

KAPPA ALPHA THETA

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INSTALLATION OF ALPHA TAU

BY HELEN PARKER FINCH, *Omega and Cincinnati Alumnae*

From the victorious telegram on November 1, which made Alpha Tau a certainty, to the arrival of the first Grand officer for the installation on December 10, was a period of happy anticipation for V. C. P. and the Thetas of Cincinnati. Many days had been spent in preparation and planning and when December 11 finally arrived we could hardly realize that the great event was at hand.

On this day thirty-four active and alumnae members of V. C. P. met at the home of Mary Louise Rutter and were formally pledged to Kappa Alpha Theta. Pearle Green, our Grand secretary, led the service assisted by the resident Thetas. Then came the jolly-up and buffet supper—and as a fitting climax, the arrival of two more Grand officers, Mrs. Huffman and Miss Davis.

Friday morning was taken up in preparation for the initiation and the arrival of Thetas from far and near. There were official delegates from all chapters in District III and visiting Thetas from Gamma and Alpha Eta. In the late afternoon twenty-two alumnae members of V. C. P. were initiated and they in turn saw twelve of their younger sisters, the active college chapter, through the same beautiful ceremony in the evening. It was a happy day for us all, particularly for Alpha Tau and the resident Thetas who had long hoped for such a culmination to their efforts.

On Saturday we gathered at the Hotel Alms for the formal installation. Hope Davis, our Grand vice-president, presented the charter to the new initiates and Kappa Alpha Theta added the thirty-fourth chapter to her roll. Then came the luncheon, a happy ending to three eventful days. Sixty-three Thetas, representing sixteen chapters, gathered round the rose-trimmed tables. As toast-mistress, Ruth Hyndman, Delta, called upon Jessamine DeHaven, District president, for the welcome to the new chapter. Alice Donnelly responded for the alumnae and Katherine Brent Dabney



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for the active girls. Mrs. Shaw, one of our Founders, told the interesting story of "Theta Beginnings" and expressed her surprise and delight at the evidences of the growth and wonderful development of our fraternity since the days of 1870. Hope Davis spoke on "Theta Symbols" and Harriet C. Burris on "Theta and Alma Mater". Eva R. Hall, our National Panhellenic delegate, gave us many valuable points on our relations with others in the Greek world. Pearle Green made a beautiful toast to our "Theta Chain" and Martha Cline Huffman to "Our Fraternity." The list was completed with the Loving-Cup Apostrophe and these are the Thetas who drank to the health of the new chapter; Mrs. Hannah Fitch Shaw, Pearle Green, Eva R. Hall, Martha Cline Huffman, Hope Davis, Jessamine De Haven and from Alpha, Harriet C. Burris; Delta, Ruth Hyndman; Epsilon, Mrs. Mabel Saybolt McMillin, Mrs. Minerva Criley Blackford and Mrs. Cecelia Remy Calhoun; Eta, Isabel Rizer and Helen Baker; Kappa, Mrs. Julia Benedict Howe; Mu, Margaret Simpson and Gertrude Hammond; Nu, Virginia Southgate; Omega, Helen Parker Finch; Alpha Gamma, Rive-King Bowman, Ruth Sigrist, Helen Barnhill, Helen Guy and Florence Minister; Alpha Eta, Frances Slemmons; Gamma, Helen Rogers Hand, Bernice Hall, Majorie Hall, Bonnie Applegate, Betty Stevenson, Katherine Jameson, Jeanne Lee Stewart, Cornelia Thornton and Edith M. Evans.

From four to six in the drawing rooms of the same hotel, Alpha Tau held a reception to its college and city friends in honor of the Grand council members and the visiting Thetas. They entertained delightfully and we were proud to hear the many sincere compliments paid our new sisters by those who knew them best. When the last guests had departed we gathered for a short fraternity meeting, then came the farewells, and Sunday morning found most of our visitors en route to their homes. Behind them were left two new chapters, active and alumnæ, which I'm sure will prove strong and worthy in representing Kappa Alpha Theta in the city of Cincinnati.

The charter members of Alpha Taus are: Amy Schoff, Alice Donnelly, Amy Foote, Sylvia Ewan, Louise Thompson, Julia Merrill, Florence Benedict, Geneva Redd, Mabel Spellmire, Hazle

Cairns, Marguerite Resor, Florence Farbach Shine, Mary Perkins, Harriet Reid, Cornelia Atkins, Lucie Pflieger, Marjory Connor, Martha Rule Deuprée, Lulu Shinkle, Christine Porter, Jeanette Stone, Mary Louise Rutter, Dorothy Cummings, Ruth Murdock, Roberta Whallon, Madolin Serodino, Mary Cellarius, Marie Thiesing, Saradelle Emerson, Katherine Dabney, Iphigene Moloney, Nina Porter, Margaret Rucker and Katherine Page.

FOUNDERS'-DAY

San Francisco.

The alumnæ chapter invited all members of the fraternity living within a radius of thirty miles of San Francisco to join the chapter in celebrating Founders'-day at a luncheon at the Bellevue hotel, San Francisco, on Saturday, January 24. Eighty-four Thetas fore-gathered at this celebration; six active members of Phi, seventeen active members of Omega, and sixty-two alumnæ, representing almost every college chapter. It was a beautiful and charming affair, culminating with the following toast list presided over by Miss Henrietta Stadtmüller. "North", Mrs. Matthew H. Thomlinson; "South", Miss Mabel Symmons; "East", Mrs. Carleton H. Parker; "West", Miss Claire Soule; "Zenith", Mrs. A. E. Chandler; "Nadir", Miss Kathryn Lee Culver; "Here", Miss Pauline Pierson.

Detroit.

February 7 the Detroit alumnæ chapter celebrated Founders'-day with what it intends to establish as its annual reunion luncheon. Forty Thetas were in attendance, including thirteen active members of Eta who came up from Ann Arbor for the occasion. There was an attractive programme of toasts and music, following the delicious luncheon at the College club.

Baltimore.

Alpha Delta and Baltimore alumnæ chapters celebrated Kappa Alpha Theta's forty-fourth birthday together this year by having a luncheon on Saturday, January 31, at the College club. It was a most enjoyable affair under the general charge of Nell Miller

(Mrs. Sidney). The tables were arranged in the form of a T and were tastefully decorated with greens, yellow candle light and hand painted place-cards made things look most attractive. There were thirty-six present and after a delicious menu had been served we toasted our Founders and our Fraternity to our hearts' content.

Indiana.

The state representatives of Kappa Alpha Theta met January 24, at the Severn hotel, to celebrate our Founders'-day with a brilliant banquet.

One hundred and eighty Thetas were seated at the tables in the Grill Room, which was beautifully decorated with pink candelabra, vases of sweet peas and ferns and smilax. From the balcony above, the sweet strains of harp music floated down to mingle pleasantly with the conversation of happy Thetas.

After an excellent menu, Louise Tutweiler Smith (Mrs. Foster V.) President of the Indianapolis alumnae chapter, took charge of the programme, and introduced Mrs. Crockett (Bird Goslee) of Lafayette. Mrs. Crockett urged the girls to a greater interest in Purdue, saying that the vocational movement was changing conditions there, and gave the Theta aspirants at Purdue a most cordial endorsement.

Hope Davis, our Grand vice-president, spoke next. She gave a short talk on fraternity work, and made a strong appeal for a Pan-hellenic society in Indianapolis, so that all Greek-letter societies can meet together to discuss the new problems constantly arising in the colleges.

After this, instead of having the usual toasts, we listened to short addresses by Doctor Howe, President of Butler college, and Dr. Wm. Bryan, President of Indiana university.

Justification of the existence of college fraternities was the subject of Doctor Howe's address, and while he spoke of the joy coming from such organizations, and the good they may do, he expressed himself as strongly opposed to the snobbery that frequently develops, and also urged less secrecy. He advocated abolishing the custom of wearing fraternity pins on the college campus, and made a strong plea against the pledging of high school students.

President Bryan addressed us next on *With the spirit and with the understanding*. He spoke of the need of women in the serious work of the world, and warned against the useless waste of time by the women with too much leisure, urging women to do those things which are really worth while. The time devoted to clubs which have no real purpose could be much better spent in real work, in which will be found great joy.

President Grose of DePauw was to have spoken also, but was unable to be present.

Mrs. Betty Locke-Hamilton, and Mrs. Hannah Fitch Shaw, the two Founders of Kappa Alpha Theta who are still living, though unable to be present at the banquet, sent us loving messages.

Altogether the banquet was a splendid success, thoroughly enjoyed by all. We hope the memory of it will linger so pleasantly in the hearts of all those present that they will allow nothing to prevent their presence with us again next year.

EDITH FULTON PAIGE (MRS. ARTHUR J.)

A MESSAGE

BY HANNAH FITCH SHAW, *Founder*

There lies before me a goodly pile of letters and telegrams from North, South, East and West all bearing cheery messages of congratulation on our forty-fourth birthday. Each one carries its own personality and reveals to me two things; appreciation of what was done long ago, and—best of all—the ever widening influence for good that is being exerted by Kappa Alpha Theta.

It is a great satisfaction to know that the same high ideals that meant so much to us in the beginning have been sacredly cherished and have proved so helpful in building a great fraternity.

I have always been glad that I was included in the formation of the first chapter. The incentive that such an organization gave meant all the more to me because I was so far from home.

It is interesting to recall our eager anticipation while waiting for the first badges to be made. During that time Mary Stevenson was initiated. It seemed a long time before they came and when they

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were worn that first morning what a feeling of responsibility we had for the success of so daring a venture!

There was much curiosity as to where they came from, plenty of congratulations, and questions without number. On no account were we to give anyone any information on the subject.

That girls could have a secret fraternity was thought impossible and absurd. Our handsome badge was dubbed a "kite" and the opposition to coeducation furnished a favoring gale for our well made kite, a line of study held it aloft and after awhile as the line grew longer the kite rose higher and appeared smaller.

We were called Thetas always. The Greek-letter Theta is some times known as unlucky because it begins thanatos and was used to pass sentence on prisoners.

Theta's mission seems to have been to pass sentence on some of the common prejudices against coeducation, for at that time it was considered at best a doubtful experiment.

First was the claim that the course was too heavy for young women and the danger would be to health; next that there was great danger of lowering the standard; and worst of all, that if neither of these calamities occurred the young women would acquire a distaste for home life.

All these questions have been settled years ago, for health did not suffer, the standard was not lowered, honors were received, and thousands of college-bred women have found their widest influence in the home.

That we are proud of the record made by our fraternity is shown by our willingness to have our daughters become members for we want only the best for them, and is further shown by the alumnæ chapters that keep in touch with the work of the whole.

I had the rare privilege last summer of visiting a large number of western Thetas and the enjoyment was more than doubled because my daughter Ella was with me. On the way from Chicago to Spokane Miss Ruth Kelly of Mu was a delightful companion. At Portland two Thetas called on us and to them we feel indebted for our lovely day at Berkeley, beginning with an auto ride around the city and through the college grounds where we stopped to visit the library and see the wonderful Greek Theater. Then we were

taken through the chapter house, all admiration for the genius of our Theta architect, Julia Morgan, for such a complete, convenient, and artistic home. Then at the home of Miss Wilson were gathered more than three times as many members as Mrs. Chandler and Miss Haven thought could be present when they called on us in San Francisco, for so many were away from home.

Among the number present was one of our early members, Mrs. Clara Jenkins Kummer, whom I had known before the fraternity was founded.

At that meeting we learned of the prospect of a chapter at the University of Cincinnati. It seemed strange to hear of happenings so near home when we were so far away. It was good news to us, for it is pleasant to live in or near a Theta neighborhood.

At Los Angeles we spent a happy day with Mrs. Alice Allen Hawk and daughter Gertrude. Her sister Jennie Allen Bovard and her two daughters and her beautiful grandson made a most enjoyable circle. Forty years had passed since I had seen Mrs. Bovard, and Mrs. Hawk I had met but once since June, '73.

At Denver we were glad to be with Mrs. Mary Stevenson Buchtel and her daughters Emma and Mary. We saw the fine large college buildings and met several Theta alumnæ too.

In talking over Theta interests with my classmates I found the same enthusiasm as we had in the old days long ago, the same eagerness to know what was best to do in difficult situations that so often occur.

When the time came for the installation of the chapter at Cincinnati my daughter was busy with examinations at Indiana university. So I had to go alone, and my desire to see it all gave the installing officers an opportunity to show how very kind, attentive, and thoughtful they could be.

There was great interest shown in the installation by visiting members from other chapters, fourteen being represented.

As Miss Hall expressed so well, I may say the V. C. P's were very charming people and we are very proud to have such an addition to our number as the active and alumnæ chapters at Cincinnati university.

May Alpha Tau find a field of usefulness and ever grow and prosper.