

Viola C. Lewis, daughter of Elbert F. (1877-1931) and Hannah (Swanson) (1886 Sweden - 1976) Lewis, was born 16 April 1910, Michigan. Viola graduated in 1928 from Western State Teacher's College (was Western State Normal, Western State Teacher's College, Michigan College of Education, Western Michigan College and now is Western Michigan University), Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County, Michigan. While in college she was violinist with the Glee Club's string trio.

*Western State Teacher's College 1928 yearbook*

### *The Girls' Glee Club*

**T**HE Varsity Girls' Glee Club, under the direction of Dorothea Sage Snyder, consists this year of thirty-five selected voices. This is an unusually large number, but such an arrangement has made it possible for more girls to enjoy the work and to profit by this musical experience.

The organization has had unusual success this year due, no doubt, to the varied talent it possesses. The String Trio, a new group of musicians, and Florence Brown, whistler, have added much to the programs.

The club has made concert trips to Nashville, Battle Creek, Schoolcraft, Tekonsha, Cedar Springs, Parchment, Newaygo, Grand Rapids, Three Rivers and Watervliet. During Spring vacation a tour was made through northern Michigan which included Cadillac, Benzonia, Traverse City, Frankfort, and Howard City.

Although this club exists for the purpose of developing musical appreciation, nevertheless many good times have been enjoyed. The work and play of the year culminated in a house party at Mrs. Snyder's cottage at Cora Lake in June.

The officers of the club for 1928 were:

*President* ..... MARIAN KINCH  
*Vice-president* ..... ETHEL CALLARD  
*Secretary* ..... FLORENCE PHILLIPS  
*Treasurer* ..... ELEANOR DAVIS  
*Business Manager* ..... MARGUERITE MAY  
*Advertising Manager* ..... ETHEL HUYCK  
*Accompanist of the Glee Club* ..... MARIE ILIFF

*The Girls' Quartette*

MILDRED WOTRING, ETHEL CALLARD, MARIE ILIFF, EMMA ANDERSON

*Members of the String Trio*

VIOLA LEWIS, HELEN CLARK, ELEANOR DAVIS

*Personnel of the Girls' Trio*

MAXINE FESSENDEN, MARGUERITE MAY, MARIAN KINCH  
 ELEANORE DAVIS, *Accompanist*

MEMBERS

KINCH	ANDERSON	BARKER	BENNINK	BLAIR
BROWN	CALLARD	CLARK	DAVIS	EVEREST
FESSENDEN	HACKENBERG	HUTCHINS	HUYCK	JENNINGS
JOHNSON	Lewis	MAY	MYNER	NELSON
PHILLIPS	PHILLIPS	PARKER	PHILLIPS	PHILLIPS
RAY	SMITH	SPRAU	STEWART	VEENHUIS
VAN VYNCK	VAN VYVEN	WHITING	WOOD	WOTRING
WRIGHT	WRIGHT(H)			

The 1930 US Federal Census, Ingham County, Michigan enumerated Viola as a public school teacher, age 19, rooming with 2 other young single school teacher women. Viola was listed as a Drama teacher at Okemos High School in 1932. She actually taught in Okemos Consolidated School from 1929 through the 1935 school year.

*Lansing State Journal, May 11, 1929*

## Lansing School of Music to Present Okemos High School Band at Annual Spring Recital



Okemos High school has a band that is doing very creditable work under the direction of Frank C. Perne and Miss Viola Lewis. On Friday evening, April 26, the organization appeared on a program given at the

Okemos Consolidated school and on Monday evening, May 13, will be heard on the program for the annual spring recital of the Lansing School of Music which will be given at the First Baptist church, Lansing.

On 23 June 1935 Viola wed Adolph A. Klautsch, Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan. Adolph, born 23 April 1909 Thayer, Oregon County, Missouri, listed himself as a teacher on the wedding license. Adolph became an instructor in the department of Philosophy and Psychology in 1946 and went on to become an assistant professor at Michigan State College. He taught school at Iron Mountain, Dickson County, Michigan Frankfort, Benzie County, Michigan and Birmingham, Oakland County,

Michigan from 1933 to 1939 and was an instructor at the University of Illinois from 1939 to 1943. He held a bachelor of science and master of science degrees in education and a doctor of philosophy degree in education and psychology from the University of Illinois. By the 1970's Adolph was teaching psychology classes in cooperative engineering and part time education programs at General Motors Institute. Flint, Genesee County, Michigan. He was the author of 3 textbooks used at the GM Institute. Adolph served in the US Army during World War II from 1943-1946.

Viola and Adolph lived in the Lansing area for several years after World War II. Viola was very active in church activities.

*Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Friday 16 January 1948*

### **TRINITY LUTHERAN WOMEN HEAR TALK**

Fifty members of Trinity Lutheran Ladies' Aid society met Wednesday evening in the parish hall for their regular business meeting.

**Mrs. Adolph Klautach**, newly elected president, conducted the session and the calendar for the year was presented by Mrs. Arthur Smithke.

Mrs. E. W. Meyer introduced Mrs. LeMoyne Snyder, who spoke on the Hesse crown jewels.



HELEN LEONARDSON, *Pittsford*. Early El.  
Eldorado  
Early El. Club

GRACE LETCHER, *Buchanan*. Junior High.  
Eldorado Club

IRMA LEVEY, *Elsie*. Junior High.  
Junior High Club

FRANK LEVINE, *Sault Ste. Marie*. B. S.  
Oteyokwa Club

ALICE LEWIS, *Greenville*. A. B.  
Senate

ELSIE LEWIS, *Kalamazoo*. Later El.  
Later El. Club  
Orchestra

HOWARD LEWIS, *Kalamazoo*. B. S.  
Orchestra

VIOLA LEWIS, *Grand Rapids*. Junior High.  
Orchestra  
Glee Club  
Junior High Club

VIVIAN LICKLEY, *Pittsford*. Early El  
Early El. Club

RAYMOND LINCOLNHOL, *St. Joseph*. Art  
Art Club

Viola died 26 June 1986, Midland, Midland County, Michigan. Adolph died 10 April 1987, Midland. They were interred Homer Township Cemetery, Midland.