

# The Ager Newsletter

Waldemar Ager Museum

June, July, August 2020

## TENTATIVE Resumption of Activities

**The Ager Association complies with state and local mandates concerning social distancing and keep safe practices for group events.**

**Board Meetings at 9:30 a.m.**  
Possibly virtual during the summer. Then September 21.

**Book Club Discussion:**  
Arnaldur Indriðason, *Outrage*  
Ager Museum, Monday  
July 20, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.  
On Zoom.

**Open House:**  
**Starting in September**  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 10 – 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 4 -7

**The Waldemar Ager  
Association**  
514 W. Madison Street  
P.O. Box 1742  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
54702-1742  
715.834.3985  
[www.agerhouse.org](http://www.agerhouse.org)

## Plan and Protocols to Reopen the Ager House during the current Covid-19 Pandemic

The Ager House will remain closed to the public through August 2020. Tentatively, we will reopen to the public with our open house scheduled for Saturday, September 12th and thereafter resume a normal open house schedule. The following safety protocols will be adhered to until further notice:

- All volunteers and visitors will be required to wear facemasks when two or more people are present in the house. Signage will be posted around the house announcing this rule.
- Social distancing will be practiced. Ideally, no more than one person or family present in a room at one time. Signage will be posted around the house announcing this rule.
- Volunteers will be required to sanitize all commonly used areas of the house following open hours. This includes, but is not limited to, door handles, light switches, faucets, sinks, and toilets. The Ager Association will provide a supply of disinfecting wipes.
- Classes and other events at the house are cancelled until further notice.

The Association's board of directors will continue to closely monitor this situation. Ideally, we will relax some of these temporary protocols and resume classes, programs, and other events in September as possible and in accordance with best practices.

The program committee is encouraged to explore ways in which the new website and/or social media could be better utilized to engage with our audiences during this time. Additionally, the Association should consider how a self-guided tour could be developed and available ahead of our open house in September.

**President's Column:  
Your Membership Matters!  
By Greg Kocken**

As I write this, Syttende Mai is just around the corner. Although Syttende Mai may look very different for many around the world this year, I sincerely hope that everyone is able to find a special way to celebrate. While the doors to the Ager House have been closed for several weeks due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we hope to reopen our doors soon. The Board of Directors is engaged in conversation about how to reopen and keep all our volunteers and visitors safe.

Although there has not been much activity at the house recently, there is still much planned for 2020. Beyond the programs and classes that we hope to resume soon, plans are underway to restore the front porch of the Ager House during the weeks ahead and refurnish the lower level with funds donated in memory of Karren Bloom. When we can reopen, and celebrate together, we hope that you will stop by during one of our events or open houses later this year to see these changes.

As always, I am eager to hear from our friends and members. If you would like to contact me, please do not hesitate to do so.

Greg Kocken  
President, Waldemar Ager Association  
kockeng@uwec.edu

***Thanks Shall You Have***

The following friends and members contributed to our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary fundraising campaign during the previous quarter:

Darlene Cornell, Marilyn Jones, Carrie and Chad Ronnander, Tom and Pat Tompkins, David and Karen Gustafson (donated in memory of Harold and Edna Hoff), Eleanor Hesse, Mary and Roger Tlusty, Peter and Marcia Hagen, Ray and LeAnn Bloom, Richard and Sherene Nicolai, Audrey Brunzlick, Mark Helland, Dee Schorr, Linda McClelland, Maren Harrison, Marty Zens, John Torgerson, C.C. and Judy Anderson, Hildur Gleason, Jim Campen, Oscar and Beth Brandser, Dorothy Sorlie and Jim Urness, Tim and Karen Hirsch, Odd Lovoll, Fred Evans, and Roger and Joan Albertson.

We also received the following memorials and other donations:

- A donation from Hildur Gleason in memory of Karren Bloom, Marilyn Reinart, and Wally Ager.
- A donation from Susan Avery in memory of Wally Ager.
- A donation from Ray Bloom and family in memory of Karren Bloom.
- A donation from the Culver family in memory of Karren Bloom.



## Updates on House Projects

- Tree trimming: no more branches on the roof of your car.
- Painting: porch deck, ramp, front deck and steps.
- New furnishings for the basement (to be purchased when shopping is safer).

## How are Scandinavian Countries Handling COVID-19?

**Denmark** (population 5.8 million). On lockdown since March 11. 10,968 cases, 548 deaths ( 5.15.20).

**Finland** (population 5.5 million). State of Emergency on March 16. 6,380 cases, 300 deaths (5.15.20).

**Iceland** (population 364,000). Testing and tracing. Not on lockdown. 1802 cases, 10 deaths (5.15.20).

**Norway** (population 5.4 million). Safety measures, including social distancing since March 12. 8,249 cases, 233 deaths (5.15.20)..

**Sweden** (population 10.1 million). No general lockdown. As of April 29, 30,377 cases, 3,698 deaths (since 5.15.20).

**UK** (population 67.8 million). Established a national lockdown in April. 243,695 cases, 34,636 deaths (5.15.20).

**USA** (population 331 million). No general lockdown. States have mandated emergencies and lockdowns. 1.4 million cases, 80,084 deaths (5.15.20).

**WI** (population 5.9 million). State of Emergency since March 12 11,685 cases, 445 deaths (5.15.20).

Note: We wondered what Waldemar Ager had to say about the Spanish Flu of 1918. We referred our question to Association member Jan Hansen. He searched relevant issues of the online version of *Reform*. He was unable to locate any comments from Ager.

## Front Steps: Special Project for 2020

Marty Zens has spear-headed this project. He sought bids for the project, helped select the successful bid, and wrote grant proposals to defray some of the cost of restoration. We are happy to report that Immanuel Lutheran Church has offered a grant of \$500. Other proposals are pending.

Restoration work schedule not yet available.

## Book Discussion Resumes

Icelandic writer Arnaldur Indriðason, *Outrage* Monday, July 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

On Zoom. More information on the website in July.

## April Financial Report

	March	YTD	2020 Budget
<b>Balance Forward</b>			<b>\$3587</b>
Revenue			
Membership	180	3470	3200
Donations	0	1675	3500
Instruction/Camp	0	0	2000
House Rental	0	0	100
Thrift Sale	0	0	250
Sales	0	50	400
Interest/Dividends	0	250	1000
Other	0	0	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>5445</b>	<b>14137</b>

**Haven't renewed membership for 2020? Still time to do so.**

**Pay electronically (information at website: [agerhouse.org](http://agerhouse.org)). Or send check to Ager Association, PO Box 1742, EC, WI 54702.**

The Waldemar Ager Association  
P.O. Box 1742  
Eau Claire, WI 54702-1742



**Rosemaling Coast to Coast  
has selected Eau Claire for their  
Convention  
June 21 – 24, 2021**



□