

Thirty-one new Thetas—the charter members of Epsilon Omicron at the Charter Installation Banquet

By Joni Schneider, Resident Counselor

New chapter added to Theta book of extension successes

Randolph-Macon

The 105th edition of Kappa Alpha Theta hit the top of the charts when Epsilon Omicron chapter at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA was installed April 7, 1984.

The best seller began as the idea of Grace Burke and Lori Nelson, two Randolph-Macon College junior women. Having only one sorority on this campus of 950 students, along with nine fraternities, the pair set out to add a new page in the long history of Randolph-Macon College (not to be confused with Randolph Macon Women's College which banned sororities in 1960). Through their work with the Randolph-Macon administration and interested co-eds, Kappa Alpha Theta was chosen to colonize in late January 1984 and the story started taking shape.

Joni Schneider, a member of Beta Theta, Idaho, who was at that time serving as resident counselor at Epsilon Lambda chapter at Dickinson College, was assigned to develop the "plot" for the 31 pledges of Epsilon Omicron. The plot took shape as the pledges made Theta well known on campus by sponsoring the spring blood drive, playing softball for MD, taking part in raising money for Randolph-Macon through telefunding, making a scrapbook for Logopedics children, cheering on the Lacrosse team, holding the First Annual Kappa Alpha Theta Spring Fling, and placing first in Greek Day.

At the climax of our story, Ashland, VA was invaded by Thetas for initiation and installation. Participating in Installation Weekend were Grand President Lissa Bradford, Grand Vice-President College Carol Brehman, Grand Vice-President Service Lynn Davis, Executive Secretary Treasurer Marcia Bond, College District President Gwynn Mannes, Alumnae District President Joan Fletcher, Delta Chi chapter Advisory Board Chairman Vicki Trotter, Resident Counselors Joni Schneider and Michele Gullans, and Delta Chi chapter at the University of Virginia—assisting chapter.

The Loyalty Service and Reception was hosted by the Richmond and Tidewater Alumnae Clubs. The Williamsburg Alumnae Chapter sponsored a Sunday afternoon tea honoring new initiates and entertaining friends and alumnae.

The Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter presented Epsilon Omicron with a large crown pearl president's badge. Noting the importance of pledge education, the Richmond Alumnae Club gave the chapter an antique diamond and pearl badge to be passed down to all pledge education chairmen.



Seated I. to r. at the Installation Banquet were Randolph-Macon College Dean of Housing Kathryn Hull, GVP College Carol Brehman, CDP Gwynn Mannes, Executive Secretary Treasurer Marcia Bond, GVP Service Lynn Davis, Grand President Lissa Bradford.

Epsilon Omicron Charter Members

Leslie Bell Richmond, Virginia Sandra Bruce Richmond, Virginia Grace Burke Virginia Beach, Virginia Beth Clarkson Avon, Connecticut Zoe Del Rio Vienna, Virginia Kathy Falk Great Falls, Virginia Angie Farley
Linda Martin Richmond, Virginia
Sharon Miller Centreville, Virginia
Lori Nelson Alexandria, Virginia
Betty Opheim Manassas, Virginia Grace Saliba Annandale, Virginia
Julie Sease Columbia, Maryland Lisa Simcox St. Louis, Missouri
Deanna Simons Oxford, North Carolina Lori Snead Annapolis, Maryland
Suzanne Victor Baltimore, Maryland



The two charter members who started it all because they wanted another sorority on campus—at left Lori Nelson and Grace Burke at the Epsilon Omicron colonization party.