

# Contact Ophthalmology LTD. and see the difference.



**Richard T. Tschetter, MD**

Specializing in small incision cataract surgery and glaucoma management, Dr. Tschetter received his BA from Huron College and his MD from John Hopkins Medical School. He interned at John Hopkins Hospital and completed his ophthalmology residency in Detroit, MI. Dr. Tschetter founded Ophthalmology Ltd in 1968. When not in the office, Dr. Tschetter enjoys spending time with his family, playing cards, working out and golfing.



**David R. West, MD**

Dr. West specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and pediatric ophthalmology. He received his BA from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of Oklahoma Medical School. He completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Missouri. Married with four children, West spends his spare time hunting, fishing, reading, golfing and is an avid Green Bay Packers fan.



**Charles W. Mohler, MD PhD**

Specializing in disease and surgery of the retina and vitreous, Dr. Mohler received his BS from Purdue University and his MD from Case Western Reserve University. He completed his Ophthalmology residency at John Hopkins Hospital and his retinal fellowship at John Hopkins and the University of Iowa. Dr. Mohler is married with two children. He enjoys hiking, golfing and walking his dog.



**Bryan J. Hammer, MD**

Dr. Hammer specializes in oculoplastic surgery, small-incision cataract surgery, reconstruction of the lids and orbits and laser skin resurfacing. Dr. Hammer received his BS from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Texas A&M University and his fellowship in oculoplastic surgery in Cincinnati, OH. In his free time, Dr. Hammer enjoys sports, golfing, hunting and time with his wife and five children.



**Byron T. Hohm, MD**

Dr. Hohm specializes in corneal surgery, external eye diseases and small-incision cataract surgery. He received his BA from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of Texas, as well as completed his internship at Southwestern Hospital in Dallas, TX and his ophthalmology residency at the University of Missouri. He completed a fellowship in corneal surgery and external diseases in Houston, TX. Dr. Hohm is married with four sons, and enjoys golfing, traveling, walking and hiking.



**Eric R. Thomas, MD**

Dr. Thomas specializes in vitreoretinal surgery and is passionate about helping his patients preserve their eyesight. After receiving his BA from Augustana College, he received his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Missouri and his Retinal Fellowship at the University of Kentucky.



**Gregory D. Osmundson, MD**

Dr. Osmundson is the region's only fellowship-trained surgeon in glaucoma management. After receiving his BS from South Dakota State University, Dr. Osmundson received his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Missouri and his glaucoma fellowship at the University of Utah. Married with three children, he takes pride in his work at Ophthalmology Ltd.



**Dustin L. Dierks, MD**

Dr. Dierks specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and is passionate about restoring patients' vision to its greatest potential. After graduating from Augustana College, he obtained his MD at the University of South Dakota's Sanford School of Medicine and completed his ophthalmology residency from the University of Missouri.



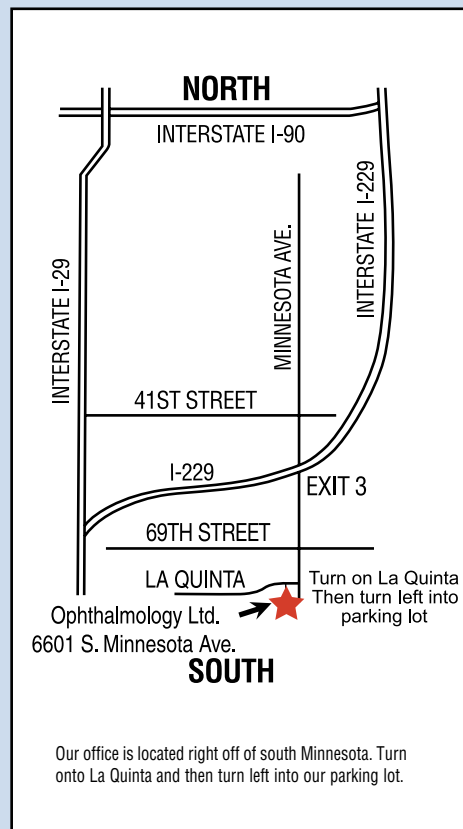
**Ashley R. Crouch, OD**

Dr. Crouch received her BS in biology and chemistry from the University of South Dakota and her OD from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago.

## Your Providers of Medical & Surgical Eye Care

At Ophthalmology LTD., you'll receive the highest quality of eye care with every treatment, routine or specialized, from our experienced staff of ophthalmic physicians. All of our surgeons are board-certified ophthalmologists and members of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. They are also on staff at the University of South Dakota Medical School, Sanford Hospital, McKennan Hospital, Royal E. Johnson Veterans Memorial Hospital and over 15 other medical facilities across the region.

For more information, go to [www.ophthalmologyltd.com](http://www.ophthalmologyltd.com).



Our office is located right off of south Minnesota. Turn onto La Quinta and then turn left into our parking lot.



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VISION INSIGHTS FROM THE REGION'S LEADING EYE SURGERY SPECIALISTS

## New Addition to Our Team of Specialists



Dustin Dierks, MD

Dr. Dustin Dierks entered the medical field because of the significant impact he could have in improving patients' vision and therefore, their quality of life and well-being. After graduating from Augustana College, he obtained his MD at the University of South Dakota's Sanford School of Medicine and completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Missouri.

Dr. Dierks specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and comprehensive ophthalmology. He's attentive to the level of care his patients receive, taking time to address their concerns and provide the service he believes his patients deserve.

After three years of practicing ophthalmology in Minnesota, Dr. Dierks returned home to South Dakota.

"I came to Ophthalmology Ltd. because of the opportunity to return to my home state. Ophthalmology Ltd. is unique because our group of physicians handles nearly all aspects of eye care needs under one roof, and I am pleased to be part of this team," he said. Outside of work, Dr. Dierks enjoys time with his wife and three children, as well as many outdoor activities.

**Dierks will also be working to bring in new clinical trials, potentially opening up new opportunities for patients across the region.**

# All Eyes on Firework Safety



Fireworks are a big part of Fourth of July celebrations across the country. From professional displays to private gatherings, families are fascinated by the glow and grandeur of fireworks. However, there are numerous dangers in these festivities. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, fireworks were involved in an estimated 10,800 injuries in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in 2005-6,500 of those occurred in a one-month period surrounding the Fourth of July. Eye injuries accounted for nearly 15% of the injuries incurred.

Bottle rockets and roman candles are the biggest culprit for accidents caused with children. And surprisingly, sparklers caused the most injuries in children ages

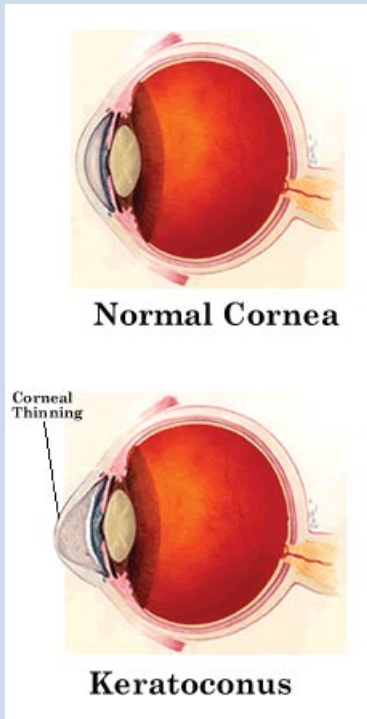
14 and younger. A sparkler's intense heat can burn not only skin, but also the eyes. Several children have suffered corneal burns from sparklers. This type of ocular injury can lead to corneal scars and permanent vision loss. Children should not touch the lit portion of sparklers, throw them or play games with them. Sparklers can be dangerous, if used improperly.

If you host a private display, the key to a safe night of fun is planning. The designated shooter should prepare a shooting area, assess how many people will be watching the display and lay out a spectator area that is far enough away from the shooting site. The shooter should carefully read the label of each firework and understand exactly what it will do. Planning ahead makes for a safe and fun backyard fireworks display.

## Six Steps to help save a child's sight during an emergency.

- 1.** Do not rub the eye. Rubbing the eye may increase bleeding or make the injury worse.
- 2.** Do not attempt to rinse out the eye. This can be even more damaging than rubbing.
- 3.** Do not apply pressure to the eye itself. Holding or taping a foam cup or the bottom of a juice carton to the eye are just two tips. Protecting the eye from further contact with any item, including the child's hand, is the goal.
- 4.** Do not stop for medicine! Over-the-counter pain relievers will not do much to relieve pain. Aspirin should never be given to children and ibuprofen can thin the blood, increasing bleeding. Take the child to the emergency room at once - this is more important than stopping for a pain reliever.
- 5.** Do not apply ointment. Ointment, which may not be sterile, makes the area around the eye slippery and harder for the doctor to examine.
- 6.** Do not let your child play with fireworks, even if his/her friends are setting them off. Sparklers burn at 1800 degrees Fahrenheit, and bottle rockets can stray off course or throw shrapnel when they explode.

# Clearing Up Keratoconus



Courtesy: National Eye Institute,  
National Institutes of Health

We see through the cornea, which is the clear, central part of the front surface of the eye. Normally, the cornea has a dome shape, like a ball. Sometimes, however, the structure of the cornea is just not strong enough to hold this round shape and the cornea bulges outward like a cone. This condition is called keratoconus. Keratoconic patients describe their vision as if looking through a car windshield on a rainy day. Additional vision problems may include halos, double vision, and severe irregular astigmatism.



*Dr. Hohm specializes in small-incision cataract surgery, corneal surgery, and external eye diseases.*

Because it usually develops so slowly keratoconus can be difficult to diagnose. It often appears in the teens and early twenties but can occur later in life also.

Keratoconus may be treated in the early stages with glasses, contact lenses, or intac rods. If these are no longer helpful a corneal transplant may be required.

If you suspect this disorder or have a family history of Keratoconus contact Ophthalmology Ltd. and make an appointment with Dr. Hohm.

# Keeping an Eye on Diabetic Retinopathy

Courtesy: National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health



Normal vision



Same scene viewed by a person  
with diabetic retinopathy

Everyone who has diabetes is at risk for developing diabetic retinopathy. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, 95 percent of those with significant diabetic retinopathy can avoid substantial vision loss if they are treated in time. The possibility of early detection is why it is so important for diabetics to have a dilated eye exam at least once a year.



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Some common symptoms of diabetic retinopathy are blurred vision, floaters and flashes and sudden loss of vision. Treatment for diabetic retinopathy depends on the type of diabetic retinopathy you have, its severity and how well it may respond to specific treatments. Options include Focal laser treatment, Scatter laser treatment and Vitrectomy.

Don't wait for symptoms to appear, contact Ophthalmology Ltd. to schedule your dilated eye exam.