Zeta Rho Chapter Founded at UCSD

"In 1870, Kappa Alpha Theta was a pioneer as the first women's Greek-letter Fraternity. Now, in 1994, the Zeta Rho Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta is a pioneer for a new breed of women's organization at the University of California at San Diego. Never before has such a group of intelligent, independent thinking women existed."

Those spirited words, spoken by new Zeta Rho Vice-President Development Angela Calman at the chapter's installation banquet, represented the sentiments of an enthusiastic, talented, and diverse group of 58 women who were selected to become charter members of Zeta Rho Chapter.

In January, Kappa Alpha Theta became the ninth women's group to join the Greek community at the University of California at San Diego. The Fraternity became involved with the campus several years ago when three Panhellenic organizations were invited to colonize as part of a three-year expansion plan.

With the help of local alumnae, as well as a wonderful presentation by the Thetas from the University of California at Irvine, the Fraternity's colonization team interviewed a large pool of women. The recruiting process was easy as Theta's ideals were very appealing to the high caliber of women attending the university.

Even during the first few weeks, the newly-formed group was determined to make a showing in all of the campus Greek events. They were without any officers or committees, but the women were able to work together to organize several activities. Although their schedules were very busy with member orientation modules and preparation for the initiation and installation weekend, the women became involved with inter-sorority sports, and practiced diligently to make their first campus appearance as a group. The result? Kappa Alpha Theta proudly placed third in the Greek Week talent show.

The four weeks of new member orientation passed quickly. Excitement and anticipation were felt by everyone as the installation team, led by Vice-President College Carol McPadden, arrived on February 11. All 58 collegians were initiated on Saturday,

Kappa Alpha Theta joined the University of California, San Diego Greek community last February.



and then signed the Zeta Rho charter Saturday evening. The room was filled with newly initiated members proudly wearing their badges for the first time, ecstatic that they now understood the true meaning of their membership in Kappa Alpha Theta.

The final event of the weekend was the banquet, held at the Princess Resort in San Diego. Vice-President Development Margie Baum was toastmistress, and former President Janet Peters addressed the group, which included many local alumnae, parents and friends.

The banquet was planned by the San Diego Aluminae Club and was combined with their annual celebration of Founders Day. The beautiful San Diego weather and the lovely resort provided a perfect setting for photographs to record the happy occasion. The weekend ended with memories of the fun and friendships in Kappa Alpha Theta that had already been discovered, as well as anticipation for the many that await the new members of Zeta Rho Chapter.

By Robyn Neal Chapter Consultant

Zeta Rho Installation Team

Vice-President Development Margie Baum Vice-President College Carol McPadden Former President **Janet Peters** Alumnae District President Kathleen Catterall College District President Kris Hoffman Chapter Consultant Robyn Neal Chapter Consultant Keri Pravitz Ass't. Dir. of Chapter Services Susan Kiley Executive Assistant **Paige Thompson**

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