THETA DELTA CHI'S UNDERGRADUATE NEWSLETTER
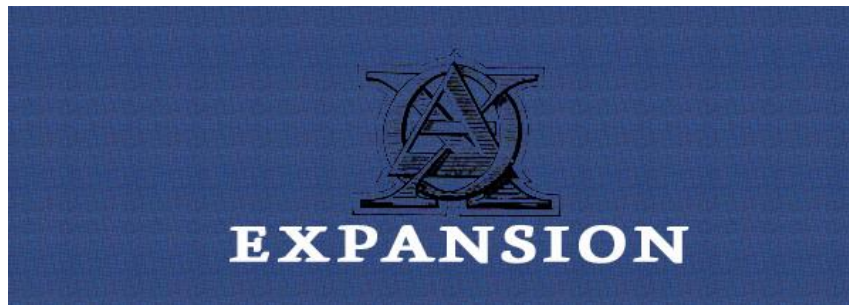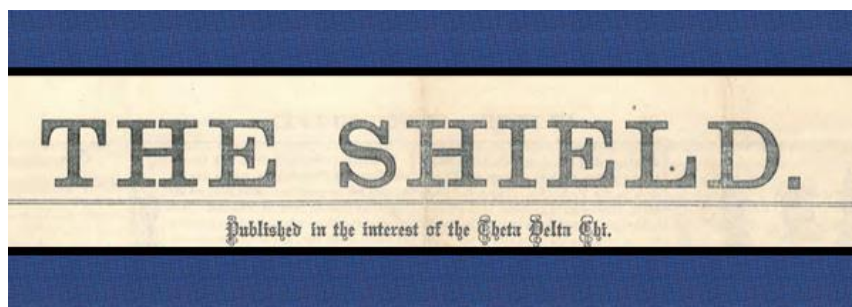
JANUARY '23

Today is a GREAT day to be a Theta Delt

EXPANSION

The College of William & Mary expansion project is moving nicely. A group of young men is working hard to revitalize the dormant Epsilon Charge on that campus. They are doing a great job, and we hope to hear about them moving from Interest Group status to Expansion Group status during the coming semester. If you know of anyone attending William & Mary who might be great Theta Delts, please contact Drew Johnson at djohnson@tdx.org with their contact information.

The Grand Lodge is also looking for other expansion opportunities. If you have friends at another college or university interested in starting a Charge of Theta Delta Chi, please contact glstaff@tdx.org.

Annually, the Founders' Corporation of Theta Delta Chi names a Lindburgh-Downing-Huffman award winner, recognizing one outstanding undergraduate-authored article in *the Shield*. In addition to a certificate, the author receives a $250 prize. If you would like to submit an article, please email glstaff@tdx.org. The subject line should be 2023 LDH-Name, Charge. All article submissions must have a title. Pictures may be included.

If family, friends or even Santa let you down this year and did not give you an official TDX Tie, there is always time to order one for yourself. This 175th Convention favor is available for purchase online from the Central Fraternity Office. Quantities of 1, 2, 5, and 10 are available. Need a different amount? Email glstaff@tdx.org. The ties are silk and cost twenty-five dollars each, and all orders ship for five dollars. A limited quantity is available. Here is the link to purchase.

CHARGE SPOTLIGHT

Sigma Deuteron began life as a local secret literary society called Sigma Delta Sigma in 1893. The local Sigma Delta Sigma men were highly regarded on the campus for their strong social and intellectual being. On May 16, 1895, a delegation from the Grand Lodge went secretly to the University of Wisconsin, met and initiated 17 men from this local organization. The birth of the Sigma Deuteron Charge was a reality. Sigma Deuteron is the longest, continuously existent fraternity on the University of Wisconsin campus.

Their current house is at capacity with 34 men and was purchased from Theta Chi in 1940. It underwent a complete renovation in 2013. This project featured the renovation of all rooms, a new basement, and all public areas. A particular feature of the project was the hand railings on the main stairway with the letters Theta Delta Chi immortalized as decorative elements in wrought iron.

Currently boasting 94 active members with a combined GPA of 3.2, they are not content with this GPA. The Charge revamped the academic chair position and academic plan to make the improvement of their intellectual being a priority for the current and upcoming academic year.

The Charge revitalized the position of the ritual chair (herald) in order to create a stronger emphasis on the traditions of the Fraternity and to connect the past with the present. The herald regularly sends out pieces of historical information to the Charge brothers; he has brought back all of the ritual pieces for the opening and closing of meetings and is currently focused on re-establishing their long musical tradition of getting all brothers to learn the songs of Theta Delta Chi.

The Charge is concerned with maintaining its robust and strong brotherhood. With 30 seniors leaving, recruitment has become a priority, and they have chosen four brothers as recruitment chairs to lead this goal. Another focus for the Charge is improving communications with alumni and continuing their strong relationship with CFO staff. This strong sense of brotherhood extends to everything they undertake. Meetings are always well attended; brothers attend all service and philanthropy projects, and there is always a sense of pride in just being with each other.

For the past two years, the Charge has sponsored a 5K Run for the Flutie Foundation, raising over $5000 for the Foundation. These funds were then donated to the ARC of Dane County for Children with developmental disabilities. They are eager to grow their

relationship with the Flutie Foundation and to expand this annual event. They are also making plans to conduct a community service project to benefit the large homeless population in the City of Madison.

5K for the Flutie Foundation

EXCEPTIONAL
BROTHERS
DOING
EXCEPTIONAL
THINGS:

You may have read his books (thirteen novels and 11 non-fiction) or seen movies made from them, but the name John Nichols, Psi '62 (Hamilton) is written in the annals of Theta Delta Chi. He is probably most known for his books *the Sterile Cuckoo,* and the *Milagro Beanfield War*. His screenwriting credits on the film the Sterile Cuckoo starring Liza Minelli, and the Milagro Beanfield Wars, directed by Robert Redford. Bro. Nichols has worked on numerous other screenwriting projects, many of which never saw production.

He has lived in northern New Mexico since 1969 and continues to write there. New Mexico has served as the setting for almost all of his books. He says, "Some of my work has dealt with struggles for human justice, land and water rights in northern New Mexico. Other books spoof marriage, treat planetary collapse like Crazy Eddie selling used cars on TV, and equate trout fishing with capitalist Armageddon."

Many of his unproduced screenplays have a decidedly strong political bent to them.

In addition to his many writing credits, Brother Nichols is also a photographer, with many of his photos appearing in his book, *On the Mesa*. He has been an instructor in fine art photography workshops and is a long-time political activist for progressive and environmental causes.

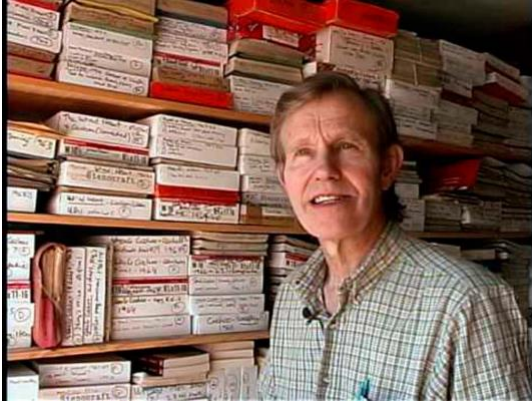You can read more about John Nichols by visiting his website:
http://www.johnnicholsbooks.com/index.html.

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https://www.abqjournal.com/123366/milagro-man-finds-himself-in-spotlight.html

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https://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/books/trusting-the-work-john-nichols-pursuit-of-his-best-whether-anyone-likes-it-or-not/article_71d9daa4-3d91-11ec-abb2-1b61c4cf9939.html