

Downers Grove's Amazing Dr. Floyd Mizener



In 1982, Lion Dr. Floyd Mizener of Downers Grove (2nd from left), Jim Edgar (c) then IL Secretary of State, and Downers Grove Lion High School Superintendent Glen Pickerel (r) at a meeting where Dr. Mizener was appointed the new State Professional Vision Advisory Chairman by Jim Edgar.

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In 1982 at a lunch meeting held in the Moose Lodge, Jim Edgar, then Illinois' Secretary of State, was the main speaker. After Mr. Edgar finished his speech, he opened the floor to questions. Dr. Mizener, who at that point had over 33 years as a doctor of Optometry, queried him about checking for side vision.

At that meeting, Jim Edgar appointed Dr. Floyd Mizener as Chairman of his Vision Advisory Committee. As a result of the work of this committee, three Optometrists and three Ophthalmologists, the changes it made in the vision screening in Illinois were dynamic, thereby increasing driving vision safety. The number of fatalities has continually been reducing since 1982 (2,800 annually then) to 964 fatalities last year, with two million more drivers on Illinois roads.

To further reduce vision driving errors, the House of Representatives passed a Resolution developed by Lion Dr. Floyd Mizener and proposed by State Representative Patti Bellow HR 0385 in May of 2015 to encourage an annual professional eye and visual examination which would include testing of peripheral vision, binocular vision, depth perception and care for the protection of dangerous sun and halo glare. The Rules of the Road carries a statement that a vision screening is not an eye examination.

Illinois' Vision Testing example has filtered to other states and countries. Every life saved is important.

In April of 2014, Dr. Floyd Mizener of Downers Grove was named 3-D Doctor of the Year by the international 3-D Advanced Imaging Society. The 3-D movie approach greatly increased the awareness in the public of various eye defects through a trailer preceding 3D movies that briefly described these defects the viewer might have.

As Dr. Mizener puts it: "The value of Lions, is being in the right place, at the right time, bringing issues like these to the world's attention. Downers Grove Lions are true lifesavers on the roads.

Dr. Mizener became a Downers Grove Lion in the early 1950s and served as its Club President not many years after that.

In this Lion Year 2015-2016, at age 90, Dr. Floyd Mizener has been elected and agreed to serve again as the Downers Grove Lions Club President. The club has just brought in six new members.

Come to a Southeast Region Meeting and meet him – you, too, will be inspired by him!