

The Cutting Edge

We did not have a Sunday surgery day in August so I want to take this opportunity to thank some people who care for Surgery on Sunday patients outside the scope of our regular program. There are 8 physicians with Colorectal Surgical & Gastroenterology Associates (CSGA) who provide colonoscopies and EGDs for patients referred to us. Each doctor has offered to provide one procedure per month and since they began in 2017 have performed a combined total of 96. Thank you to **Dr. Bruce Belin, Dr. John Dvorak, Dr. Thomas Knopp, Dr. Nathan Massey, Dr. Charles Papp, Dr. Jennifer Rea, Dr. Stephen Schindler, and Dr. David Svetich**. This service has been invaluable for our patients who have benefited from it and is just another way Surgery on Sunday changes lives!

Thankful for your support,

Amanda Ferguson,
Executive Director

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Volunteer of the Month

Our Volunteer of the Month for August is **Paul Fister** who first started volunteering with Surgery on Sunday in 2012 and thanks Dr. Andy Moore for being kind enough to let him be part of the organization. Paul is a regular non-clinical volunteer and you will find him performing a variety of jobs on surgery days including turning over beds, collecting and taking out trash, and wheeling patients out the door.



He was born and raised in Lexington, where his mother was a nurse for nearly 40 years and worked with various healthcare professionals in town: Dr. James Freedman, Dr. Steve Wrightson, Dr. Michelle Wrightson, and Dr. Debbie Fibel. His father was in sales for more than 45 years and was a deacon at St. Paul Catholic Church.

In healthcare sales for 33 years. Paul currently works with Regeneron Healthcare Solutions and has been there for 5 years. He proudly mentions they are now launching monoclonal antibodies for rare unmet medical needs. When he was with Cadence Pharmaceuticals for 6.5 years, that company launched IV acetaminophen for peri-operative and post-op pain management solutions.

Paul lives in Lexington with his wife, Rhonda. They have been married for 30 years and are the parents of three wonderful children: Chaz, 26, who works at Makers Mark Distilling; Blake, 23, a senior at the University of KY; and Rachel, 20, currently a junior at UK. His daughter Rachel plans to go on to get a post-graduate degree in Occupational Medicine .

The Fisters are avid UK sports fans and also enjoy visiting family and friends at Lake Cumberland in Jamestown, KY where Rhonda's parents still live. Paul says he loves doing Surgery on Sunday "because it gives (him) the opportunity to work with and help out others" for a worthy cause. He considers himself "blessed and thankful to be part of this unique stewardship program."

Thank you, Paul, for your commitment to Surgery on Sunday and for everything you do for our patients!

Patient Testimonial

The majority of Surgery on Sunday patients work at least part-time and have often been sidelined by medical issues. We are so pleased when we can return someone to his or her job after surgery. A July patient shared with us how he was able to go back not just to work but to a hobby he loves:

"Everything I do both professionally and personally involves the use of my hands. I was a safety hazard in professional kitchens because of my hands. My left pinkie prevented me from playing guitar in my free time so my life was



turned upside down. But thanks to you and your persistence, my pinkie is now back in socket and I am stretching it out a little more every day. Even a few days with the cast off has shown me I can now go back to work doing what I love and when I am off work I can play guitar again. The surgery was so successful I am thinking about playing the piano again. I never thought I would be able to say that! Thank you so much!"

Fundraiser Sponsors Needed

Plans are underway for two of our main annual fundraisers coming up this winter. The fifth annual **Sweat4Surgeries** 24-hour fitness event will be held at **Aspire Fitness** on January 24-25, 2020 and sponsorships are available starting at \$250. On March 7, 2020 our sixth annual **Perfect 10 Miler & 10K** will be run at **Mt. Brilliant Farm**. Sponsorships for the race also begin at \$250. If you would like to support Surgery on Sunday while promoting your business, please contact Amanda in the SOS office at 859/246-0046.



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