



**(Great) Great-Grandfatherly
Advice for Young(er)
Dermatologic Surgeons**

- ◆ “To leave the world a better place, to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, this is to have succeeded.”

- ◆ Ralph Waldo Emerson

- ◆ Much is written of :

- ◆ The philosophical ethics of late life

- ◆ Old age: **A Time for Rage,**

- ◆ **Renunciation, or Renaissance? (Indian)**



Great-
Granddaughter
Eleanor

L. M. Field, MD, HFASDS, HMAAD USA - 2010



Founder - International Traveling Mentorship Program (ITMP) (2010)

Recipient - "Father of Int'l Dermatologic Surgery" Award, DASIL (2012)

Honoree - AAD Honorary Member Award - life-time dedication & meritorious service to specialty (2015)

Founder - AAD Ass'n Surgical Faculty (1984)
Traveling Chair of Dermatologic Surgery (ISDS 1986-2011)

Academia - Professor, U of Texas San Antonio Health Cntr
Dept Derm and Cutaneous Surgery - 2016

Emeritus, University of California, San Francisco
(Dermatologic Surgery & Stanford University), 1976 - 2006

Founder -

Honoree - Father of Dermatologic Plastic Surgery - (1984)
JAAD Editorial

Honoree - Named Lectureships : Hellenic Society DS,
South African Soc Derm Surg, DASIL, ASDS

Editorships - JDS&O, JAACS, Derm Surg

MENTOR / HOST ASDS ITMP

Taught in @ 63 +countries
(some 5-9 times)

544 Pp

@753 publications

@1496 presentations (8/16)



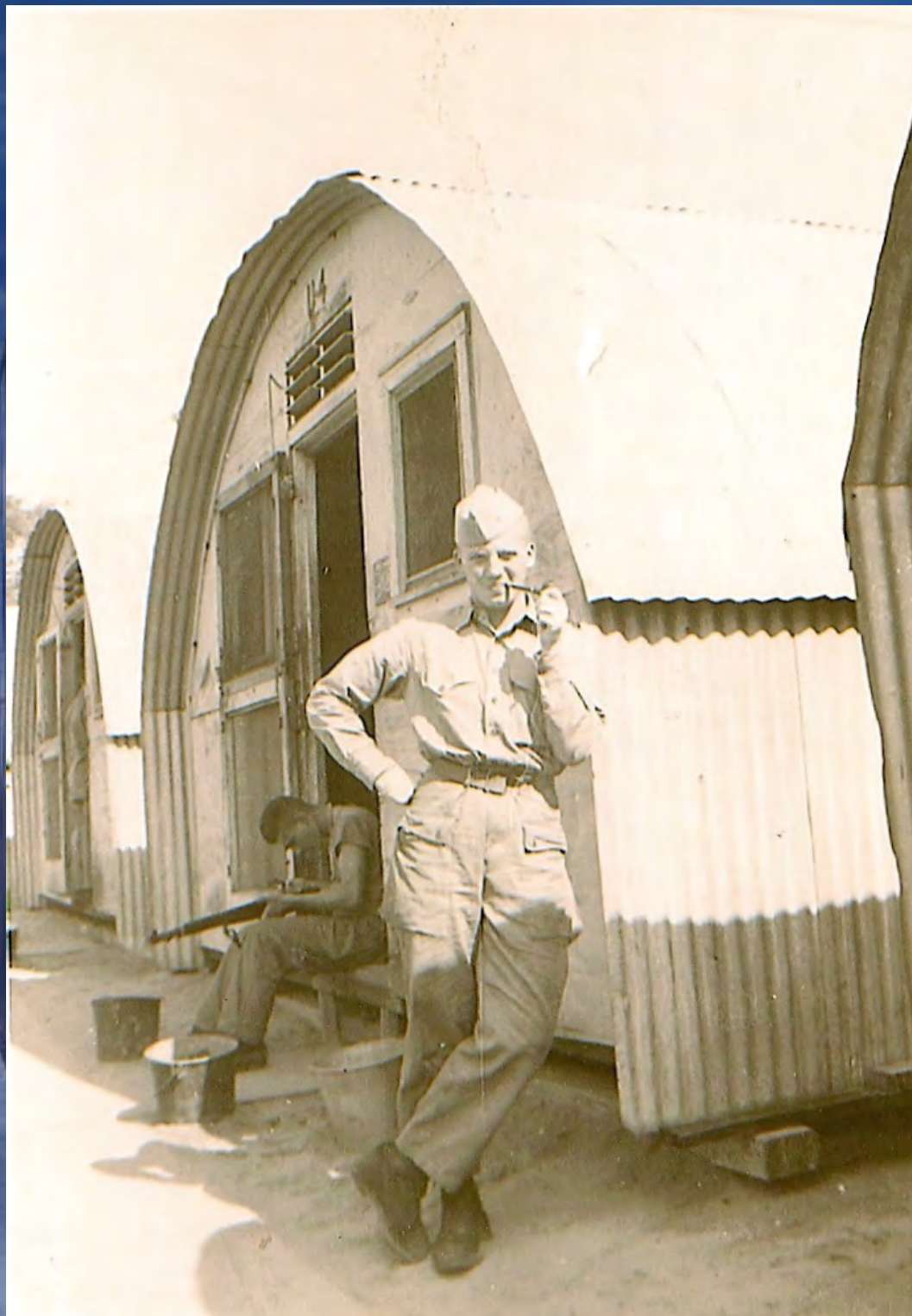
ASDS International Traveling Mentorship Program

ASDS International Preceptorship Program



A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken at dusk or dawn. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a deep blue sky. The water of the bay is visible in the foreground, reflecting the ambient light. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

"The Greatest Generation"



Metal 16-man
quanset huts

Paris Island,
South Carolina

1945

USMC

Parris Island,
S.C.

1945





Howard Field, MD,
American Board of Proctology

LMF 1945 (joined US Marine Corps)
Called up as reservist 1950 (Korea)







CERTIFICATE IN LIEU OF LOSS OR DESTROYED

Discharge



Armed Forces of the United States

This is to certify that

LAWRENCE MARSHALL FIELD 621913 PFC

was discharged from the

United States Marine Corps

by Honorable Discharge

on 16 March 1948

at Quantico, Virginia

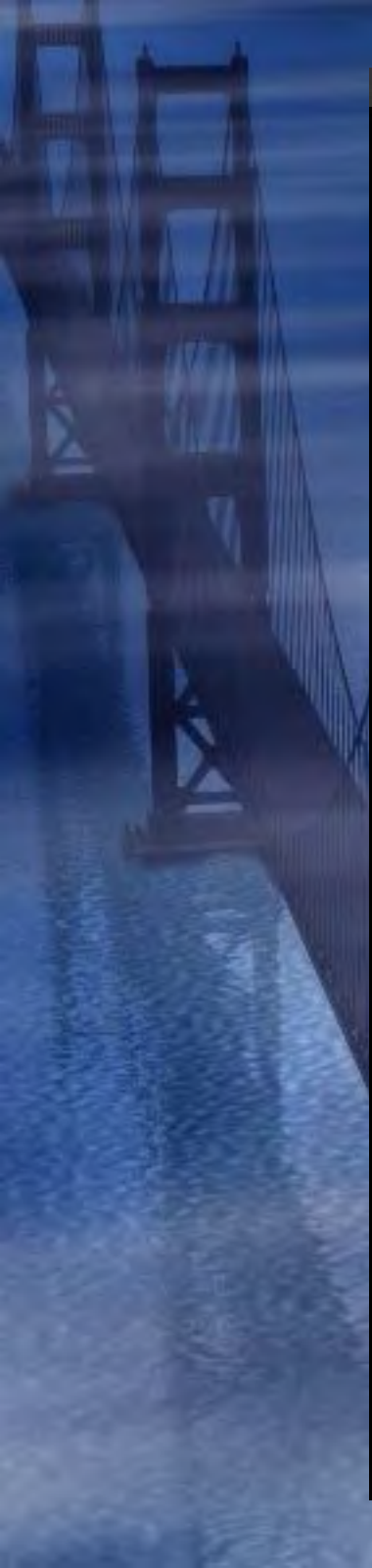
Given at Washington, D. C. on 28 January 1955

Enlisted in U. S. Marine Corps Reserve 17 March 1948

K. L. Bourgeois

K. L. BOURGEOIS

First Lieutenant, U. S. Marine Corps
Liaison Officer, Military Personnel Records Center
By direction of the Commandant of the Marine Corps













Lawrence Field

Univ. of Wisconsin
Medical School

Madison,
Wisconsin



Univ of Wisconsin in Dr Mohs time

Anatomy Labs U of W



Mohs in his early years



University Of
Wisconsin
Medical Center
(LMF 1951-55)



Nu Sigma Nu Fraternity

ΝΣΝ



Founded	2 March, 1882 University of Michigan
Type	Professional fraternity
Scope	International
Chapters	4 active, 37+ chartered

Tout son savoir est en son visage.



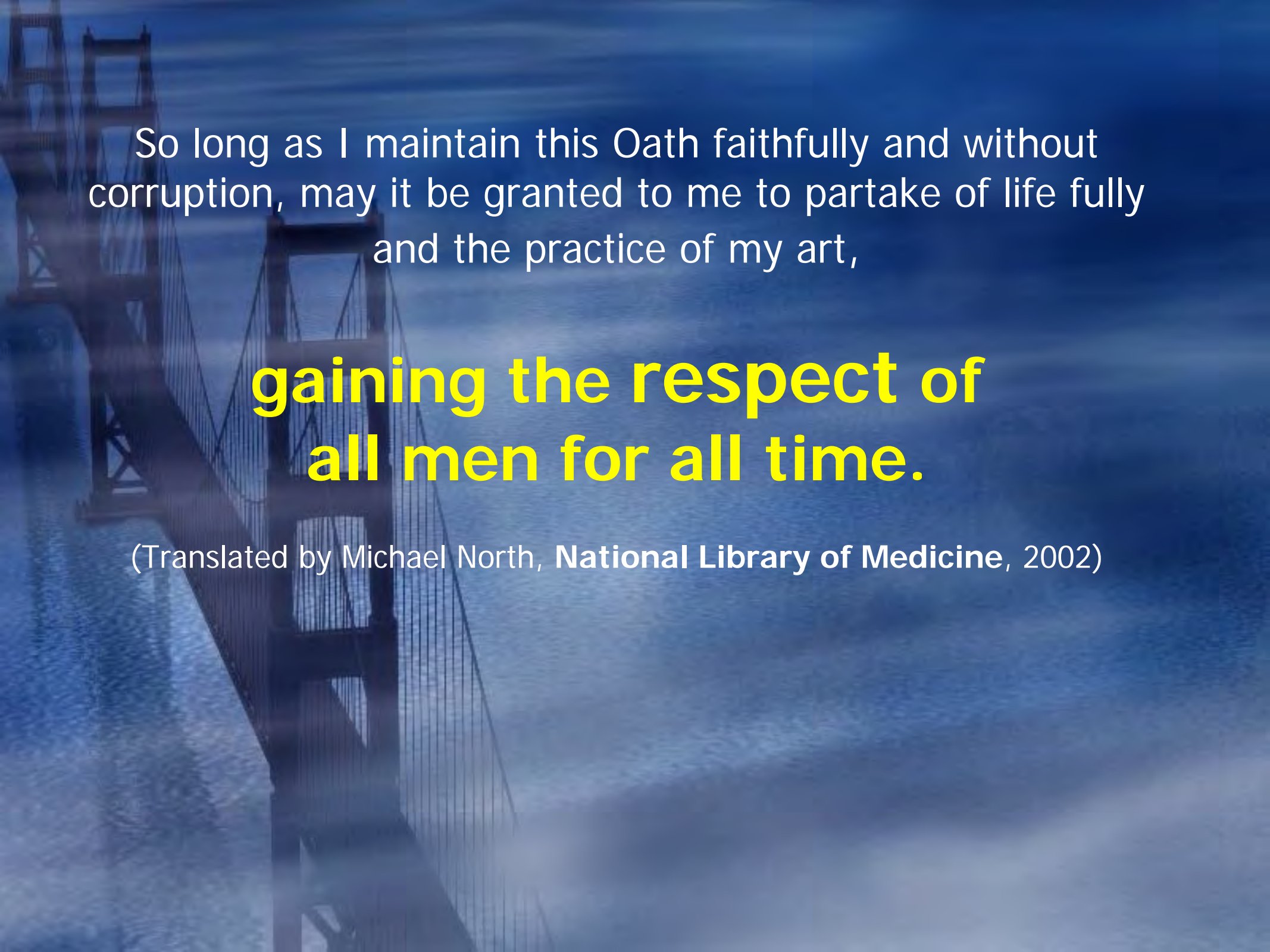
Tel fut d'Hippocrate le port & le visage,
De quel genre il fut, de quelle nation,
Comme il se comporta en sa profession,
Les livres qu'il a faits en divers enseignement.

Ce n'est rien que de voir d'Hippocrate l'image,
Il faut voir ses écrits, les livres & ses ouvrages,
Conférer aux lieux qui en peuvent parler,
A fin de les entendre, & les mettre en usage.

Hippocratic Oath

I swear by Apollo the physician, and Asclepius, and Hygieia and Panacea and all the gods and goddesses as my witnesses, that, according to **my ability and judgement, I will keep this Oath** and this contract:

To hold him who taught me this art equally dear ...as my parents, to be a partner in life and to fulfill his needs when required; to look upon his offspring as equals to my own siblings, and to teach them this art, without fee or contract; and that by the set rules, lectures, and every other mode of instruction, I will impart a knowledge of the art to my own sons, and those of my teachers, and to students bound by this contract and having sworn this Oath to the law of medicine, but to no others.



So long as I maintain this Oath faithfully and without
corruption, may it be granted to me to partake of life fully
and the practice of my art,

**gaining the respect of
all men for all time.**

(Translated by Michael North, **National Library of Medicine**, 2002)

Moshe ben Maimon ("Maimonides")



18th-century portrait of Maimonides

Born 1135
Cordova, Almoravid Empire (present-day Spain)

Died 12 December 1204 (aged 69)
Fostat, Egypt, or Cairo, Egypt^[1]

Religion Judaism



Monument in Cordoba

Physicians oath of Maimonides(1135-1204)

*"Should those who are wiser than I wish to improve and instruct me, let my soul **gratefully follow their guidance**; for vast is the extent of our art.*

*"Imbue my soul with gentleness and calmness when **older colleagues**, proud of their age, wish to displace me or.....disdainfully to teach me. May even this be of advantage to me, for they **know many things of which I am ignorant**, but **let not their arrogance give me pain**.*

*Let me be contented in everything except in the great science of my profession. Never allow the thought to arise in me that I have attained ... sufficient knowledge, but vouchsafe to me the strength, leisure and **ambition ever to extend my knowledge**.*

For you who wear white coats* (and green surgical tops)

- 🔔 The **Art and Magic of Medicine** is delineated within
- 🔔 the doctor-to-patient (and family) relationship. You
- 🔔 must be respected and trusted enough to be invited
- 🔔 into their worlds to help them.

🔔 * Haq, Q., **White Coat Ceremony**,
🔔 **U. of Wisconsin School of Medicine, Madison, Wis 2009**

LAWRENCE M. FIELD, MD, F.I.D.C.S.



(GREAT)
GRANDFATHERLY
ADVICE FOR
YOUNG(ER)
DERMATOLOGIC
SURGEONS

16



Philosophic counseling of you “young(er)s”
had never written or officially requested in “my day”.

The “Golden Rules”
of successfully practicing
dermatologic surgery
had never been offered.

Pay heed!

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking down the length of the bridge towards the water. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are visible against a blue sky and water.

(1) Integrity, honesty, and ethics are the cornerstones of your success. Financial security will always follow.

(2) Charge fairly and appropriately.

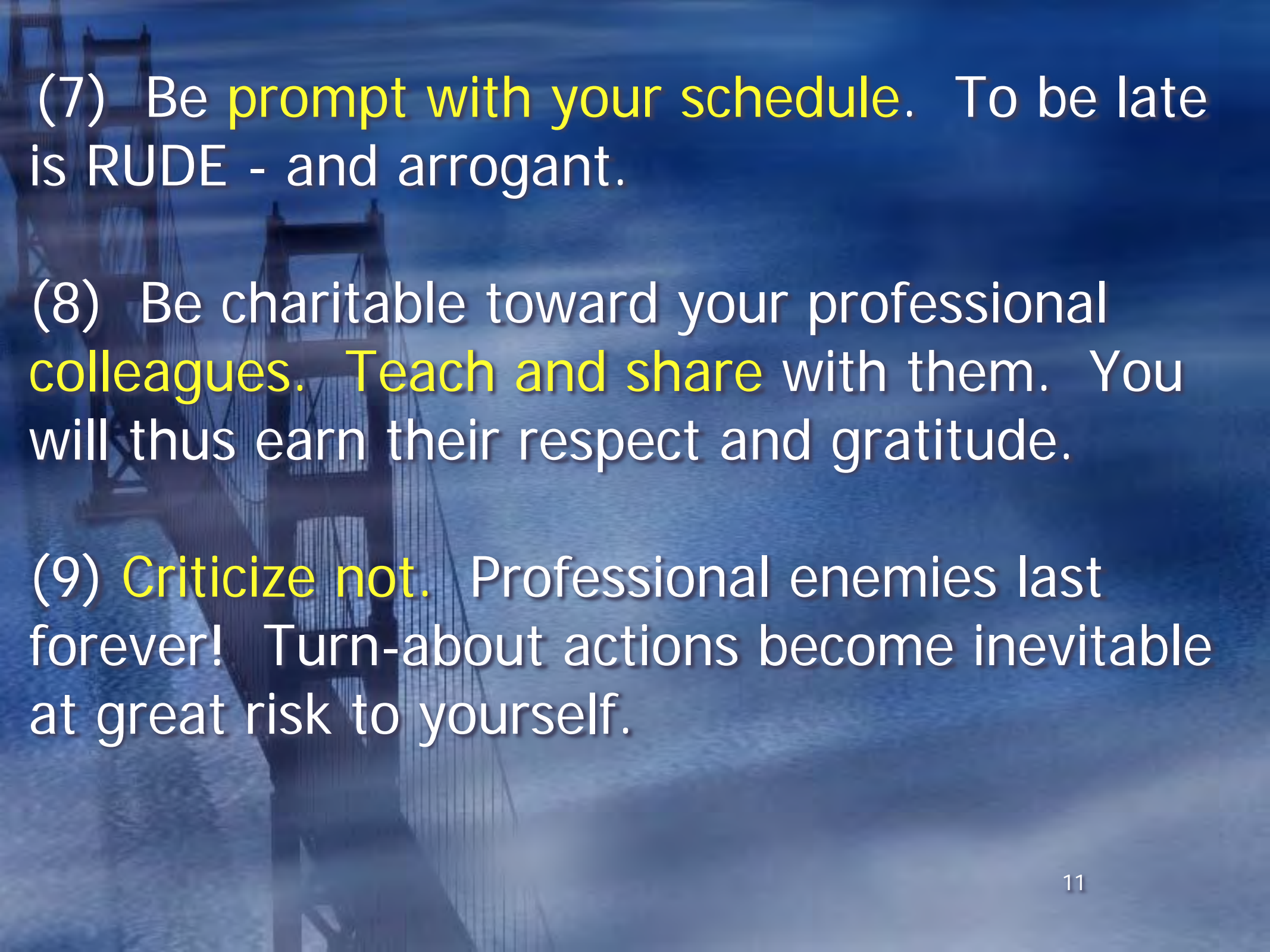
(3) Be charitable, and extend yourself to do charity work and non-paid teaching.

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up the length of the bridge towards the towers. The bridge is silhouetted against a blue sky and water.

(4) Your **office environment**, cleanliness, washroom areas all impact on patients, families, friends as to your own surgical skills.

(5) Be **generous with your time** for patients and their families.

(6) Know how many times your **phone rings**, called by whom, and for what purpose.

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, taken from a low angle looking down the length of the bridge towards the water. The sky is a deep blue, and the bridge's towers and cables are silhouetted against it. The water below is dark and calm.

(7) Be **prompt with your schedule**. To be late is RUDE - and arrogant.

(8) Be charitable toward your professional **colleagues**. **Teach and share** with them. You will thus earn their respect and gratitude.

(9) **Criticize not**. Professional enemies last forever! Turn-about actions become inevitable at great risk to yourself.

(10) **Protect the (other) doctor** from patient criticisms when possible. Your adverse statements return to the doctor via the patient or the family. Do not lie. Avoid comment.

(11) Only do that **specific work** for which a patient was referred to you. Nothing more (it is unprofessional to do so).

(12) Insist on **professional relationships** between your staff and the staff of referring doctors, patients, families.



(13) Your patients' claiming (“excessive”) charges and collection attempts are absolute disasters for you.

(14) Learn from anyone and everyone who can benefit your patients.

(15) Read, study, discuss, practice - forever.

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up at the towers and cables. The bridge is silhouetted against a blue sky with light clouds. The water of the bay is visible at the bottom.

(16) **Keep formal records** of your training and document the experiences (photos, op reports)

(17) Learn techniques to **minimize** patient and family physical and emotional **distress**.

(18) Establish a network of **consultants friendly to you** and your work. Then, do not hesitate to seek consultation when in doubt.

REFER YOUR WORK TO THEM!!!!!!

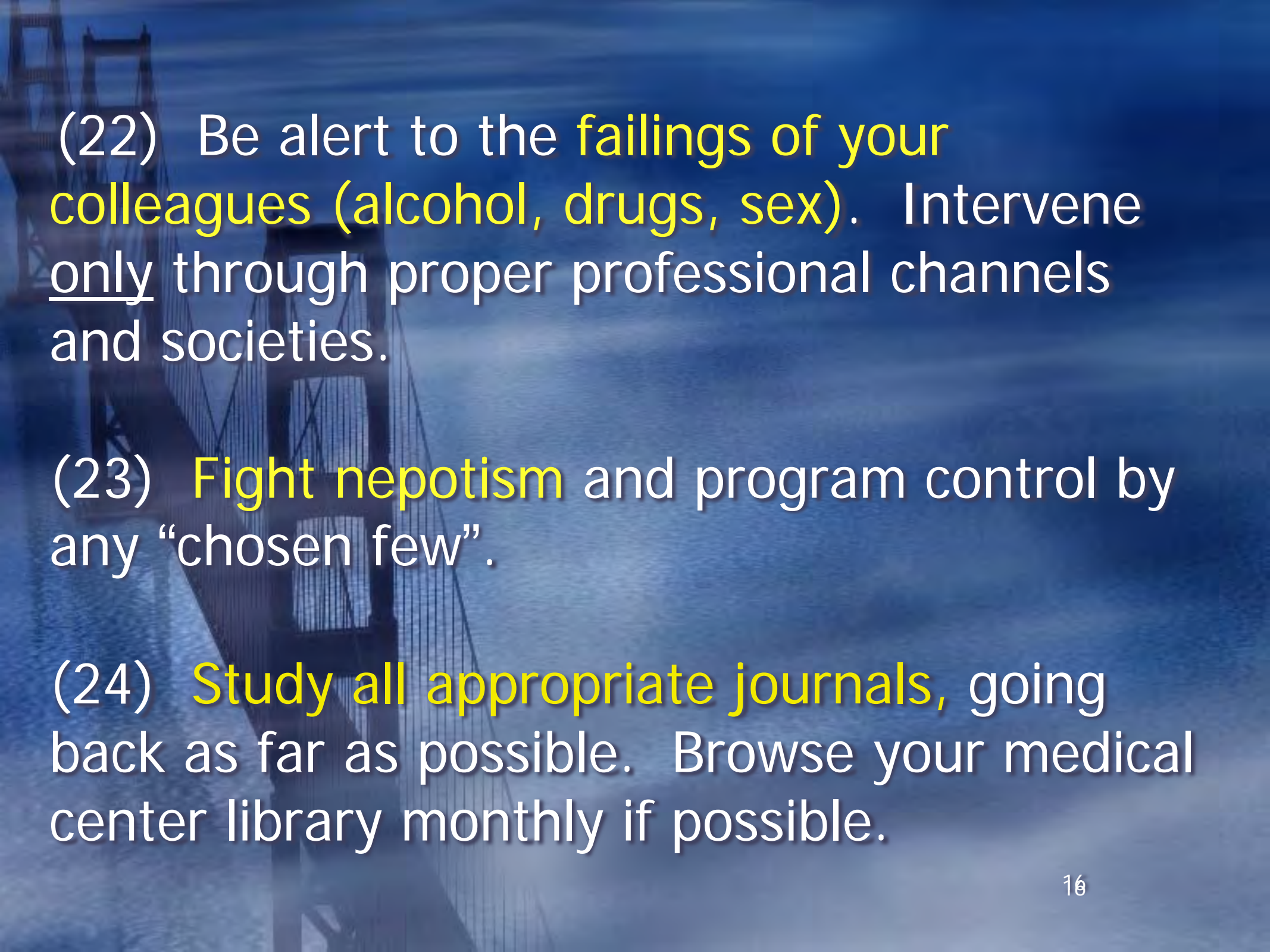
("power of the referring dollar")

(19) Your **publications and presentations** are your specialty's avenue to present you earned honors and accolades.

Be meticulously honest with both.

(20) Get an **academic appointment** and find the time to teach. Other doctors **respect** this, and patients love their doctors to be teachers. Such implies competence.

(21) Be quick to **send your records** when requested. Offer to help any way you can.

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up the length of the bridge towards the water. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are visible against a blue sky and water.

(22) Be alert to the **failings of your colleagues (alcohol, drugs, sex)**. Intervene only through proper professional channels and societies.

(23) **Fight nepotism** and program control by any “chosen few”.

(24) **Study all appropriate journals**, going back as far as possible. Browse your medical center library monthly if possible.

(25) **Attend appropriate meetings** to expand your knowledge and skills. Whenever possible, cross-fertilize with other specialties.

(26) If you refer a patient, it is your **professional right to attend** the intervention, hopefully as assistant. If denied, find another specialist to whom you can send patients and be treated in a professional manner.

(27) **Finest work** requires **(reasonably) the finest instruments**, sutures, needles, sterilization, power tables, etc., etc. .

(28) Surgical personalities are **impatient personalities**. Know yourself. Take the necessary time for consultation, reflection, history & lab review, etc.

(29) **Answer phone calls** from physicians as quickly as possible and from patients /families same day.

(30) Patients maintain **rights of privacy** - including from their own family.

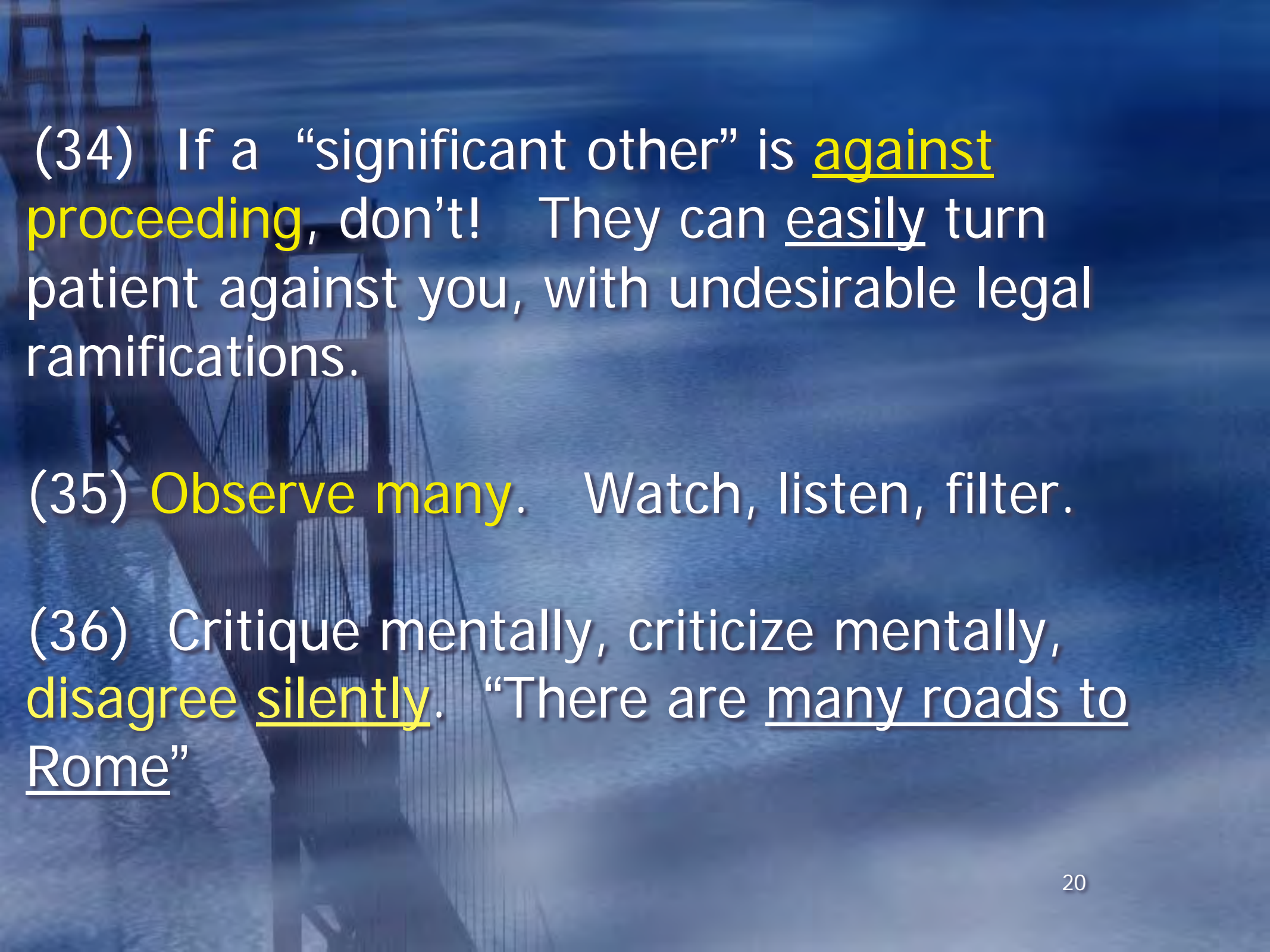
((Put 'em on))

Choose the typeface.

(31) Look like a Surgeon and Act like a Surgeon if you are representing yourself as a dermatologic surgeon. Gloves, cap mask, sterile milieu, etc.

(32) Surgery rooms reserved for appropriate procedures, represent (reasonably) state-of-the-art technology.

(33) Your "comfort level" will inevitably be at variance with your competence level at times. STOP!. Get consultation, wait, refer.

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up at the tower and cables, with the water of the bay visible below.

(34) If a “significant other” is against proceeding, don’t! They can easily turn patient against you, with undesirable legal ramifications.

(35) Observe many. Watch, listen, filter.

(36) Critique mentally, criticize mentally, disagree silently. “There are many roads to Rome”



(37) The more you **know**, the more you **learn**

(38) **Remember who taught you** - praise and thank them openly. It will humble you, and remind you of the very, very long journey you have taken to your knowledge.

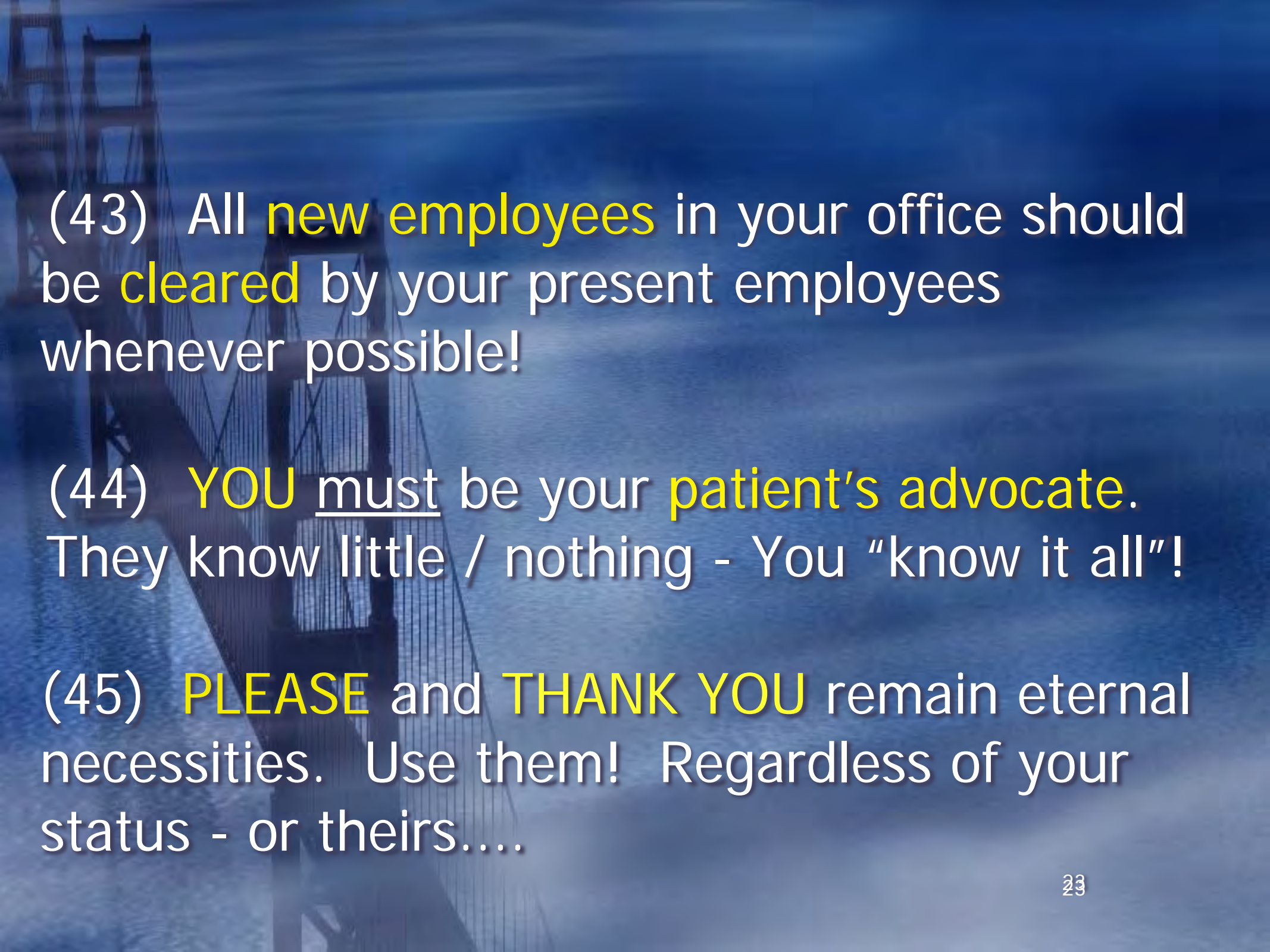
(39) **Forget you have not** had this complication (or that one). It means nothing to the one you do have - or will have!



(40) **ALWAYS** err on the side of **conservatism**, especially cosmetic procedures.

(41) Models and body builders **always seek perfection** - even when they deny it.

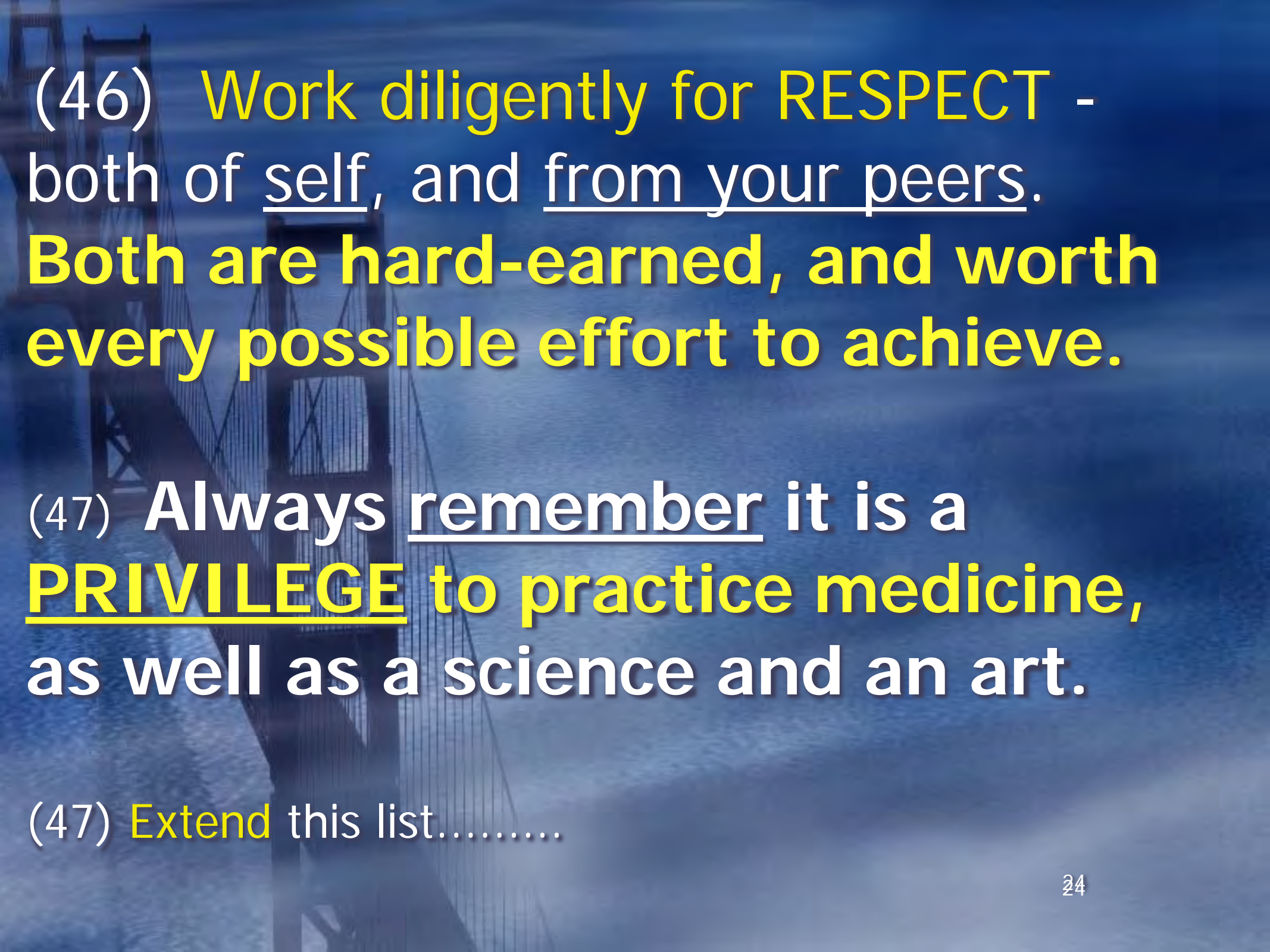
(42) **Ethnic, cultural , religious differences** and sensitivities do exist between peoples.
Learn, observe, question, confirm, document.

A background image of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up at the tower and cables, with the bridge extending into the distance over the water. The image is slightly faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

(43) All **new employees** in your office should be **cleared** by your present employees whenever possible!

(44) **YOU** must be your **patient's advocate**. They know little / nothing - You "know it all"!

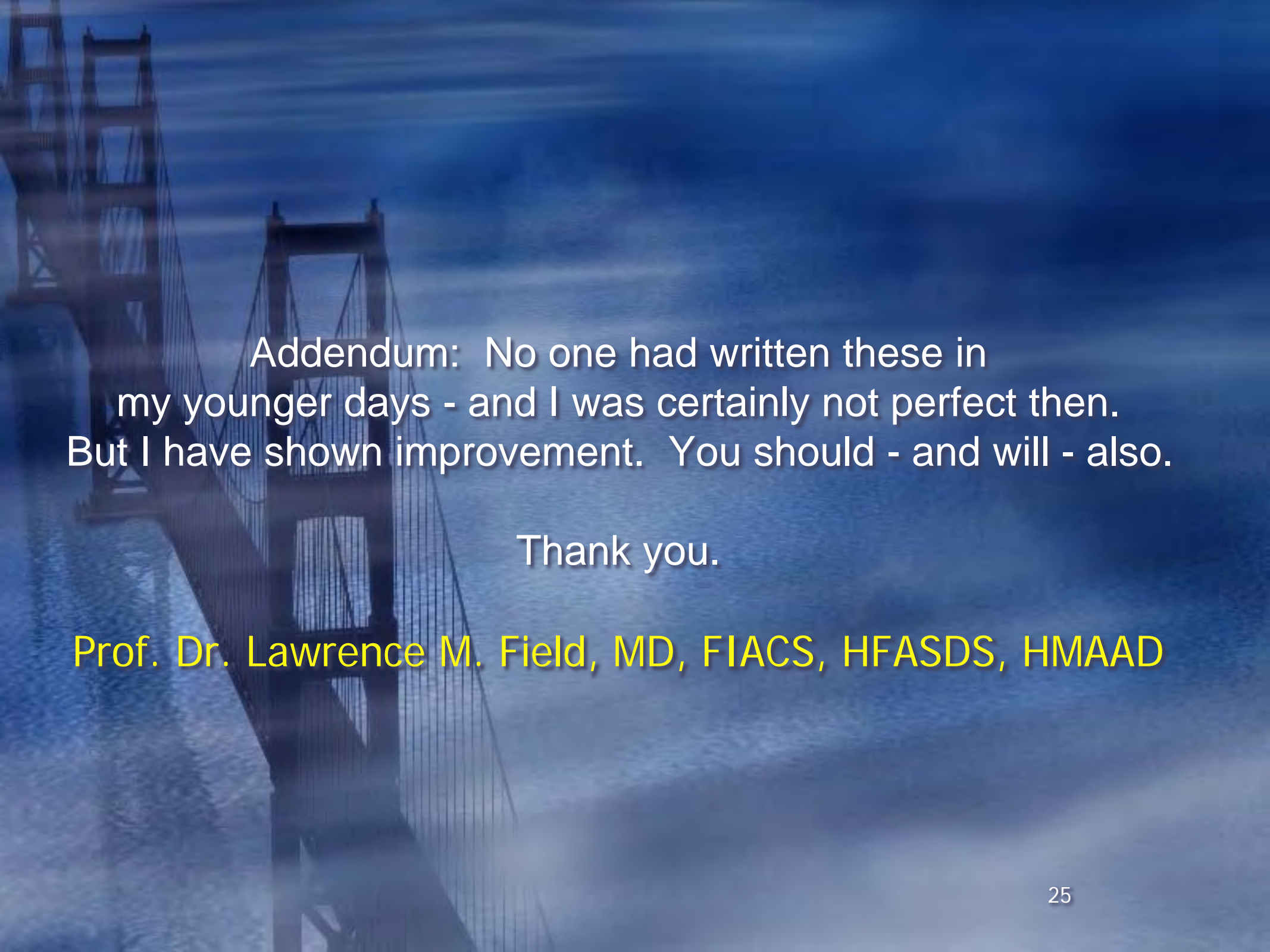
(45) **PLEASE** and **THANK YOU** remain eternal necessities. Use them! Regardless of your status - or theirs....

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, viewed from a low angle looking up at the tower and cables. The bridge is silhouetted against a blue sky with some light clouds. The water of the bay is visible at the bottom.

(46) Work diligently for RESPECT -
both of self, and from your peers.
**Both are hard-earned, and worth
every possible effort to achieve.**

(47) Always remember it is a
PRIVILEGE to practice medicine,
as well as a science and an art.

(47) **Extend** this list.....



Addendum: No one had written these in my younger days - and I was certainly not perfect then. But I have shown improvement. You should - and will - also.

Thank you.

Prof. Dr. Lawrence M. Field, MD, FIACS, HFASDS, HMAAD



(GREAT) GRANDFATHERLY ADVICE FOR YOUNG(ER) DERMATOLOGIC SURGEONS

Field, L., Dermatologic Surgery, (Editorial)
(Supplement P. 7) February 1997 &
ASDS' Currents 2008 Revised (in print)
Published in many lands in many languages

General Douglas MacArthur

🔔 “Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old by deserting their ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up (those ideals) wrinkles the soul”

🔔 Field, L.,

🔔 There is a Mean Spirited-ness Developing Amongst Us

🔔 Subject - charging doctors for teaching them is **not** Hippocratic

🔔 (but professional **honoraria** are proper & ethical)

🔔 (Editorial), Dermatologic Surgery,

🔔 Vol. 24, No. 9, Supple. P. 7 September 1998

KEEP YOURSELF PHYSICALLY, EMOTIONALLY, & PSYCHOLOGICALLY FRESH!

Study, study, study – all appropriate professional literature –
Special issues in JDSO, DS, Derm Clinics

Know instrumentation, approaches, surgery tables, tumescent formulations, photography, review instruction sheets, pre and post-op considerations, and
know our specialty's published "Guidelines"

Weigh, filter, change the way you do things. Decide if any procedure is a good one is for you. If not the whole, which part / parts can you master. **If you know you cannot**

become a master, or don't love it, don't do it! You will become a master only if you love and devote time, money, study, practice, travel to watch others, etc.

Always try to improve!

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken at dusk or dawn. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a deep blue, hazy sky. The water below is dark and reflects the ambient light. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

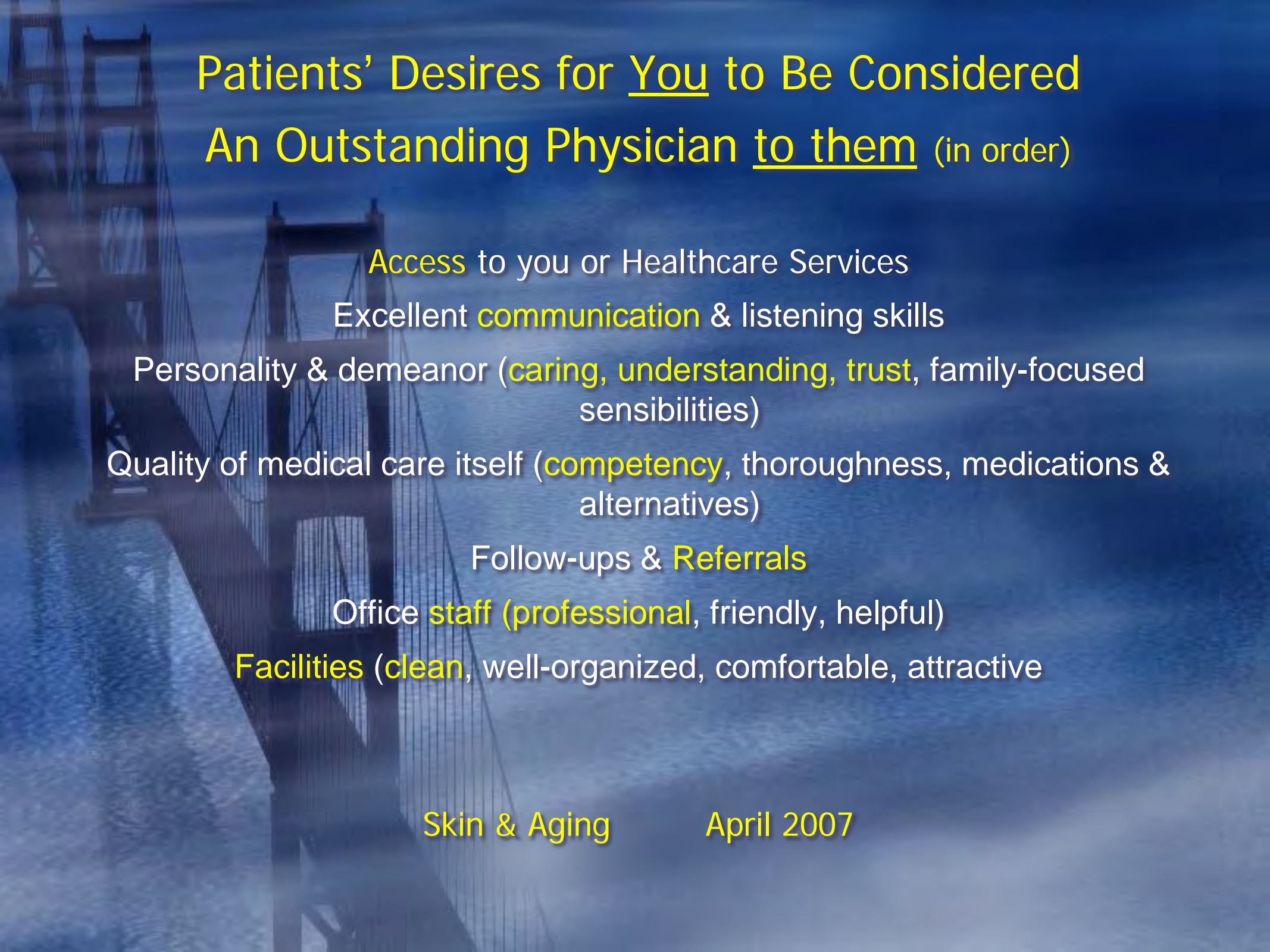
Love Your Work!

Stay Challenged !!!!!

Realize:

You Can Never Know ALL the Facts

You Can Never Master ALL the Methods

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, taken from a low angle looking down the length of the bridge towards the water. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a deep blue, twilight sky. The water below is dark and reflects the ambient light. The overall mood is serene and professional.

Patients' Desires for You to Be Considered An Outstanding Physician to them (in order)

Access to you or Healthcare Services

Excellent **communication** & listening skills

Personality & demeanor (**caring, understanding, trust**, family-focused sensibilities)

Quality of medical care itself (**competency**, thoroughness, medications & alternatives)

Follow-ups & **Referrals**

Office **staff** (**professional**, friendly, helpful)

Facilities (**clean**, well-organized, comfortable, attractive)

5 rules by which to judge the ethical conduct of doctors *

1. **Doctors who do not refer to other doctors when they are unclear of a diagnosis or when the patient is not progressing as well as anticipated are not serving the best interests of their patients.**
2. Doctors who do not **reveal their own work** (as in before-and-after photos or their experience with a given condition) are protecting themselves.
3. **Doctors who spend time disparaging doctors are** not focusing on their patient's needs.
4. Doctors who promise **perfect results** are not perfect .
5. Doctors who do not touch or **examine their patients** before surgery should not be touching them during surgery.

Lack, E., President, American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery February 2008

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with the bridge's towers and suspension cables silhouetted against a dark blue sky. The bridge spans across a body of water, and the overall scene is dimly lit, creating a moody atmosphere.

To lead, you must **be prepared to be attacked.**

🔔 You will have total personal **responsibility** for developing your patient's program. Learn from your inevitable mistakes –
🔔 and those of your colleagues

🔔 Give yourself **purpose** in this undertaking -
🔔 dream big, dream good things, dream success

🔔 **Enjoy** the spirit of adventure, of purpose, of mission, of your
🔔 Path into the future – you will be on a granite step as
🔔 your road of dermatologic surgery ever extends



🔔 Transformative times

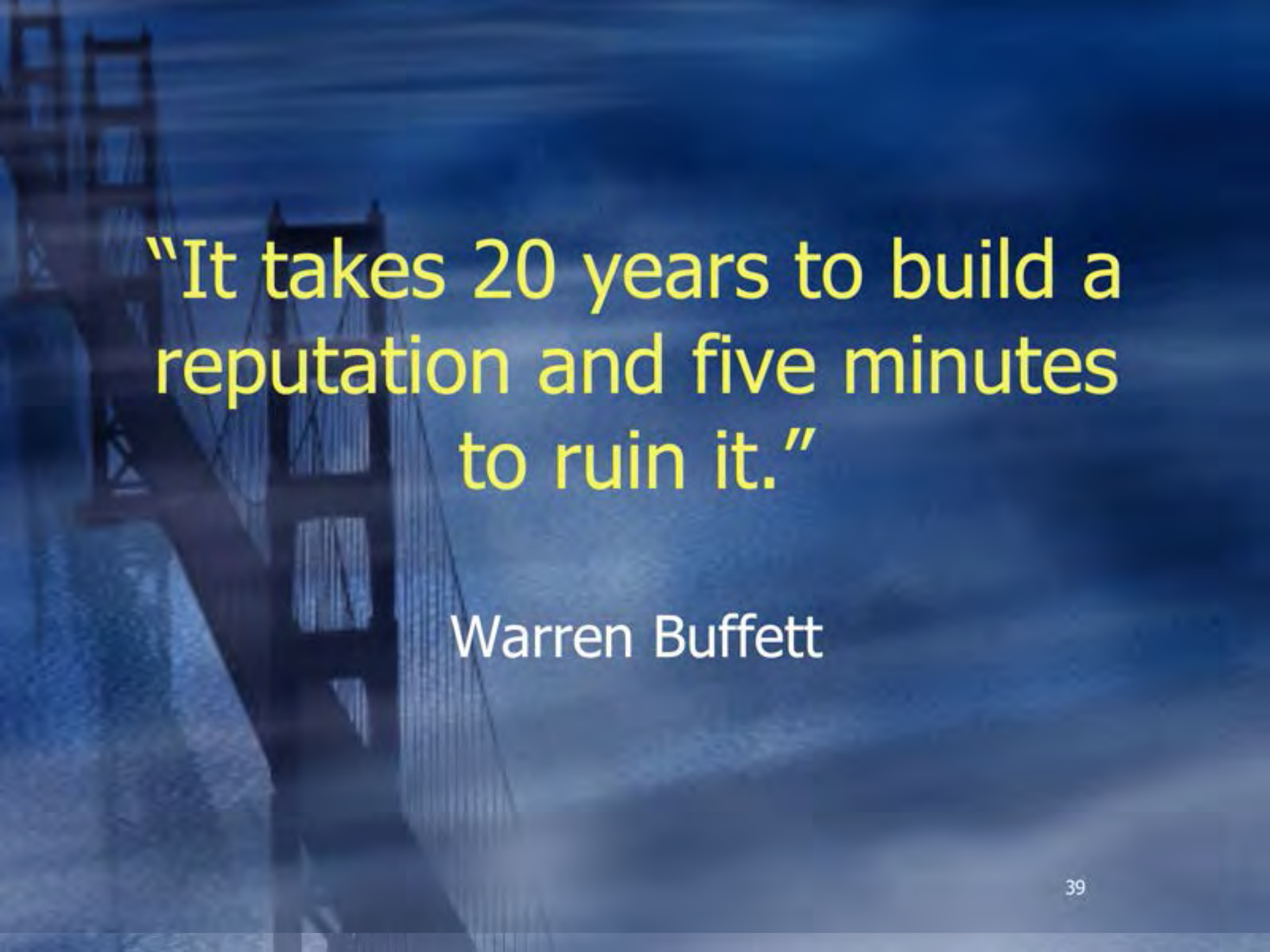
🔔 Vis-a-vis John Kennedy: Ask not what your Program can do for you,
🔔 but **what YOU can do** for your Program

🔔 Do not be a **spectator** - to only sit back , watch, and judge

🔔 **To lead, you must earn the right,**
🔔 then always **share the laurels** with those who
🔔 follow you with honesty and integrity

🔔 Create a **"Band of Brothers" and Sisters** to help.

🔔 Forge **bonds!** Confederates & Surrogates

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with the bridge's towers and suspension cables illuminated against a dark blue sky. The bridge spans across the water, and the city lights are visible in the distance.

“It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it.”

Warren Buffett



REMEMBER:

Mistakes Happen with **All of Us**

“The best surgeon, like the best general, is
he who makes the fewest mistakes”

(Sir Ashley Cooper (1768-1841))

You CAN suppress your ego and say

“NO!”

(listen to your non-ego involved stomach!!!)

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken from a low angle looking down the length of the bridge towards the water. The sky is a deep, dark blue, and the water below is also dark blue. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against the sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

KNOW YOUR LIMITS!!

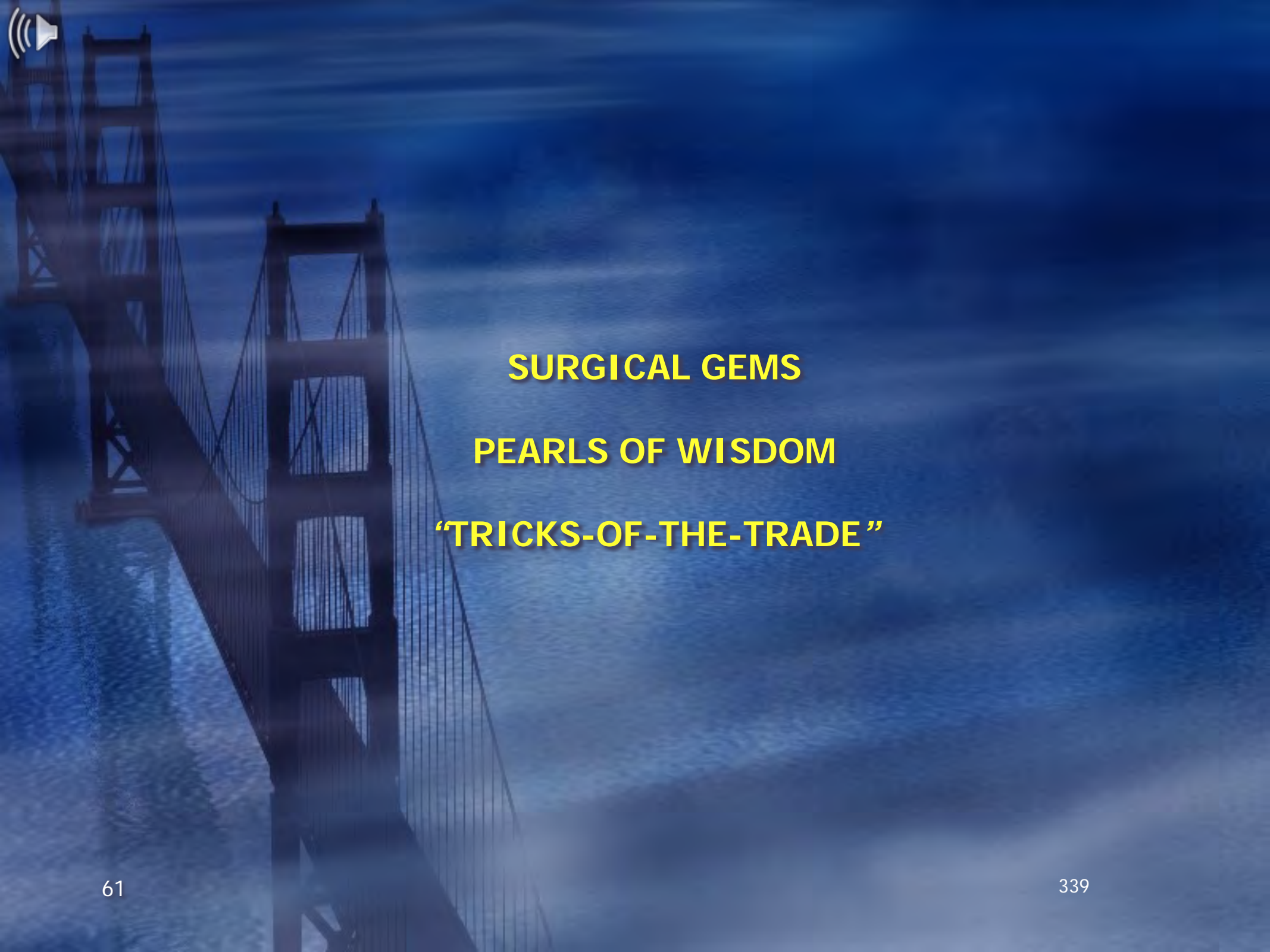
Not all of us are made to be surgeons -
not even the “Surgeons”!

Choose your fields carefully,
based on your skills and interest!

When in doubt, **don't!**

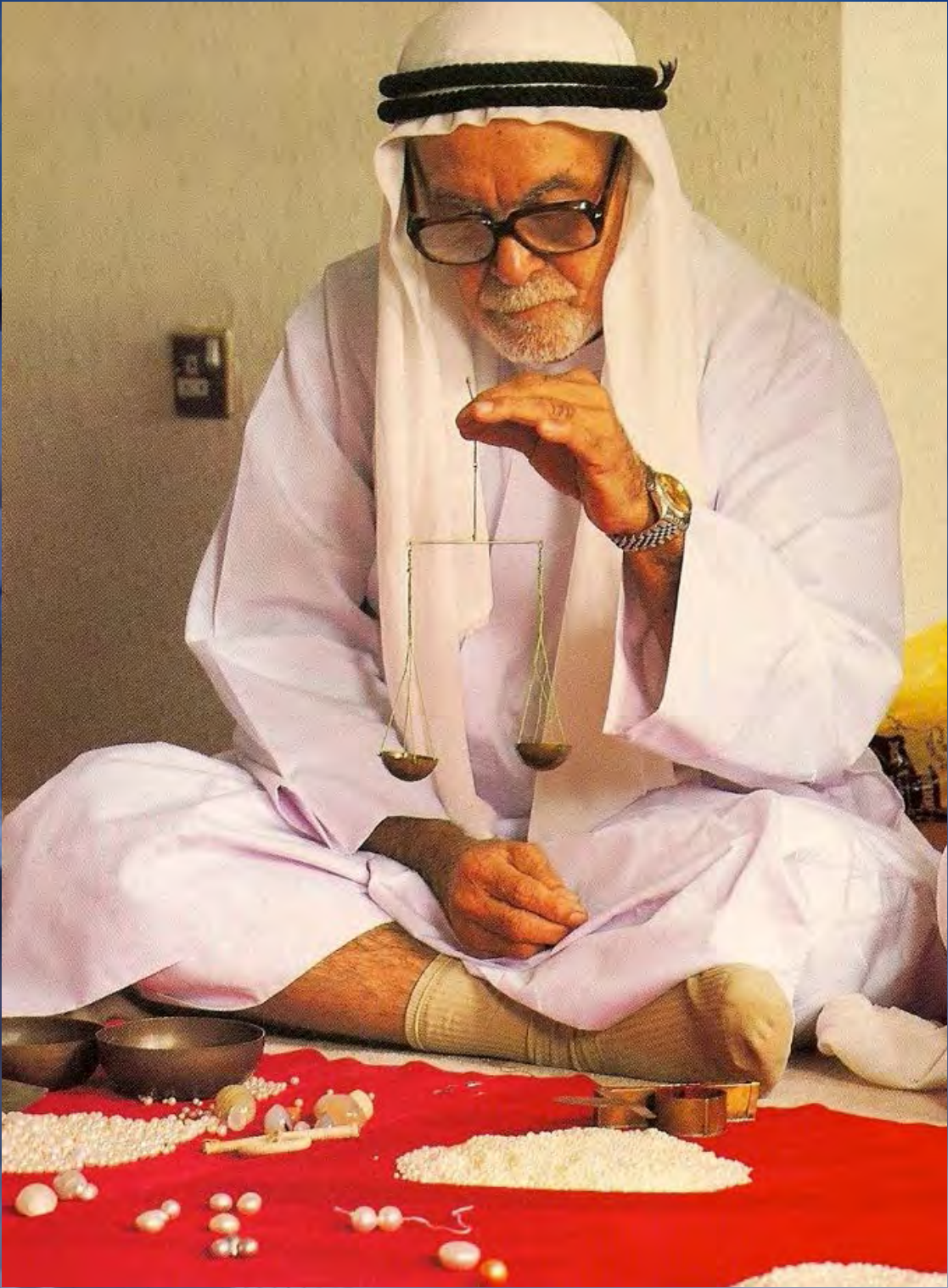
Consultation / referral are
worth your career!



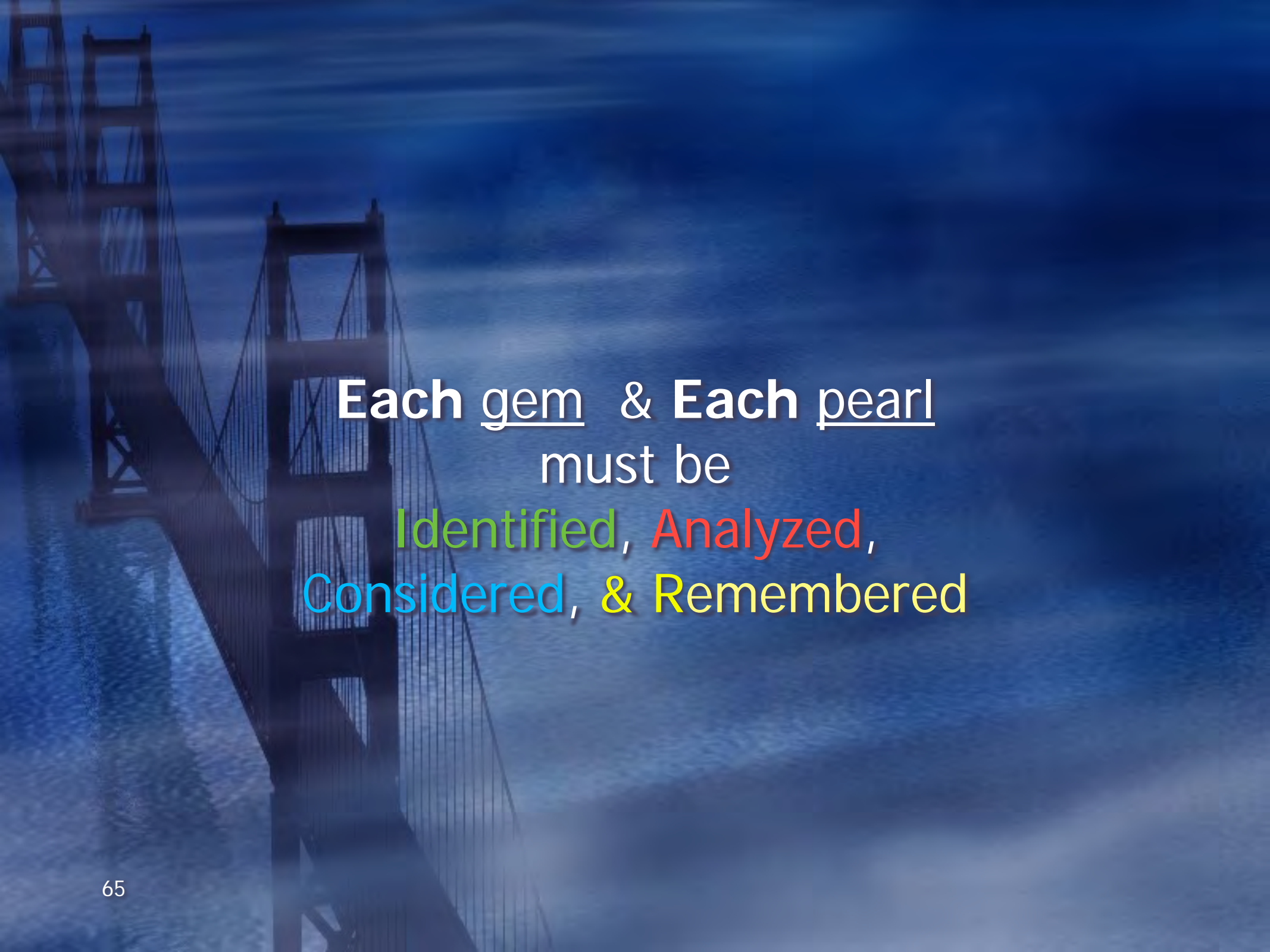
A dark, atmospheric photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with the bridge's towers and suspension cables silhouetted against a deep blue, misty sky and water.

SURGICAL GEMS
PEARLS OF WISDOM
“TRICKS-OF-THE-TRADE”







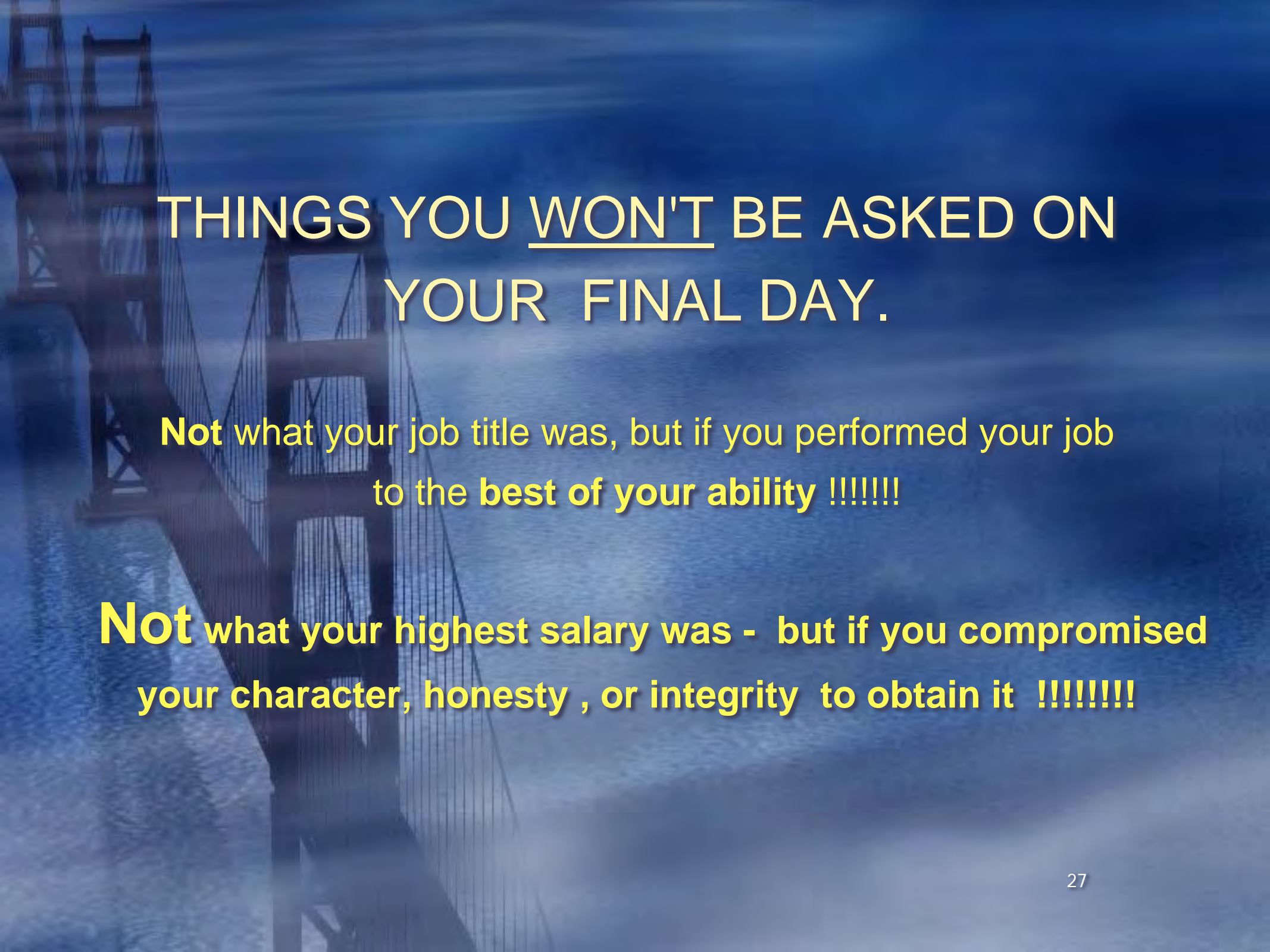
The background of the slide is a photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night. The bridge's towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a dark blue, cloudy sky. The water below is also dark blue, with some light reflecting off the surface. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Each gem & Each pearl
must be
Identified, Analyzed,
Considered, & Remembered



Greed cuts deep, and the
scars are wide (in ourselves)*

*Scottish proverb

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, taken from a low angle looking down the length of the bridge towards the water. The sky is a deep, dark blue, and the water below is also dark blue with some whitecaps. The bridge's towers and cables are silhouetted against the sky.

THINGS YOU WON'T BE ASKED ON YOUR FINAL DAY.

Not what your job title was, but if you performed your job
to the **best of your ability** !!!!!!!

Not what your highest salary was - but if you compromised
your character, honesty , or integrity to obtain it !!!!!!!!



Martin Luther King:

"One has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws"

can be paraphrased

"One has a moral responsibility to fight and overturn unjust and unprofessional actions and / or decisions "

(regardless of the perpetrators, including ASDS, AAD, etc.).

Apple's Steve Jobs

(1955-2011)

2005 Commencement Address
Stanford



🔔 “Your work is going to fill a **large** part of your life, and the **only** way to be truly satisfied is to do what **you** believe is great work. And the **only** way to do great work is to **love what you do**.

🔔 If you haven't found it yet, **keep looking**”

🔔 And **“ALWAYS DO WHAT'S RIGHT!”**



Motivation & Dedication

🔔 ALLOW US TO:

🔔 **Withstand** scrutiny / allegations

🔔 **Withstand** a personal sense of failure

🔔 **Withstand** unfairness & prejudice

🔔 **Withstand** betrayal / false accusations

🔔 **Withstand** the human drive for money

🔔 and success **at any cost** vs. our moral & ethical values

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with the bridge's towers and suspension cables silhouetted against a dark blue sky and water. The bridge spans across the water, leading towards the background.

🔔 **Happiness is not** a goal. It is a by-product.

🔔 It comes incidentally .

🔔 The surest way to be unhappy is

🔔 **to** set happiness as a deliberate goal.

🔔 **To** please oneself completely & exclusively

🔔 **is a path to** certain doom, never to be attained

🔔 Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady USA 1933-45

🔔 in: "You Learn by Living – 1960



🔔 People live for good.

🔔 The fortunate thing is more good

🔔 happens in life than bad

🔔 Do not wait for something bad

🔔 to happen to do something good

🔔 Come "rain-or-shine",

🔔 Live for good!



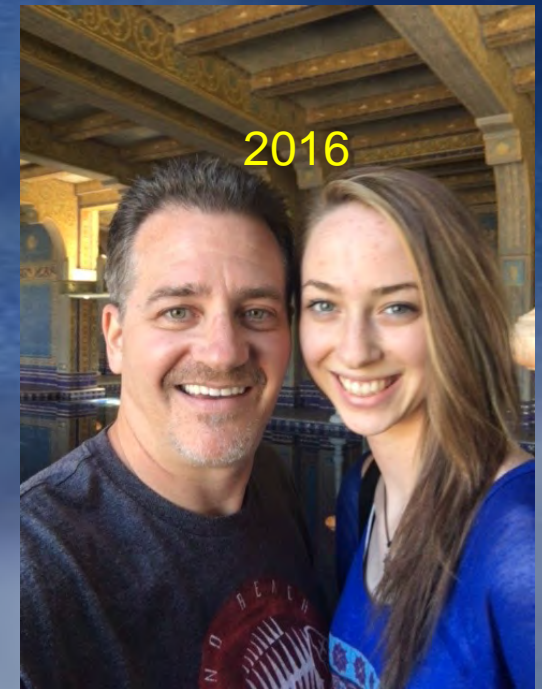
USMC &
Competition
medals



“Bobby Burns Nite”
2007

Dressed for the
performance

Date: Granddaughter
Catherine



2016

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with the bridge's towers and suspension cables illuminated against a dark blue sky and water. The bridge spans the width of the image, with the towers on the left and right sides.

THANK YOU

Lawrence M Field, MD, FIACS

FOUNDER

International Traveling Mentorship Program (ITMP)

American Society of Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS)