



Italia

NEWSLETTER of the ITALIAN WORKMEN'S CLUB

914 Regent Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715

IWC President David Rizzo, (608) 852-3665,
Italia Editor Staff – IWC Phone: (608) 258-1880 – www.iwcmadison.com

President's Message



The State Of Our Club Is Strong

Our club is 110 years old. It has witnessed two world wars, numerous other conflicts, a depression, several recessions, urban renewal, social unrest and most recently a viral pandemic. Through it all, the old brownstone at 914 Regent Street stands tall, and more importantly our members have persevered.

Sprinkled throughout this newsletter are recent photos of members enjoying themselves despite the historic restrictions we've all had to deal with. Whether spending time with family, creating a vacation memory, or simply hanging out with friends, every smile says our wine glass is only half full.

We've weathered the recent storm. Our finances are stable. Our investment accounts are well-positioned for long term growth and our cash reserves ensure that we can handle any emergency needs in the short term.

for our annual Cultural Picnic & Music Festival at McKee Farms Park in Fitchburg. Thank you to those who stepped up to lead subcommittees and a special thanks to Frank Alfano and Jim DiUlio who volunteered to join me as tri-chairpersons for this year's event.

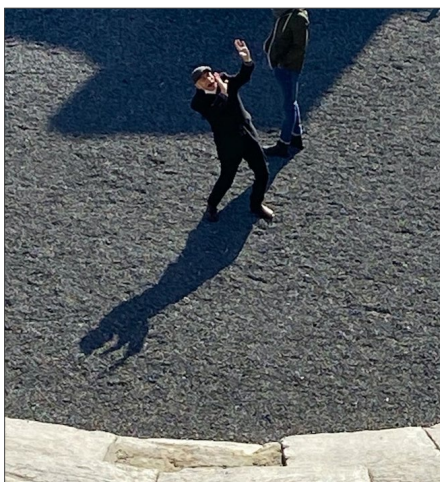
Festa Italia is our largest and most complex undertaking. Proceeds help fund our scholarship account and provide revenue for building maintenance and upgrades. We deliver great food, a variety of musical performances for all ages, friendly sports competition and a multi-faceted celebration of Italian culture.

Festa Italia 2022 (June 3 – 5)

Background

Planning is proceeding in earnest

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Tony Reitano in Pompei reenacting the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.



Tim Gatti and fellow master's students at urban adventure in Olbrich Gardens.



Park Street School of Italian Studies: Richard, George, Sal, Nick, John, Frank & Mike.

We last held Festa Italia in 2019. We were compelled to cancel the 2020 and 2021 events in accordance with guidance from Public Health Madison & Dane County (PHM&DC) regarding the COVID-19 corona virus. Dane County residents are yearning for an opportunity to gather in a family-friendly setting after two years of confinement and restrictions. There's no way to predict the future with any certainty, but if favorable trend lines continue, our proactive planning will allow

us to provide a memorable event at the start of the post Memorial Day festival season.

Three Days Packed With Food, Music & Fun

Our beverage offerings will feature regular, light and craft beer options, a variety of wine choices, soda and water. Our pasta dinner will headline the always great variety of food items along with meatball, hot beef, and sausage sandwiches, fried Italian delicacies, pizza, kettle corn,

gelato and homemade cannoli and Italian cookies. For entertainment, we'll welcome back some old friends to our music stage and introduce some new performers. We also plan to have activities and games for young children, our famous pasta eating contest, flags of Italy parade, culture tent, cooking demonstrations, bocce tournaments, member recognition, scholarship presentations, performances by the Italian Folk Dancers of Madison

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Joseph Scarpelli, Jr. at family reunion with long lost sister.



Bill Battista and family celebrating 50th wedding anniversary.



John Cusimano and Nicole on the Amalfi Coast.

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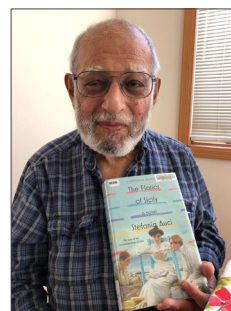
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Tony Bonanno Jr. recording music that he wrote to bring peace to all.



Raul DeLuna brushing up on Italian History.



Richard Trameri - 94 years young.

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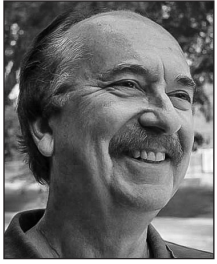
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We treat every family as our own ...

The Great Italian Artists



By Tom Smith

The earliest prehistoric cave paintings in Europe and Africa date back to more than 30,000 years

ago. But the most numerous and sophisticated prehistoric paintings are on the walls of caves in south-west France and Spain, and artistic tradition is deeply rooted in Italy where artefacts have been found dating back to the Neolithic age (10,000 – 4,500 BC). Art in Italy grew and was refined during Roman times. After the fall of the Roman Empire, art developed across many regions of Italy, but it was the Italian Renaissance when art truly flourished.

The names of two of the greatest artists to have ever lived are known



Mona Lisa

to anyone with an interest in paintings and art...Da Vinci and Michelangelo. Da Vinci's portrait of the Mona Lisa has been described as "the best known, the most visited,

the most written about, the most sung about work of art in the world."

Leonardo da Vinci was born in Tuscany, Italy in 1452. His talents were many...artist, designer, innovator, science enthusiast, he personified the term "renaissance man." He created designs for a bicycle and helicopter, as well as an airplane that was based on the anatomy of a bat. While

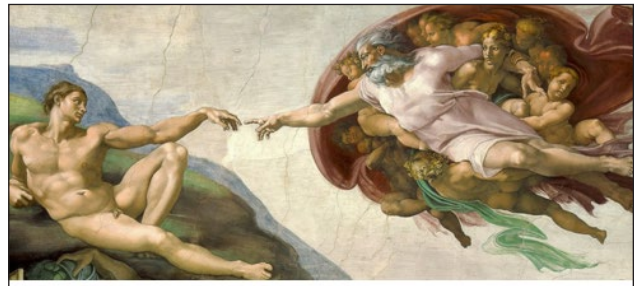
recognized as a pioneer in many things, he was most famous as a painter. He showed extraordinary talent as a child, and began an apprenticeship at the age of fourteen under Andrea del Verrochio. He became a master artist with a long and successful career, and continued painting until his left hand was paralyzed two years before he died in 1519.

Michelangelo (Michelangelo Buonarroti) was born in Florence,



The Pietà

Italy in 1475. He showed an interest in both painting and sculpture. He devoted his expressions of art to the human figure and received authorization from the Catholic church to examine corpses and dissect cadavers. Before reaching the age of thirty, he completed two of his most famous sculptures, the Pietà and David. Today the Pietà is housed in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, but I was able to view it in person when it was installed in the Vatican pavilion at the 1964 World's Fair. To protect this priceless work of art the sculpture was shipped in a wooden crate 2.5 inches thick with an 8-inch base, secured to the deck of the ocean liner Cristoforo Colombo, with cushioning so thick the crate would float, with an emergency locator beacon and marker buoy. The sculpture was truly breathtaking.



The Creation of Adam

Soon after completing his sculpture of David, Michelangelo began painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. The fresco, the Creation of Adam, would take four years to finish and illustrates the Biblical creation narrative from the Book of Genesis, in which God gives life to Adam, the first man. This painting represents one of the most enduring images in the history of Western art. It is the only piece that Michelangelo ever signed. Towards the end of his life he turned to architecture to avoid physical labor, until he died in 1564.



The Birth of Venus

Born in 1445 in Florence, Italy as Alessandro di Mariano di Vanni Filipepi, Sandro Botticelli was originally sent to serve as an apprentice to a goldsmith by his father. But showing more promise as an artist he served in another apprenticeship and learned to paint frescoes. While many of his paintings were of religious subjects, he was among the first painters to illustrate non-religious content,

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believing that paintings could be enjoyed for their own sake rather than only for theological objectives. Some of his most famous paintings focused on mythological subjects. One such painting, *The Birth of Venus*, depicts the goddess of beauty and love following her birth. She emerges from the sea and is carried ashore on a giant scallop shell, arriving on a beach on the island of Cyprus. Botticelli's works were on a grand scale. He sewed two canvasses together to produce an almost life-size painting. He began the painting in 1495 and it took him an entire year to complete. In his works he strove for perfection and abandoned naturalism when a more 'fanciful' form served his artistic notion. While he reached notoriety and was eventu-



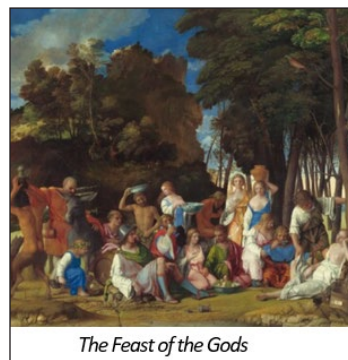
The Sistine Madonna

ally invited by the Pope to paint the Sistine Chapel walls, his later years were filled with poverty and isolation until he died in 1510.

The Italian painter and architect Raphael (born Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino) was born in Urbino, Italy in 1483. His father, an artist for the Duke of Urbino, died when Raphael was only 11 years old. He had already inspired his son with his paintings, and by the time Raphael was 16 he was already showing immense talent, quickly eclipsing that of his father. He soon became regarded as one of the best artists

in Urbino, and was recruited by an artist in Perugia named Vannucci to assist him with fresco paintings. His training over the next four years expanded his knowledge and expertise as he developed his own distinct style. In 1504 he moved to Florence to study the masterpieces of Da Vinci and Michelangelo, on his way to becoming one of the greatest painters of the Italian High Renaissance. He is famous for his paintings of the Madonna and Christ Child, a master in depicting emotion in great detail. Sadly, he died on his 37th birthday.

Giovanni Bellini was born in 1430 in Venice, Italy, the son of the well-known Venetian artist Jacopo Bellini. Although his early work was influenced by his father, his style eventually departed from that of his father, which was austere by comparison. Bellini was interested in giving his paintings a sense of depth and perspective. He was renowned for his mythological and theological settings with a humanistic aspect. His use of oil paints (which had



The Feast of the Gods

just been imported to Venice via the harbor of Venice) abandoned the egg and water tempera process and heightened the panoramic ambience of his works. His exceptional control of color and light shaped the mood of his compositions, bringing detail to the landscape and atmosphere,

and in representation of skin and garment coloring. His last major work, *The Feast of the Gods*, features a scene from Ovid's *Fasti*, with the gods (including Jupiter, Neptune, and Apollo) reveling in a wooded pastoral setting, eating, and drinking, attended by nymphs and satyrs. Bellini continued to work into his eighties, not only producing masterpieces of his own but influencing Renaissance art through famous apprentices like Giorgione and Titian. He died in 1516.

Tiziano Vecelli (known as Titian) was born in 1488 in Pieve di Cadore, Italy. At ten years old he and his brother were sent to Venice to apprentice to Giovanni Bellini, thought by some to be one of the greatest painters of the time. He also studied under Sebastiano Zuccato and Giorgione before striking out on his own. In his early years, the subjects of his paintings were primarily religious and mythological. In later years he focused on portraits. He was known for his usage of vivid and luminous color. Along with Giorgione, he is credited as the founder of the Venetian school of Italian renaissance painting. With the completion of his *Assumption of the Virgin* in 1518, he established himself as one of Ven-



Bacchus and Ariadne

and more. Visit our website iwcmadison.com for updates.

Participate In Our Mission - Volunteers Needed

La festa non e festa se non lavoriamo tutti insieme (Festa doesn't work unless we all work Festa)

Some of our members participate on the planning committee, others help with Thursday set up, or Monday tear down. Still others drive a courtesy car, staff the raffle and ticket booths, admission gate, finance trailer, activity areas, or prepare and serve our food and beverage offerings. Some do all of the above and still manage to find time to simply enjoy attending.

The Mission of the IWC is to preserve and promote the history, culture, language, and traditions of Italians and Italian Americans. Festa Italia is the best demonstration of that mission in action. Most of our members embrace this opportunity, but I encourage all members to block the dates on your calendar and thoughtfully consider volunteering.

Sign-up sheets are available now on line via Sign Up Genius. Just click on this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C44A4AE22A31-2019> to volunteer. Hard copies of these sheets will also be made available at membership meetings. Sign up to work a shift or two if you're able.

Other Things You Can Do

- Raffle tickets will be mailed to all members in mid-April. Buy/

sell your allotment.

- Attendance drives success. Tell your neighbors and co-workers to join us for a celebration of all things Italian.

Scholarship Program

Our annual scholarship program is active in 2022. Any graduating senior from Dane County of Italian descent is eligible, as are the children and grandchildren of a club member wherever they live. You can access the application form under the scholarship tab at the club website iwcmadison.com. **The deadline for submitting an application is April 15th.**

Membership Dues

We were founded as a mutual aid society, and the uninterrupted tradition of that brotherhood continues today. Thank you to everyone who has paid their membership dues for 2022. If you haven't already done so, please send in your check, or use the convenient PayPal option.

Moving Forward

As we emerge from two years of shutting down, masking up and social distancing, our focus remains the same. We're a social club. We prefer to meet, greet, eat and drink wine. Your Council is doing everything possible to make that happen. When we do finally reopen our doors for a membership meeting meal, make plans to join your fellow members. In the meantime, think about what you can do to help:

Honor The Past

- Commemorate the efforts of

those members who built the club.

- Acknowledge the accomplishments of current members who have lived our mission over a long period of time.
- Preserve the photos, videos, audio interviews and recordings that tell the story of the Greenbush neighborhood and keep the music of the past alive for future generations.

Celebrate The Present

- Continue the traditions of Wine Making, Sauce Tasting, Sausage Making, etc. that honor our rich cultural history.
- Establish new events / activities to better engage all members and positively impact the community.
- Embrace the specialness of our monthly business dinners.

Envision The Future

- Implement our Master Plan.
- Strengthen our ties with the Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha clubs.
- Ensure membership stability and pursue growth initiatives.

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SUPPORT

Italia

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(608) 821-0886.

Local Kicks: A Look at Forward Madison FC

By Tim Gatti

We're well into the long, cold days of the Wisconsin winter and this is the time of year where many sports fans (myself included) get restless. Whatever our tastes, fans are locked in an endless cycle of cheering on or waiting for the next sporting season to start and the time of year that marks it. Soccer is no different, and this time of year it becomes a distant memory, or at best a sport only seen on tv. But brace yourselves, soccer is coming!

Sports fan or not, there's a good chance that you've already heard of our local soccer team Forward Madison FC. Whether it be their strong social media presence, their unique mascot, their flashy uniforms (called "kits" in the soccer world), or their growing number or enthusiastic supporters, the team has grown to be largely successful in just their first four seasons of existence. You may even have met members of the team when they made an appearance at our very own Festa Italia back in 2019!



continued next page



Eric Holmes and sons supporting the Packers.



Steven Carrola - Eagle Point Tower in Peninsula State Park, Door County.



Above: David Rizzo feeding giraffes at Shamba Safari - Neshkoro, WI.



Below left: Butch Pullara and Nancy with grandchild in California.



Below center: Rick Bonanno hanging out with Joe Piscopo.

FMFC is a Madison-based professional soccer team that plays in the third division of professional soccer in the United States. Depending on what traditional sport in America that you follow or know of, understanding US soccer may or may not be complex. Here's a quick synopsis with key comparisons and contrasts to give you a better, or murkier idea. Beware, acronyms! Similar to baseball there are different levels of the pro game. The United States Soccer Federation oversees all teams across the [three main pro leagues/divisions](#):

Major League Soccer (MLS)

United Soccer League Championship

(USL Championship)

United Soccer League One (USL1)

MLS is the highest division of soccer in the US, and though Wisconsin does not have an MLS team, teams at this level would be synonymous with the Milwaukee Bucks or the Green Bay Packers. Forward Madison FC plays in USL 1, the third tier of pro soccer. USL1 loosely relates to the lower levels of the minor leagues in baseball (think Beloit Snappers), although most USL Championship or League One teams are independent franchises without higher pro oversight or

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IWC Birthdays

March

Robert Lashua	1
Jim DiUlio	13
Joe Puccio	13
Robert Brill	24
Ernesto Livorni	27
Andrew Salerno	28
Russ Cerniglia	29
Antonio Re	29

April

Ralph Russo	1
Mark Fumusa	5
Tom DiPiazza	8
Anthony DeGregoria	14
Mario Russo	14
John Caliva	15
Jon Lashua	16
Tony Bonanno, Jr.	17
Thomas Klinzing	21
Nino Amato	23
Joseph Cristoforo	24
Ricardo Gandolfo	26
Daniel J. Langlois	27
Dominic DeSano	28
Joseph Gmeinder	28
Anthony Bruno	30

IACW Birthdays

Sarah Oakley, March 9

Mary Katic April 10



Above left: Merry Christmas from Nino Amato, DaVinci & Sofia.

Above right: Dan Malone doing two of the things Italians do best.

Left: A toast to life from Jack Theel.



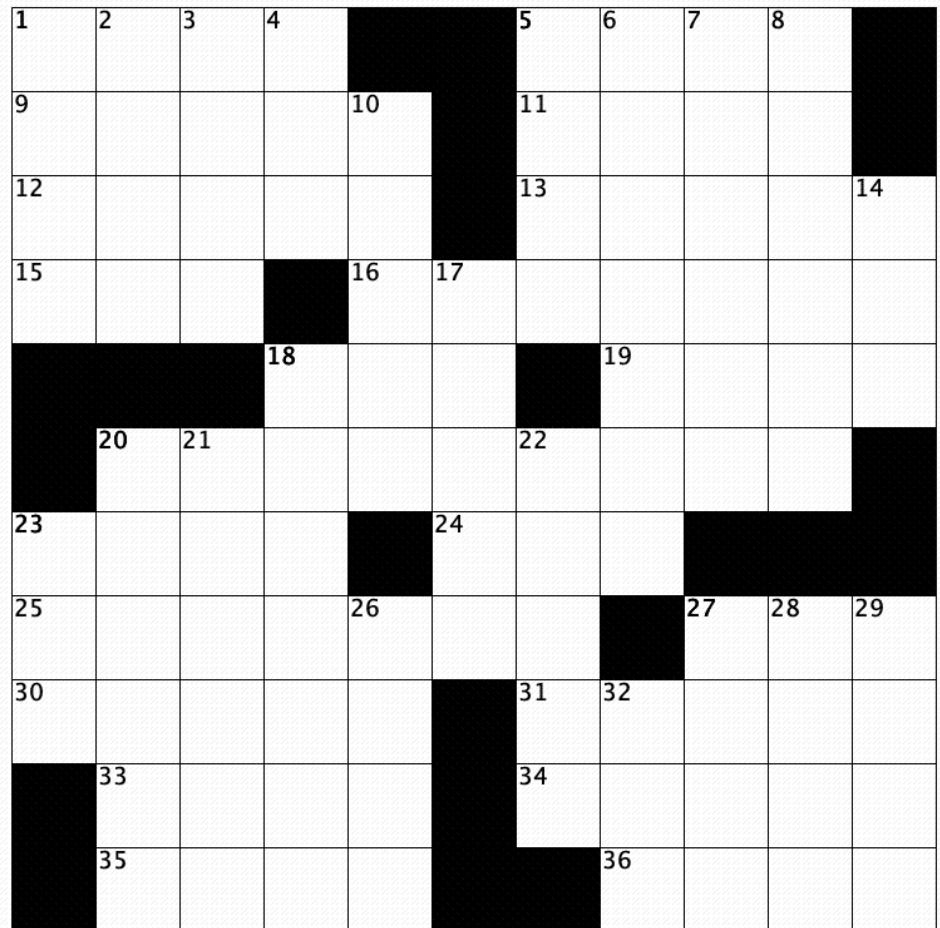
Crossword

ACROSS

1. Big monkeys
5. Nicolas I was one
9. Hello on the Islands
11. Midwest state
12. Capitol of North Korea
13. The golden fog singer Mel
15. Opposite way of Aves.
16. PT Barnum was one
18. You can catch it in the winter
19. It's at the beach
20. You made one in school on February 14
23. Creepy (variation)
24. It goes with abet
25. MPAA can give this
27. dot follower
30. _____ as a judge
31. Couples may do this on Feb 14
33. Singer Simone
34. Get ready to eat
35. Book of the Bible
36. What you do to the garden

DOWN

1. Sighs of relief
2. Part of a land map
3. How long it takes to make one of these puzzles
4. Cable channel
5. Dorothy's dog
6. What one does to get on a plane
7. USAF flyer
8. Caesar salad ingredient (variable)
10. What the bride walks down
14. World without _____, amen
17. Type of Chinese food
18. What they use to sleep in the tropics



20. Italian city with two gentlemen
21. Our number system in the USA
22. Golfer Woods
23. Divorcees
26. Retirement accounts
27. How you deal with problems
28. Opposite of close
29. darn
32. English _____

Social Activity Calendar

Here's a list of club activities planned for 2022. Information on each activity will be provided in future newsletters and e-mail communications.

March 19	International Festival at Overture Center
May 21	Sauce Tasting Contest
June 3 – 5	Festa Italia
July 16	Bus Tour To Milwaukee, Racine & Kenosha Clubs
August 14	Picnic
September (Date TBD)	Charity Golf Outing
October 9	Awards Banquet
October 22	Trivia Night
November 19	Movie Night
December 18	Children's Christmas Party
December 20	Adult Christmas Party



Solution

A	P	E	S			T	S	A	R	
A	L	O	H	A		O	H	I	O	
H	A	N	O	I		T	O	R	M	E
S	T	S		S	H	O	W	M	A	N
				F	L	U		S	A	N
	V	A	L	E	N	T	I	N	E	
E	E	R	Y		A	I	D			
X	R	A	T	I	N	G		C	O	M
S	O	B	E	R		E	L	O	P	E
	N	I	N	A		R	I	P	E	N
	A	C	T	S			T	E	N	D

Thank you members for all the great photos!!



Joe Shubat and son on ski lift.



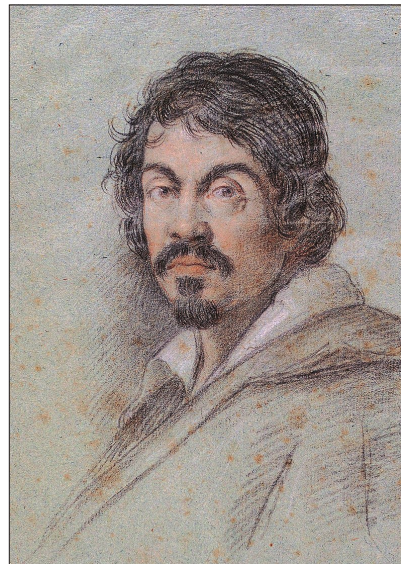
Joe Scalissi as Dean Martin with showgirls in Atlantic City.



Pete Cerniglia and Joann dancing in Florida.

ice's finest painters. He gained much success during a long and successful career, and succeeded Bellini as the master of Venetian painting. In 1522 it took a full year for Titian to complete the painting *Bacchus and Ariadne*. He continued to paint in Venice until his death in 1576 from the bubonic plague.

There are many other wonderful Italian artists... Tommaso Masaccio, Caravaggio, Tintoretto, Giotto di Bondone, Modigliani to name a few, and others lesser known but amazing in their own right. Those discussed here offer only a glimpse into some of the great ones, who defined art in Italy and around the world. ■■



Chalk portrait of Caravaggio by Ottavio Leoni, circa 1621.

President's Mail Box

Send me an e-mail (davidrizzo@me.com). If there's something you like or don't like about our club, or if you simply want to ask a question, or make a suggestion, I really want to hear from you. I can't promise that I'll address every need, or implement every idea, but I can promise you the courtesy of a response.

Alla prossima volta, statevi bene e Dio vi benedica.



management. Like other sports such as football, pro soccer is entirely separate from college soccer, and franchises recruit talent from a college draft. Much more so than traditional sports we know, soccer regularly scouts and signs talent worldwide. In fact, FMFC has signed exciting international talent from Senegal, Brazil, Australia, and Jamaica for the 2022 season!

The FMFC Flamingos play their games at [historic Breese Stevens Field](#) on Madison's near east side. As a local landmark Breese has a long sports history, hosts many local community events including markets and concerts, and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Since FMFC was created, significant investment and development has gone into both the stadium itself and the surrounding area. New video boards, concessions, suites, and fan seating create a unique gameday environment. However the real treat, and a driving factor behind the success of the Flamingos, is the fans. Singing, chanting, flags, smoke, and cheers of the club's ever-present, official supporter group (known as *The Flock*) helps guide an electric and exciting experience for a diverse and large fanbase. Off the field, both the team and fan groups are largely involved in the community with a range of outreach and support programs that help tie them to Madison's identity.

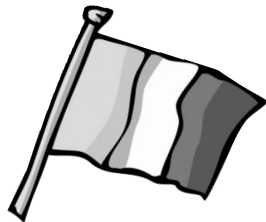
Forward Madison has had mixed success in league play. In their 2019 inaugural season, they finished 4th out of 11 teams and made the playoffs, losing in the first round to league champ North Texas SC. The past two seasons have been less successful. The pandemic forced the team to limit activities and temporarily move to Hart Park in Wauwatosa (not-fun fact: Forward was one of only a few teams across all sports in the entire US who was unable to play league home games during 2020 due to pandemic restrictions). Despite a head coaching change and roster additions, the Flamingos have finished middle or lower in the league table in the last two seasons.



This year's campaign for the 'Mingos begins soon, and another new head coach and reshuffled roster bring new hopes for success. Forward play five preseason games with college or other lower pro league teams starting in late February. The [2022 season](#) runs from early April through mid October, with 16 home games (mostly on Saturday nights) and the prospect of playoffs to follow. Early highlights include a June 15 friendly match with SC Paderborn (a German 2nd league team), a late April/early May home matchup in the US Open Cup (a prestigious tournament spanning different pro divisions), and likely another international friendly match yet to be announced.

Are you ready to go #FullMingo? Up the 'Gos! ■





Meeting Dates

IWC Council Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of
Each Month 7:00 pm

IWC Membership Meetings – 3rd Tuesday of
Each Month 6:30 pm

Please clip and post this calendar.



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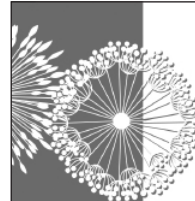
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