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Society for American Soccer History Newsletter Winter 2024

The SASH newsletter is a quarterly review of happenings in the field with quick access to content of interest to the members. If you have questions or wish to contribute to the newsletter, please email newsletter@ussoccerhistory.org

A Message from the President



Dear SASH community,

Since our late summer issue, SASH has had an intense fall season. From two excellent online sessions to another Research Happy Hour and a first-ever Write4Ninety, the society's membership continues to build community. The other big news, of course, is the successful revision process to bring the original 1993 Constitution and By-Laws up to date while still respecting the spirit of our SASH founders. An enormous thank you is owed to the volunteer Working Group (Zach Bigalke, Dan Creel, Ed Farnsworth, and Kurt Rausch) for all their efforts since the start of the year.

Then, building off the membership survey this summer, we also initiated a Membership Research Directory as a tool to support incoming requests (thank you to Ed Farnsworth and Arrow Salkeld). Your Treasurer managed the tax filing and admin paperwork (thank you George Kioussis for the essential but invisible handiwork) and your Secretary (Zach Bigalke) will explain the progress on the Policy Manual. With a solid base, your Board believes that SASH is in a strong position to go into 2025 and ahead many years.

SASH members continue to be active all over ever uncovering and communicating more of the American soccer story. As you will see below, this has already kicked off and we hope that it will only grow further. Our podcasts hit a milestone (thanks Brian Quarstad) and you'll see below that members are starting new channels (Kenn Tomasch), winning Fulbright awards (Rachel Allison), giving conference papers (George Kioussis) and worked on the Colin Jose Media Award for the National Soccer Hall of Fame (Jack Huckel). Beau Dure, Zach Bigalke and Michael Saunders again volunteered their time and expertise for the National Soccer Hall of Fame's various voting committees. And

so much more!

On that note, please remember to your Board know (newsletter@ussoccerhistory.org) what you are up to (speaking, writing, events, research...) so we can feature this in the next newsletter. SASH is its membership, so please connect and share.

One final thanks to our election committee (Kurt Rausch, Tom McCabe, and Bob Gansler) who managed yet another successful election window. Your new SASH board will pick up in new year and hopes to serve you well.

As always, my door is open so please reach out about anything American soccer.

Best regards and see you around the SASH-verse,

Kevin Tallec Marston

A Message from the Secretary



Dear SASH members,

As the secretary of this organization and a member of the By-laws Committee, I want to thank you as the SASH membership for your overwhelming support of the updates to the Constitution and By-laws. This culminates an eight-month process, from the first meeting of the By-laws Committee on March 18 to the November 11 Elections Committee announcement that the revisions the revisions were passed by the membership during the special 30-day voting window.

What is next? While collaborating on the newly passed revisions to the SASH Constitution and By-laws, the By-laws Committee discovered the need to build out the Policy Manual for the organization. In my role as SASH secretary, I am now hard at work with the Executive Board and others within the Society to draft a more comprehensive Policy Manual that will codify organizational procedures for future directors and officers of the Board. The completed Policy Manual will include procedures for a range of actions performed by our Board members and broader membership. This includes information on how to run Executive Board meetings, First Friday sessions, the Annual Meeting, and annual elections.

Working to capture this information will ensure that our organization continues to operate as efficiently as possible for its membership and in the best interests of American soccer history. Thank you for your active role in SASH as we work to catalog best practices for the Society in the 21st century.

Zach Bigalke
SASH Secretary

SASH Election Results



Elections Committee Members Kurt Rausch, Tom McCabe, and Bob Gansler have reported the results of the recent SASH elections.

President (one-year term): Kevin Tallec Marston

Vice President (two-year term): James Brown

Secretary (two-year term): Zach Bigalke

Treasurer (one-year term): George Kioussis

Directors: Michael Lewis and Patrick Sullivan (two-year terms); Rachel Allison, Dave Lange, and Chuck Carlson (one-year terms)

Congratulations to the newly-elected members of the SASH Executive Board. Thank you to all of the candidates who put their name forward for consideration and their service to date.

Research Queries handled by SASH Members

Through its website and social media SASH often fields research questions from people around the world. Here is a list of recent queries.

- A researcher looking for information about the history of Mexico's Women's National Team.

- A journalist from the French soccer magazine *SoFoot* looking for information about the nurse who escorted Diego Maradona for a routine drug test at Foxboro Stadium after Argentina's match against Nigeria during the 1994 World Cup, the result of which saw Maradona expelled from the tournament and ended his international career.
- A journalist from the French soccer magazine *SoFoot* interested in doing a story on the Silverdome in Detroit during the 1994 World Cup.
- A producer for the German TV quiz show *Wer weiß denn sowas?* looking for photographs associated with the "Soccer Wars," the conflict between the USFA and ASL in the 1920s.
- A historian for the Swedish club Djurgårdens IF (DIF) looking for information and images of the club's 1948 North American tour during which DIF played Liverpool at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn.
- An inquiry from a historian regarding who captained the US squad that participated in the 1947 North American Football Confederation Championship in Cuba.
- A journalist in Peru interested in information about former NASL and USMNT player Jorge "George" Benitez.
- An intern at US Soccer seeking permission to use the information presented on the USWNT results pages on the SASH website.
- A Scottish journalist based in Brazil working on a biography about Pele. (The first inquiry shared with members who volunteered to be included in the new Research Directory.)

SASH Members in Action



Photo by Megan Bean, courtesy of Mississippi State University

- **Rachel Allison**

Rachel Allison has earned a Fulbright Specialist award to the University of Lucerne in Switzerland. She will spend a month exploring collaborative research opportunities and teaching a course to local students. Rachel told the Mississippi State news service “I am thrilled to have the opportunity to travel abroad to share my experiences and learn from others. I hope to contribute to important conversations around inclusivity in sports and foster meaningful connections that extend beyond borders.”



- **Jack Huckel**

Jack Huckel has served on the National Soccer Hall of Fame's Colin Jose Media Award (CJMA) committee for a number of terms. He shares a few words about this year's winner: The CJMA covers such a broad field of contributors, it is always a difficult choice. It is a living challenge to compare apples to oranges! The 2024 Honoree, Amy Rosenfeld, is not a name many know, but she is an individual that previous winner JP Dellacamera (2018) will know well as he worked for her. She is the first behind the scenes television executive to receive the Award.

From the National Soccer Hall of Fame: The Colin Jose Media Award was created to honor the contributions of members of the print and electronic media, including reporters, columnists, authors, broadcasters, editors, public/media relations professionals and others who specialize in communications with respect to soccer in the United States. The award is named for Colin Jose, Historian Emeritus of the National Soccer Hall of Fame and a preeminent soccer historian of North America.

- **George Kioussis**

In August 2024, I had the pleasure of attending the annual meeting of the British Society of Sports History, held at the University of Chichester. The conference is one I often circle on my calendar. It is a friendly, intimate environment that always welcomes research on US soccer history. On this occasion, I had the chance to present on the experiences of Greek clubs in the International Soccer League—namely, Panathinaikos in 1962 and AEK in 1964. While the ISL was founded with a view to making soccer “big-time” in mainstream American culture, the participation of Greek clubs suggests that

the tournament also offered ethnic communities a space to congregate, socialize, and promote cultural pride. Indeed, the efforts of Panathinaikos and AEK were chronicled in both Greek and Greek American newspapers, helping to connect diasporic Greeks to their homeland and vice versa. I am currently developing this project into what I hope will be a journal article that provides a new angle to an oft-overlooked aspect of US soccer history.



Want podcasts?

sash sessions

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platforms

- **SASH Podcasts**

SASH Podcast Hits 1,000 Downloads in First Six Months!

Six months ago, Brian Quarstad transformed our SASH Session videos into edited podcasts and made them available on all major podcast platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and Spotify. We aimed to make SASH Sessions more accessible to our members with busy lives, as well as to non-members interested in American soccer history or specific topics discussed in the sessions. Reaching 1,000 downloads indicates that we are on the right track, and we expect this number to continue to grow. While videos remain the preferred way to experience SASH Sessions, the podcast format offers greater flexibility for listening. It's also an excellent way to share links to particular topics with friends, colleagues, or students. We encourage you to check out and subscribe to the SASH Sessions podcasts on your favorite platform!

- **Keven Tallec Marston**

Kevin Tallec Marston recently supported Bayern Munich's 125th anniversary project answering some questions about G. R. Manning and US related links. He also recorded a seminar on US soccer history for Boston College, and he continues to serve on the Advisory panel to the Saudi Football Federation



Kenn Tomasch (left) on a recording of Soccer Rewind

- **Kenn Tomasch**

SASH member Kenn Tomasch has a new YouTube Channel aimed at analyzing vintage games with interviews with the players, coaches and others who lived them. Soccer Rewind, (<https://www.youtube.com/@soccerrewind2024>) which launched in November, offers weekly looks at a complete game from the past, enhanced with pregame, halftime and postgame virtual interviews that put the game in a historical context. Kenn seeks fellow historians' input on games, potential interview subjects and historical tidbits that can make each week's episode a treasure trove of information beyond merely presenting a game as it was originally broadcast. You can contact Kenn at rewind@kenn.com with any ideas, suggestions or comments.

Recent SASH Sessions



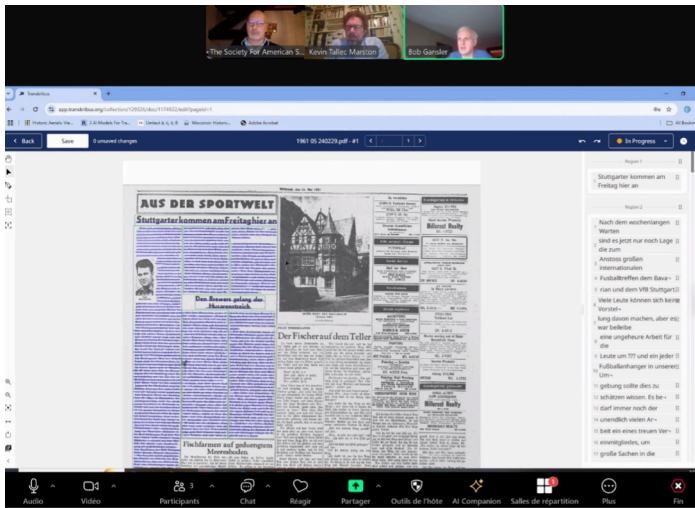
September - With three speakers, the first fall session was a survey of Minnesota’s soccer history from the 1890s to the 1970s. Brian D. Bunk discussed the McKendrick brothers, who starred on one of the state’s earliest championship teams in the 1890s. Brian Quarstad shared the story of Win Ping Pan, a Chinese student who helped build soccer at the University of Minnesota in the 1910s. Chris Bolsmann related the fascinating career of Minnesota Kicks standout Patrick “Ace” Ntsoelengoe.

[SASH Session, September 2024: Minnesota Soccer History](#)



October – Gabe Logan discussed the origins of the National Amateur Cup tournament with an emphasis on the aborted 1923 tournament and completed 1924 tournament. Gabe examined how the 1924 championship resulted in the partial selection of the 1924 Olympic roster with a cursory examination of select team personnel.

[SASH Session, October 2024: The First National Amateur Cup and the 1924 Olympic Team Selection - YouTube](#)



November – We held a pair of sessions this month. After the successful trial in the spring, we held another Research Happy Hour on November 1st which was attended by a smaller crew of six members who shared and discussed topics ranging from research on foreign language papers (thanks Bob Gansler for the introduction to Transkribus) and Kenn Tomasch’s work on his new channel analyzing vintage games.

Two weeks later on November 15, we held the first-ever Write4Ninety. An intimate group met and continue sharing about their research. Thanks to Bob Gansler for taking us through his German-language research! We will continue the Research Happy Hour and Writing sessions next year (and announced much earlier) as we continue to offer space and time for members to grow their own projects, share ideas, ask questions and build our SASH community.



December - Oral History Workshop with Dr. Carly Adams.

On December 6, 2024 SASH hosted an Oral History Workshop with Dr. Carly Adams, a Board of Governors Research Chair (Tier I), Director of the Centre for Oral History and Tradition and Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. The session featured an overview of the basics of conducting oral histories while

also delving deeper into how to make an oral history interview more conversational, how to bring out more analysis, and how to improvise rather than simply sticking to a script to only ask the participant predetermined questions.

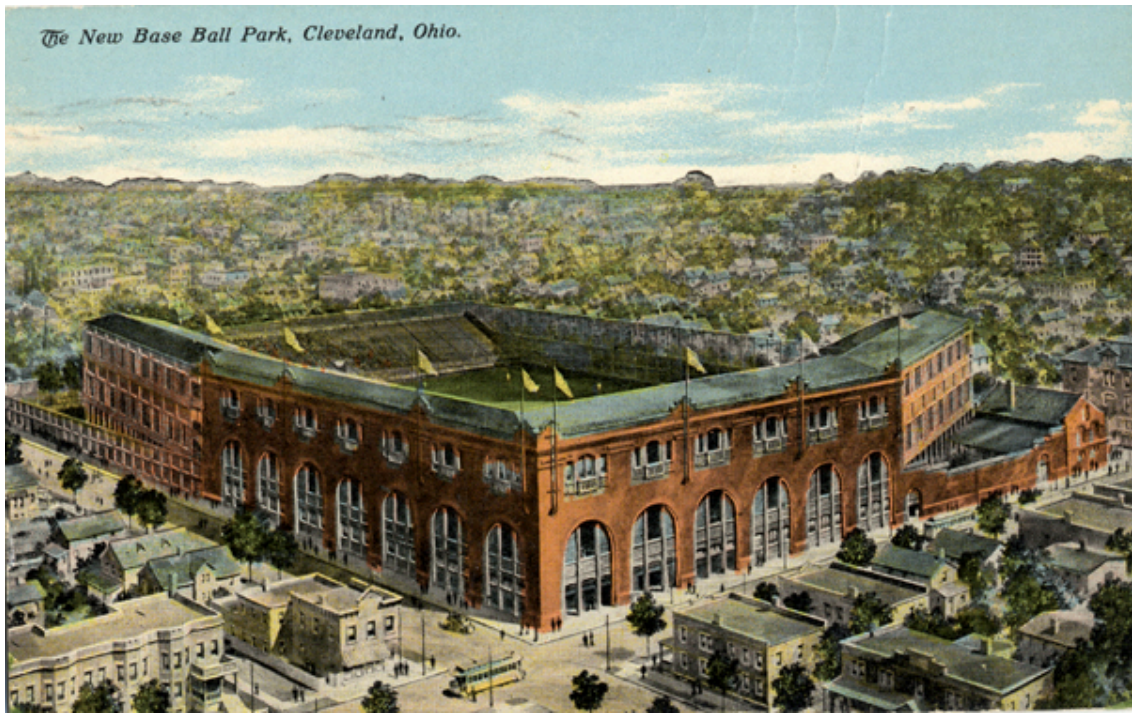


Arrow Salkeld chaired the session.

[SASH Session, December 2024: Oral History Workshop](#)

SASH is on LinkedIn

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In case you missed it, a story from the archives:

[A Timeline of Early Soccer in Cleveland: Beginnings \(1889-1905\)](#)

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