

Dorothy Alice Dundas, daughter of Arthur (1865-1944) and Bella Gordon (Scott) (1869-1956), was born 12 May 1905, Bad Axe, Huron County, Michigan. Mrs. Dundas was a school teacher for many years in Huron County while Mr. Dundas was well known in the hardware business. Dorothy graduated from Bad Axe High School and furthered her education at Western State Teachers College (now

*The Times Herald, May 5, 1946*

## Federation President

Western Michigan University), Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County, Michigan and at Michigan State College (now Michigan State University), Ingham County, Michigan.

Dorothy married George Edward Peterson 13 November 1926, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. George, born 16 April 1904, was an educator. He taught at several schools in Michigan and then moved into a 14-year employment as principal at Algonac High School, St. Clair County, Michigan. George then became Yale Public School Superintendent, Yale, St. Clair County, until about 1951

*Lansing State Journal, October 19, 1962*



—Photo by Warner, Marine City

Mrs. George E. Peterson, Yale, was re-elected president of St. Clair County Federation of Women's Clubs recently. She is a member of Yale Key Ring society.

Federation members have parkway beautification in mind this spring and will plant trees at a picnic scheduled for May 15, or May 22 in case of rain on the first named date.

## County Teachers Elect

Election of five new officers for the 1962-63 school year was announced Thursday by the Ingham County Education association.

The officers named at a recent meeting included Dottie Anderson of Holt, president; Richard R. Sabrosky of Forest school, president-elect; Leonard Sinke of Leslie, second vice-president;

Alger company, Long Transportation, Michigan Express, Speaker, Hines and Thomas company (employees), Harold J. Howland, certified public accountant; Winkelman's (employees) Novo Pump and Engine company, Lansing Die

Doryce Cogswell of Holt, secretary, and Dorothy D. Peterson of Okemos, treasurer.

Speaker at the meeting at Okemos high school was Dr. E. Dale Kennedy, executive secretary of the Michigan Education association.

Dr. Kennedy discussed "The Professional Team" and emphasized that teachers must work together in an organization to bring about better working conditions and better schools.

He said the greatest obstacles to "professional teamwork" are apathy, indifference, extreme individualism and ignorance of the fundamental rules of the game.

when he took the position of Superintendent of Fenton Schools, Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan. Dr. Peterson took the position of Assistant Placement Director at Michigan State University in 1957.

*Detroit Free Press (Detroit, Michigan) Friday 26 July 1957*

## SCHOOL HEAD TAKES MSU POST

Flint - George E. Peterson, school superintendent at nearby Fenton, will become assistant placement director at Michigan State University Aug. 15.

## Yale Schools Renew 1951-52 Contract Of George E. Peterson



GEORGE E. PETERSON

Yale, Feb. 17—The contract of George E. Peterson as Superintendent of Yale Public Schools was renewed for the 1951-52 school year at a meeting of the Yale Board of Education Thursday night.

Mr. Peterson, veteran of 25 years in the profession, served 14 years with the Algonac School system before joining the Yale staff. He has been Superintendent here since 1944.

In addition to his work in the local school system, Mr. Peterson has taken an active interest in the entire Michigan education program. At the request of Lee M. Thurston, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, he accepted chairmanship of current State committee on Education for Citizenship.

The Board of Education, during the regular session Thursday, discussed a tentative budget for the new school year.

Board members authorized issuance of contracts for the coming year for teaching personnel in the school system.

Peterson, a native of Kinde, Mich., has been Fenton superintendent since 1951.

The 1940 US Federal Census for the state of Michigan enumerated the Peterson family of 4 living in St. Claire County where George was employed as a high school principal. Dorothy was a stay-at-home mother with two young children, George Edward, age 7, and Lynn Alice, age 2. By the 1944-1945 school year Dorothy was teaching chemistry and physics at Yale High School under her Superintendent husband, George.

Wherever Dorothy lived she was very active in local community, church educational and social organizations. The Peterson's daughter became the family's 3rd generation school teacher. Son, George Edward, joined the US Marine Corps.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Sunday 9  
February 1958

### MUSIC HONORARY INVITES LOCALITE

Delta Iota chapter of Delta Omicron, national honorary music fraternity for women, recently initiated Miss Lynne Peterson.

Miss Peterson, a sophomore at Central Michigan college studying vocal music, is a member of the concert choir. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. George E. Peterson, 4269 Oakwood Dr., Okemos.



Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 17 May 1960

**PETERSON** - Marine Lt. George E. Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Peterson of 4269 Oakwood dr., Okemos, has completed a seven weeks course in naval justice at Camp Pendleton, Cal.

*Lansing State Journal, May 17, 1964*



**HONORS TEA**—An honors tea this afternoon from 3 to 4 p.m. will fete academically outstanding students at Okemos High School. Sponsoring the event is the Okemos Woman's Club. Pictured, left to right, are seated, Mrs. Charles K. Parkhurst and Miss Patricia Gay Vinge; standing, Mrs. George E. Peterson and Dale E. Shearer. Miss Vinge is holding the forensic award she received from the club. (State Journal Photos)



# Leader Says Women Must Offer Challenge

By BEVERLY HALL  
State Journal Womens Writer

Women's clubs should be working to challenge all persons, not just their own members, on issues of importance to the entire society, states Mrs. George Peterson, chairman of the State Education Department of the Federated Women's Clubs of Michigan.

"Women's clubs have such diverse memberships that their potential for reaching our entire society is immeasurable," Mrs. Peterson says.

Her work with the Michigan Federation of Women's Clubs exemplifies the challenge she puts forth to other women. A member of the state federation since 1930, Mrs. Peterson has also been president of various local



MRS. GEORGE PETERSON  
... education a continuum

She was on the original board of the State Federation that organized a Michigan Girls' Town home in Belleville.

"This isn't a home for delinquent girls," Mrs. Peterson is quick to point out. "The girls who stay there have emotional problems, usually connected with their family relationships."

Her experience as a public school guidance counselor aids Mrs. Peterson in helping the nine girls who live at Girls' Town.

Mrs. Peterson retired in June as counselor at Okemos

See CLUB, Pg. E-3, Col. 4

women's clubs, chairman of the St. Claire County Federation of Women's Clubs and has held her present state office for two years.

"Education never ends when a person finishes formal schooling," Mrs. Peterson says. "It is part of a life-long continuum for each individual."

To encourage the continuation of education on an individual basis, Mrs. Peterson was one of the originators of Epsilon Sigma Omicron, a planned reading self-education program that operates through the cooperation of the Federated Women's Clubs and the State Library.

Any women's club member can gain membership to the honorary by reading 2000 or more pages on a recommended single topic.

Mrs. Peterson set up the program in 1958 and was its chairman for five years. "We have added courses since the first year, she explains. Some of the more popular of the 16 courses now offered are "Living Religions of the World," "Michigan History," "The United Nations," "Historical Novel," "Modern Novel," and "Civil Rights and Integration."

Mrs. Peterson has completed 12 of the courses herself. All the recommended readings, she explains, can be obtained at the State Library.

Another development in which Mrs. Peterson was instrumental was the formation of Girls' Town, in the early 1950's.



# Club Leader Says School Never Out

Concluded from Page E-1

High School. She says that while she was a teacher and counselor, she learned to understand some of the problems of young people, and realized that many, if not most of them, come from family relationships.

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"It's difficult for parents to recognize and admit personality conflicts with their own children, because they think of them simply as their children, and not as individuals," Mrs. Peterson explains.

Parent - child conflicts are most often between mother and daughter and between father and son, because a parent tends to have higher expectations of a child of his same sex, she claims.

Other difficulties arise when parents compare their children, and the usual result, Mrs. Peterson says, is "sibling jealousy."

"Parents should never compare their children's abilities and potential," she warns. "Comparisons result in a detrimental effect on one child or the other."

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Mrs. Peterson lives with her husband in Okemos. He is an associate professor of education and assistant director of the placement of teachers at Michigan State University.

She was a teacher and counselor for 28 years, beginning her career in the Lansing area while her husband completed his education at MSU.

"I've taught just about everything," she concluded with a smile. "Before I started counseling, I taught science, economics, English, French, even Latin."

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Dorothy was on the teaching staff at Okemos High School. She was a school Guidance Counselor, retiring in 1967.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Sunday 7 May 1967

## RETIRING COUNSELOR FETED AT OKEMOS

Okemos - "I have been given the opportunity to understand the student as an individual, to help him realize his strengths and weaknesses and to encourage his efforts to achieve his full potential."

*1963 OHS Tomahawk Yearbook*



DOROTHY PETERSON  
Counselor  
Teaches: Social Studies and  
English  
Sponsors: Junior Class and Honor  
Society  
Degree: Master of Arts

That has been the most rewarding part of her last 25 years in education, says Mrs. George Peterson who will retire in June as counselor at Okemos High School (1959-1967).

She was guest of honor at the Okemos Education Association banquet Thursday evening in the high school cafeteria and was presented with a 25-year service pin by Mrs. Thelma Lamb, also a counselor at the high school.

Themed "May Night," the annual event was attended by over 200 Okemos teachers and guests.

"Our youths are more serious today," says Mrs. Peterson, looking back through her years of experience with youngsters. "Those who have a high potential are making better use of it today and their motivation to achieve is higher."

"Greater pressures are being exerted upon the student to achieve, too," she says.

Mrs. Peterson is active in state and local professional, civic, and church organizations and resides with her husband at 4200 Oakwood Drive, Okemos.

She has a son who is a major in the Marine corps and a daughter who teaches vocal music in South Redford Township.

George retired from Michigan State University in 1970. The Peterson's started in 1970 wintering yearly in Arizona. George died 21 January 1980 in Mesa Lutheran Hospital, Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona. Dorothy remarried widower Willard Morrison Sprague in 1981. Willard, born 2 July 1909, died 22 January 1983. He was interred near his first wife, Frances (1911-1965), Colfax Cemetery, Huron County.

Dorothy died 26 April 2002, Port Austin, Huron County.

## **Dorothy Sprague**

Dorothy Peterson Sprague, 96, died peacefully at her home in Port Austin on Friday evening, April 26, 2002.

Dorothy was born May 12, 1905, in Bad Axe to the late Arthur and Bella (Scott) Dundas.

She was a graduate of Bad Axe High School and obtained a master's degree from Michigan State University. She was a high school teacher and guidance counselor in several school districts in Michigan.

In 1926, she married George E. Peterson who died in 1980 after 53 years of marriage. In 1981, she married Willard M. Sprague who preceded her in death in 1983.

Dorothy enjoyed reading and writing poetry. She was a member of the United Protestant Church of Port Austin and the Priscilla Club. She also was very active in the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Since 1970, Dorothy spent winters in Mesa, Ariz., where she was a member of Apache Wells Community Church. She belonged to Women's Fellowship and sang in the choir.

Dorothy is survived by her son, George Peterson and his wife, Joan, of San Diego, Calif.; one daughter, Lynne Peterson of Port Austin; two grandsons, George Peterson and his wife, Jennifer, of Wilton, Conn., and Scott Peterson and his wife, Donna, of San Diego; three stepsons, Gerald Sprague and his wife, Connie, of Bad Axe, Dr. Bruce Sprague and his wife, Jean, of Goodrich, and the Rev. Richard Sprague and his wife, Betty, of Tavares, Fla.; one stepdaughter, Judith Holmes of Miami, Fla.; three great-grandchildren, Robert, Michael and Kelly Peterson; seven Sprague great-grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Mae Bouck and her husband, Olin, of Cass City; one niece, Lorraine Faist and her husband, Dale, of Mesa, Ariz., formerly of Elkton; four nephews, Harvey Furness and his wife, Lois, of Indian River, David Winston of Pinnebog, Roger Bouck and his wife, Vera, of Cass City, and Ernest Bouck; and a stepsister, Hazel Furness.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Francis Winston and Muriel Gilbert; and one sister-in-law, Marion Furness.



In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be conducted at a later date. Local arrangements are being handled by MacAlpine Funeral Home.

*1965 Okemos High School*

*1960 Okemos Tomahawk yearbook*



*Filing a student's CA-39 is Mrs. Dorothy Peterson, guidance counselor. A CA-39 kept for each student, aids in job and college recommendations.*