

METAGENEWS

Official Newsletter of the Metagenes Alumni Association

January 1996



President's Message

A new year has begun, and with it the Metagenes Alumni Association has a new president. In December, Liz Lerch resigned to devote her time to the responsibilities of family and work. Liz is to be thanked by all for the time she gave as president of the alumni association and during the rebuilding of the Metagenes Chapter in the early '90s. I know we will be able to count on her for advice and participation in the future.

For those who do not know me, my name is Jeff Kendrick and I am a member of the Beta Alpha Class, the class that began the colonization process in 1989 and rechartered Metagenes in 1991. I graduated in 1993 with a degree in Architecture and the following year was elected vice president of the Metagenes Alumni Association.

Now that the chapter is again struggling to survive, I hope that my insights and those of my pledge brothers can be a rallying point to support and assist the chapter. During the difficult reorganization that so many of us went through, alumni commitment was something that inspired us to persevere. I will call on those that I know to give the assistance that the alumni association can give the chapter. I ask those who do not know me to show your support for the chapter - call the chapter house or send them a letter to let them know that you are still interested in the life of the chapter.

We all know that supporting the active chapter is not the only purpose of the alumni association. We need to continue the tradition of Founders' Day gatherings at the house in the spring and Homecoming in the fall as well as any other activities that bring Brothers and their families together. Founders' Day will be here before we know it, so information will be sent as soon as plans can be arranged. This event will also be the time to conduct a business meeting and to elect new alumni association officers.

Please contact me if you have an idea for an activity you would like to see the alumni association undertake or if you can help to plan for any traditional events. I look forward to serving as president of the alumni association and to the challenge of jump-starting the active chapter. I hope that everyone participates in any way that they can.

Jeff Kendrick
President

Board of Directors Elections

Much time has elapsed since the last election of officers for the Board of Directors of the Metagenes Alumni Association. At this time, nominations are needed for all alumni association offices (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and three at-large directors). Please consider who you would like to see fill these offices and make a nomination (you may nominate yourself). Nominations should be submitted to **Jeff Kendrick** before **February 20, 1996**. At that time all nominees will be called to confirm their willingness to hold an office. You may also wish to inform your nominee that you have submitted their name.

There is a lot to accomplish this year both in reinforcing the activities of the active chapter and holding alumni association events. The Library Benefit, Founders' Day, and Spring Initiation will soon be here and next fall's Homecoming should be exciting with Tech's Sugar Bowl champion football team. With a strong Board of Directors and a committed membership, we can make the coming year a great one.

The next newsletter (early March) will include a ballot to be returned with your dues for 1996-97. All ballots will be counted at this year's Founders' Day celebration. Only those Brothers paying dues on or before Founders' Day will be eligible to vote.

The Vitruvius Chapter will be hosting this year's National Convention from Thursday, March 28 to Sunday, March 31, 1996 in State College, Pennsylvania. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of other active and alumni Brothers and to participate in the policy discussions that will determine the future of our fraternity. Vitruvius has planned social and professional programs to complement the fraternity's business meeting. Many Metagenes alumni live within a few short hours of the Vitruvius Chapter house and we can show the strength and commitment of Metagenes with a large turnout.

Activities will begin at 7 p.m., on March 28 at the chapter house. Full days are planned for Friday and Saturday. The convention will finish with breakfast at the hotel on Sunday, with guests invited to drop by the chapter house afterward. Accommodations will be at the Atherton Hotel in State College. Room rates for alumni for the weekend will be as follows:

Quad room	\$120 per person
Double room	\$195 per person
Single room	\$350 per person

These rates include the cost of all activities planned during the convention. Preregistration must be received by Saturday, February 11. For a registration form and convention schedule, please contact Metagenes Alumni Association President Jeff Kendrick at 5861 Woodvalley Road, Elkridge, MD 21227 or call 410•796•2075. You may also contact the Vitruvius Chapter at 3205 South Fraser Street, State College, PA 16801 or call 814•234•6995.

49th Alpha Rho Chi National Convention

1996 Library Benefit

Three years ago the Brothers of the Metagenes Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi in cooperation with the Art and Architecture Library in Cowgill Hall, created the Library Benefit. The Inaugural Library Benefit consisted of the raffling of a replica Eileen Gray table and the auctioning of artwork and architectural objects donated by architecture students and faculty.

The proceeds from this enormously successful event enabled the Art and Architecture Library to purchase much needed and otherwise unaffordable equipment. As a result of the popularity of the first Library Benefit, the Metagenes Chapter hoped to make this an annual occurrence.

The chapter was able to hold a second benefit the following year but unfortunately, last year was unable to carry out the Library Benefit. Again this year, financial and membership limitations may force cancellation. The Metagenes Alumni Association, however, can provide the necessary resources to once again sponsor the Library Benefit. Additionally, alumni support will allow the actives to devote the bulk of their time to building membership and retaining the chapter house.

How can we help? First, the chapter must be able to pay for expenses related to the Benefit. *Can you make a financial gift to the chapter?* Second, items for the auction must be secured. *Can you donate a piece of artwork or an architectural object?* Finally, the whole production must be pulled off without a glitch. *Can you come to Blacksburg to participate in the event for the day?*

Maintaining this popular event will prove to be a benefit not only to the Art and Architecture Library, but also to the active chapter as they struggle to remain viable. If you are able to participate in this year's Library Benefit in any way, please fill out the response form below.

1995-96 Board of Directors

President	Jeff Kendrick	5861 Woodvalley Rd., Elkridge, MD 21227	410•796•2075
Secretary	Mark Stein	4827 W. Braddock Rd. #101, Alexandria, VA 22311	703•820•3852
Treasurer	Kenny Seeley	7031 Chestnut Dr., Quinton, VA 23141	804•932•3999
Directors	Terry Burcham	6228 Yellowstone Dr., Alexandria, VA 22312	703•750•9342
	Kim Clark	2716 Mallard Dr., Roanoke, VA 24018	540•989•6759
	Stephen Mallari	1528 Quarry Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 22364	804•467•6032