

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH

JUNE 1998

SYDNEY KRASNO

The Leisure World Historical Society is pleased to present Sydney Krasno as its Leisure Worlder of the Month for June, 1998.

Sydney, or Syd as he is known to his friends and family, is a product of the great depression, a prime example of one who in the face of adversity made life a success. Not wealthy, his parents sent him to the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He will forever be grateful to them for their foresight, he said.

Syd will always remember, he explains, the cost was \$450.00 per year, paid in monthly installment of \$45.00. Tuition was \$27.00 per semester. His major was Economics and Labor; he received his degree in 1938.

Out of school Syd immediately went to work for his father, the owner of a small factory in Milwaukee manufacturing leather gloves and mittens. Later his father was stricken with an illness that caused his retirement from the business. The factory fell into Syd's hands; although young in years he accepted the challenge and went on to expand and diversify the operation.

Those who have known him since his arrival in Leisure World, he and his wife of 58 years, Marian, recognized the attributes that have made him successful. During World War II years he demonstrated his ingenuity in increasing production to meet the demands imposed by the Quartermaster Corp for gloves and mittens that were so critical to the war effort.

Early on Syd recognized that he possessed an intellect that motivated him to make sound decisions that were responsible for the success of his business. That leadership attribute instilled a need to be of service when the opportunity and need fell his way.

During his nine years in Leisure World he has continued to participate in activities that he is attracted to. He is a member of the Democratic Club, is currently president of the World on Film Club #1, and on the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club, and the Saddleback Kiwanis Foundation.

Syd confesses that music has been his hobby for 70 years. One of his greatest joys is entertaining the Stroke Club playing the Keyboard!

He and Marian raised three children, Janet, James, and John. They have three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

When asked about Leisure World, after having lived in various areas of the county following retirement, Syd responded: "Of all the places Marian and I have lived over the years, we have found Leisure World the nicest by far".