From the Desk of Dr. Porter

Thankful

I recently attended my Duke Medical School reunion; it’s been 25 years! It is unbelievable that I have been a doctor for that long. Time really flies. As I talked with friends with whom I graduated, I once again realized how thankful I am to have found the field of Facial Plastic Surgery. Initially drawn to the field because of my research interests in facial proportion and rhinoplasty, it has ended up being much more than I could have imagined. There are many reasons why I feel so thankful.

I am thankful that I have a wonderful patient base. The patients in our practice are pretty down to earth and reasonable in their wants and expectations. That is not always the case in this field. Many colleagues have patients that are demanding and have expectations that are next to impossible in some cases. We have grown a very loyal patient base. Some have been coming since the inception of Chevy Chase Facial Plastic Surgery (CCFPS). Many we have seen through weddings, divorces, births of children and grandchildren, health changes and deaths in the family. I find myself wondering how events turned out or if the delivery went okay. Many of you feel like family.

I am thankful that I found a field that is everchanging. There are endless numbers of laser and technological advances that have really propelled the field of facial plastic surgery. From BOTOX® and fillers to PRP and BBL, there are so many acronyms and new technologies that it will make your head spin. The challenge is also to choose the treatments that are going to give the best outcomes. We attend meetings several times a year to stay on the cutting edge of treatments available and bring you the ones that are the safest and yield the best results.

I am thankful to have found a specialty that allows me to use both my science and art interests. Growing up I took art lessons, and of course, was always interested in science and math. Facial plastic surgery is the perfect melding of these two areas. Surgical alteration of features to keep them proportionate to the other structures of the face is a true art form and I wake up eager to rise to the challenge every day. It is not a specialty for the insecure as the results are evident for everyone to see.

I consider myself lucky to have plopped down in the DC Metro area 14 years ago to start this journey. Putting up the shingle for Chevy Chase Facial Plastic Surgery was daunting to say the least. My first patients were strangers that I happened to meet at a restaurant or a store. Before we knew it, our reach grew and now encompasses a truly diverse population of patients from around the world. I am also thankful to have had such a wonderful team. I have always been lucky to have a happy, supportive staff.

So, as we approach Thanksgiving, think about the things in your life for which you are thankful.