COVERSTORY

by Laurie Entrekin

Likes and Dislikes?

LEADING PLASTIC SURGEON OPENS NEW PRACTICE, SEES LONG-TERM PLAN, GIVES NEW LOOKS ON YOUR BUDGET

If you were to make a list of all the qualities and traits you look for in a good physician, what would you write down? Accessibility? Personalized care? Friendliness? Good listening skills? Advanced training? Openness and honesty?



VITAL STATISTICS: THOMAS B. LINTNER, M.D.

EDUCATION: Emory University School of Medicine **SPECIALTY:** Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

YEARS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE: 15

LEADERSHIP ROLES: Founding member of Marietta Plastic Surgery; Chief of Plastic Surgery, WellStar Kennestone Hospital, 2005

BOARD CERTIFICATION: The American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, 1993

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: American Society of Plastic Surgeons; American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery; Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; Cobb Medical Society; Georgia Medical Association; Jurkiewicz Society of Plastic Surgeons

PHILOSOPHY OF CARE:

- 1) Educate patients to help them make an informed decision.
- 2) Give the best care possible.
- 3) Encourage patients not to spend their money unwisely when it comes to plastic surgery.

DISTINGUISHING TRAITS AS A PHYSICIAN:

- 1) Availability.
- 2) Dedication to reaching patients' goals realistically.
- 3) Commitment to using proven techniques that work.

FAMILY: Married to Elizabeth Lintner; father of four sons.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Gives medical lectures to various support groups, clubs and service organizations; holds free in-office seminars for patients.

HOBBIES: Sailing; gardening; attending sons' athletic events (football and basketball games, wrestling matches, swimming competitions and soccer tournaments).



Dr. Thomas Lintner, a seasoned plastic and reconstructive surgeon who has been practicing medicine in Marietta since 1990, is a list-maker. When patients come in for an initial consultation to request a facelift, tummy tuck or breast augmentation, he often asks them to make a list of the things they don't like about their appearance. Then, before he looks at their lists, he makes a list of his own—noting every detail he might change.

Sound intimidating? Not exactly. Lintner, who holds patient trust and education in the highest regard, says he doesn't have a problem telling patients what will give them the most bang for their buck—or telling them they don't need surgery at all. Patients looking for a physician who "tells it like it is" are sure to love him.

Highly logical, with a desire for precision and an uncanny memory for shapes and three-dimensional structures, Lintner is perfectly suited to be a surgeon. He can look at a face (or a figure) and develop a plan of care—whether that involves a single treatment or a long-range plan. It's not unusual to hear him say, "In five years, come back for a facelift and a brow lift."

Trained at Grady Hospital and Emory University Hospital, Lintner is conscionable and respectful of his patients' money. "No one comes to me with an open checkbook," he says. "Everyone has a budget. I take my job seriously in helping patients develop a plan to use their money wisely for procedures and skin care they need."

The age-old wisdom in this statement recognizes both human limitations and the value of ordering one's priorities and goals in life. The latter is something Lintner has been thinking a lot about lately.

After 15 years in group practice, the founding partner of Marietta's largest plastic surgery groups has decided to open another practice—and this time Lintner's going solo. At his new practice, Advanced Aesthetic Surgery, P.C., his focus will be to continue to provide the same expert level of care he always has, but with an added level of service to his patients. He'll employ the concierge concept of medicine without the up-front cost or club fee, he says.

"My patients will have my cell phone number, and they will be able to get me when they need me," says Lintner, who has always aimed to establish long-term relationships with patients. "When you call my office, you'll get me or one of my employees—somebody who knows you. Not someone picking up the phone and relaying a message."

Lintner says his staff, many of whom will be joining him from his previous practice, have more than 30 years of experience and are all caring individuals who share his philosophy that "treating patients is a privilege." They are committed to creating a friendly atmosphere and delivering personalized care.

Since today's consumer is more educated than ever before, patients may be aware of new procedures but not fully informed about who the techniques are intended to help. "Sure, the Internet is helpful," says Lintner, "but I always remind my patients that no one is policing the Internet. There are a lot of urban legends about plastic surgery. I try to steer people through the maze and explain to them what's available and what's needed in their particular case," he says.

With safety as the cornerstone of every procedure, Lintner will be performing most of his cosmetic surgeries in the operating room at Wellstar Kennestone Hospital with Georgia Anesthesiologists, P.C. "It's the safest possible environment," he assures. "It has the cost and convenience of an outpatient surgery center, with the safety of the hospital."

Advanced Aesthetic Surgery, P.C., is scheduled to open in early January. Though Lintner specializes in liposuction (body contouring), breast augmentation and facial rejuvenation, he is board certified for all types of plastic and reconstructive surgery. So if you're in search of a good plastic surgeon, you can check at least one task off your list. Let Lintner and his staff help you discover how you can improve your look this year.

For more information about Thomas Lintner, M.D., call 770-771-5151. Advanced Aesthetic Surgery, P.C. has offices in Marietta and Woodstock and is currently accepting new patients.