

Founder's Day 93

All Brothers mark your calendars. Metagenes will hold its annual Founder's day the weekend of April 16. Activities will be held at the house. An old fashioned summertime cookout is planned. All brothers are welcome and encouraged to come. This should be a chance to renew old ties and create new friendships with brothers of recent years. Please call ahead if you plan to attend.



I'll be takin these huggies and whatever beer you got in the fridge!
(Brother Mark Stein as H.I. on Halloween.)

Metagenes Chapter
Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity
105 Lucas Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Metagenews

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE METAGENES CHAPTER OF ALPHA RHO CHI

METAGENES CHAPTER OF APX

105 LUCAS DRIVE.

BLACKSBURG, VA 24060

"E" The Final Frontier

Scribe's log, stardate 10•31•92. Legend has it that unexplained things happen on the 31st of October. The freaks did come out that night. On Halloween '92, there were multiple Elvis sightings at the Metagenes Outpost. He was spotted shaking his pelvis, along side many space-age wierdos as the brothers of Alpha Rho Chi held their "Elvis in Space" party. Those attending were; baby Elvis, velvet Elvis, dead Elvis, Jordie, Kirk and Spock even Yoda and the Jetsons were present. Guests feasted on Elvis Sideburn cookies and "Hunka Hunka Burning Lava Space Punch" Don't ask!



GUESTS AND BROTHERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
Marcus, Jeff Krauss, Dave Nicks, Dave Glen, Carol
Chase, Steve Mallori, Jeff Kendrick.

Community Service

Rural American towns have a rich tradition of a close-knit community spirit and cooperative living. If ever a farmer were to suffer the misfortune of losing a barn, or the town its school, to a fire the entire community would turn out to help rebuild. The town of Blacksburg had no such mishap, instead its residents had a vision to turn their dangerous, run-down playground into a wonderland for children.

To accomplish this the architectural services of Robert Leathers Architects were employed. Robert Leathers has designed several hundred playgrounds across the country. His design for the Blacksburg 'Hand-in-Hand' playground is an elaborate timber structure covering nearly one half acre with all pieces of play equipment interconnected by walkways, tunnels, and bridges. Under normal circumstances the next step would be to hire the services of a contractor and then build the playground. But, the 'Hand-in-Hand' playground was to be an exhibition of community spirit and determination.

Rush Time Blues

On April 11 1992, I was initiated with six other students which has proven to be the largest pledge class of recent years. It looked as if things were looking up for the reincarnated Metagenes chapter. As some of you heard in a previous letter, the semester to follow was not so rich. We had only one pledge, that after much consideration, decided to postpone his pledging period until this semester. Rush included old traditional events and new interesting speakers that brought several listeners, but no pledges, even the turnout among brothers was disappointing.

The dismal turnout put us down but not out. The rest of the semester to follow proved to be a brainstorming session for new activities to attract more students. The prime goal was to extend our family and protect our future. To lose one chapter is a tragedy for the Fraternity as a whole. If any one has any Rush events that prove to be a success, we all could benefit if you shared it in your next newsletter.

• A Note From The Editor •

Alright... Enough of the sad stuff. The previous article is about a semester old now, but I believe that it had to be included for reality's sake. Read on for an update entitled Rush 93.

House Repair and Fraternal Pride

For many fraternities, a "House" is a luxury that can some times be taken for granted. The House is viewed by some as a place to hold meetings once a week. It can be an object that acts as a source of identity for the chapter. Yet others view the chapter house as a place to run to when things are a little hectic and a bit gloomy. However you see it, imagine its absence. When things seem to be down and spirits low, a group project such as house repair can renew a sleeping pride. Brothers working together to preserve the chapter's identity can build a strong emotional bond with the fraternity as a whole.

On Saturday January 16th, the Brothers of Metagenes put on their grungies and banded together to tackle a tough job. Rush was just around the corner and it was necessary to make a big impression as we start the festivities with an openhouse to gain faculty support for what the brothers hope to be a continued success of a struggling chapter. The House at Metagenes has a new life and a new spirit that can even be seen in the bathrooms. New doors and paint, inside and out, new blue toilet seats are a symbol of a "fresh" start, a new beginning.

Rush 1993

Rush 93 began as the paint brushes were laid to rest. One hour to be exact. We held an Open House open to faculty and students in the allied arts. Our prime goal was to gain support of the faculty which has traditionally anti-establishment oriented. That negativity toward fraternities in general has tainted the opinions of many students with regards to our organization. The event was successful, drawing several Architecture professors and a grad-student from Interior Design. Other Rush events included: Fun and Games, Pasta Night and a lecture on Van Eyke by Mr. Bill Galloway, which drew several listeners and a few prospects. In all, the Brothers have decided to issue seven invitations to Closed Rush. Our hopes are high!

Innitation 1993

On April 4 1993, Metagenes welcomed two pledges to become brothers of Alpha Rho Chi. Those added were Dewey Jones fourth Year Architecture, and Jennifer Shutt a third year student of Interior Design.

We were joined by several brothers from Vitruvius, who braved the cold rain and a few police along the way. All in all, the night was a success. Hopefully we can repay the visit soon.

Hand-In-Hand

Continued from page one.

Over the five days from September 29 through October 3, 1992 more than 1000 residents constructed the enormous play ground using tools and materials donated by local residents and businesses. Many Alpha Rho Chi Brothers participated in this contemporary 'barn-building.' Brothers were on hand to help for nearly all of the week's 15 workshifts, witnessing the transformation of an empty plot of land into a child's dreamworld.



Brothers Scott Bartholomew, Jeff Kendrick and Khrysti Christ bring more lumber to the site.

Later in the Fall, the skills gained constructing the playground were put to use for some much needed repairs to the Chapter house. And in the future we look forward to participating with Habitat for Humanity and other similar programs to enhance nearby, struggling Appalachian communities.

Jeff Kendrick
Beta Alpha
1993