

IT'S MONTANA STATE



by **Bea Reeves Taylor**

◆ A hearty western welcome to Big Sky Country was extended January 21-24, 1971 as Kappa Alpha Theta national officers and alumnæ gathered in Bozeman, Montana, for the installation of Delta Tau chapter at Montana State University. Representing Theta in an official capacity were: Norma Jorgensen, Grand Council president; Jane Gallup, Martha White, vice-presidents; Lucile Garrett, member-at-large; Rosemary Nilson, Central Office; Catherine Friel, ADP XV; Nancy Westphal, traveling secretary.

Located on the outskirts of Bozeman, in a mountain valley in southwestern Montana, Montana State is one of six branches of the state supported university system. The University boasts an enrollment of over 8,000 in a community of 18,000. First conceived as an agricultural college, Montana State now offers degrees in education, engineering, general science, art and the humanities as well as fields related to agriculture.

The installation of the Delta Tau chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta brings the total to seven sororities and eleven fraternities now on campus. Sororities originally came to Bozeman in 1917,

but Theta is the first new sorority to be welcomed in 22 years. Delta Tau, in Bozeman, and Alpha Nu, at the University of Montana in Missoula, are the only two Theta chapters in the sparsely populated state. The new chapter makes Theta's national total 95.

Plans for forming a new chapter at Montana State were first unveiled a year ago when Jane Gallup, Grand Council member in charge of colonization, announced the possibility to local alumnæ at a coffee in the home of Joanne Ainslie McCroskey. A formal invitation to establish a chapter was issued subsequently by the Panhellenic Council and the Administration at the University. Martha White later took over Jane Gallup's duties and nursed the chapter from its infancy to installation.

Beverly St. Cyr was asked to come to Bozeman to colonize the new chapter. Beverly graduated from Sidney, Montana, High School and the University of Montana. A political science major, Beverly served as president of Mortar Board. She is presently pursuing a degree of Master of Education in counseling and guidance in addition to colonizing the Delta Tau chapter

FACING PAGE: Happiness is . . . serving punch from chapter's punchbowl, gift of national Theta. Nancy Secrest, chapter president, serves Theta president Norma Jorgensen. RIGHT: Busy, busy Installation Team, l. to r., bottom to top, Jane Gallup, Norma Jorgensen, Martha White, Mike Nilson, Lucile Garrett, Nancy Westphal, and Catherine Friel. MIDDLE: Thetas all! Dean Marjorie Paisley serves tea to Mary Ann Hahn, Padra Branch, Jolene Roth, Debbi Atkinson.



and directing the activities of the pledge class.

Alumnæ members in the Bozeman area, while not formally organized, have been quick to help with the fledgling chapter. An Advisory Board was formed, chaired by Shirley Morrow Sedivy, consisting of Ann Ramey Schaefer, Joanne McCroskey, Helen Broxton Miller, Mary Everson and Julie Martin Videon. Under the able direction of Margaret Thompson Lehrkind, a vacant house in the University Quad was transformed into a charming and livable chapter house. Donated furniture was expertly refinished by inmates in the State Prison. Silver and china were sent on loan from the inactive Beta Eta chapter at the University of Pennsylvania. Margaret also serves on the Corporation Board along with Alice Carpenter Ene-



Montana State initiates, l. to r., front, Kathy Swift, Robin Sekora, Lynne Rodger, Cindy Peterson, Norma Narman, Julie Melvin. Second row, Diane Visocan, Morcia Read, Lynn Myers, Ann Ripley, Nancy Secrest (president), Milly Ross, Gayle Stansell, Ann McIntyre, Pom Sperry, Mary Ann Hahn. Standing, Janel Bronkhorst, Maureen Nickels, Debbi Atkinson, Padra Branch, Mary Schillinger, Diane Halvorsen, Darlene Stefani, Becky Nash, Sherri Fitschen, Irene Johnson, Kathy Duncon, Linda Kolar, Jolene Roth. Not shown in picture, Dean Marjorie Paisley, Denise DeWolf, Teni Fitschen and Connie Knudson.



An heirloom pin is wonderful!—so thinks Padra Branch (l.) who was initiated with the pin of her great aunt, Jessie G. Lewis West, Tau, Northwestern, 1896. Corporation Bd. president, Alice Carpenter Eneboe, thinks pin is wonderful, too!



A happy Milly Ross, one of the new initiates, visits with housemother Mrs. Anita Howord as they wait for families, friends and alumnae guests to come to Sunday afternoon tea.



From the snow it might look as though it was cold in Montana, but the new Theto house is warm with friendship, love.

boe, president; Shirley Sedivy, Joan Wilson Mead, Joanne McCroskey and Julie Videon.

Activities for installation week were directed locally by Chairman Debbie Lichtenberg Leadbetter, assisted by Betty Jane Wiggins Hellesmark, Billie Johnston Fleming, Mary Scott Giebink, Shirley Sedivy, Joanne McCroskey and Bea Taylor. The Loyalty Service was conducted Thursday evening in the chapter house.

Thirty-two pledges were initiated on Friday and Saturday. Collegiate initiates from Montana are: Debbi Atkinson, Diane Halvorsen, Julie Melvin, Cindy Peterson, Lynne Rodger, Kathy Swift, Great Falls; Denise DeWolf, Jolene Roth, Helena; Kathy Duncan, CutBank; Teni Fitschen, Sherri Fitschen, Ann McIntyre, Gayle Stansell, Billings; Mary Ann Hahn, Norma Norman, Belgade; Connie Knudson, Saco; Linda Kolar, Janel Kolar Bronkhorst, Absorkee; Becky Nash, Lewistown; Maureen Nickels, Glendive; Marcia Read, Ronan; Ann Ripley, Milly Ross, Pam Sperry, Bozeman; Mary Schilling, Vida; Nancy Secrest, Hardin; Robin Sekora, Roberts; Darlene Stefani, Black Eagle; Diane Visocan, Raynesford. Also, Padra Branch, Seattle, Wash.; Irene Johnson, Courtney, N.D.; Lynn Myers, Lancaster, Pa.

Concluding the initiation ceremonies was the initiation of Marjorie F. Paisley, dean of women at Montana State. Dean Paisley grew up in Willow Creek, Montana, and was educated in Montana. She received a Master of Science degree in home economics and taught at MSU from 1942-64, except for two years spent in Peru as a home economics specialist for the State Department. She was made dean of women in 1964.

Dean Paisley has worked closely with Panhellenic over the years as an ex-officio advisor. Observing the situation close at hand, Dean Paisley commented, "I feel that the Greek system provides the last vestige of social amenities on university campuses, and that sororities and fraternities provide opportunities for the development of social graces which cannot otherwise be provided on university campuses."

A reception and banquet were scheduled for Saturday evening, during which a silver punch bowl, a gift from Grand Council, was displayed. Thetas joined forces Sunday morning for church, then returned to the chapter house for a model chapter meeting. A Sunday afternoon tea concluded the festivities.