

Kites Over Florida

by Jenna Ghidelli, ΓΧ/Fresno State



Welcome to
Kappa Alpha
Theta's
newest college
chapter,
Eta Omicron,
at University of
North Florida in
Jacksonville, Fla.

UNF

The weekend of April 20, 2007, was an exciting time for the 87 charter members of the Eta Omicron Chapter at the University of North Florida. They were initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta and the following day, Eta Omicron was installed as Kappa Alpha Theta's newest college chapter. Fraternity President Karen Albrecht Ledbetter, ΓΤ/Tulsa, presided over the services.

Following the chartering service, a celebratory brunch was held at the Renaissance Resort at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine, Florida. Many family members, local Jacksonville alumnae, university officials, and Fraternity officers were in attendance to honor the new initiates.

Based educational leadership consultants Jackie Vollmer, ΔΕ/Arizona State, and Jenna Ghidelli, ΓΧ/Fresno State, were recognized by Eta Omicron members and campus administrators for their efforts toward a positive, yet speedy, colonization and new member experience. Fraternity Vice-President Public Relations Debbie Bornmann Allen, ΔΘ/Florida, presided over the brunch, and University of North Florida Dean of Students Tom Van Schoor welcomed the newest women's fraternity on campus. Kappa Alpha Theta joins four other National Panhellenic Conference groups on the UNF campus. The Eta Omicron Chapter will participate in formal recruitment in early autumn 2007.

In the month prior to the chartering, chapter members were extremely active in laying the foundation for their chapter, hosting service events with local alumnae and social events with other organizations, attending philanthropic events organized by other Greek groups, and promoting Panhellenic spirit and unity. Members also enjoyed

spending time together and getting to know one another during chapter sisterhood events and around campus.

"The opportunity to be a founding sister of the Eta Omicron Chapter as a senior is an experience I will never forget," said Natalie Montemayor. "The past few months I have spent with my sisters has given me a sense of belonging that I have been searching for over the past four years."

Sophomore Mary Davenport loved the excitement of being a new member of Theta's newest chapter. "I joined Kappa Alpha Theta to have a new and exciting experience at the University of North Florida while being a positive role model."

Thank you to the Fraternity officers, educational leadership consultants, and staff members who served on the installation team: Karen Ledbetter, ΓΤ/Tulsa, Fraternity president; Debbie Allen, ΔΘ/Florida, Fraternity vice-president public relations; Mary Jane Beach, BN/Florida State, NPC delegate; Angie Molina, ΓΦ/Texas Tech, Fraternity music coordinator; Holly Morris, ΔΟ/Alabama, administrative district director; Jennifer Broughton, Γ/Butler, assistant director of chapter services; and Jackie Vollmer, ΔΕ/Arizona State; Jenna Ghidelli, ΓΧ/Fresno State; Bekah Hazen, ΖΝ/UC Davis; Cassie Smith, ΕΖ/Mississippi; and Erin Tallent, ΒΛ/William & Mary, all educational leadership consultants.

Above: The installation team and Eta Omicron charter members proudly display the charter of Theta's newest chapter. ◆