Editor's note: The bulk of PSN's pages are devoted to specific elements of our mission statement – to keep members informed of the social, political and economic trends and educational opportunities that affect the specialty of plastic surgery.

PSN is pleased to take liberties with the "social" aspect of its mission statement by presenting a good-natured look at the lives of notable members who we believe are making significant contributions to the specialty.



Jesse Goldstein, MD

In this issue, we present ASPS member Jesse Goldstein, MD, Pittsburgh. Dr. Goldstein currently serves on the ASPS Research Oversight Council; as The PSF Study Section Chair; on the In-Service Exam Committee and the Annual Meeting Educational Program Committee; as the UPMC Medical Education Craniofacial Fellowship Program director; and he's served on many additional Society groups and panels over the last several years. Dr. Goldstein is probably preparing to arrange another of his children's birthday parties but found time to answer the following questions for *PSN*:

The single-greatest influence on my decision to become a plastic surgeon was... Scott Bartlett, MD. I walked into his O.R. one day as a medical student and watched him do a frontoorbital advancement on a child with craniosynostosis. I remember thinking that I can't imagine getting to do these types of cases as a career. It seemed so far out of reach. But a pathway eventually distilled that I have followed.

An operation I no longer perform is... Breast reconstruction. Not surprising for a craniofacial surgeon, I know. But I trained under Scott Spear, MD, and Maurice Nahabedian, MD, at Georgetown. Breast reconstruction is in my training DNA, and I haven't done one since residency. This just demonstrates that you can forge your own path in this field.

The best thing I ever purchased for my office was... A sit-stand desk. My wife always tells me that "sitting is the new

smoking," and she's clearly right. It's so nice to get in a few miles of walking during a long night of ASPS meetings.

**The best dish I cook is...** Japanese cheesecake. Think of a souffle – soft, airy, silky smooth, mixed with the rich creaminess of a cheesecake. With a fine dusting of powdered sugar on top. It's not quite as sweet – but it's just as fattening. I make it for my wife for special occasions, like our 10-year anniversary this year.

The single-greatest historical contribution to plastic surgery was... Craniofacial osteotomies introduced by Paul Tessier, MD, and Hugo Obwegeser, MD. These are the cornerstones of my practice and have allowed me and my fellow craniofacial surgeons to care for the most challenging patients.

The best part of next weekend will be... Celebrating my 4-year-old's birthday. With four children, there's often a birthday celebration (to host or attend). It's so great to take a little time to focus on just one of the kids for a bit, instead of playing zone defense.

My all-time favorite movie is... The Jerk (1979). If you're counting, Steve Martin at his silliest. Maybe it wouldn't fly today. And no, if you are counting years, I didn't see this in the theaters. It had been out for many, many years before my father made me watch it. I'm glad he did.

The first website I check every morning is... CNN and *The New York Times*. I always want to stay informed. I like knowing what's happening in the world.

The best thing a grateful patient gave me was... An invitation to a 10th birthday party from a little girl with Pfeiffer Syndrome for whom I had performed a LeFort III distraction. We timed the surgery so she could have the distractors off in time for her birthday. She invited me to her huge party with almost her entire town present. When my family and I arrived, she hushed everyone and introduced me as her favorite surgeon.



Dr. Goldstein, his wife, Kimberley, and his children (from left) Francisco, Oscar, Harrison and Noa during this year's spring break trip to New York.

The biggest surprise I ever had in the O.R. was... When my scrub tech put surgical lube in my gloves before I put them on. I'm still thinking of ways I can get her back. It's such a privilege to be able to work with dynamic and committed people in and out of the O.R.

The words I try to live by are... "In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert's there are few." This is a quote by Zen master Shunryo Suzuki describing the idea of a beginner's mind. I try to keep a beginner's mind – one open to new ideas and infinite possibilities – inside and outside of the O.R. I try to teach it to my kids/students/residents/Fellows and strive to live by it. PSN