

The Cutting Edge

Our January 12 surgery day was a busy one as 10 patients received procedures. Thank you to **Dr. Avinash Bhakta, Dr. David Cowen, Dr. Terrence Grimm, Dr. Paul Kearney, Dr. Andy Moore, and Dr. James Rollins** for operating, to **Dr. Faezah Bux and Dr. Mihaela Cornea** for providing anesthesia, and to **Dr. Kristi Adams** for providing pathology services. Thank you also to the more than 50 clinical and administrative volunteers who made the day possible. Finally, thank you to **Malone's** for providing a wonderful lunch for everyone! If you or someone you know would like to join us in changing lives through outpatient surgery, our volunteer applications are now fillable online at www.surgeryonsunday.org/volunteer.

MALONE'S

We are very excited to be working with Serve Kentucky for Surgery on Sunday to earn a national certification in organizational performance and volunteer management ([Service Enterprise Initiative](#)) through the Points of Light Foundation. Our program is one of only a handful in Kentucky selected for the initial cohort and it will be a huge step for our organization moving forward. As part of this process, we will be implementing a volunteer management software, Galaxy Digital, that will help us schedule volunteers, track their hours, and provide invaluable data to us for grants and other practical purposes. The program will be ready for use in March so volunteers can look for more information to come soon!

With gratitude,

Amanda Ferguson,
Executive Director

Visit our Website

Volunteer of the Month



The SOS Volunteer of the Month for January is **Jennifer Schnelle, CST**. Jennifer first visited Surgery on Sunday when she was still in school and observed several surgery days. She officially became a volunteer in May 2011, the month she graduated and earned her certification, and has volunteered consistently as a surgical tech ever since.

Originally from Louisville, Jennifer grew up in the St. Matthews area and started school at the University of Louisville before transferring to the University of Kentucky to pursue an architecture degree. After an accident left her with a fused right shoulder, she could no longer draw and switched to accounting. She eventually went into banking and worked her way up the ranks for 14 yrs until the poor economy of 2008 caused her to lose her job. Looking for a new career, Jennifer ended up at National College and

earned an associates degree in Surgical Technology, much to her husband's surprise. From that experience she encourages others - "never be afraid to leap... it could be life changing, not just for you but for so many others."

She and her husband, Chris, have been married for 20 years and they have 2 children, Cameron (17) and Samantha (14) who both attend STEAM Academy. Chris is a Lexington police officer and he and Jennifer met during a robbery detail while she was in banking. What a story! Jennifer has an older daughter, Carlyn, who lives in Texas with her husband and Jennifer's granddaughter, Raegan (3), and she has another grandchild, John-Michael, due very soon.

Jennifer says she can't name a favorite thing about Surgery on Sunday because "it's the people, the patients, the gratitude in knowing you have truly helped someone in a way that only we can and they will always remember us for it." She recalls a special moment several years ago when, despite a language barrier, she was able to calm and comfort a patient who woke up anxious in the PACU before his family members had been called back. She says "a simple hug was stronger than any medication he could have been given."

Thank you, Jennifer, for your commitment to Surgery on Sunday and your concern for our patients!

A Patient's Gratitude

The following is a note of thanks from a patient of Dr. David Cowen (pictured at right with Dr. Andy Moore and Dr. Faezah Bux) who had surgery on January 12:

"I am so thankful for you donating your day off to help me and others. This shows me how dedicated you are to your patients. I appreciate you and this program so much. I have never asked for anything in life. I have always worked hard for everything I have but I got out of work in 2016 after my husband battled non-alcoholic cirrhosis for 9 years and went into renal failure. After that he was not only put on a liver transplant list but kidney also, which he received in 2018. I am so appreciative for you and this service. You are God sent to the medical profession and to helping me and others. Keep that love in your heart and God will truly bless you. I can't get over all the generosity you have showed me. Thank you ever so much. I saw all of you smiling during all my stay and I appreciate all of you. Thanks, Dr. Cowen. You are great! Thanks for caring!"



The Perfect 10 Miler and 10K



Sponsors have stepped up and registrations are rolling in for The Perfect 10 Miler & 10K at Mt. Brilliant Farm on **Saturday, March 7** at 9:00 am. This is the biggest fundraiser put on solely by Surgery on Sunday and if you won't be running the race, we can find a spot for you to volunteer!

Thank you to the following sponsors who have already committed: **Fayette County Farm Bureau, Johnstone Supply, Raising Cane's, Plastic Surgeons of Lexington, Republic Bank, SRC of Lexington, and Valvoline.**

For more information, to register to run, or to sign-up as a volunteer, please visit the link below.

[The Perfect 10](#)

Sweat4Surgeries V - recap

Sweat4Surgeries V was a huge success and we can't thank **Josh Bowen** of **Aspire Fitness** enough for the tireless efforts, endless energy, and huge heart he brings to this event. Not only did he surpass this year's lofty goal (\$51,000), he raised an amazing \$53,036 for Surgery on Sunday!

Thanks to each and every one of you who donated, sponsored, sweated, and held your own Facebook fundraiser. You will make a difference in the lives of countless Surgery on Sunday patients and their families!



[Sweat4Surgeries V](#)

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