

2021 FALL/WINTER

# THE CANOPY

The Official Seno K/RLT Conservancy  
Newsletter



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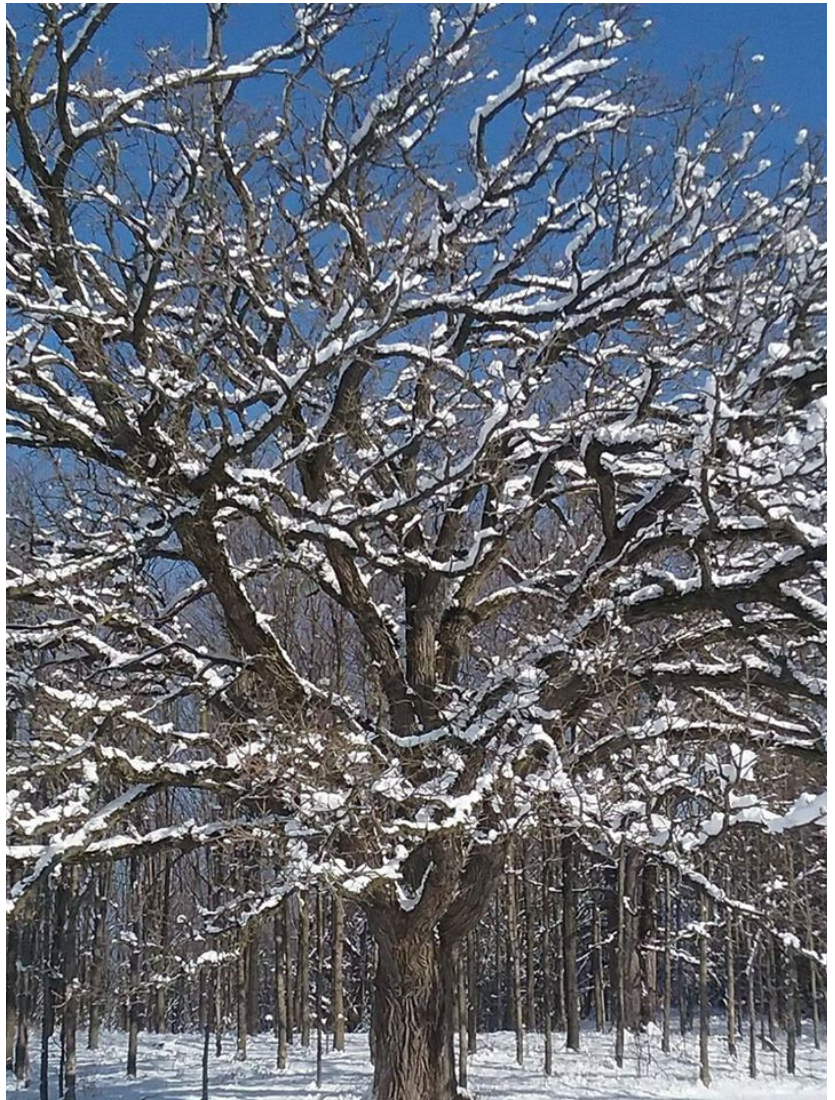
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## SENO K/RLT CONSERVANCY

**"FOSTERING A MUTUALLY  
BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN THE LAND THE WATER  
AND THE PEOPLE."**

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# FALL WITH SENO K/RLT CONSERVANCY

## Summer's End, Autumn Open House, & New Programming

2021 has been another year of growth for Seno K/RLT Conservancy. We began the year building new community partnerships in order to reach a larger, diverse audience within Kenosha and Racine Counties. Despite the barriers we are still facing during the pandemic, we adjusted to how we deliver environmental education in innovative ways.

This past summer was filled with fun and excitement as we delivered our very first Community Outreach Programs! Our summer programs engaged children throughout Kenosha and Racine to give them an outdoor learning experience in local natural areas and parks. These programs are designed to connect children to the natural world in their own neighborhoods. We served hundreds of children with participants from Kenosha YMCA, Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, ELCA, EASY Neighborhood Camp, and community support from City of Kenosha Parks Alliance, Southport Park Association, WATERshed Program, and Kenosha Public Library. We also had the help of some amazing volunteers who made executing these programs possible! During fall we were thrilled to host a visit from the Sierra Club Southeast Gateway Group, where we led the group on a tour of the property, with a focus on trees and shrubs on the property & their identification.

Our board members Kevin Nolan (ISA certified arborist) and Mark Lesko (our new board president) happily led the group through both the history and landscape at our Woodland Management Center.

Fall was also spent hosting our first ever Autumn Open House event! We wanted to invite our community to visit our Woodland Management Center, learn more about us, and explore. And of course, enjoy some festive crafts, beverages, and caramel apples generously donated by Brightonwoods Orchard, one of our conservation easement landowners. Paired with an amazing storytelling event by Jessica Michna to round out the evening, it was a fun time for all involved and over \$300 was raised to continue to fund our mission and work!

We continue to commit to our annual easement monitoring requirements and enjoyed multiple visits outside of those appointments with some of our conservation subdivisions this year; further building our relationships with the many homeowners who live there.

As we reflect on all the fun we've had this year, we're feeling grateful for all the new partners, participants, volunteers, and donors who

helped make 2021 a huge success! We are looking forward to even more growth in the coming year!



# SENO SNAPSHOTS: SUMMER & FALL



*Thank!  
You!*



# THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME "SENO"

by Mark Lesko



It is very likely that few of our members, donors, and friends recognize and connect with the name "Seno". Our nonprofit woodland education center and conservancy has memorialized the name of Dr. Elvira C. Seno in our title. We carry deep respect and appreciation for her stewardship of the 130-acre tree farm and tamarack bog, given as an estate gift to establish the original Seno Woodland Management Center and "Slippery Slopes Tree Farm" in 1995. In her own words:

*"It almost seems that I was born with "the land ethic" already instilled in me. But that probably was because among the things said in grown-up talk was my grandfather's repeated remark to remember that "we don't own the land--it is only ours to take care of for a while."*

...and she certainly invested loving care in her property and tree farm, establishing 3.3 miles of trails and planting 47,000 trees between 1977 and 1988. It is these same trails that hundreds of visitors enjoy each year, some accommodated by canine companions.

Dr. Seno was born in 1909 and achieved her M.D. in 1943. Specializing in psychiatry, she served in the Army Medical Corps in World War II and the Korean conflict. She truly felt peaceful times on the former 1890s dairy farm that she purchased in 1976. She was a meticulous planner and kept detailed notes of every effort to improve her woodlands and landscapes. Ensuring that her work could not be undone by housing development, she donated her property to us with the attendant desire to have children visit and receive education of all of nature's wonders found in her wetlands, forests, and prairies. Her education charge to us is taken as a sacred mission, as we design and deliver numerous natural resource classes each year. We could not continue to fulfill Dr. Seno's legacy without your generous contributions.

Commenting regretfully on a trip she missed to the forests in Germany:

*"My legs couldn't have handled it physically but that, of course, does not satisfy the unfulfilled desire. It's just one of life's lumps...and, as I have often pointed out to others who have not had all they wanted, no one of us should expect to share in everything life has to offer. I have had more than my proportionate share."*

Dr. Seno's vision was that her Slippery Slopes Tree Farm become a place where people could visit and learn to care for and use our natural resources wisely. She knew that we begin to care deeply about preserving land and conserving natural resources when we see land as something other than a commodity. In Aldo Leopold's words, "When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."

The Seno property in Burlington is open for public hiking, sunup to sunset, because of Dr. Seno's special gift.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## January Meditation Series - January 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th

Tuesdays 6PM-7PM at Seno Woodland Management Center  
\$40 fee - Registration through our website or Facebook event page

## 2022 Southeast Wisconsin Woodland Owners

### Association Conference - January 29th

8:30AM -3:30PM at Waukesha County Technical College  
Registration and more information coming soon!

## Maple Sugaring Family Program - March 5th

10AM-12PM at Seno Woodland Center

Ticketing through our website or Facebook event page  
\$5 Kids under 13 and \$7 Adults

## Willow Basketry Workshop- April 2nd

10AM-2PM at Seno Woodland Center

Pre-Registration only. - \$60 Fee  
Ticketing through our website or Facebook event page

## Tree-Planting Volunteer Work Day - April 9th

More Details Coming! Stay tuned!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE'S EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS PAGE & FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS AS WELL OTHER UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & EVENTS!



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

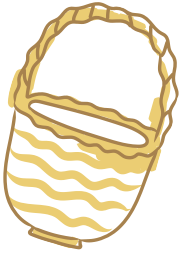


## Environmental Education Volunteers

Help run educational programs both at our Seno Woodland Center in Burlington and throughout Racine and Kenosha counties. 2-4 hours per program + training days.

Contact Nancy Carlson at [nacarlson@hotmail.com](mailto:nacarlson@hotmail.com) for details

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION



# SPECIAL THANKS TO:

**CHARLES HAUBRICH**

**The LUMW Foundation**

**ALL THOSE WHO DONATED VIA OUR TRAILBOXES THIS YEAR**



**GAYLORD AND DOROTHY DONNELLEY FOUNDATION**



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**#senokrltconservancy**

[www.senokrlt.org](http://www.senokrlt.org)

# BECOME A MEMBER OR MAKE A DONATION

.....  
Every donation towards the Seno K/RLT Conservancy is used to support our mission of providing environmental education, promoting sustainable management of forests, wetlands, prairies, and wildlife as well as opportunities for permanent preservation of these lands. We are a registered 501(c)3 non-profit education organization and land trust. All dues and donations are tax deductible under IRS rules.

### Your Information

Name:(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Level (Please check one)

- Individual .....\$25
- Family ..... \$40
- Forestry Friend .....\$100
- Land Protector .....\$500
- Patron ..... \$1000
- Benefactor .....\$5000
- Other amount .....\$

All dues and donations are tax deductible under IRS rules.

We also accept donations via credit or debit card on our website.  
Make your check payable to Seno K/RLT Conservancy and send with this form to:

Seno K/RLT Conservancy  
3606 Dyer Lake Road  
Burlington, WI 53105



**"Autumn is a second spring  
when every leaf is a flower."**

–Albert Camus, writer, philosopher,  
Nobel Prize winner

**“Nothing so important as  
an ethic is ever written...  
It evolves in the minds of  
a thinking community.”**  
-Aldo Leopold, “The Land Ethic”

