. However, delineating when a new design infringes a protected design is difficult and can take a long, as I explained on this site in the case of Piaggio vs. German scooter manufacturer Kumpan. Piaggio lost that one, despite throwing all its legal expertise at it. And anyway, the maximum time protection lasts is 25 years.



The only thing “Honda” on this scooter is the stickers. Likewise for Suzuki.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



Brand logos such as the BMW circle, the Honda winged H or Yamaha's tuning forks are another matter. Trademarks, symbols and model names come under trademark protection must be clearly distinguishable, so there is not much room to copy: Use of a logo that looks similar to the BMW propeller can be pursued in the courts by BMW.

A trademark enjoys protection of 10 years and can be extended at will. However, if the trademark becomes synonymous with an entire product group, trademark protection may fall under certain circumstances. Walkman is one example or, at BMW Motorrad, the GS brand. In February 2023, Vinto Motor's GS 525 appeared in China. It is an "enduro" (German word for adventure bike) called GS and therefore cannot be exported to Western countries without raising BMW's wrath.

MOTORRAD lists what it considers the five most brazen Chinese copies in recent years of models or brands from well-known manufacturers:

5th: Kove showed a 500cc Enduro in 2022. The engine is the cloned Honda twin, visually Kove mixes the Honda CB500X and the BMW F 850 GS.

4th: Goes to the manufacturer Moxiao, which is producing numerous clones of Ducati's and BMWs in China.

3rd: Goes to Moto, who cloned the design of the current BMW S 1000 R and, unwisely, the BMW logo. BMW Motorrad took legal action against the copied badge.

2nd: Is Shineray, owner and manufacturer of SWM models, with the Custom V 1200 Stormbreaker. This is effectively identical to the recently discontinued Harley-Davidson Sportster 1200. The engine is identical, the styling is very close. You have to wonder if Harley parts would fit this SWM.

1st place: BMW partner Loncin which, with its brand Voge adopted the technology of the current BMW F 850 GS and BMW F 900 while slightly restyling the bodywork. Consider that Loncin builds precisely these engines for BMW. "There is certainly rumbling at the highest level," speculates MOTORRAD. But is there?



When is a Sportster not a Sportster? When it's an SWM Stormbreaker.



The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



A lot of resemblance to Honda's 1300 Fury here, and that engine looks familiar too. Photo The Bear.

To sum up, from the German and wider European patent law point of view, a manufacturer cannot protect a normal engine. Protecting a design is possible, but enforcement is difficult and can take years. Manufacturers are in the best position against Chinese plagiarists when they adapt or use an original logo, protected as a trademark. That makes it clear why the 500 cc Honda engine is copied so often.

Imitation, they say, is the sincerest form of flattery. How sincere do you think the Chinese manufacturers are?





The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



For Sale

**1995 Honda Goldwing GL 1500 Interstate • 54,000 miles
New Windshield • Tune Up • Brakes • Ready to go • \$4800**



1995 Kwik Kamp with Queen Bed • \$2500



**Contact Lucy Johnson at: 509-269-4648
Eastern Washington**



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 - <i>Temp</i>	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.	9:00am, Denny’s Restaurant, 6 N Pines Rd, Spokane
Okanogan Area, 1 st Sat.	8:30am, Cariboo, 233 Queen Street, Okanogan
Seattle/Puget Sound, 1st Sat.	9:00am, Sports Keg Grill, 1660 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington
Sedro Woolley Area, 1st Sat.	9:00am, Sports Keg Grill, 1660 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington

David Fitzgerald, Editor
UmciNewsWash@gmail.com

