Chapter and Alumni Association Highlights

Professional Activities

Presentations

Anthemios holds weekly Sunday presentations such as architectural design, sculpture, civil engineering and graduate student projects. They also host student presentations with displays of projects. Rabirius is setting a series of forums with students, faculty and professionals on topics such as the appropriateness and the role of the computer in design studio. Seshait will jointly sponsor an Architecture Job Fair with the members of AIAS this Spring. Last Fall Vitruvius hosted a wine and cheese gathering where brothers brought a variety of work for everyone to see.

Workshops and Charettes

Rabirius organized APX Designs Weekend, an annual, all-day event that includes team building exercises and a competition that places individuals into randomly assigned teams. This January’s topic is to design a public space and object(s) contained within that space, celebrating the ideals of freedom in the United States and around the world.

Site Visits

In December, Daedalus visited a large aquarium in northern California. The chapter plans to visit firms and notable buildings in Los Angeles this semester. Satyros put a new spin on “site visits” when they camped out at Taliesin West!

Outside Speakers

Anthemios is working to sponsor a lecture in the school’s prestigious lecture series. Ictinos has invited several artists and architects such as Rachel Whiteread, Bruce Mau and D.J. Spooky to speak at the annual keynote lecture in March. In November, Rabirius sponsored a “Can America Survive Suburbia?” lecture by James Howard Kunstler, a nationally renown critic on the American urban environment. This Spring, Rhoecus plans to host the lecture series Portfolio/Presenting Architecture with the help of KU Professors, and Seshait is sponsoring two speakers for a professional development event.

Philanthropy

Vern Swanson was an amazing artist, an alumnus of the Andronicus Chapter at USC, and a faculty advisor of Daedalus that left over 100,000 pieces of work (paintings, sketches, journals) to our grateful chapter upon his death several years ago. We’ve spent the last few months beginning the restoration process for all of this art. Over 10,000 pieces of work have been successfully sealed and stored, and we hope to be ready to display some of them within the next year.

- Kelly Jarrell (Daedalus)

Apolloborus participated in the Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest sponsored by Shands Hospital and Flad and Associates, a Gainesville architecture firm. At the completion of the competition, the pumpkins were taken to the children’s section of the hospital so that the children can celebrate Halloween. Pytheos participated in the Light the Night walk for Leukemia and Lymphoma, raising over $300 and helped with a nonprofit Family Fun Night for the Lincoln community. Rhoecus organized Archtoberfest and donated the proceeds from the concert to Habitat for Humanity. They will also be hosting the Annual KU Derby Day Car Races. Satyros volunteered for the AIDS walk in Phoenix. Seshait assisted FAMU faculty by cleaning and repainting the old information display center used for various postings, holding a faculty luncheon and providing the food and beverages for the school’s homecoming parade participants.

With your personal 55th Convention pull-out section!
Social Activities

Just for Fun

*A.nthemios* participated in pumpkin carving, *Pytheos* went go-cartering and cosmic bowling and *Satyros* participated in an intramural coed soccer tournament. At the PSU HUB in October, *Vitruvius* sponsored *The Beaux-arts Ball*, a non-alcoholic masquerade party where Brothers enjoyed dressing up and laughing at one another as they listened to the music of one of their favorite local bands. “The Fall 2001 pledges made a stellar appearance as they arrived dressed as the five beloved Engineering Units on the Penn State Campus,” Matthew Gillen wrote.

On the Professional Side

*A.nthemios* conducted a “camping” design charette, and on Halloween they served as judges for the freshman costume contest where students were asked to research prominent buildings and design costumes to represent them. *Pytheos* participated in the College of Architecture’s annual Hinsdale Celebration. “Special guest Peter Eisenman gave a few lectures, served as King for the event’s festivities (his t.p. throwing skills are quite commendable), and drew us a sketch,” reported Lenora Nelson.

Brotherhood

In an afternoon retreat, *Pytheos* conducted brotherhood and bonding exercises while getting some major decision making accomplished, and before winter break, they held their annual Holiday Progressive Dinner to celebrate the semester’s completion. *Rabirius* carried out their second annual chapter retreat at Red River Gorge in Kentucky last Veteran’s Day weekend, focusing on their annual plan and on enhancing brotherhood within the chapter. For *Seshait’s Bonds of Brotherhood* retreat, the chapter rented a beachfront home on St. George Island for a weekend. *Vitruvius* held a brotherhood bonding retreat at the cabin of Alumni Brother Shawn Good, where they brainstormed ideas and enjoyed the chance to talk about “our concerns and ideas as we played card games and burnt our dinner over the fire,” noted Matthew Gillen.

FUNdraising

*A.nthemios* is auctioning off memorial bricks which will be part of the sign in the front yard. *Pytheos* will be raffling off a picture drawn by Peter Eisenman at their school’s Hinsdale Celebration. *Rhoeus* has raised $87 working the concession stands at the KU women’s basketball games. *Vitruvius* has worked at the PSU football game concessions and held an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner at St. Andrews Church in mid-October.

Student Outreach

Rush Activities

For their Fall rush, *Pytheos* played putt-putt golf, went on a building tour and held a pizza social with college Dean Wayne Drummond. *Rhoeus’s* rush activities include volleyball, a bar-b-q and “Clue-to-Clue.” *Seshait* has started *Wednesday Night at the Movies*, an event intended to introduce freshmen to Alpha Rho Chi.

Growing Numbers

After initiating four new members at the beginning of Fall, *A.nthemios* recruited seven pledges for the semester. *Apolloedorus* initiated seven members. *Daedalus* pinned twelve pledges, *Iktinos* eight and *Pytheos* two. *Rabirius’s* nine Beta-class members hold the honor of being the first class initiated in their new house. Also for the Fall semester, *Rhoeus* and *Satyros* each had three pledges, and *Vitruvius* had five.

Pledge Activities

*A.nthemios* pledges participate in pledge education nights, a lock-in, a pledge party, live-in week, father/son events and a paddle exchange. *Iktinos* pledge events for Fall included an Italian Dinner night and a “guerilla art” installation in the school. *Rhoeus’s* pledges built a Christmas tree from rebar, welded steel and stainless steel. They donated it to the Festival of Trees in Lawrence, where it was auctioned for $950 with the money going to the United Way. The *Vitruvius* Spring 2001 pledges completed their pledge project at the beginning of Fall by finishing the landscaping, adding outdoor lighting and installing a wooden and metal Coat-of-Arms in front of their house.

Please join the Grand Council in saying thanks to GideonToal (Xenocles alumnus, Randall Gideon, President/CEO) for their corporate financial support of the 54th National Convention. GideonToal Architects continues to garner awards for their work, the latest including Merit Awards from the Fort Worth Chapter AIA for four recently completed projects. GideonToal has begun offering Construction Management in addition to their repertoire of architectural services, and they have also successfully branched out into property management. Always busy, Brother Gideon is currently listed as a member of the Board of Directors for no less than eight civic organizations. GideonToal continues to be a strong, well-respected force in the Dallas/Fort Worth design community.

Questions or comments about this issue of the APX Letter should be sent to Amber Ford, APX Letter Associate Editor, or to Vicki Horton, APX Worthy Grand Scribe.

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Alumni Associations

The Anthemos Alumni sponsored the school’s annual homecoming events, and in December met at the United Center in Chicago to watch Illinois record a 94-91 win over Arkansas. Iktinos Alumni held a November breakfast alumni meeting in Ann Arbor to learn of the current chapter activities. Metagenes Alumni from the ’70s, ’80s and ’90s attended a picnic in June. “We just hung out and jumped on the trampoline, talked, shared stories. At 11 pm that night, Jane and Julie taught us how to Two-Step to Limp Bizkit,” recalled Michele LeTourneur. Vitruvius Alumni are planning a combination Brunch/Annual Alumni Association Meeting to correspond with the Annual White Rose Semi-Formal and Alumni Weekend in April.

Combining efforts, the Apollodorus Chapter and Apollodorus Alumni are planning a summer retreat where they hope to engage in a house search for fall. The Iktinos Chapter and Iktinos Alumni held a Founders’ Day meeting at the newly constructed home of Steve Janick, giving the students the opportunity to see a house under various stages of construction. With the Satyros Alumni, the Satyros Chapter held dinners and meetings throughout last semester and participated in a tailgate party during homecoming. The Vitruvius Alumni organized a bar-b-q where they cooked a special meal for the actives, and with the Vitruvius Chapter, they are planning a weekend of joint activities around their White Rose Formal.

Personal Highlights

The Apollodorus Chapter won the award for Best Traditional Pumpkin in the 2001 pumpkin carving competition at Shands Hospital. The Rabrius Chapter is celebrating the first anniversary of the initiation of the second half of their Charter Class this January, and Charles Nickel, APX Foundation President, was among the attendees at their November 4th formal dinner celebration of its first year since founding. The Satyros Chapter won 3rd place in an intramural coed soccer tournament. The Seshait Chapter will have an official office in their new school building after a year of being displaced due to construction. The Vitruvius Chapter was awarded by the IFC for maintaining the highest chapter GPA among all Greek letter fraternities at Pennsylvania State University for the Spring 2001 semester.

Rich Stump (Anthemos ’94) is currently working in Israel. His thoughts and observations about living in such a different cultural atmosphere can be found on the Anthemos Alumni Association website. Sam Austin (Xenocles Faculty Alumnus) is Senior Project Manager for C.M. Architecture, P.A. (CMA), in Fort Worth. Sam has recently developed an “in-house” continuing education program for his firm to provide valuable seminars for both their licensed professionals and staff in the Intern Development Program. He has developed seminars including An Introduction to Specifications, The Fine Art of Detailing and Energy Responsive Design. The seminars are presented during lunch and provide important AIA/CES credit for the architects and interns. CMA is a full-service architectural firm, which also operates offices in Minneapolis, Chicago and Austin. Their projects include commercial, institutional, government, high-tech manufacturing, retail and restaurant design.

Lucas London and Lidia Bustamante (Apollodorus), and Michael McGowan (Apollodorus ’00) spent the Fall semester at the University of Florida’s Vicenza Institute of Architecture, a satellite program of the College of Design, Construction and Planning. Tzveta Panayotova (Apollodorus) received an Honor for the Lamp ’01 competition in Environmental Technology II. Kristen Dean and Jaron Lubin (Iktinos) participated in the Archinect.com Communication Booth design competition in November and are waiting to hear the results. Michael Leaveck, Eric Ratkowski and Jaron Lubin (Iktinos) obtained a commission for the Iktinos Chapter to design and build an installation for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium in January. Erin Fitzpatrick (Pytheos) holds an RA position with the University’s Architectural Office. Nicole Schiermeyer (Pytheos) received a grant for UCare research. Lenora Nelson (Pytheos) holds a TA position with the College’s Architecture History classes. Scott Beckman (Pytheos) recently married. Megan Jarosz, Jason Schmitz, Dave Ciavarella and Jessica Fitzgarrald (Pytheos) have been accepted into the College’s Semester Abroad Programs in London and France. Judd Carstens, Matthew Gillen, John Jackson and Brandon Harwick (Vitruvius) each earned a GPA of 3.9 or higher during Spring 2001.

Noah Spencer, future APX alumni member of 2023, was born March 31, 2001, to Anthemos Alumni Association President Brian Spencer and Vice President Adair Spencer.

Tim Tourville, WGE Emeritus, will finally tie the knot on March 23, 2002, at St. Mary’s Church, Woburn Abbey. His British bride-to-be is Sarah Meli. The Grand Council wishes Tim and his bride best wishes - and we just wanted to say, we miss you, Tim! We would promise not to crash the reception, but you know we can’t make that promise. ;-)
For the latest Alpha Rho Chi information, visit our web site at www.alpharhochi.org and these sites devoted exclusively to individual Chapters and Alumni Associations.

Andronicus
www-scif.usc.edu/~apx/

Anthemios
www.arch.uiuc.edu/organizations/apx/

Anthemios Alumni Association
http://www.geocities.com/b_spencer/apx/index.html

Apollodorus
grove.ufl.edu/~apx/index.html

Daedalus
www.alpharhochi.com/

Iktinos
www.umich.edu/~iktinos

Metagenes
www.arch.vt.edu/CAUS/ORG/APX.html

Pytheos
www.unl.edu/apx

Rabirius
www.apxuc.com/

Seshait (recently remodeled site)
seshait.org

Vitruvius (recently remodeled site)
www.greeks.psu.edu/fraternities/apx

If you wish to contribute to the Ronald L. Grogan Memorial Scholarship Fund, please email Randall C. Gideon at rgideon@gideontoal.com or Vicki Horton at vjhapx@mindspring.com.

The APX Foundation announces the 2002 John R. Ross Scholarship Program

Scholarships may be awarded to those individuals who have demonstrated above average academic performance while providing leadership and service to Alpha Rho Chi.

Requests for consideration should include: name, chapter, initiation date, anticipated graduation date, current (end of Fall 2001 term) cumulative GPA, any APX offices and/or committee leadership positions held (with dates) and other pertinent extracurricular activities.

Address interest and applications to Ted A. Ertl, APX Foundation Vice President, at tertl@unlnotes.unl.edu or P.O. Box 84296, Lincoln, NE 68501-4296. Applications are due by February 28, 2002.