



31st ANNUAL
A.L. SLONAKER
HALL OF FAME AWARDS CEREMONY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018
GAMMA-RHO CHAPTER KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Gamma-Rho Chapter...

WELCOME

TO THE 31ST GAMMA-RHO HALL OF FAME AWARDS CEREMONY

The 31st Annual Gamma-Rho Hall of Fame Award is being presented by the Gamma-Rho Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity on Friday, October 26, 2018.

Conceived as a way of honoring Kappa Sigma and Gamma-Rho alumni for outstanding achievements, this award has become an integral part of our tradition here at Gamma-Rho.

Inductees are among a select group of alumni. Recognition is given to those who have excelled in their career, or in their service to the community and/or to the fraternity.

In conjunction with the A.L. Slonaker Hall of Fame inductees, Gamma-Rho also honors an alumnus as the Mike Cagalj Man of the Year each year. Men of the Year are recognized for their outstanding service to the fraternity. The award honors Mike Cagalj and all the years of service Mike provided to the chapter.

This year's A.L. Slonaker Hall of Fame Inductees are:

Ryan Schneider '93

Maxx Wolfson '00

Chris Bergen '03

This year's Mike Cagalj Man (Family) of the Year Award recipient is:

The Whaley Family

Tonight We Celebrate.

OUR PROGRAM

Invocation & Moment of Silence

Introduction of Special Guests

George Jenson '82

Dinner

State of the Chapter Presentation

Mark McLearn '88, Alumnus Advisor

Drew Willis '16, Grand Master

House Corporation & Foundation Update (Century Club)

Pat Murphy '65, House Corporation President

Presentation of the A. L. Slonaker Hall of Fame Inductees

George Jenson '82

Presentation of the Mike Cagalj Man of the Year Award

Jeff Klinger '94

Presentation of the Matthew Whaley Scholarship Award Winner

Leslie Bailey, Jeff Klinger '94 & Dawn Petitpas

Good of the Order



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Ryan Schneider '93

Brother Schneider currently resides in California with his wife, Stephanie, and their daughter, Audra. He graduated from the University of

Arizona in 1996 with a degree in journalism, and a minor in business. During his undergraduate years, Ryan served as GS and GP, created a PR officer role his senior year, and handled press outreach for the fraternity house opening.

On the Arizona campus, Ryan was a sports reporter for the Daily Wildcat ('92-'95), where he was the youngest staff sports reporter at the time. Ryan capped his first year in Tucson with University of Arizona Freshman Man of the Year ('92) honors, followed by Chi Omega's Junior Man of the Year ('95).

After graduation, Ryan's first job out of UA was with a Southern California-based boutique PR and marketing firm called Cooley & Company. He noticed this job opportunity by scanning the quarterly national Kappa Sigma magazine for news updates, and saw that Brother Todd Cooley (Delta-Eta-USC) had opened his own PR firm. Ryan wrote to him asking to be hired as his first employee, and is forever grateful for Brother Cooley giving him his big break.

Ryan's career then included stints working for firms like Porter Novelli, Bragman Nyman Cafarell Entertainment Lifestyle Marketing and BSMG Worldwide (Weber Shandwick today). For the last near-15 years, Ryan has held a variety of marketing, community and public relations positions at independent videogames developer Insomniac Games. He's currently serving as the studio's chief brand officer.

Ryan has been recognized on many occasions, such as being Employee of the Year at BSMG Worldwide/Los Angeles, 40 under 40 in the

San Fernando Valley Business Journal, a Perkins Award winner with noted business author and blogger Seth Godin's AltMBA leadership workshop, and many more. Within his community, Ryan led a fundraising drive for video games-themed entertainment centers to be installed at children's hospitals on behalf of Starlight Children's Foundation. Ryan is also an accomplished triathlete and endurance sports coach, recently starting his own boutique coaching practice, Good Wolf Coaching (www.goodwolfcoaching.com).

Ryan has spoken at Kappa Sigma chapter events over the years since graduating. When asking Ryan about what Gamma-Rho and Kappa Sigma mean to him, he states, "*Gamma-Rho provided me a safe zone to figure out what kind of person I wanted to be after leaving my parents' home for college.*"

"I grew up in a fairly sheltered small town, suburban environment, and entered the University of Arizona with a naive and limited world view. Joining a fraternity as diverse as Gamma-Rho changed my life by opening me up to a wider range of thought and opinion that extended far beyond what a classroom could teach. I don't remember specifics from a lot of those classes, to be honest. But I DO remember iconic members of the fraternity who regularly challenged my assumptions and ultimately made me a better, more well-rounded person. The kind of person I have become proud to see in the mirror. Guys like George Jensen, Matt Noble, Ragnar Rasmussen, Blake Kuehn, Jeff Ross, Carter Crow, Brad Tofel, Eric Wein, and Dan Rubin were particularly influential at the time."

"My journey towards true adulthood started at Gamma-Rho. I'm forever grateful. At a larger Kappa Sigma level, I still think about the Star & Crescent and how to live a life that is filled with zeal yet humble. There is so much wisdom in the Star & Crescent that it continues to serve as a personal North Star far more often than I ever would have expected when I took my oath on Initiation Day."



Maxx Wolfson '00

Brother Maxx Wolfson from Los Angeles, CA was initiated in 2000 into Kappa Sigma. Being in the largest pledge class for Gamma-Rho, he gained life experiences, memories and friendships.

Maxx graduated with a Journalism degree and a minor in Communications in 2003 from the University of Arizona.

While at the University of Arizona, he was a writer for four years at the student paper, The Arizona Daily Wildcat. Being a writer for the Arizona Daily Wildcat gave him many opportunities to cover many sports such as basketball, football, lacrosse, rugby, gymnastics and more. He was a sports editor on the editorial board and won the award for best sports writer in the Journalism Department in 2003. Brother Wolfson also wrote his own column called the Maxx Factor. After he graduated, he was put into the Daily Wildcat Hall of Fame in 2011 winning the Young Alumni Award. As a student, Wolfson interned at Fox Sports in LA, KVOA in Tucson and Brenzer Zwickel in Los Angeles.

After graduating from the University of Arizona, he was hired to work for Getty Images, the world's leading photo agency, and has worked for the company since. He has enjoyed working

for Getty Images these last 15 years and it has provided incredible opportunities. As Director of Photography Sport, The Americas, Brother Wolfson runs a team of the world's best photographers and editors at Getty Images. He is onsite at the biggest sporting events all over the world. This year, he led our team at my 12th Super Bowl and sixth Olympic games in February. Wolfson has worked multiple NBA Finals, Academy Awards, Emmy's, World Cups, World Championships, World Series, Stanley Cups, major golf tournaments to name a few. He works directly with staff and freelance photographers managing and running events and hiring photographers to cover events in my region and works with Summit Workshops as a faculty staff member.

Brother Maxx Wolfson first fell in love with the chapter and the atmosphere when he watched a UA football game at the Kappa Sigma house as a guest and is now a dedicated alumnus who still maintains his friendships with his brothers. He was able to relate with the men's love for sports and as a Gamma-Rho and he grew friendships in the chapter that still last today. Maxx has taken the same brother to the Super Bowl with him the last 10 years. He says, "Being a part of Kappa Sigma is something I am still very proud of. To become friends and brothers with my pledge class is still one of the best things to happen to me at UA."



Chris Bergen '03

Chris founded Core 3 Technologies in July of 2009. Since then, he has grown the company to over \$30 million in annual sales, with seven (7) of the 40 employees being Gamma-Rho alumni, and two others that are fellow Wildcats.

Chris has received many recognitions for his hard work including, OC Metro 40 under 40 (2013), OCBJ fastest growing company (2012, 2016), and many more.

Before Chris was where he is today, he was actively involved in Gamma-Rho. In 2003, Chris received the certificate of Ritual Proficiency GMC, and in Spring of 2004 he served as Pledge Educator. Chris graduated from the University of Arizona in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, with a minor in Behavioral Science.

Since graduation, Chris has consulted with various startup ventures, is on the Board of Advisory Just-in Club (Gurgaon, India), Founder of the Aura Accounting Solutions, and is the Chairman of Counterfeit Committee for UNEDA. He makes sure to do as much as he can for his chapter and

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE - CHRIS BERGEN, cont.

school, as he has donated to the Century Club and the UA Greek Park. Chris holds Gamma-Rho near and dear to his heart as he states, "Being a Gamma-Rho Kappa Sigma has provided me a foundation of loyalty, trust, friendship, fun and more fun. I'm so fortunate to be able to have so many close friends that are also brothers of Gamma-Rho Kappa Sigma. The reason I'm in the HOF is due to a cumulative effort of seven broth-

ers that work for a company that I happened to start with another brother's uncle. Brotherhood has been a constant in my life since I graduated. I have been fortunate to have found other brothers from Gamma-Rho in my professional life in which that common bond formed immediate friendships. I'm truly honored to be part of the HOF, but this is a shared honored with many."



MAN *(family)* YEAR of the & HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

The Whaley Family

Matthew Whaley grew up in Belmont Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston with his two sisters, Mom and Dad. His mother, Millie was able to stay home with the children and kept involved in the community by working in the school Administrative Offices and Town Recreation as well as volunteering at the local hospital. His father, Mike, a graduate of Bentley College (Waltham, MA) is a CPA who partnered in a local Tax Accounting firm and owns his own business, Concord Oil Company. Dawn and Leslie both attended school nearby; Dawn attending school in Cambridge (Lesley University) and Boston (Whelock College) and is currently an Educational Consultant and works mainly on school accreditation. Leslie went a bit further to Dudley (Nichols College) and works in the Healthcare Industry in

Reporting and Advanced Analytics; both sisters love to travel for work and pleasure. The Whaley family now lives in Carlisle, Massachusetts. We all live within three miles of each other so it will be no surprise when I say we are a close knit bunch. Matthew was the youngest child, and the first to go out of state to attend college. Needless to say Matt had wings- he went to a big, far away school leaving the familiar on a quest for adventure. By then the sisters were off at school, out on their own, so so my parents were used to a quieter house but never so quite as when Matt left and boy did we miss having Matt around.

We visited Matt whenever possible, especially during U of A parents & homecoming weekends; enjoyed the football games and parades, and meeting Matt's friends. It became obvious Matt did two smart things as a college freshman so far away from home; he made local friends that

invited him to Thanksgiving dinners, and, joined a fraternity. He joined not just a fraternity, but the best one on campus (!) Kappa Sigma. He now had a home away from home, and brothers for life.

Matthew lived on campus, in the Fraternity house and then off campus as an upperclassman. He was involved with fraternity activities and was always there to help a brother out – be that pay for someone who was broke or be the designated driver, anything to make sure everyone who wanted to be involved was involved. Although he remained close to everyone at the Fraternity House, we, as a family, believe that had he continued to live in the House he may still be with us now. We feel that someone would have noticed something, or not left Matt alone...

We were so impressed with Matt's brothers. For the funeral a number of them flew to Massachusetts, found lodging with other Kappa Sigma's at MIT, were the pall bearers for Matt [buried their pledge pins with him], and came back to my parents' house and helped us celebrate Matt's life.

And that is how the scholarship idea began.

My brother had some money invested in stocks. My Dad always said, "You can't go wrong with rubber and alcohol". I think Matt invested in Phillip Morris instead, but with good results. My parents decided to use some of Matt's money to start a scholarship specifically for Gamma-Rho to cover room and board for a semester in the Chapter House. We hoped to foster relationships where brothers can be there for each other and treat one another like family, To create a legacy for Matt, a way remember though he was gone from us, To help the young men of Gamma-Rho in time of need as Matt's Brothers helped us in ours.

We liked the fact that brotherhood is so important to Kappa Sig and decided to use that as a means to choose the winner of the scholarship. We write a different, but similar question each year for applicants to answer related to the importance of brotherhood. We really want to

see the young men dig deep and examine the gift they have been given within the fraternity and share that with us, not only to win the scholarship, but to help them have a better understanding as well.

Over the years we have gotten some excellent responses, along with haphazardly thrown together essays that Leslie's son (who is 10) could have written better! As an educator, I have to say, "grammar counts". We encourage all eligible Brothers to apply. As a family we all read the essays. My son, Stephen (22), has also begun to weigh in. He and his siblings, along with my niece and nephew will continue to support the scholarship as time goes on.

For the past 20 years my sister and I have only missed a couple of banquets. It is our pleasure to award the Whaley scholarship, and are pleased to do so each year. Through this scholarship our hopes have become a reality. This award is truly a dedication to my Father and his Son, Mike Whaley, who started this scholarship in recognition of his son, Matthew.

We recognize them both as the true Men of the Year. It is our honor to be thanked in such a wonderful manner by Matt's brothers of Gamma-Rho.

With great appreciation, on behalf of the Whaley Family, Thank you, Dawn (Whaley) Petitpas & Leslie (Whaley) Bailey



Carl Russell '59
"At This Place You
Will Build Friendships
For Life."

Kappa Sigma Fraternity



**Gamma-Rho Chapter
Recognition Memorial**
Dedicated By
The Family of Matthew Whaley '94
And
Carl Russell '59

Beta Phi Lambda Sigma Tau Nu
Pledge Class Fall '93
Initiated Spring '94

Matthew Whaley '94
Ryan Anderson '94
Josh Glaser '94
Eric Hoffman '94
Jeff Klinger '94

Michael Schurier '94
Shawn Scott '94
Rob Slusser '94
Jeff Uhrig '94
Eric Vorrie '94

Pledge Educators: Carter Crow '91 & Brian Poole '92
AEKAB

Not for an hour... a day...
or college term only... but for life.

KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY GAMMA-RHO CHAPTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA | FALL 2018