

Parks prep for summer season

John Nemeth, Syracuse park board president, announces that Syracuse park hours will be the same this year as last with the park closing at dusk.

A total of four to six lifeguards will be working on a scattered schedule from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nemeth said that Larry Shook, new park board member, has arranged a work schedule for the guards where no one guard will work all the hours in one day. One lifeguard might come in at 10 a.m. and work until around 2 p.m. when another lifeguard will come on duty to relieve him. This way, the lifeguards will be more efficient.

On week ends and holidays, there will be two lifeguards on duty at the same time.

New Park Sign

Nemeth also announces a park sign posting the hours and rules of the park will be put up some time this week end when the park officially opens. A new pay telephone has also been put up at the park. Nemeth said, "a lot of people might want a phone." He cited emergencies and kids calling their parents to pick them up as two uses for the new phone. Nemeth added, however, the phone might be taken out if too much vandalism occurs.

The concession stand at the park will be opening this week end, Memorial Day Week end with the Camp Fire Girls running it as last year. The one dollar picnic table rental fee will be collected at the stand, as was done last year.

Nemeth also said a boy has been hired to work in the park doing general maintenance work. He will work in the park for 16

hours a week and work the remaining 24 hours for the town probably in the street department.

Swimming hours have been changed slightly this year said Nemeth. Instead of swimming 45 minutes and breaking for 15 minutes, swimmers can swim for approximately 50 minutes with a five to 10 minute break.

The strobe light at the park has been broken and will be fixed soon. Nemeth added that the Syracuse Lake Association wants another light to be placed on Medusa Street. These lights will be radio controlled by the Syracuse police for storm warnings.

Concerning special activities, Nemeth ended by saying, "we have no activities scheduled at the park."

At Milford

Community persons and park board members in Milford are trying to get the Waubee Lake Park ready for the summer season.

More painting and carpentry help is needed before the renovation is complete. Several past Saturdays have been spent attempting to get the park equipment repaired and the grounds cleaned up.

The pier is about in and work is underway on the concession stand. So far, no water is available at the stand.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Smith of Goshen, the new caretakers of the Waubee Lake Park, are expected to move in their mobile home by the end of the week.

The Milford Lion's Club has ordered picnic tables for the park, which could use a lawn

mower.

"But there will be things going on out there all summer trying to get things looking like we want to," said Marion Acton, park board chairman. Other park board members are Connie Smith, treasurer; Levi Beer, vice chairman; D. G. Seely. Dorothy Williams has also been meeting with the park board.

Park board have drawn up rules for the use of the park, which are as follows:

Park Rules

A lifeguard will be on duty from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on week days and from 12 a.m. until 6 p.m. on week ends.

The lifeguard has authority over the beach area and anyone not doing as he or she says must leave the beach area.

There is to be no rough play, or pushing or running on pier.

Please do not litter, put all trash in the barrels.

No animals, glass, liquor or scuba equipment is allowed on the beach or in the swimming area.

All swimming and floating toys used beyond the dropoff markers are at the swimmers own risk.

The dropoff is marked, it becomes very deep very quickly, please do not swim beyond this if you are an inexperienced swimmer.

No fishing will be allowed in the swimming area.

The pavilion is rented for a fee of \$10 a day or evening. See concessionnaire or write Milford Park Board, Box 495 Milford.

The beach and swimming area will be open at 6 a.m. and close at 10 p.m. There shall be no loitering at the park when the

park is closed.

Any person defacing or destroying property or printing, writing, etching or using profane or obscene language shall be suspended from recreation privileges and may be subject to arrest.

There shall be no fires on any beach area; cook stoves have been provided for the public use. Persons may bring in their own cooking facilities but they shall be required to extinguish all fires. Do not empty hot coals into the trash receptacles.

No person shall throw another person into the lake.

No one is allowed on the life guard stand but the life guard.

There shall be no acts done which tend to create a danger, a hazard or disturbance to others.

The Town of Milford shall not be held responsible for liability for any accident involving either property damage or personal injury for which the Town of Milford has no control.

Harkless, who has lived in Syracuse his entire life, first began sketching and painting in 1968 after he retired from 30 years ownership of the Wawasee Boat Company.

"I'm really doing it for a hobby, for a pastime. I'm not doing it to sell," Harkless said he has shown some of his work in the Syracuse area, however. Many of his sketches can be seen at the State Bank of Syracuse, Pickwick Place and The Mail-Journal office in uptown Syracuse.

Philosophy Of Painting

Harkless has two basic philosophies he believes in with painting. The first deals with the amount of time spent in painting. He said, "the more you paint, the more you learn." He feels the more time an artist spends with his work, the better it will be.

"You really have to put in the mileage when you're painting." Harkless said at first he used to spend about four hours a day painting or sketching, now he paints "Whenever the notion strikes me."

The second philosophy he believes in with painting is that the artist should paint what he believes in. "When painting, paint for yourself," he emphasized. Harkless believes that the artist can only truly enjoy his work if he paints it the way he wants to. This is why Harkless often starts over on a piece if he is not entirely satisfied with it. He presently wants to start over on an Indiana board he has worked on which he feels doesn't say what he wants it to say.

When he first became interested in art, he wanted to sketch, not paint. "I didn't want to paint, I wanted to sketch people." He eventually moved into portrait painting, then into landscapes and still life.

Harkless has also painted many old photographs his father took around the Syracuse area. He said his father, Sheldon Harkless, was an amateur photographer as well as a smalltime painter while also working in his machine shop. Many of his father's pictures of the old landmarks around the lakes became faded he said, so he decided to redo them.

He said he made many sketches of the old hotels from his father's photos, the originals being bought by Eli Lilly.

Harkless continued to say there isn't any one favorite subject he likes to paint. "I get on a tangent. I like to paint Indian scenes on old boards. I also like to paint portraits, but most people don't like to sit for them." Harkless is presently working on an Indian board picturing a scout Indian on a cliff overlooking a lake scouting some cavalry and settlers on the other side.

He said he has had many problems with this work and is not sure when it will be completed.

The artist next said he went to art school in South Bend in 1968 when he knew he wanted to sketch and paint. He went to the art center there, as well as the university and took many private lessons from instructors. While in class, Harkless also dabbled in sculpture.

He said he thought the classes were such a good idea, he started a class here in Syracuse helping along some of the other local artists. He said Syracuse is now "an artist's town." It's remarkable how good they are." He again emphasized that the really good ones put in the time working on their art. He named Mary Bushong as an example.

Will Always Like Lake

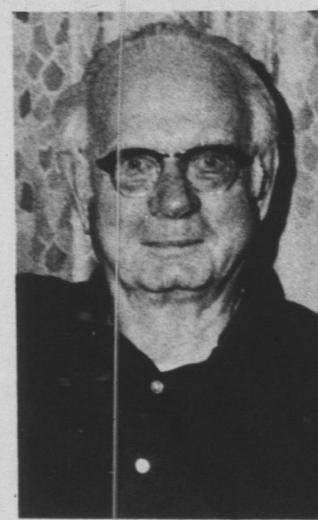
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Local artist Ken Harkless discusses art, Syracuse lakes



By LESLIE WHITMAN

Lover of lakes and beautiful objects — these are the words one could use to describe Ken Harkless, well-known Syracuse artist, living at 300 North Main Street with his wife, niece, dog and collection of paintings and sketches.

Harkless, who has lived in Syracuse his entire life, first began sketching and painting in 1968 after he retired from 30 years ownership of the Wawasee Boat Company.

"I'm really doing it for a hobby, for a pastime. I'm not doing it to sell," Harkless said he has shown some of his work in the Syracuse area, however. Many of his sketches can be seen at the State Bank of Syracuse, Pickwick Place and The Mail-Journal office in uptown Syracuse.

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Will Always Like Lake

Harkless next talked about the lakes in Syracuse and his feelings about them. He began by saying,

"I'll always like the lake,

regardless how it changes. I'll always live here."

He does feel it is a shame, however, that many of the old hotels and dance pavilions no longer exist. "You'll find most older people like it as it was." The younger people now, he said, would not appreciate the old landmarks and would be more rowdy.

Harkless did say though "I remember one time a friend of mine, he and his wife got to dancing and Ross put them off the floor." He was referring to the Waco Dance pavilion and its owner.

When asked about the hotels on Lake Wawasee, Harkless said, "hotels are things of the past on the lake." Many of the old hotels were torn down and a few burned. He said many of the hotels didn't have any fire protection, so they were easy to burn down. One of the old hotels, the Sphinx still exists, but Harkless said it isn't used to be and the people who own it are trying to sell it.

Harkless also mentioned that there used to be many wealthy people who helped the lake, even though he couldn't remember their names. He did say, "we will miss these people."

Harkless did say that more

people are sitting here year round. He attributes this to the good school and general atmosphere of Syracuse and the lakes. These people will also help Syracuse the artist feels. Ken Harkless summed everything up about the lake and his feelings towards it by his final statement. "I think the lake's a wonderful thing. As a kid, it was our playground." For Ken Harkless, the lake is still a playground in his heart.

REAL MENU

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Juice, liver and onions, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rye bread, margarine, peaches, milk, tea, coffee

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Juice, chicken patties, peas, mashed potatoes and gravy, margarine, bread, cookie, milk, tea, coffee

MONDAY, MAY 30

Closed — Memorial Day

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Juice, B. B. Q. on bun, german potato salad, green peas, pears, milk, tea, coffee

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Juice, stewed chicken with dumplings, glazed carrots, bread, margarine, chocolate cake, milk, tea, coffee

It's hard for a fellow to keep a chip on his shoulder if you allow him to take a bow. Billy Rose

It is not true that banks have no sense of humor. After all, they were the ones who coined the phrase, "easy payments."

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