Bring the Noise

While it seemed that almost everyone around the world was getting ready to hunker down and seek shelter from the coming storm of germs, I, along with most of the other essential workers it seemed, were getting ready to go to work for even longer. I needed to go to work to make sure that people still had the clean water to drink and to keep the bodies of water around me safe. Those waters being the Puget Sound and the various lakes and streams that are located on the Kitsap Peninsula. Unfortunately, jobs like mine and other essential workers and especially First Responders can't be done online, so it was off to work we went. Since I was having to work extra to cover staggered shifts and to fill in for people who were either sick or were told to work from home and the fact that all the restaurants were basically closed and there were no foreseeable trips to take, I decided to put the extra money I was making to good use. I decided to add some noise to our somewhat quiet isolation. I have always had a passion for music and have played the clarinet for years but have always wanted to try other instruments. The first instrument to come into the house and break up some of the silence was a banjo. Of course, I hadn't realized how hard the banjo is to play, so next came an acoustic guitar, a little easier to play. What followed seemed like an avalanche of new sounds. Two ukuleles, four or five electric guitars and an electric bass. Every night going forward there would be some new noise created by me to distract from what was going on out in the world. Since those first days of the pandemic, I have gotten a bit better at making the noise sound more like music, but it has been a struggle. Turns out I am not a great guitar player after all, at least not yet. I have improved quite a bit on the clarinet though and I just added a saxophone to the still growing collection.