

# The Ager Newsletter

Waldemar Ager Museum

April May June 2023

## ACTIVITIES

Board Meetings at 7 p.m.

Third Monday of the month.

Open House:

Summer Schedule

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays every month—from 10 – 2.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays in July and August—from 4 – 7.

Or by appointment.



The Waldemar Ager  
Association  
514 W. Madison Street  
P.O. Box 1742  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
54702-1742  
715.598.1776  
[www.agerhouse.org](http://www.agerhouse.org)

## Coming Soon

THE  
TUENBEINER

Helping the Waldemar Ager Association and Museum Grow • [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org)

“THE CENTIPEDE” 2K/5K FUN RUN AND WALK

This event will be held on Saturday, July 22, starting at 11 a.m. Start and finish line are in Mayo parking lot across from the Ager Museum. Picnic follows on the museum grounds.

## Book Discussion

Jo Nesbø, *The Kingdom*

July 26, starting at 6:30.

Site to be announced.

In September, a trilogy by Roy Jacobsen:  
*The Unseen, White Shadow, Eyes of the Rigel.*



Help fund the land/building fund. See letter from the President, page 2.

## President's Ramblings, by Ivar Lunde



Hello all Ageriens!

All is well, but things are not moving as fast as I want. The asbestos report on 1610 Whipple St. finally arrived the other day. I am presently connecting with the asbestos abatement company.

A major concern is that the final "renter" is still in their apartment. Papers have been served, but the final fly in the ointment was that the renter has complained to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection that we did not follow due process.

### Editor's Note

You may remember that for some time the Board has been planning to purchase adjacent land across the alley to the east, where two houses now stand. Inspections, abatements, demolition, etc. are on the agenda.

Also, you may remember that a stabbur has been donated to the Ager Association. But the transport of the stabbur is a cost the Association must absorb. More on this soon, we hope.

We have responded to the complaint and done all we can do to help the family understand the situation. The Waldemar Ager Association cannot be a landlord. There are insurance issues and possibly other issues with which to contend.

Of the many other issues to address, the Stabbur has to be moved. We thought that was included in the deal, but apparently not. One mover may be able to take it from Osseo to Eau Claire, but for a fee of course. More work to be done. I am trying to convince a mover from Chippewa Falls to help us.

The two dying ash trees by the museum came down finally! A crew of members and friends of the Association cleaned up the area and it looks very tidy!

The city of Eau Claire has given notice of a change in the zoning of adjacent properties. The Senior Center is asking that the zoning be changed from R-4 (Multi-Family Residential District) to CBDP (Central Business District-Planned Development). The Senior Center needs this change to expand its parking area. I think this is a good move. I spoke in favor of the proposal at a recent Planning Commission meeting. There will be two entrances to the parking area on Whipple Street.

The association is very active in the community. Doug's activity schedule is full. We have visits of children and open houses. Then there is the Tusenbeiner and plenty of other things to do. Planning for the Annual Meeting is in full swing as well. We love to hear from you and of your projects.

Have a wonderful summer!

Ivar



# 70 Children from Osseo/Fairchild Visited the Ager Museum on June 6th





# THE TUSENBEINER

“THE CENTIPEDE”

2023 ~ 2K/5K FUN RUN AND WALK



## Helping the Waldemar Ager Association and Museum Grow!

The Tusenbeiner (The Centipede in Norwegian) is a fun run/walk started to help the Waldemar Ager Association and Museum continue its mission to celebrate Scandinavian Heritage and History in the Chippewa Valley and beyond. The course follows a recreational city trail. Times will be called as finishers cross finish line. No age-group competitions. No overall medals or recognitions. 2K turn-around at Lake Street. 5K course makes a loop that returns to the start.

**Saturday, July 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM**

The race begins and ends in the Mayo Clinic Health System parking lot on West Madison Street. Parking will be available in the west end of parking area. Look for signs.

Entry Fee – Adults (18 and older): \$25

Youth (11– 17): \$20

Children (10 and under): \$5



Waldemar Ager Association  
and Museum



Proceeds of this event go to the building fund of the Waldemar Ager Association. The organization intends to build a heritage center on the corner of Whipple and West Madison streets—directly across the street from the start and finish line for the race. Come help us grow! Your support is needed and appreciated.

The Waldemar Ager Association and Museum • 514 W. Madison Street • [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org)  
Mayo Clinic Health System • 1221 Whipple Street • Eau Claire, WI 54703

# THE TUENBEINER

“THE CENTIPEDE”  
2023 ~ 2K/5K FUN RUN AND WALK



Helping the Waldemar Ager Association and Museum Grow! • Saturday, July 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM  
Start and Finish Line in Mayo Parking Lot • Across from the Waldemar Ager Museum

Please Print Legibly, Complete the Entire Form and Return the Form with Entry Fee by July 15, 2023 to guarantee a T-shirt.†

Choose Your Run/Walk:  2K  5K  Adult (18 & older) \$25\* •  Youth (11 – 17) \$20\* •  Child (10 & under) \$5\*

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Age on Race Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**T-Shirt Sizes** (Please choose one):

Adult:  Small  Medium  Large  X-Large

Child/Youth:  X-Small  Small  Medium  Large  X-Large

**Race Waiver:** I, the undersigned, assume full and complete responsibility for any injury or accident which may occur during my participation in the event or while I am on the premises of the event. I hereby release and hold harmless the Waldemar Ager Association, Inc., the Mayo Clinic, the Eau Claire Parks and Recreation, the City of Eau Claire, the sponsors, promoters and all other persons and entities associated with the event or their agents or employees, or otherwise. I assume the risk associated with this event, including but not limited to falls, contact with participants, alcohol consumption, the effects of weather including high heat and/or humidity, and the conditions of the trail, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I further grant my permission to use any photographs, videotape, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event.

By checking this box and signing, I confirm I have read the foregoing and certify my agreement to the waiver above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature, if under age 18: \_\_\_\_\_

†Participants who register on day of race may not receive a T-shirt. \*Fees are non refundable.

Make checks payable to: The Waldemar Ager Association and Museum.  
Send to: Waldemar Ager Museum, PO Box 1742, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1742

## Honoring Ager's Birthday



Ager monument at Lakeview Cemetery

In recent years, Association members have gathered in March to remember Waldemar Ager's birthday. Often the weather has been unsuitable, leading to a cancellation. This year we postponed the event to May 27. At graveside, Doug Pearson reminded us of some highlights of Ager's life, and Bob Gough offered interesting comments on the social and physical aspects of Lakeview cemetery. Here are excerpts from Gough's remarks.

"Why is Ager buried here? A cemetery named Lakeview is an appropriate resting place for him, since, when Ager's house was at 327 Chestnut, it had a great view of Half-Moon Lake. This lake was surely what Ager had in mind when he referred to "the lake," in *Christ Before Pilate*, and probably elsewhere in his writings. [The site] was also convenient to Ager's church, where his funeral service occurred, and to the hospital he helped raise funds for.

"Ager and seven members of his family are buried with flat markers indicating their interment. . . . At the time of Ager's death there was talk about building a larger memorial monument. This [idea] doesn't seem to have gotten off the ground until [1944, three years after Ager's death]. In July 1944 . . . the Ager memorial committee, under the aegis of the Central Committee of the Norwegian Societies of Eau Claire, initiated fundraising. . . . The memorial was dedicated on November 18, 1945."

## Syttende Mai 2023

118 diners enjoyed, meatballs, lefse, and cupcakes at the Holiday Inn South. We sang anthems, rounds, and folk tunes. Then we enjoyed the comedic story telling of Chad Filley.



## Rosemaling from Coast to Coast

On Tuesday, June 20, the Ager Association hosted more than 30 of those attending the Rosemaling convention held in Eau Claire from June 19 -23.

Vicky Finstad brought more than 20 examples of rosemaling from her collection. Added to the 10 or so in the house, the museum was, for one night, a celebration of Norwegian folk art. The group was very pleased with what they saw—and ate.

Yes, we set up the basement as a dining room and brought in 8 pizzas. Very few leftovers.







## Events Still to Come in 2023

### Open House: July and August

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 10 – 2

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 4 - 7

### US National Kubb Championship

July 14 -16, Eau Claire Soccer Park

### The Tusenbeiner Fun Run/Walk

Saturday, July 22 at 11 a.m.

**Book Discussion:** Jo Nesbø, *The Kingdom.*, Sat, July 26, 6:30 p.m. See [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org) for venue.

### Yard Sale

Thursday, August 17, 8 - 5

### Talk: Icelandic Sheep, Wool, Sweaters and Stories

Thursday, September 7, 6:30 p.m

See [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org) for venue..

**Book Discussion:** Trilogy by Roy Jacobsen. Wednesday, Sep 27, 6:30 p.m. See [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org) for venue.

### Talk: Jugendstil and other Aspects of Norwegian Architecture

Thursday, October 5, 6:30 p.m. See [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org) for venue.

**Possible?** One-day events: Learn to make lefse and/or krumkake—in November.

### Advent at the Ager

Sunday, December 10 , 1 – 4.

## Ager Association Board of Directors 2023

Ivar Lunde, President

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Items for the Next Newsletter

Send to [pearsoda@uwec.edu](mailto:pearsoda@uwec.edu) by August 25.

Note: Book discussions are open to all. Attend. Bring a friend.

The Waldemar Ager Museum  
Center for Nordic Culture  
P.O. Box 1742  
Eau Claire, WI 54702-1742  
Physical Address  
514 W. Madison Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54703

In this space, we usually quote something from *Reform*. But this time we are asking for **HELP**. You have read about **The Tusenbeiner** in this issue. The addition of a picnic is our belated attempt to celebrate midsummer. For both of these activities, we need **HELP**. We need two roasting pans—one for weiners, one for beans. And someone to oversee their use. We will need others to dish out cole slaw, bananas, and ice cream, keep track of bottled water, paper plates, utensils, etc. We need help with set up of chairs and tables. Probably 8 – 10 people.

Also, we need help with late or on-the-day registrations and bib number pickup for the fun run/walk: 5 – 7 on Friday evening, July 21, at the Museum. 9:30 – 10:30 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Two to three people for each day. We will need at least 7 people to **help** with the race—at the water stop and crossing on Lake Street, at three other places where participants might make a wrong turn. Please tell me you'll **HELP**: Doug at pearsoda@uwec.edu

**Yard Sale—August 17, 2023**

If you have items to donate for the yard sale, please bring them to the house on one of the Open House days in July or early August. If that won't work for you, leave a message on our phone. Someone will get back to you to arrange pickup or delivery.

The Ager Museum telephone number.

**715 598 1776**

We'd love to hear from you.  
Leave a message.