



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN SOCCER HISTORY



FALL 2020

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

As 2020 comes to a close it's hard not to realize what a long, strange year it's been. Amidst the backdrop of a raging pandemic and cantankerous political campaigns, soccer managed to just about roll on. And our Society did, too.

Truth be told, the Society for American Soccer History has probably never been in better shape having tripled its membership over the course of the last ten months. Our roll now stands at 65 full dues-paying members. We hope we can push for over 100 in 2021.

Our engagement with the public has never been higher and our best-ever day on the Society website was when Brian Bunk and Ed Farnsworth launched the oldest known footage of the U.S. Men's National Team in action. A successful GoFundMe campaign enabled the Society to acquire that 1916 footage as well additional footage from Bethlehem Steel's 1919 tour of Sweden. These are wonderful treasures of the American soccer past!

Each month we have also hosted our now customary First Friday SASH Sessions. One of our members always sends me a text message asking, "Are we on for this Friday?" Those SASH Sessions bring us together as a community and I know we all learn a great deal from one another. For me, those sessions have been the gift of a tumultuous 2020, a forum where we can come together to explore and unearth our shared history.

As the year comes to a close, the Society readies itself for another election as mandated by our bylaws. Please be on the lookout for an email from our Electors/Tellers. In order to vote one has to be a current dues-paying member. Likewise, any full member is eligible to run for any office as well as an at-large position on the Board of Directors.

Our gratitude to all of you for showing interest in our Society, whether is has been as a member, a presenter, a supporter and/or friend. 2020 has been a success and we look forward to doing even more in 2021!

Tom McCabe
SASH President

HIGHLIGHTING NEW VISUAL FINDS

A recent GoFundMe campaign helped SASH acquire licensing rights from the Swedish Film Institute for film footage from some of the earliest overseas tours by the U.S. men's national team and Bethlehem Steel FC. The organization is indebted to everyone who contributed toward helping unearth and bring to light some of these long-lost highlights from American soccer history. Here is information about those videos as well as another gem featuring the Fall River Marksmen unearthed in the archives of the National Film Institute Hungary.



USMNT vs. Tigrarna Fotbollklubben

Stockholm, Sweden

August 15, 1916

This 80-second clip shows the U.S. men's national team in action against Stockholm-based club Tigrarna Fotbollklubben. The match, which ended in a 1-1 draw, was the first of six played during its first official international tour, which took place August and

September 1916 in Sweden and Norway. The footage (and the following two videos) were discovered in the collection of the Swedish Film Institute in Stockholm and is from the Svenska Biografteaterns Veckorevy (Swedish Cinema Theater Weekly Review) newsreel series.



Bethlehem Steel FC vs. AIK

Stockholm, Sweden

August 10, 1919

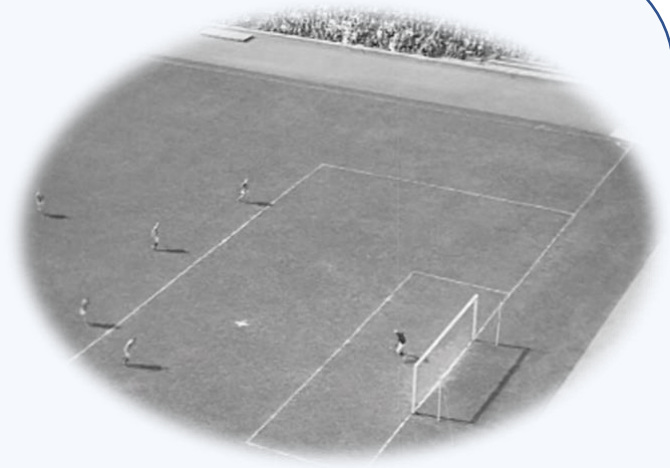
This 108-second clip is the earliest known film footage of a US club soccer team playing overseas. Featuring footage from Bethlehem Steel on their 1919 Scandinavian tour, this clip shows action from the club's 2-2 draw against Stockholm side Allmänna

Idrottsklubben (AIK) at Stockholm Olympic Stadium.

Bethlehem Steel FC vs. Swedish Provinces

**Stockholm, Sweden
August 17, 1919**

This 84-second clip of pregame and game action shows Bethlehem Steel playing at the Stockholm Olympic Stadium against a select Swedish Provinces team. This footage is from the third match of Bethlehem Steel's 1919 Scandinavian tour, a match which the Pennsylvania side won 2-1 over their Swedish counterparts.



Fall River Marksmen vs. Ferencváros

**Budapest, Hungary
August 31, 1930**

This 71-second clip shows the Fall River Marksmen in action in a 6-2 loss against Ferencváros at the Üllői úti Stadion in Budapest, Hungary. The footage is from Fall River's 1930 Central European tour where the Marksmen challenged clubs from Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Hungary. This footage was found in the National Film Institute Hungary.



WANT YOUR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTED BY SASH? WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS OF ORIGINAL RESEARCH FROM ALL SASH MEMBERS FOR THE SASH WEBSITE! PLEASE CONTACT INFO@USSOCCERHISTORY.ORG

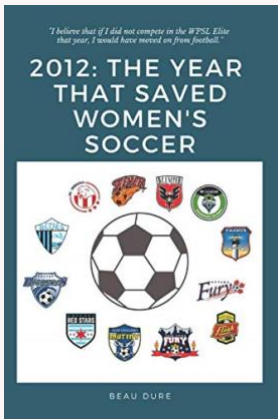
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SASH ZOOM SESSIONS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SASH has continued our tradition of hosting virtual sessions to introduce new research to the community. After the success of the first session in May, the executive board elected to continue monthly sessions on the first Friday of every month. These Zoom sessions offer a virtual space to gather as a community, showcase new work, and invite questions and comments to help enrich one another's scholarship.

If you are unable to attend the sessions live, recordings are available at the SASH website and through the SASH YouTube channel. If you would like to participate in a future session or have an idea for a subject you would like to see covered, please email info@ussoccerhistory.org.

BEAU DURE BOOK TALK: August 7, 2020



Society secretary and session moderator Zach Bigalke sat down with longtime soccer journalist Beau Dure in our First Friday SASH Session for August to talk about Dure's latest book, *2012: The Year that Saved Women's Soccer*. Produced during the pandemic, *2012* is a chronicle and an oral history of the efforts to preserve opportunities for women to compete on the pitch in the year following the collapse of Women's Professional Soccer and preceding the launch of the National Women's Soccer League. After walked the audience through the longer history of professional women's soccer leagues in the United States, Dure and Bigalke speak about the publication process before opening the discussion to audience questions.

Access the recording [via the SASH website](#) or [directly on YouTube](#).

DISCOVERING EARLY FILM FOOTAGE: September 4, 2020

University of Massachusetts professor and SASH treasurer Brian Bunk sat down in our September First Friday session to offer more detail about the discovery of the early footage from the U.S. men's national team and American clubs Bethlehem Steel and Fall River Marksmen. (See more on pages 2-3 about these videos.) Bunk discusses how the footage was discovered, the contents and context of the footage, and ongoing efforts to acquire further footage from Scandinavia by the Society for American Soccer History.



Access the recording [via the SASH website](#) or [directly on YouTube](#).

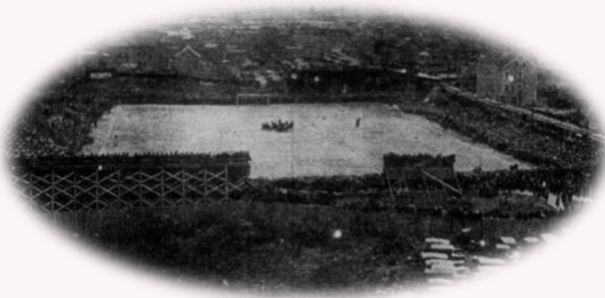
GABE LOGAN BOOK TALK: October 2, 2020

Gabe Logan, professor of history at Northern Michigan University, joined the First Friday session in October to provide a photographic tour of Windy City soccer history with images from his book, *The Early Years of Chicago Soccer, 1887-1939* (Lexington Books, 2019). The session showcases some of the pictorial evidence uncovered by Logan over the course of writing the book, which you can learn more about by [following this link to the Rowman & Littlefield website](#).



Access the recording [via the SASH website](#) or [directly on YouTube](#).

LOCAL CLUB HISTORIANS: November 6, 2020



The First Friday session for November featured a trio of club historians speaking about how they became involved with their work and what that work entails. David Kilpatrick, SASH board member and New York Cosmos historian, spoke about his long relationship with the historic club. Bob Gansler followed with his efforts to preserve the history of the Bavarian Soccer

Club in Milwaukee. Derek Goncalves concluded the presentations with his work on bringing the history of the Fall River Marksmen back to light. Following the presentations, the three historians answered questions from the audience.

Access the recording [via the SASH website](#) or [directly on YouTube](#).

UPCOMING FIRST FRIDAY SESSION

On December 4, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. EST, SASH is hosting its last First Friday Session of 2020 with a panel titled "Soccer in the South Central and Midwestern United States" organized and moderated by Patrick H. Salkeld, a SASH Board of Director member. He, Jeff Organ (creator of Texas Soccer Journal), and Dr. Rachel Allison (Associate Professor of Sociology and affiliate of Gender Studies at Mississippi State University) will be presenting papers about soccer in Kansas, Texas, and other locations in the South Central and Midwestern United States.

ABOUT THE BOARD

The SASH Executive Board meets several times over the year to work on laying the framework to continue building the organization. The board has focused on outlining administrative issues such as incorporation, finance, membership, and communication; member and public engagement through the re-launching of a journal, creating a regular newsletter, and planning future SASH conferences and events; and research-related topics such as collaboration with the National Soccer Hall of Fame and other archives and building an organizational digital repository.

STAY ENGAGED WITH SASH!

- [Subscribe to our YouTube channel](#) to stay up to date with our latest content
- Email info@ussoccerhistory.org with any content for the website, suggestions for new Zoom sessions, or items you want highlighted in the newsletter

HOW TO CONTACT SASH



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info@ussoccerhistory.org

Visit the SASH website at <http://www.ussoccerhistory.org/>

The Society for American Soccer History was founded in 1993 to promote, facilitate, and disseminate research into the rich history of soccer in the United States.

Annual membership: \$20

Visit ussoccerhistory.com or email for membership information.