Eye Center South

Your vision. Our mission.

Spring 2022

EYE CARE TODAY

Advances in eye care. Connections to experts.

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
OD MD
THROUGH COOPERATION

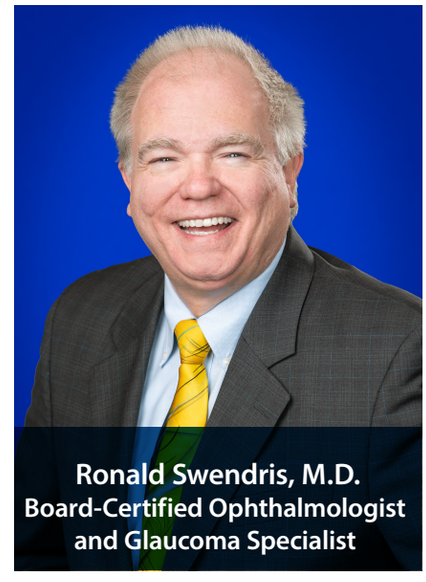
2022 EEF ANNUAL SEMINAR AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS!

Thank you to the 170 Optometrists and 22 Exhibitors who attended the recent 2022 Annual Seminar in February. It was wonderful to gather in person and see old friends and make new ones. The reviews on the venue and speakers were overwhelmingly positive. Thank you for your feedback as we strive to make each seminar a meaningful educational and social event that you look forward to each year. Stay tuned on plans for next year's event!

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE EEF SPRING SEMINAR

Join us **Thursday, April 21, 2022**, in the Eye Center South-Dothan Conference Room to hear Dr. Ronald Swendris present "Glaucoma Overview in '22" 5:30 - 8 p.m. for (2) Continuing Education Credits.

Dinner will be served, attendance is FREE! Limited seating is available. Please reserve your spot by emailing Sherry McLean at smclean@eyecentersouth.net



Ronald Swendris, M.D.
Board-Certified Ophthalmologist
and Glaucoma Specialist

Follow us on Facebook @EyeEducationFoundation for updates on CE opportunities throughout the year.

COME SAY HELLO TO US AT WFOA ANNUAL SPRING MEETING!

The West Florida Optometric Association is hosting Sip and CE, Spring Education Seminar 2022, **April 22-24, 2022** at the Baytowne Conference Center at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. Please stop by the Eye Center South exhibitor booth for special giveaways!

SIP AND CE

CLINIC FOCUSED NEWS

PIONEERING NEW TREATMENTS BEING STUDIED AT EYE CENTER SOUTH-DOTHAN!

In partnership with Trinity Research Group, ECS-Dothan is an Investigational Study Site for the Glaukos Phase 2 Corneal Health Clinical Program for Third-Generation *iLink*™ Therapy. Emily Ivey, Clinical Research Director for Trinity said, "Our site has participated in all phases of research, consistently being first to enroll patients and continuing to meet enrollment goals."

Glaukos Corporation an ophthalmic medical technology and pharmaceutical company focused on novel therapies for the treatment of glaucoma, corneal disorders and retinal diseases, recently announced that it has commenced a Phase 2 clinical program for its third-generation *iLink*™ therapy designed to treat keratoconus.

Thomas Burns, Glaukos president and chief executive officer said, "Our third-generation *iLink*™ therapy builds upon our proven *iLink*™ platform therapies and we are delighted to have the opportunity to explore what this promising investigational therapy can do for keratoconus patients in our Phase 2 trials."

The company anticipates it will enroll keratoconus patients across both trials at clinical sites in the United States, Europe, South America and Asia. Both trials are designed to have a primary safety and efficacy follow-up period of 6 months. Trinity Clinical Director, Ivey shared, **"This is such an exciting trial that can really change treatment options for keratoconus patients. I'm so thankful to work with such a wonderful team and to be able to accomplish this milestone. I enjoy seeing the first glimpse of tomorrow's medicine, today."** For more information on how your patients can enroll, please contact Emily Ivey at eivey.trinity@gmail.com.

UPDATE ON GLAUCOMA EVALUATIONS FOR DESTIN AND PANAMA CITY OFFICES

Dr. Bansagi, Dr. Leoncavallo and Dr. Henkel request to see new Glaucoma patients only by Optometrist referral. Upon your referral, please provide your notes, and we'll schedule your patients as quickly as possible. Dr. Leoncavallo will focus on Surgical Glaucoma patients at our Destin and Panama City Offices. Dr. Bansagi will provide Glaucoma evaluations in Panama City and Destin offices. Dr. Henkel will provide Glaucoma evaluations from referred patients at our Destin office. Thank you for your continued trust in us to manage and provide continued care to your Glaucoma patients.

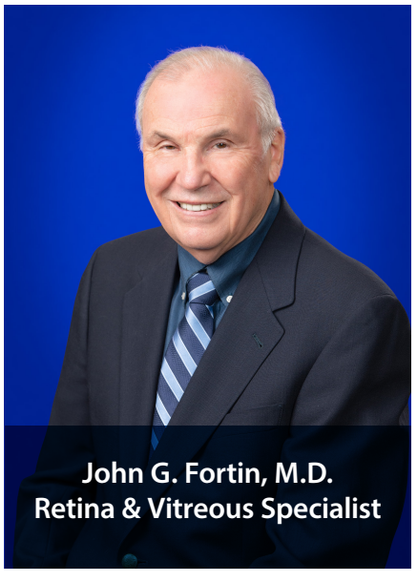
EYE CENTER SOUTH - DESTIN WINS AWARD!

Eye Center South-Destin was recently awarded the 2022 Best in Destin for Vision Care by VIP Destin Magazine. We have won this distinction for four years in a row! We are grateful to the Destin community for selecting our practice to win this honor.

PHYSICIAN FOCUSED NEWS

NEW LASER TREATMENT FOR FLOATERS OFFERED AT ECS-DOTHAN

Laser vitreolysis or Laser Floater Treatment is a minimally invasive procedure that can significantly improve the visual disturbance caused by floaters. Dr. Fortin and Dr. Sen now offer the Ellex laser, the only FDA-approved laser treatment for floaters. Floater Laser Treatment involves the application of nanosecond pulses of laser light to break up the clumps of collagen protein in the vitreous that cause the symptom of floaters and can impair clear vision. Focused vaporization of small volumes of fluid causes breakup of the collagen molecules that make up the floater. The result is that the floater is removed, reduced in size, or displaced from the central visual axis so that it no longer impedes vision. This allows your patient to return to day-to-day activities without the hindrance of floaters interfering with their visual function. Clinical studies have shown a high success rate in either completely eliminating the floaters or diminishing their appearance. We are happy to help your patients who have chronic issues with floaters. As always, acute onset of floaters should be treated as an ophthalmic urgency/emergency requiring prompt evaluation by an eye care provider for retinal tear or detachment.

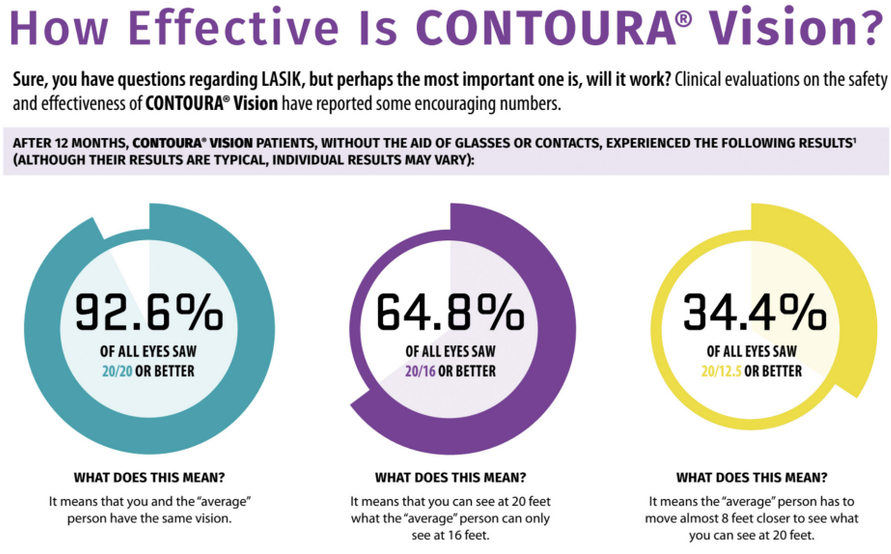


WATCH OUR VIDEO ON ADVANCED RETINA TREATMENT

DR. SEBASTIAN HEERSINK OFFERING UPGRADED LASIK PROCEDURE

Dr. Sebastian Heersink now offers Contoura Vision treatment at our Dothan office. Contoura Vision is an advanced LASIK procedure that can free patients from glasses and contacts with completely personalized vision correction.

If you have patients interested in this procedure, please refer to Dr. Sebastian Heersink for an evaluation.



MESSAGE FROM DR. BENNETT

I want to thank you for your continued trust and support. As you know, I have cut back considerably on my schedule and have limited my surgery schedule to one day per week. As such, my surgery schedule is booked out until mid-May. I hate to make patients wait so long so I'm going to pause on seeing new cataract patients until May. Some of your patients won't mind the wait, but if you have a patient who wants cataract surgery fairly soon, feel free to refer them to one of our other cataract surgeons.

Thank you again for our many years of working together for the benefit of our patients.

Bill Bennett, MD

STAFF NEWS & MILESTONES

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT – MEET ASHLEY DUNN, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & TRAINING

Did you know that in 2019 Eye Center South launched a new department committed to Education and Training? Ashley Dunn began working for ECS twelve years ago as an entry level employee. Her commitment to learning, teaching and cultivating a culture for excellence was apparent in each position she held. As she rose through the clinic ranks, she moonlighted as an Instructor at Wallace Community College teaching the COA and COT certification curriculum. Her leadership and commitment to fostering an environment of continuous learning and opportunity among our staff paved the way to the creation of the Education and Training Department. Ashley was promoted to the Director of Education and Training, which in two short years has grown to five full-time employees who provide support to all clinic locations. In addition, Ashley was just awarded the "Remarkable Woman" title from local News WDHN Region wide contest. "Remarkable Women" is part of a nationwide Nexstar Media initiative to honor the influence that women have had on public policy, social progress and quality of life. We are glad to have this "Remarkable Woman" on our team!