

WELCOME TO ALABAMA



Hooray for Theta! With announcement of colonization, Carolyn Kern Tankersley, local installation chairman, and Kathy Kelly Rankin, pledge adviser, were allowed to uncover Theta's Greek letters on the former $\Delta E \Phi$ house on Alabama campus.

by Gail Simon Coyle

Rho, Nebraska

◆ Although pledges flew kites in low 30 degree temperatures, an "unseasonably warm" 78 degree weekend, March 3-5, welcomed Delta Omicron chapter to the University of Alabama. The warm Tuscaloosa weather was ideal for Opal Marshall McCelvey, grand vice-president, to inspect building sites for Theta's 94th college chapter. By leasing the AEPi house, Delta Omicron gained an initial advantage over AOPi in colonizing the 16th and 17th Alabama sororities, the first since 1949, but plans are to build in three years.

Established in 1831, when Tuscaloosa was capital of Alabama, the main University campus enrolled 11,031 for the spring semester. After Union soldiers set fire to the University on April 4, 1865, only three original structures remained. While steeped in antebellum tradition, most University students and Alabama residents regard the "Crimson Tide," thrice National Collegiate Football champions, and Coach Bear Bryant as the greatest present-day traditions.

A pre-installation dinner, Friday night, for Grand Council president, Virginia Speidel Edwards; vice-presidents, Opal Marshall McCelvey and Janice Richardson Schmuck; installation chairman, Marge Stocker Stallings; and executive secretary-treasurer, Dorothy Schulze Vaaler, was held at the 138-year-old University Club, home of Alabama's Governor Bagby in 1836. Council members recalled a luncheon at the University Club held eight years ago to discuss colonization at Alabama and attended by Miss Ella Shaw, daughter of Theta founder, Hannah Fitch Shaw, and Tuscaloosa resident until her death in 1964.

Assistant Dean of Women, Ola Grace Baker, extended official University greetings to the 22 collegiate and 4 alumnae charter members at Saturday night's installation banquet. Joining the Grand Council participants, CDP Ginny Wiggins Childs welcomed the 15 Gamma Omega, Auburn, and 5 Beta Nu, Florida, members attending; ADP Phyllis Fleming Snider; traveling secretary, Ruth Ann Ellwein; Alabama state chairman, Martha DeVennish Reddington; and DO's House Corporation president, Sahra Schmid Coxe. The son of Della Stewart Frazer

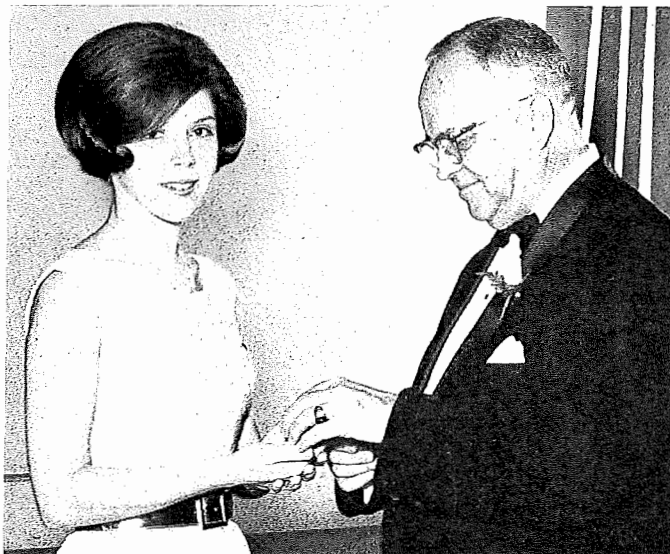
Ramsey, 1896 initiate of Kappa, Kansas, University history professor, John F. Ramsey, addressed the gathering and presented his late mother's pin to the first DO chapter president, Kathy Jones. Colonizer Karen Tankersley, Alpha Omicron, Oklahoma, read some of the many Thetagrams; and a 50-year pin was presented to Crenshaw Waller Adams, Alpha Iota, Washington-St. Louis.

Only moments after his plane landed, President Frank Rose of the University of Alabama arrived at the Sunday afternoon tea to meet the new initiates. Also present at the tea was Anna Clark Moore, 1911 initiate of Alpha Eta, Vanderbilt, who journeyed from her Winchester, Tenn. home specifically to welcome her granddaughter, Margaret "Sonnie" Moore, to Theta sisterhood.

Local installation chairman, Kathy Kelly Rankin, Alpha Phi, Newcomb, was assisted by Gail Simon Coyle, Rho, Nebraska; Elizabeth Overton Cravens and Betty Jane Lauffer Fitts,

Because Dr. John F. Ramsey, history professor at Alabama, is a Theta son, the president of Theta's newest chapter will always have a very special pin to wear. Dr. Ramsey is shown here presenting Della Stewart Frazer Ramsey's 71-year-old pin to Kathy Jones, charter member and first president of Delta Omicron. Dr. Ramsey's mother was 104th initiate of Kappa, Kansas. He was installation banquet speaker.

Photos, Pete Clark





LEFT: Anno Clark Moore, Vanderbilt, come from Tennessee to give 1911 pin to Alabama granddaughter, Morgoret Moore. MIDDLE: Block and gold pansy pin, emblem of 50-year Thetas, is given to Crenshaw Waller Adams, Alpha Iota, Washington-St. Louis, 1917, by Grand President Jinny Edwards. BOTTOM LEFT: Greeting guests at Sunday tea are l. to r., Jinny Edwards, grand president; Marge Stallings, Grand Council installation chairman; Opal McCelvey, grand vice-president; Dorothy Vaaler, executive secretary-treasurer



Alpha Eta, Vanderbilt; Sidney Hudson Hennessey, Gamma Iota, Kentucky; Carolyn Kern Tankersley, Alpha Theta, Texas; and "silent partner," Glenda Keith Guyton, Gamma Phi, Texas Tech, "silent" because Glenda is also University of Alabama assistant to the dean of women, and "publicly impartial" to fraternities.

Collegiate initiates of the chapter from Alabama are: Marion Keys Brooks, Prattville; Christine Elizabeth Chenault, Moulton; Judy Claire Crocker, Ann Mason, Thomaston; Angela Ruth Danelutt, Sylacauga; Ellen Walling Gresham, Helen Kathryn Jones, Anita Elizabeth Norwood, Gayle Ann Shillingburg, Birmingham; Beverly Anne Loeb, Margaret Elizabeth Moore, Huntsville; Frieda Gwen Luker, Uriah; Cynthia Anne Meyer, Tuscaloosa; Sharon Louise Scott, Linden; Ellen Lynnette Tant, Cottondale; Nancy Virginia Walsh, Phenix City; Mary Olivia Witmer, Montgomery. From other states are: Sharon Kaye McWhirter, Cincinnati, Ohio; Jacquelyn Gayle Mayfield, Nashville, Tenn.; Carol Lucille Miller, Winnetka, Ill.; Elizabeth Jane O'Neil, Vero Beach, Fla.; Linda Christiana Squitieri, Frankfurt, West Germany.

Alumnæ initiates, all from Tuscaloosa, are: Ora May Haynie Ausmus, Mildred Washington Bailey, Phyllis Chamberlain Boozer, Johnnie Paul Killingsworth.

Alabama members: front, l. to r., alumnae, Mildred Bailey, Phyllis Boozer, Ora Ausmus, Johnnie Killingsworth. Collegiates, Angela Danelutt, Ann Mason, Beverly Loeb, Margaret Moore, Gayle Shillingburg, Ellen Tant, Christine Chenault, Bock, Jane O'Neil, Sharon McWhirter, Frieda Luker, Cynthia Meyer, Kathy Jones, Sharon Scott, Jacquelyn Mayfield, Judy Crocker, Linda Squitieri, Virginia Walsh, Ellen Gresham, Mary Witmer, Marion Brooks, Anita Norwood, Carol Miller.

