

THE SAHUARO

Arizona State Organization's News Publication for
Delta Kappa Gamma, a Place for Key Women Educators

Fall Workshop

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

Arizona State will be having a FIRST with a standing tradition. The Fall Workshop will be the same time and same date, but in a new place – online! With the concerns and guidelines for the COVID-19 pandemic, our best option was to Zoom in for our traditional Fall Executive Board Meeting and All Member Workshop. Also, there will be an International Representative as our keynote speaker. Please see the article about Connie Rensink, Member-at-Large.

Registration for the Fall Workshop will be done as usual with the Chapter Treasurers turning in the registration form for their chapter members. The event is Free this year, but will be time well spent. Meet treasured friends and making new ones. Invite prospective members and college members to come too. Or have a viewing party at home with a few other chapter members (socially distanced).

The day will start with an 8 am Meet and Greet and continue into an 8:30 am Executive Board

meeting. The members of the Executive Board are all Chapter Presidents, the State Executive Committee which consists of the State Officers, and all Past State Presidents. If a Chapter President is unable to attend, she will notify Recording Secretary Linda Perl who her substitute is. It is at this meeting we will discuss state business. If voting is needed, it will take place electronically. An agenda will be emailed to all who register for the Workshop.

Following the meeting will be the chapter officer trainings and breakout sessions. All events will have their own “Zoom meeting” for approximately one hour. Please check the schedule for times and links. It is hoped having separate meetings will reduce technical problems. All links will be sent electronically so members can “click” on the link rather than copy it. Please check read the Zoom tips article for more information.

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The Way We Were

by Merry Lewis, Nu

1945 (75 years ago) - Travel was restricted during the war, but in 1945 Dr. Agnes Allen, state president, took one week in January to visit chapters. She was given five cents a mile for this activity.

1970 (50 years ago) - At the 1970 convention, the state president was presented with a footlocker to store state records. Thirty Achievement award pins were purchased for the grand total of \$80.

1995 (25 years ago) - The State Convention was held in Flagstaff. The theme for the Friday night reception was "On Old Route 66" highlighting music from the 60's and 70's.



President's Message

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

I hope everyone is finding the fall weather and colors a welcome break from our hot summer. Plus, I hope you all are well. Our employed members are all back teaching by now, and we are all settling into this new way of reaching each other online.

There have been some interesting combinations for teachers to deliver lessons between F-2-F and online options. We are asking our teaching members to fill out a Wish List form, found in this paper, to let us know how we can support them. The forms will be compiled by Extension Committee Member Julie Berkel (Chi). The compiled list will be distributed for members and chapters to help our teachers through this pandemic. Is there someone in your chapter teaching? Please encourage them to fill out a form. Ask for what you need. I know of teachers who have reached out for headphones, supplies, and more.

Our **Fall Workshop**, on Oct. 24, will be totally online. Please see the article elsewhere in this paper for details on sessions to be offered. We are planning an Executive Board event, chapter officer training, a keynote from International, and additional sessions. Each event will be a Zoom meeting. By downloading the Zoom app, you will be able to easily move from one session to another. Members of the Executive Board are chapter presidents, past presidents and current state officers. Chapter trainings will be given for presidents, first and second vice presidents,



treasurers and secretaries (recording and corresponding). **Registration** is through the chapter treasurers, as usual even though it is a **FREE** event. Interested non-members are welcome.

Exciting news for our shoppers. The **Rose Boutique** is looking at options for online sales. Presidents should have received an email from Arts Committee Chair Debbie Benninghof (Alpha Xi) outlining the idea. Communicate with her to share more information. Also, the **Creative Arts Retreat** will be online next January. Registration will be out soon. Look out for the "Arts Retreat in a Box" with instructions via Zoom.

Lastly, State has a **Zoom** Pro Plan to be used for any state event or meetings. Committee meetings, planning meetings, and classes or programs that chapters would like to open to state chapters/members may use it. Please contact me at wendt.carmen@gmail.com to schedule an event or meeting.

See you at Fall Workshop!

Workshop Info

Breakout Sessions

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

Multiple breakout sessions will be available for all members. The program will have the times and Zoom links. Traditionally there is time for two breakout sessions at Fall Workshop. This year there will be three. Look for these sessions.

Need to get up and move after the meeting? Try the [Zoom Scavenger Hunt!](#) Zoom with Linda Perl and Carmen Wendt (Chi) to find things in your home that fit the descriptions. Who will win?

[DKG AZ Serves: Ideas You Can Use](#) by Saroj Jagernauth (Alpha Iota) and the Expansion Committee: Join the discussion of service projects chapters will ideas that can be done in the pandemic and after.

[Teaching During COVID-19](#) will be a panel discussion of five of our members who are in the classroom/online with students. Suzanne Godard Epsilon), Bonnie Hill-Dowdy (Alpha Epsilon), Linda Lucas(Alpha), Ashley Miller (Alpha Chi) and Krystin Pinkard (Chi) will share their experiences in grades K through college.

[Pura Vida, DKG Tour to Costa Rica](#) will feature the photos and experiences of Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta) and Connie Rensink (International Representative). They traveled to Costa Rica as a part of the Go Ahead Tours for DKG.

[Google Docs](#) is a teaching video by Kristy Miller (Alpha Beta) on tips and how to for Goggle Docs, a tool many are using for personal and classroom organization. This will be a YouTube video. You will have to have the specific link in the program to view the video.

[Parliamentary Procedures](#) by Diane Sheets (Alpha Beta) is a teaching video for presidents, secretaries and any who are interested in meeting guidelines. This will be a YouTube video. You will have to have the specific link in the program to view the video.

Keynote Speaker

by Carmen Wendt, Chi



The keynote speak at the October 24 Fall Workshop will be Connie Rensink, International Member-at-Large. Connie was originally going to be the International Representative at the State's June Convention, which was postponed to 2021.

Speaking on "How Does Your DKG Garden Grow," Connie is scheduled at 2:30 pm for the keynote speech and closing of Fall Workshop.

Connie Rensink has been a member of Theta Chi, Texas since 2006. She is a graduate of the Leadership Management Seminar and has held leadership positions at the chapter and state organization levels. At the international level she has served on the Membership committee, the Scholarship committee, and then chaired the Membership Committee.

She currently serves DKG as Webmaster for Theta Chi, Texas State Parliamentarian, International Member at Large, International Speakers Fund Committee Chair, Strategic Plan Committee Member, and DKG/NGO Representative to the United Nations. She enjoyed being the DKG ambassador for a GoAhead Tour to Costa Rica in January. Her favorite part of the Society is meeting other members and learning about their DKG journey.

Connie has been in education for 16 years. She was an elementary teacher for 12 years and is now a global education consultant supporting educators and schools to integrate global perspectives and competencies into existing curriculum. Through her consulting work, Connie splits time between her Texas home, New York City, and other parts of the world.

Connie is an ardent human rights advocate. She is a member of the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN), and an ambassador for Teach SDGs. She has completed graduate course work in China, a Fulbright-Hays Project Abroad to India, and the Global Competence Certificate, a graduate program for teachers through World Savvy, Columbia University, and Asia Society.

Zoom Instructions for Fall Workshop

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

GET THE APP

To use Zoom you must first download the application. Go to zoom.us/download and click on **Download** for Zoom Client for Meetings if you are using a desktop computer or go to the appropriate app store for your mobile device whether it's Apple, Android, Google, Samsung, etc. and search for Zoom. Install the app following the appropriate onscreen directions.

You will not need to sign up to join a meeting. You only need to sign up and have a free account if you want to host a meeting.

JOIN THE MEETING

You will receive an email invitation from a meeting host which will contain the meeting topic, the scheduled time for the meeting, and a link to join the meeting.

A few minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time click the meeting link contained in the email you received, and you will be prompted to launch Zoom. You may be prompted to use your computers audio and camera. Allow these both.

If you need additional guidance, use this link: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING

Once you are in the meeting, there are a couple things you should know to help facilitate a useful meeting for yourself and an orderly meeting for all participants.

1. In the bottom left corner you will see two icons, MUTE and STOP VIDEO (you may need to mouse over the video screen to see them). Please MUTE your audio. Unmute only if you must ask or answer a question. Also, if you are interrupted with a phone call, cats, bathroom breaks, etc. please check that the MUTE and STOP VIDEO buttons are on so is not interrupted. Humorous video guide: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNmqqEwpyu0>

2. In the upper right corner, there are a couple more icons that you should be aware of. These are GALLERY VIEW and SPEAKER VIEW.

For the classes which we will be hosting you should select SPEAKER VIEW along with muting your audio.

3. Please use the Chat function, bottom center, and direct your comment or question to the person you want to respond, not to "everyone."

For more support on the use of Zoom, use this link. <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials>

Here is a PowerPoint created by Illinois State DKG: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnliAE-Vip4&app=desktop>

Staying Together, Apart

by Janet Vickers, Omega



The set up for Omega's first virtual meeting Sept 2020

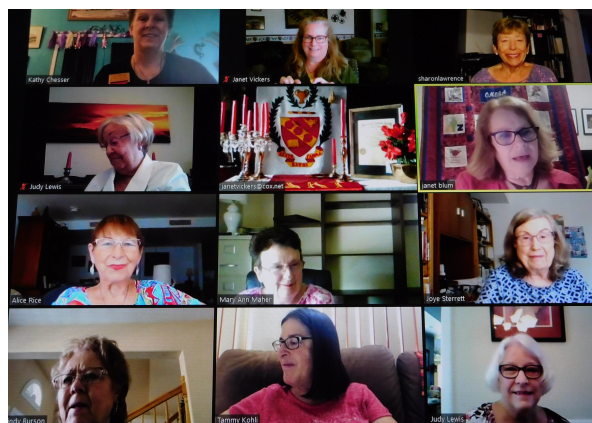
No face masks? Hooray! On a surprisingly cool Saturday morning, September 12, Omega Chapter breathed deeply, and sighed a little, too. Our virtual meeting seamlessly combined the finest moments of many past Septembers with the challenges of life in 2020. Members enjoyed their personal favorite beverage, we dressed up for installation of new officers, inducted our newest member, learned about the year's upcoming programs, and even voted on a financial issue, all while safely and thoroughly distanced in our own homes.

Were there technical challenges? Of course. Sigh. But a little advance planning helped all run smoothly. We had savored the opportunity to catch up person-to-person during a summertime Zoom practice, where we worked out a few kinks like sound looping and muting etiquette, learned about features like chat and reactions, and discovered who might need extra help, or who might wish to attend via phone instead of laptop. Members were sent scripts, agenda, and financial report in advance, as computer attachments, or by snail mail for those with no printer. A little research showed we could utilize our parade wave as the tool for simultaneous voting, and a second laptop could display traditional candles, charter, crest, and other paraphernalia set up in traditional fashion for the ceremonies. All items had even been dropped off far in advance by outgoing chapter president Sharon Lawrence and past membership chair Mary Dale Rowland during summertime drive-by visits. Safety first!



Judy Lewis (left) and Janet Vickers (right) mentor Omega's incoming president at a safe, outdoor planning lunch with masks and distance as needed. Janet Blum (both) had assembled and proudly displays Omega's new banner, a quilt with squares made by members.

Best laid plans still left room and need for patience and flexibility. When zoom host Janet Vickers faced an audio technical challenge and was able to hear but not be heard, Incoming President Janet Blum merged easily into leadership, welcomed everyone with calm confidence, and reviewed norms and virtual etiquette. Judy Lewis had invited our newest member, Ro Ziegler, to set up on a second computer in her dining room, while she zoomed from six feet away, and quickly problem-solved some proximity concerns. Installation Officer Dr. Joye Sterrett covered smoothly, missing not a beat when her script showed a part for a member unexpectedly not on the participant screen view. Most importantly, we felt proud of ourselves for being lifelong learners, for blending the best of DKG traditions and Omega camaraderie with the inevitable demands of today's crazy world.



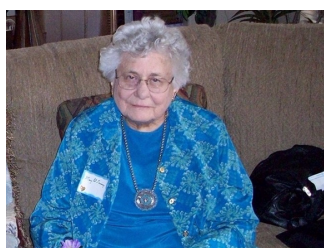
Omega Chapter members started the year "squarely" with a virtual zoom meeting. Top row: Kathy Chesser, Janet Vickers, Sharon Lawrence. Second row: Ro Ziegler, ceremony table, Janet Blum. Third Row: Alice Rice, Mary Ann Maher, Past Arizona State President Dr. Joye Sterrett Bottom row: Cindy Burson, Tammy Kohli, Judy Lewis

Educational Excellence Committee Update

by Susan Halliday, Chair

THE SPOTLIGHT AWARD

The Spotlight Award is designed to recognize DKG chapter members for their accomplishments through contributions to the community and/or education outside of DKG projects or affiliations. The Spotlight Award winners for 2020 are as follows:



Mary Pat Lansing (above) is a member of Epsilon chapter from St. David. Mary Pat has been a constant contributor to music events in the communities of St. David and Benson for her entire life. She has played piano and organ for the Benson Catholic Church and the St. David Monastery for many years. She continues to participate in the Community Choir, playing piano, writing her own compositions, and conducting for their programs throughout the year.



Sue Mueller (left) is a member of Alpha Delta chapter from Scottsdale. She is a Sunday School teacher, teaching grades 6-9. She also serves as a deaconess planning special events for women and families. She teaches Women's Bible studies, plans game nights, hosts craft events. She visits an elderly member of the church and takes her on outings so she can enjoy cards with friends. Weekly, she volunteers at Standing Stones Christian Academy reading to small groups of children. She also serves at Vice-President of the Christian Academy Council. Sue is an active member of "Project Linus" where she sews and turns in 4 to 5 blankets monthly for children in crisis. Sue has assisted in delivering food items to the Standing Stones Food Bank from AASRA member donations.



Marge Threewit (above right) is a member of Alpha Beta chapter from Phoenix. Marge is very actively involved as a community volunteer. At the Adobe Mountain School, part of the juvenile correction system for girls in AZ, Marge works as a mentor at the facility once a week, twice a month she participates in a food and devotional gathering and on the 3rd Monday of the month, facilitates a birthday celebration for the girls. In addition, Marge is busy with ASRA, serving as a unit president, creating the monthly newsletter, and has served as the treasurer. Marge also sings in her church choir and serves as a table leader for Bible study.

ACTS OF SERVICE

Arizona DKG members certainly serve their communities. The **DKG AZ Serves** data shows that over 185 individual members volunteered 12,010 hours and gave \$3351 in donations. Also, chapters gave to the community by donating 329 hours and \$1450 through group projects. In total for the year, approximately 22,309 community members were served by approximately 373 AZ DKG members giving of their time and money.

Schools for Africa became the Society's first official international project in 2010. Over the ten-year period DKG members have donated over \$450,000. In 2019, ten Arizona chapters donated to the Schools for Africa program through UNICEF. Their combined total contribution was \$843.03. The SFA mission involves providing access to quality basic education for children, focusing on girls, orphans, and other vulnerable youngsters within 21 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

Roses



WHITE ROSES

"A Moment to Remember... A Lifetime to Honor"

Dorothy Kellerman

May 30, 2020

Eta

Kathryn May Bossuyf

June 19, 2020

Xi & Upsilon

RED ROSES

Kristy Miller (Alpha Beta) earned her PhD in Professional Studies in Adult Education from Capella University in May, 2020. Miller's dissertation topic was A Qualitative Investigation of Differentiated Instructional Strategies in Mixed-Age Classrooms.

Carmen Wendt (Chi) has been asked to be on the International Golden Gift Committee this biennium.

State Officer Nominations Are Now Open

by Alice Reule, Nominations Chair

Are you interested in growing professionally? If so, apply for a State Officer Position for 2021-23. The Corresponding Secretary position is always open. List all positions that are of interest to you as there may be other openings.

Current officers and new applicants are asked to fill out the application in detail by listing dates in attendance for each event. The Nomination Application Form is on the State Website.

Deadline for submission is December 1.

Scholarship Announcement

by Sandy Hillegass, Scholarship Committee



Last year, Kimberly George of Alpha chapter DKG, was awarded the Alice Lang/Kay Fisher/Judy Vison Endowment Scholarship for her continued education in learning, assisting, and advocating for children with autism.

Congratulations to her and thanks to all the DKG members who have consistently donated monies to honor these wonderful ladies for whom the endowment is named.

This year we are elated to be able to offer more scholarships to members of Arizona DKG. There is a wide variety of educational advancement opportunities that a member would be able to apply for: advanced degrees, specialized endorsements, national board certification and other possibilities.

If you are thinking of moving up on the pay scale or just want to take a few classes to finish an endorsement, a Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship is waiting for you!

There is also another opportunity to receive money to enhance your classroom, virtually or in person. The Jo Regenold Fund was set up in her honor to help defray some out of pocket expenses that would enrich student learning.

Some examples of what this fund could be used for are: supplies for art, music, or math activities, or a field trip. Previous awards have included seminar registration and 4th grade science materials.

The good news is that you have until April 2021 to apply for either of these DKG awards. The Scholarship Committee is waiting for you to apply! The applications can be found on the Arizona DKG website.

How Downsizing Helped Slow the Spread of Covid-19

by Janet Vickers, Omega



Kathy Chesser sews masks, left. Above, Chesser displays finished masks in September 2020

Omega Chapter members used summer shelter-in-place time for mask making, one of this year's chapter projects, and it all started with downsizing.

Omega's Alice Rice had no idea her move from a large home to a smaller apartment would impact hundreds of people, all from donating craft and quilting fabrics. Chapter member Judy Lewis used Alice's and her own fabric to stitch dozens of carefully ironed adult-sized face masks for veterans, older children, and numerous friends. Her preferred method: a contoured fitted pattern with cord or flat elastics looped through stitched channels. Janet Vickers coped with a summer shortage of elastic by substituting shoelaces. Omega's new Chapter President Janet Blum added still more masks to the fun. For the grand finale, Kathy Chesser wowed everyone by crafting an astounding 150 festive child-sized and adult face masks, with adjustable color-coordinated elastic ear loops, and pockets for coffee-filter inserts.

Members chose to donate adult sizes to the Veterans Administration, and children's face coverings to Title I Pueblo Elementary School. Omega's Chapter President Janet Blum is a former PTO president for Pueblo, and several members had taught with Principal Shelley Hummon, Omega's friend and former DKG member, so re-connecting with Pueblo felt like attending a family reunion.

Rules Committee News

by Rachel Wear, Rules Committee Chair

The Arizona State Rules Committee is announcing that the revised State Bylaws and Standing Rules are now posted on the Arizona State Website at azdkg.weebly.com.

Directions on Website:

- From Home Page, click on DKG AZ STATE
- Scroll to Bylaws/Standing Rules
- Click on downloads.
- You will first see the DKG Purposes, followed by the Table of Contents and then the documents.

This gives each Arizona member the opportunity to review these documents. Please feel free to contact the Rules Committee (rmwear57@gmail.com), with any questions or concerns.

Also, the committee has been meeting regularly via ZOOM and is in the process of updating the Arizona State Organization Procedures Manual, which will be published and distributed to the State Officers and State Committee Chairs.

A First for Arizona: Live Training for Chapter Officers

by Alice Reule, Leadership Chair

Chapter officer training will be held virtually this year. State Committee Officers are sending their presentations to President Carmen Wendt for posting on YouTube before the Fall Workshop.

On Saturday October 24 you will be connected live through Zoom for interaction with other chapter officers. Look forward to seeing each of your faces and answering any questions you might have.



International Representative Connie Rensink will join the P residents' training. Have your questions ready.

DKG Song Receives a Makeover

by Patricia Rendon, Lambda

“Women teachers to the calling...” As we have all sung this stirring DKG anthem, how many of us have had a difficult time reaching the high notes in the refrain? Or maybe you decided to sing it an octave lower, and then couldn't reach those low notes? Well, your challenges may now be over.

Charmaine Piane Dame, a music educator and member of Lambda Chapter, has stepped up to the plate and has transposed our beloved song to make it more user friendly. She has put it in the key of D, which is a step and a half lower than the original and has made it much more singable. Besides that, she has presented it in a very professional format which can be downloaded and printed so that it can be played on a piano, guitar or keyboard.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of this version of the DKG song, please contact her at bcdame@comcast.net

Zooming with Chi

by Linda Perl, Chi

Chi Chapter held its first meeting as a Zoom Meeting, Saturday, September 5. It was a joyous event as so many participated and were honored.

The chapter awarded Miki Grady and Judy Tucker, both members of DKG for 43 years, with The Chi Chapter Appreciation Award for dedication and service.

Three fine educators were inducted as members: Dr. Tammy Dias, Heather Moll, and Olivia Gersten. Furthermore, two excellent educators were honored with Chi Chapter's Key Woman Educator Award. Recipients were Kylie Haworth, a preschool teacher of the Chanen School in Phoenix, and Sheryl Rednor, a Director of Professional Training and Program Coordination of the Scottsdale Unified School District.

Chi Chapter's next meeting is a Zoom with DKG book award winner, Gail Goolsby on Saturday, December 12. Goolsby's book "The Unveiled Truth," is a memoir about her experiences in Kabul, Afghanistan during war and unrest as the principal and creator of the American School.

The presentation is open to all members of The Arizona State Organization, so please email lperl@cox.net for the information. Small donations are accepted to assist Gail Goolsby in her endeavors.

Want to Make History?

by Debbie Bennighof, Art Committee Chair

This year's Arts Retreat will be different than any other! We will have our Art Retreat on Zoom and YouTube.

The fantastic thing is it begins on January 15, 2021 in the evening and runs most of the day on Saturday and Sunday. We will end on Monday early afternoon.

The presenters will make a packet of materials if needed for their class. Then you will receive a “Retreat in a Box” with everything you need. The cost of the box will be on the registration form. That's the only payment needed.

More information will be available to share at the Fall Workshop.

Questions? Contact Debbie Bennighof: Debbieb704@gmail.com, (623) 476-2943



DKG Arizona Teacher Wish List

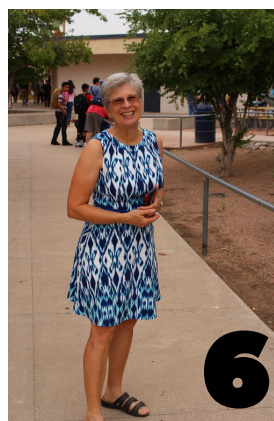
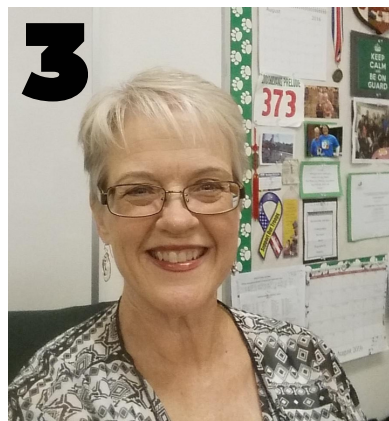
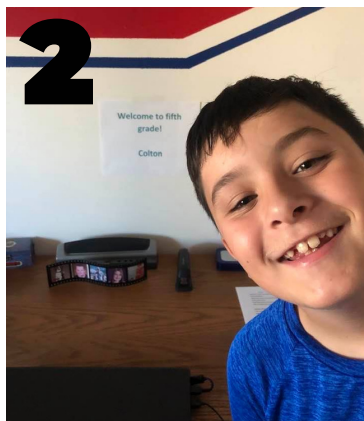
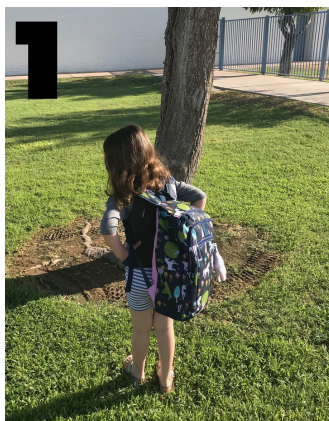
Compile and send the following information to Julie Berkel at jmtb56@cox.net.

- Teacher name
- School and grade level
- Street address with City, State & Zip Code (for sending supplies)
- Wishes for the classroom (Cleaners, hand sanitizer, books, craft supplies, markers, etc.)
- Wishes for individual students (head phones, notebooks, calculators, backpacks, etc.)

Gifts cards for Amazon, Target, Walmart, Starbucks, etc. are always good.

Back to School Round-Up

REMINISCING ON YEARS PAST AND WORKING THROUGH TODAY'S INTERESTING CIRCUMSTANCES.



1. Alexa, age 5, is in Pre K in Tempe. She is a little camera shy, grandmother Kathy Green, Alpha Delta, could not omit her.
2. Linda Lucas' grandson, Colton, first day of fifth grade at Donaldson Elementary School in Amphitheater Public Schools, remote learning on August 10, 2020.
3. Cindy Britton, Alpha Chapter, on her last first day of school teaching. August 11, 2016, Arcadia, CA.
4. Back to school photo, Kathy Chesser, Omega chapter Vice President
5. Kathy Green, Alpha Delta, also has a grandson, Jack, now in fifth grade and attending Kyrene de la Mariposa School in Tempe
6. Linda Lucas, Alpha chapter, August 2018, first day of school at Flowing Wells Junior High, outside to greet new seventh graders and help them find their classrooms.
7. Kathy Green, Alpha Delta, has two grandchildren, Patrick & Colgan, attending St. Theresa's in the valley.