

THE SAFETY CORNER

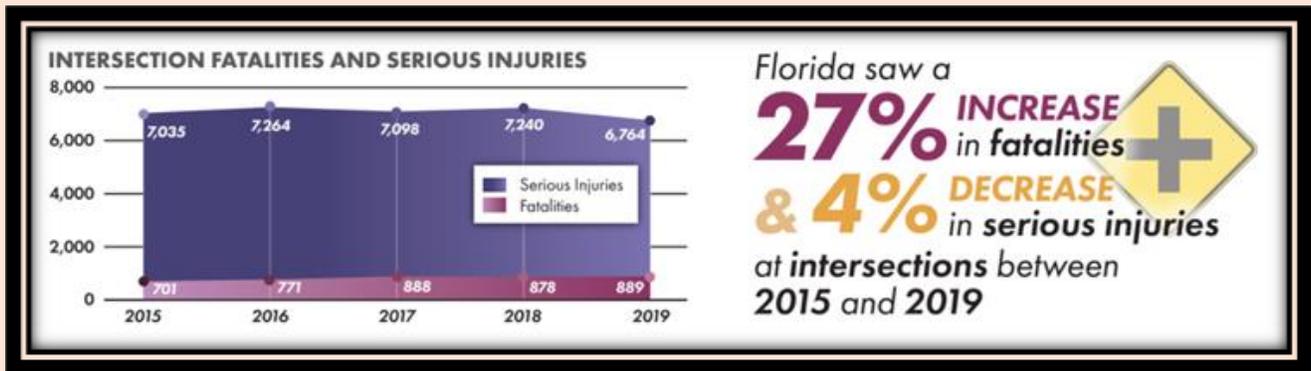
Tom and Karen Brunelle



So, how about we meet up?

Intersections are where it's at. This isn't always a good thing! Intersections are also where people are at cross purposes.

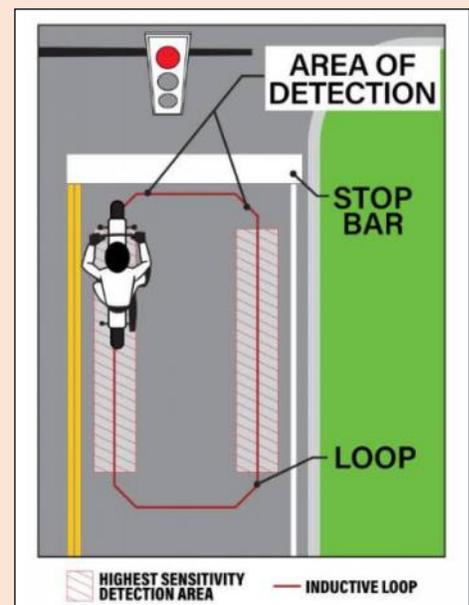
About 33% of the nearly 900 fatalities at intersections involve motorcycles.



(Source: Florida Strategic Highway Safety Plan)

Use extra caution when approaching intersections. There's so much going on!! In circumstances where the power is out and traffic signals are not active, treat intersections as a four-way stop. The first to arrive is the first to move forward. If multiple vehicles arrive at the same time, the driver on the left yields to the driver on the right. However, if someone is already in the intersection when it's your turn, be courteous and let them proceed. If you continue into the intersection, you and your bike will likely get the worst part of that meet and greet.

What happens if you pull up to a traffic light and the signal doesn't turn green? Don't run the red light! Signal sensors are either installed in the pavement or are have video detectors near the traffic signal head. The sensors in the pavement are designed to pick up the metal in the exhaust pipes. Wearing bright colors will help identify you if the signal sensor is a video detector. If the bike is positioned correctly and the signal still won't change, when safe to do so, make a right turn and then find another location that's safe to turn around. Come back through the intersection a different way. You can also report an intersection that is not working. Traffic engineers will check it out and make adjustments.



For this month's Read Your Road Challenge Questions...we look at signals, of course:

1. What does a left turn flashing yellow arrow signal mean?
2. True or False? The red stop signal is always at the top of the signal head.
3. How many conflict points are in a traditional intersection?
4. Which of the following are intersections:
 - a. Four-way
 - b. Diverging diamond interchange
 - c. Single point urban interchange
 - d. Roundabout

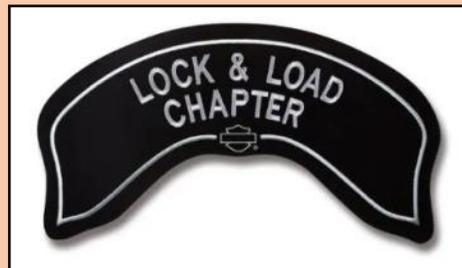
(Answers are later in the newsletter!)

Whether you are trying to get there from here or go over yonder, intersections need extra attention. Remember, highway safety depends on you! Whether you are a driver, passenger, or pedestrian, be observant and be adaptable to be safe!

TOM and KAREN

CHAPTER PATCHES

TWO NEW PATCHES ARE ON ORDER AND WILL BE SOLD AT THE CHAPTER MEETINGS. ROCKER \$16, LARGE HOG PATCH \$38. ALL PATCHES ARE SOLD AT OUR COST.



Read Your Road Challenge Question Answers:

Left turn flashing yellow arrow signals mean that you may turn left once it is safe to do so. Treat them like a yield sign.

False. Actually, it's true when the signal head is vertical. When the signal head is horizontal, usually installed when there is a height restriction, the red lens is always on the left. This is for people that are colorblind, they can distinguish which light is on and know when to stop.

32 conflict points! 12 of them involve left turns. To increase safety, reduce the opportunity to turn left. Roundabouts only have 8 total conflict points. They are much safer, even if you are going in circles! Watch this link for more information on intersection safety: <https://youtu.be/6B8gmCpMXMw>

All of them! DDIs (Diverging diamond interchanges), SPUIs (Single point urban interchanges), and Roundabouts are all designed to reduce the conflicts and make intersections safer. They do take a little bit getting used to the first couple of times through them.

