

# Kappa Alpha Theta

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Number 4

## Theta's Newest Acquisition



INSTALLATION GROUP: NEW CHAPTER IN THE SECOND ROW WITH THE NATIONAL AND DISTRICT OFFICERS

THE almost unprecedented lapse of four years since an addition has been made to the college chapter roll means that the installation of Gamma Delta chapter at the University of Georgia is an event of particular interest to Kappa Alpha Theta. The 1935 convention approved a recommendation that Theta colonize on this campus, and it is with pride and pleasure that we present to you the completion of that task.

The week-end of March 5-7 found three members of Grand Council, the District president and a goodly turnout from the chapters in District XI in Athens for the combined installation and District convention.

Friday night two resident alumnae, Lucy Yancy Erwin, Alpha Delta, and Dorothy Schiebel Thurman, Psi, entertained the officers and potential Gamma Deltas at a delicious southern buffet supper at the Erwin

home. It seems not to matter how many official duties you give Athens alumnae, they have a delightful faculty of making them seem as nothing by doing some charming extra.

Saturday morning found the colony meeting in their rooms for the Loyalty service and the election of officers. Theta visitors were meanwhile pressed into service at the Georgian hotel, so that all might be in readiness for initiation.

Saturday afternoon the twelve charter members were initiated at a most impressive ceremony. In addition, there are five pledges who for various reasons were unable to be initiated at this time.

Following a brief intermission for sartorial adjustment, everyone assembled for the presentation of the chapter charter by the Grand president. It was received by Janet McGarity,

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newly elected president of the chapter, and then the entire company, looking very beautiful, proceeded to the banquet hall for the crowning event of the day. Mrs. Moore, Grand alumnae secretary, acted as toast-mistress. Those of you who were lucky enough to hear her in that capacity at the Asheville convention, will appreciate what this meant.

Sunday could hardly be described as a day of rest. More or less promptly at nine-thirty the officers and selected delegates staged a model chapter meeting for the benefit of the new and perhaps even a few old chapters. This was immediately followed by District convention of which you will find details elsewhere.

Sunday afternoon the new chapter gave a most successful tea for university and townspeople. Through the kindness of Mr and Mrs Hodgson, in whose house the colony has its rooms, we were able to use their home for the occasion, which contributed greatly to the pleasure of both hostesses and guests.

Having presented Gamma Delta to Athens and the university we now present it to you in the confident hope that you will re-echo the approval with which it has been greeted by them.

## Welcome!!

WHEN Gamma Gamma first heard about the new chapter at Athens, it heaved a sigh of joy that after four years in the crib it was going to grow up to at least the romper stage. But by the time the two representatives of Gamma Gamma had seen the charter members of Gamma Delta initiated, installed, and fêted, we very much regretted our first sign of joy. We began to realize that after all it was pretty nice being the baby chapter—everybody is more than willing to help with any difficulties which might arise, and along with Alpha and a few of the other chapters at the head of the list it is always remembered, while those chapters in the middle are sometimes forgotten.



GRAND PRESIDENT GRASETTI PRESENTS GAMMA DELTA CHARTER TO CHAPTER PRESIDENT MCGARITY

We realized that no longer would we be cuddled and forgiven when we made some national error, but the time was coming when we would be expected to act like a real grown-up chapter.

The event that impressed us the most was the lovely tea Gamma Delta gave in its house. Of course, like everybody else, we love initiations, and the installation was a history-making event in which we were proud to take part, but the tea was where we really got a chance to see and know Gamma Delta. They were so gracious and hospitable that we are sure that every person there gained a bit of inspiration to take back to her own chapter.

Gamma Gamma wishes Gamma Delta all the luck in the world, and sincerely hopes that it will have as much happiness and pleasure as we have had as the baby chapter.

PRISCILLA SMITH, *Gamma Gamma*

## Impressions from Athens

By "KATH," legendary initiate of Alpha Eta, a Theta alumna that never was

FRIDAY I hopped in Sara King's suitcase, for I knew that Thetas from Alpha Eta were on their way to Athens, Georgia, for the installation of Gamma Delta chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta. Try as it might, Alpha Eta cannot leave me behind. A car packed with enthusiasm, Theta songs, and suitcases carried us to Athens.

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We found that a dance, something about "leadouts," was in full swing. My Alpha Eta Thetas were all wild to go, but do you think that they had dates? Why, no—but I did, the cutest Theta man you ever saw. At the dance I caught my first glimpses of the Gamma Delta ready-to-be Thetas. They had almost as big a rush as I had. Heigh ho, bull sessions kept me up until four o'clock.

Saturday morning we met the girls from other chapters. Alpha Eta was impressed, but I already knew how cute they were. I haven't been a Theta for years for nothing.

Initiation and installation enlarged our sisterhood. We saw nothing but excellent prospects for our "baby" chapter. (I like this idea of spreading the fame of Theta.)

We had fun at the banquet. I thought it was so nice that all of the Grand officers wished to credit each other with honors. Mrs. Moore could hardly wait to introduce Mrs. Sinclair to us. And speaking of introductions,

I have never been so hurt in my life. . . . Mrs. Moore introduced my cousin, Beulah, and forgot all about me until my Alpha Eta girls reminded her of my presence.

After the banquet, Alpha Eta and Beta Rho "swang," "shagged," and "trucked" in the third floor corridor of the Georgian. Needless to say, I disapproved heartily of such carryings on. They regained my approval by screaming the inevitable Theta password, "Keely." And so to bed.

Sunday morning, Gamma Delta had a model meeting. It was revealing to most of my girls, but they took it in good spirit. And don't think for a minute that I didn't learn at that District convention. To think that I had been a Theta all of these years and still had so much to learn!

And so back into the suitcase. . . . what with three hundred odd miles facing us back to Nashville. Ho hum!

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THETA OFFICERS AND GAMMA DELTA SPONSORS  
Mesdames Sinclair, Moore, Grasett, Erwin, Quillian, Stogeman

## The University of Georgia

THE University of Georgia was the first state university to receive a charter, and thus it might be said that the oldest mother now has the youngest Theta baby—Gamma Delta chapter. A hundred-and-fifty-two-year-old mother of a new infant deserves more than passing mention.

Just five months after the signing of the treaty of peace which recognized the independence of the American colonies, a measure was passed (February 25, 1784) by the legislature of the brand-new state of Georgia providing for the establishment of a state-supported university. Forty thousand acres of land were set aside as endowment, and a board of trustees appointed. The next year the legislature passed a supplemental act, which was the charter of the university, and elected a president.

A southern historian comments that the idea of a state-supported institution of higher learning seems thus to have been born in Georgia—a strange fact considering how new and revolutionary the idea was, and that Georgia was a pioneer state, and all the stranger because Georgia was very sparsely settled, having a population of only eighty-two thousand. It had almost no taxable values, four-fifths of its area was still in the hands of Indians, there was almost no demand for college education, and there were almost no schools capable of preparing students for college. Furthermore, the state had just emerged from the devastating Revolutionary War.

The explanation was the presence in Georgia at that time of two New Englanders with a passion for learning—Lyman Hall and Abraham Baldwin. Both were born in Connecticut (Hall in 1724, and Baldwin in 1754) and were graduates of Yale. It was through Hall's influence as Governor of Georgia that the Georgia legislature established a state university, of which Baldwin was to become the first president. Both were on its first board of trustees. However, they served in

name only, for fifteen years passed before even a site for the university was selected. In the summer of 1801, a committee of five of the *Senatus academicus*, headed by Abraham Baldwin, chose a site in the northeast Georgia Piedmont region, in the midst of a primeval forest, on the edge of the Indian country. It was carefully chosen far from the pernicious influences of a town—Augusta, the nearest town, being a hundred miles away. The site was a hill overlooking the Oconee river, and the anticipated town was classically named Athens.

Six hundred and thirty-three acres were bought by a public-spirited Georgian, John Milledge, later to become Governor, and presented to the university.

Another native of Connecticut and former student of Baldwin's, Josiah Meigs, succeeded Baldwin as president, in the fall of 1801. As soon as he arrived, contracts were let for a residence for himself, and for the first college building, completed in 1806, called Franklin college, after Benjamin Franklin who had at one time been an agent in London for the colony of Georgia. Meigs had brought with him the blue-prints of Connecticut hall at Yale, and from these plans Franklin college was built. This building, now called Old college, still stands, and is used as a dormitory for fifty men. The story goes that the small cubicle adjoining each bedroom was for the little black slave each boy brought to college with him as valet. (That is *one* idea that could hardly have been borrowed from Yale!)

The founders of the university evidently had in mind a group of separate colleges as at Oxford, and thus named Franklin college as the first of the group. No further colleges were created for many years; so for a long time Franklin college and the University of Georgia were synonymous. Franklin college today means the college of arts and sciences and certain affiliated schools.

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## The Birth of Gamma Delta

BORN September 23, 1936, was Gamma Delta colony of Kappa Alpha Theta at the University of Georgia. It gave forth its first cries when its first three sisters were pledged Sunday, the last day of silent week. It is a baby who from the first was destined for a full adventurous life. On the second day of its existence it was plunged into a tea—its formal acknowledgment of the opening of Georgia's rush week. With two extremely attractive national officers, four wonderful alumnae, an official colonizer from Alpha Phi chapter, a transfer who "gets around" from Beta Nu, a transfer from Alpha Phi whose "wit" is a woe, and three new pledges Baby Gamma Delta entertained over one hundred guests.

For eight days Theta showed its social inclinations in sea parties, gambling inns, treasure hunts, teas and finally a formal banquet. At the end of this week, it pledged six of the finest girls on campus, thus making its first footsteps on the sands of Georgia time.

Gamma Delta colony kept open house every Sunday of fall quarter. During this time, it quietly rushed a few girls at a time, until near the end of the fall quarter it pledged six more girls to Kappa Alpha Theta.

In the Sigma Chi derby the baby showed its promise when it won the egg and spoon race (for which it got four cases of Athens' famous Three Centas on which the colony entertained for weeks) produced the second tallest pledge, the third smallest, but not, thank goodness, the fattest.

The baby's first words were spoken when it issued invitations for a tea dance in its rooms. All the sisters and brothers on campus rushed to the spot, and the baby was at its laughing loveliest that fall afternoon. The house looked beautiful. It is a wonderfully old and mellow home of tradition and dignity. Proudly displayed were the gifts of crystal, silver, china, and linen heaped on the infant by doting relatives.

This early college, in spite of its small size and inadequate support, wielded a steadily increasing influence over the state. It survived all financial and political troubles, and even the Civil War, and turned out graduates that were famous in literature, politics, and as military leaders—such men as Sidney Lanier, Henry Grady, Alexander Stephens, and Robert Toombs.

In the early days of the college there were occasional skirmishes between Indians and students, the students chasing the Indians and throwing stones at them, either as a prank, or because the Indians had become troublesome. Apparently, there never were any serious reprisals.

Amusing stories are told of how President Josiah Meigs kept tab on his students. He often stood in his office window looking over the country-side through a pair of field-glasses, to see if any of his students were making off for the tiny village of Watkinsville, a few miles away. If they were, he took after them in person, his long legs flying and his coat tails flapping, and brought them back from the dangerous allurements of the city.

The first step toward making Franklin college a university was in 1867, when Lumpkin law school, originated eight years earlier, became a part of the university. Next the college of agriculture and mechanical arts was founded, 1872, under the Morrill act. In the early twentieth century other colleges followed in quick succession. The present university includes, besides the law school and the college of agriculture, the school of pharmacy, the college of education, the graduate school, the school of commerce, the school of journalism, the division of extension, and the school of forestry. Its school of medicine is in Augusta.

The university, although always theoretically co-educational, did not become so in fact until after the World War. Today, nine hundred of the three thousand students are women. There are ten national women's fraternities, now that Theta has arrived, and eighteen men's fraternities.

DOROTHEA WASHBURNE STEGEMAN, *Phi*

May, 19



HOUSE IN WHICH ARE GAMMA DELTA ROOMS  
GAMMA DELTA IN INFORMAL MEETING  
GAMMA DELTA READY TO RECEIVE GUESTS AT ITS INSTALLATION RECEPTION

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Winter began—the baby was strengthened by the news that it had made the third highest average on the Georgia campus, the highest ever made by a colony here.

All winter little Gamma Delta grew and grew, in campus opinion as well as in the chapter, and added two more pledges to its roll. It went through to the semi-finals in basketball and ranked fourth in the swimming meet. Among its members are the treasurer of the Y.W.C.A. (Audrey Evans) the editor of the Junior campus publication, *Clips* (Alma Quillian) and the vice-president of the sophomore class (Louise Hodgson).

The most beautiful and inspirational affair of the quarter for Gamma Delta was Founders'-day banquet. The baby felt that it had lived a complete life even then. During the banquet, awards were given for scholarship to Frances Brandon, for activities to Alma Quillian, and for the best all-round pledge to Louise Hodgson.

The baby stumbled toward its goal at first. Then it made tiny, tottering footsteps by itself, knowing that capable loving hands were ready to guide it any minute necessary. Slowly at first it walked into Georgia campus life; then it talked; now it is known.

Since its official christening, since the beauties and inspirations of initiation have been revealed to it, the baby feels that it will grow forever and walk serenely through life.

CHARLOTTE CONNER, *Gamma Delta*

## Gamma Delta Personnel

CHARTER members: Marisue Oliver, Charlotte Conner, Louise Hodgson, Billie Blackwell, Frances Brandon, Joanna Stegeman, Alma Quillian, Janet McGarity, Marion Ehrhardt, Alice Ruth Miller, Virginia Barfield, Audrey Evans.

Coorganizer, Katherine Colvin, Alpha Phi; active assistants, Annie Laurie Rentz, Beta Nu, and Eileen Walsh, Alpha Phi.

Pledges: Margaret Harrington, Elizabeth Lumpkin, Anna Waddey, Eugenie LeHardy, Margaret Macpherson.

## Highlights of Installation

THE buffet supper at Lucy Yancy Erwin's, the house decorated with most exquisite flowers by Lucy's friends. The first opportunity for Mrs Sinclair and Mrs Moore to inspect their infant prodigy, meet the more recent additions and display the whole proudly to Mrs Grasett, who admitted that until that evening she had suspected them of exaggerating.

The Council members entertaining (?) the group with some of those classics for which they are famous, including *Three blind mice*, after which the freshmen departed for the freshman formal where most of them were to figure in some mysterious honor know as a "leadout."

"Charlie" of the hotel staff, without whose gallant aid on a twelve foot stepladder we should never have been ready for initiation.

The thrill of a mother from Phi chapter seeing her daughter initiated as a charter member of Gamma Delta. The District president boasted a cousin in the group, too.

The reunion of a number who had been at Glacier Park last summer.

The banquet decorations designed by Dorothy Combs Hardisty, Beta Nu, lovely black Viking ships with  $\Gamma \Delta$  painted in gold on the prow—some filled with yellow daffodils, others with golden  $K A \odot$  sails to aid them on their way. Place cards in the form of little gold passports entitling you to share in the maiden voyage of  $\Gamma \Delta$ .

The greetings to the new chapter from far and wide including a message from Bettie Locke Hamilton brought by Mrs Sinclair, a welcome from Baltimore even though the chapter roll was to be made harder and a "Welcome to the newest Thetas, From all the little Beta Etas."



Mrs Moore's remarks when certain delegates, whose rooms were to be used for storing initiates, left them locked.

Mrs Grasett taking the president's rôle at the model chapter meeting and pleading with the chapter to support her on the occasion of an officer's impending visit.

The four long-suffering Theta husbands in Athens and the many gentlemen who ap-

peared at the tea with pansies in their button-holes.

From the first the spirit of the campus has been most cordial. Our "friendly rivals" already established there are Phi Mu, Chi Omega, Alpha Gamma Delta, Kappa Delta, Alpha Delta Pi, Delta Delta Delta, Alpha Omicron Pi. They all operate rented houses. It is our hope that Gamma Delta may be able to follow suit before long.



GAMMA DELTA INSTALLATION BANQUET

## Lucky Thetas Who Were There

**NATIONAL** officers: Jeanette Genmill Grasett, Grand president; Adelaide Macdonald Sinclair, Grand vice-president; Elizabeth Sellers Moore, Grand alumnae secretary.

District officer: Virginia Turman Quillian, Beta Lambda, District president.

Athens resident alumnae: Lucy Yancy Brown, Alpha Delta; Dorothea Washburne Stegeman, Phi; Dorothy Schiebel Thurman, Psi; Dorothy Combs Hardisty, Beta Nu.

Atlanta Theta alumnae club: Caroline Douglas Cone, Chi; Helen Anderson Snow, Alpha Eta; Jennie Mae Dougherty Warren, Gamma deuteron; Claudia Demeritt Moore and Opal Futch, Beta Nu; Emily Winship Leadingham and Sarah Dobbs, Beta Lambda; and Mrs Quillian, District president.

From other Georgia cities: Olga Lewis Richardson, Mu, from Tifton; Ann Shaw, Alpha Eta, from Albany.

From other alumnae groups: Zelle Williams

May, 19

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Borland, Beta Rho, Durham, N.C.; Hildegarde Hamilton Ryland, Chi, Lexington, Ky.; Claire Williams, Beta Nu, Jacksonville, Fla.; Garland Bonner Howard, Alpha Theta, Houston, Tex.; and Adelaide Shull, Alpha Eta, Nashville, Tenn.

From other college chapters of District XI:

Alpha Eta: Louise Hardison, Marjorie O'Steen, Dorothy Pardue, Juanita Roberts, Mary Brown, Polly Ann Billington, Abigail Robenson, Ethel Sara Scoggins, Mary Wattles, Virginia Sturdivant, Sara King, and Sally Bateman.

Alpha Phi: Elaine Gottschalk and Katie Butt.

Beta Nu: Clarice Sanchez, Edna Mae McIntosh, Patty Hamilton, Helen Donn, Martha Hague, Edythe Stanley, Marjorie Horton, Mary Enneis, and Annie Laurie Sanchez.

Beta Rho: Elizabeth Ann Sasscer, Virginia Braznell, Rosana Brewer, Mary Dean Barrett, Margaret White, Jane Fite, Caroline Breedlove, Betty Akin, and Carol Groves.

Gamma Gamma: Ann Whyte and Priscilla Smith.

## What It Means to Theta

TO INSTALL two chapters consecutively in the same district is rare enough to be mentioned. And when these two installations occur in a section of the country where there have been few chapters of Kappa Alpha Theta the district naturally feels particularly blessed by the powers that voted the charters.

District XI has necessarily been large geographically and small numerically because of a curious situation that has existed in the south in the past. Many of the best colleges were, and still are, closed to fraternities, while other fine fields were developed by other fraternities in the early years of the institutions when Theta felt the universities had not yet high enough rating. Still other campuses are closed to us because of state legislation which during one administration

will approve of, and during another abolish fraternities.

As a result of these unfortunate situations, Kappa Alpha Theta has not been as well known in this section as she is in others, and it is with great anticipation that we add a sixth chapter to the District roll. To us it means a link between the Florida and North Carolina chapters which will be of great help to all of them, as they draw from Georgia. It means a strong chapter near one of the largest and most progressive cities of the south, Atlanta, where there are already many Thetas eager to work for the new baby. It means increased prestige for Theta in a section where she is not well known to many people, and above all it means more Thetas and more friendships.

ELIZABETH SELLERS MOORE

## Library Notes

CHI's library is growing. On Founders'-day the Mothers' club gave the chapter *The Lincoln library of essential information*, and Syracuse alumnae presented two books in memory of two beloved alumnae who died during the past year. This gift of books in memory of Thetas will henceforth be the alumnae gift to the college chapter.

Alpha Xi writes about its library; "This growing collection of books of our own is supplemented by books from the university's circulating library. To foster house libraries the circulating library has set aside a collection of books which can be taken out in groups by the house librarian. Our librarian, Dorothy Good, selects a varied list of books, new and old, and checks them out for a month. They are then placed on a special shelf in the chapter house library. In order that the girls may know something about the books, the librarian has been posting a list of them with a sentence or two about each. This circulating collection, changed every month, supplements our own collection."