

Heritage

Behind every gift there is a story — after all, every Zag is unique — and each relationship with the University comes with its own history. Even as our stories differ, our common bond is rooted in Gonzaga's mission. Together we are inspired to invest our social capital in preparing men and women to use their God-given gifts, intellect, and talents to lead, shape, and serve their communities and professions for the good of all.

In this issue of Heritage, we are grateful and excited to share the stories of:

- An orthopedic surgeon whose unexpected opportunity to study abroad at Gonzaga-in-Florence broadened his perspectives,
- a successful entrepreneur who fondly remembers his boyhood playground: Gonzaga's campus,
- and, a beloved University faculty member who knows first-hand the impact Gonzaga graduates have on our communities, and the world.

Listen to their voices. Learn why and how they are helping to open doors for deserving students, enabling bright minds to discover their promise and purpose in this world. They are not just giving “to” Gonzaga; they are giving “through” Gonzaga to pave the way for tomorrow's students— and beyond.

Individually, and working together, GONZAGA WILL shape our future.

In the Zag spirit,



Judy Rogers

Senior Director
Office of Planned Giving
rogers2@gonzaga.edu



Annette Davis

Associate Director
Office of Planned Giving
davis@gonzaga.edu



The Campaign for Our Future.

**Gonzaga
Will.**

A Profound Impact

Steve Brenneke ('67) gets it. Without scholarships, a Gonzaga education wouldn't be a reality for some students, himself included.

"The only way I was able to do anything was because people gave me scholarships," said Brenneke. "I'm not sure what I'd have done without them — I certainly wouldn't be here!"

In the years since his time as a Gonzaga pre-med student, Brenneke went on to be an orthopedic surgeon, husband, father, pilot and scholarship supporter. "Career, family and marital success — it all started with the people who helped me when I was young and didn't have resources," he said.

Brenneke's relationship with Gonzaga began even before he was born. His mother Patricia grew up in a house that stood where Cataldo Hall is located today. There, her family ran a boarding house for GU students. As a child, Patricia scampered around campus at the heels of such notorious Zags as Bing Crosby, and was considered a sort of honorary mascot. She went on to a career in nursing and played an influential role in her son's decision to come to Gonzaga and pursue a medical career.

"My mother was the coolest," declared Brenneke. "When my parents asked what I wanted to be when I grew up, I first said 'engineering,' but my Dad was an engineer; he spent three hours during a drive from Portland to Gonzaga trying to convince me to do anything but engineering. Mom was a highly qualified nurse and the reason I got into med school."

Once admitted to Gonzaga, in addition to his scholarship, Brenneke took on a work-study position as a resident assistant (R.A.) to help fund his education. Then, in 1966, when the opportunity arose for one student to go to Florence in the R.A. role, Brenneke jumped at the chance.

"Not everybody could afford to go," he explained, "and they had to take one R.A., so I made my pitch to Fr. Bischoff and he selected me. It was a very special opportunity."

That year abroad, Brenneke studied, worked and played in Florence. As a self-described "unsophisticated twenty-year-old kid from the northwest," it was an eye-opening experience that still today has a profound impact on Brenneke.



Marge and Steve Brenneke ('67) with their rescue Greyhounds, China Rose and Super. Photo credit: Charles G. Waugh

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

"The help I received from my scholarship helped make my dream of studying abroad a reality. I am now able to do something I never thought could happen. I am so thankful for the help you have given me, and I hope that one day I can help the next generation of Zags fulfill their dreams as well."

— Austin Salvador ('19)

"Every weekend was a three-day weekend," he recalled fondly of his travels around Europe and the Middle East. "Seeing all those places in person gave me a frame of reference you can only get by being there. Now, I can actually read about them and consider both sides. Florence was the most memorable year of my life — those places just rub off on you."

Today, the Brennekes are committed to helping others. They rescue Greyhound dogs and provide opportunities for students at both his wife Marge's alma mater, Kettering College, and at Gonzaga through scholarships. The Brennekes started two scholarships at GU — one for helping pre-med students and another to help students experience Gonzaga-in-Florence — with proceeds from an IRA. They have also made plans to add to these funds through a gift in their will.

"We feel that our schools allowed us to be what we are today," he said, "and that's why we are giving back through a gift in our will. We want the students who receive our scholarships to go out into the world and do the same thing we did: give back."



Donald and Donna Rockstrom



Driving Success

Long before the historic run to the Final Four® in 2017, Gonzaga University had another team to rally behind — a football team. On game nights, Logan neighborhood boys would flock to Desmet Hall, where Gonzaga students would let them sit on the balcony to watch the game in the stadium below. Don Rockstrom was one of those neighborhood boys, whose childhood playground was Gonzaga's campus. A born entrepreneur, Rockstrom capitalized on Gonzaga football-mania, turning a vacant lot into parking for spectators and charging 25 cents per car.

"I probably still have the first quarter I made there," he recalled. "It was good money back then and I didn't want to spend it."

Rockstrom opened a bank account and from that point on was very intentional with money. He earned his degree in economics and accounting at Eastern Washington University and after a brief time in the military, enjoyed success first with Freya Street Lumber Company, then as a sales representative for Kaiser Gypsum and finally as a significant orchard owner in Central Washington. All the while, Rockstrom saved and invested wisely.

"Gonzaga was part of my life," said Rockstrom. "My grandfather Claus Rockstrom, a Swedish immigrant, was a key player at the turn of the century in securing the land near Gonzaga as a site for the McGoldrick Lumber Company. As a kid, I played handball against the back of the Admin building. Later, when I worked for Kaiser Gypsum, I sold all the drywall and plaster materials for several of the buildings on Gonzaga's campus."

Today, Rockstrom and his wife, Donna, a retired accountant, are passionate about higher education and creating opportunities for students. They established the Donald W. Rockstrom Endowed Scholarship for students pursuing degrees in business administration and have made plans to add to the fund through a gift in their will and through several charitable gift annuities. In addition, the Rockstroms also gave in support of the John J. Hemmingson Center, where their names can be found in the Center for Student Involvement.

"A college education was influential in helping me succeed," Rockstrom explained. "Donna and I just felt it right to provide support for students who need it."

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

"Your generosity tells me that I am worth investing in. You encourage me when it gets really hard to be a first-generation, independent, involved, working student."

— Taylor Ridenour ('18)

Heritage Society Honor Roll 2017-18

The Heritage Society was founded in 1980 to recognize a legacy of giving at Gonzaga and honor alumni and friends who have made a commitment to the University through an estate gift. Estate gifts to Gonzaga are made in many forms, including bequests, gifts of retirement plan assets or life insurance, or charitable gift annuities, remainder unitrusts or lead trusts.

The individuals listed and others, who wish to remain anonymous, comprise this group of benefactors.

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Thank You

Gonzaga is honored and grateful to have received estate gifts between March 15, 2017 and March 1, 2018 from the following alumni and friends, who were inspired to leave a legacy and have an impact on the following areas:

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- Phyllis J. Mitchell ('91)
- Smithmoore P. ('36, '39) and Sandy Sandulo-Myers
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- Esther L. Barton
- Margaret A. Hinnenkamp
- Jo Merwin

*You are our Heritage.
Your Legacy is our future.*



Susan ('76, '82) and Blaine Garvin

A Place Worth Perpetuating

Twenty-eight years old, a graduate student at Berkeley, living with his first wife in a cheerful one-room basement apartment in San Francisco, Blaine Garvin faced the unavoidable fact that he needed to get a job. He had applied to several places with no luck. Maybe just as well, he thought. Berkeley was an exciting place even if the University research factory seemed to ignore its students. And he could have happily wandered the streets of “the City” endlessly (he says he still does in his dreams). Then Fr. Frank Costello called from Gonzaga University about an ad to which Garvin had replied, but forgotten all about. “I came up for the interview and loved it immediately,” said Garvin. “Gonzaga was a place where moral and ethical questions were paramount and where students were at the center. It had a strong family atmosphere.”

Garvin arrived in Spokane three years before Expo '74—there was no park downtown, just a jumble of rail yards. Gonzaga was physically a very different place from the 104-building campus it is today. Forty-seven years after he accepted the job, Garvin feels that Gonzaga is in many ways the same place it was in 1971—still student-centered, turning out good people. Over the years, he has become a recognizable and beloved campus figure, often seen walking purposefully, wearing his black driver’s cap, carrying his papers and an ornate magnifying glass. Thousands of students have passed through his classrooms and sought his guidance.

“I’m here to help bring students into adulthood and realize their full intellectual potential,” he explained. “They’re committed to their ambitions in ways that are not self-centered. I think that needs to be preserved.”

Garvin saw the value in the way scholarships could ensure a steady stream of talented and driven students in his classes. At the same time, Fr. Coughlin was seeking to grow the University’s endowment.

“The University under Fr. Coughlin wanted to raise the endowment,” said Garvin. “The Jesuits already give through their lives, so could the lay faculty give financially? It makes sense. So a small bit of my salary was directed to the general endowment. Years later, I redirected my gifts to the Frank B. Costello, S.J. Political Science Book Endowment and eventually the Thomas Jefferson Endowed Scholarship.”

Then, when he and his second wife, Susan (a 1976 GU political science graduate who earned her master’s in counseling psychology in 1982), were writing their will, they made the decision to include a gift to Gonzaga’s Thomas Jefferson Endowed Scholarship fund.

“When Susan and I got to thinking about our will, we wanted to do something for my son Sean, but also wanted to give back to this place that’s been my life’s work. It’s important to step back and show our gratitude to Gonzaga, a place worth perpetuating.”

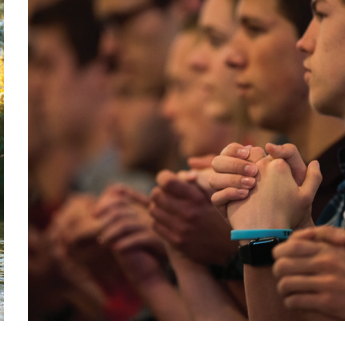
WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

“Thanks to your kindness, I’ve been given the opportunity of a lifetime to study with some of the most dedicated teachers and driven students while also advancing my faith. God bless you!”

– Connor Brachtl ('21)

“The vast majority of our students end up being really solid, good citizens. They become environmentalists, rights’ activists, Peace Corps volunteers — they are making an incredible difference. Scholarships make that possible; the more Gonzaga has the better.”

–Blaine Garvin, Political Science Professor



You are our Heritage.
Your Legacy is our future.

Plan How (And When) To Make Your Gifts To Gonzaga

MAKE YOUR IMPACT NOW – GIVE TODAY

- Write a check or give online: www.gonzaga.edu/giveonline.
- Transfer appreciated stock or mutual funds and bypass capital gains tax.
- Gift real property or a life insurance policy you no longer want or need.
- Transfer funds from your IRA to Gonzaga, tax-free. (see below for more details)

GET INCOME NOW – GIVE TO GONZAGA LATER

- Make a gift of cash or stock to establish a charitable gift annuity that pays you quarterly income for the rest of your life, a portion of which is tax-free. Afterwards, Gonzaga receives the balance of the annuity account. (Must be 65 or older. Not available in all 50 states.) Involves a simple two-page agreement supplied by Gonzaga.
- Make a gift of cash, stock or real property to a charitable remainder trust that pays quarterly income to selected beneficiaries for life or a term years. Afterwards, Gonzaga receives the balance of the trust. An attorney is required to prepare a charitable trust document.

FUTURE GIFTS THAT COST YOU NOTHING TODAY

- Name Gonzaga as the beneficiary of an IRA, 401(k)/403(b), life insurance policy, bank/brokerage account, etc. (And it's important that you let us know if you do!)

Information you will need for your beneficiary form:

GU's Legal name: **Corporation of Gonzaga University**

GU's Tax ID#: **91-0236600**

- Provide for Gonzaga through a gift in your will or living trust.

Sample language for your attorney: I give to the Corporation of Gonzaga University, a Washington State non-profit corporation, headquartered in Spokane, Washington, the sum of \$_____ (or _____ % of my estate, or the property described herein) to be used for _____

(specify the purpose, e.g. endowed scholarship, unrestricted, a specific program, etc.).

MORE on the TAX-FREE Charitable IRA Rollover

(Qualified Charitable Distribution)

- IRA account holder must be age 70 1/2 or older.
- Transfer up to \$100,000 per year, per taxpayer.
- Transfer must be made directly from your IRA account to Gonzaga.
- Gift is not included in your taxable income and counts toward your required minimum distribution.
- Gonzaga may not provide any goods or services in return.

For specific instructions visit www.gonzaga.edu/IRARollover or call **800-388-0881**.



Office of Planned Giving
502 E. Boone Avenue
Spokane, WA 99258-0098