

CAPE SAAACA



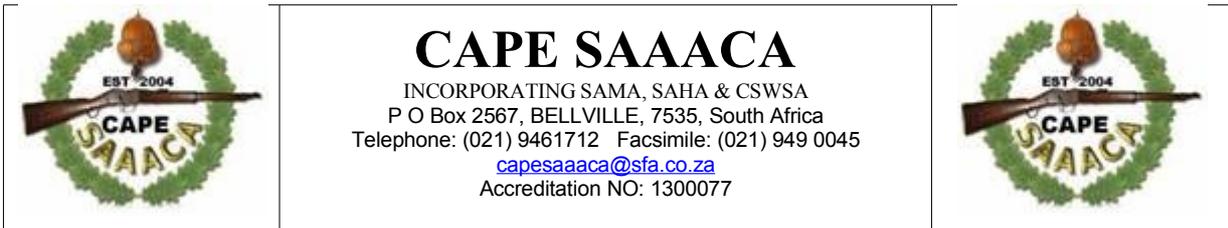
**SOUTHERN AFRICA MILITARIA
COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION**

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SAMCA NEWSLETTER NO 10, FEBRUARY 2007



2006 RE-LICENCE WOES

All firearm collectors whose birthday is in April/May & June are reminded that they must submit their applications before end March 2006.

Those who still need to be categorized as collectors to receive their collectors certificates, and have not yet submitted their Field of Interest Organogram applications, are reminded that they need that in order to re-license as Firearm Collectors, and are requested to contact the Chairman or Graeme Smith as a matter of urgency to assist them in doing so.

CAPE SAAACA SHOOT ATLANTIS 24 FEB 2007

Just a confirmation of above shoot coming Saturday at 10H00 on Range 4 Atlantis NSADF Range. Any weapons welcome. Range fees R20 for members and R30 for non members. Cash bar open afterwards.

POSSIBILITY OF AQUING SPORT SHOOTING FOR ALL CAPE SAAACA MEMBERS:

Many collectors shoot their collecting firearm pieces as well, and after some consultation we have decided to look into the matter to affiliate CAPE SAAACA as a sport shooting

body as well to accord all our members accredited sport shooting status. This will allow us far greater latitude within our interest. We will keep you posted as matters develop.

In the mean time, please submit some feed back to allow the EXCO to apply their minds more diligently.

REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANCE:

We are in dire need for members (or their spouses) that can assist us with administrative functions.

JANUARY SAMCA TALK

The meeting of the 25th of January differed from all previous meetings in that it was not formally structured by having a designated speaker on a specific subject. The events of the evening took the form of a "Show & Tell" (Trade & Display) evening where different speakers gave us an impromptu discussion on a particular subject and item that they brought along. As such the evening was a resounding success and will be repeated for February. Our joint Speakers were Stephan Fourie, Willem Steenkamp and Dr Guntars Vaivars, in that order.

Stephan brought along a Xhosa Ikwa stabbing spear modeled on the famous stabbing spears of Shaka's Zulu Impis. He explained the origin of the weapon, the historical context and background which led to the Xhosas adopting similar short stabbing spears that were lethal in close-combat fighting.

Willem exhibited a fine specimen of a Cape-manufactured muzzle-loader which in fact is a highly prized family heirloom that came down through a number of generations. Willem coloured his presentation with a number of family anecdotes which brought the history of the rifle to life. In short: The rifle was built for an ancestor called Jan "Slaai" Steenkamp during the 18th century. In one particular incident Jan "Slaai" single-handedly tracked a marauding band of San who stole his cattle, and outwitted them at their own game, recovering his cattle. The story had a twist in that he ended up serving a four-year jail sentence on Robben Island for killing some of the Bushmen. Another ancestor, Floors Steenkamp, who was born in 1807, used to kill the last lion in the Calvinia district, on the farm "Kliprug". The lion caught and killed his favourite riding horse. This annoyed him so much that he confronted the lion and swore at the lion, which apparently did not take kindly to the language used and stormed him. Floors used the selfsame rifle to kill the lion with one shot – at such a short range that the lion literally fell dead at his feet. The muzzle-loader sports a brass plate on the butt commemorating the event when his grandfather handed the gun on to Willem as the future family custodian of what is truly a magnificent and genuine piece of Africana.

Guntars (Alias Dr Zzz) gave us a rundown of his recent visit to his homeland, Latvia. He used the opportunity to gather information for his promised follow-up talk in October 2006, on the history and events in Latvia since 1940. He briefly sketched what he did and saw on the trip, particularly his visits to some of the military history museums and cemeteries. This appetizer will certainly have us looking forward to his next scheduled talk.

In the final summary, no trading took place, but the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, in spite of the stifling heat!

Thank you Stephan, Willem and Guntars for a most enjoyable evening.



UPCOMING SAMCA TALK:

The next meeting of SAMCA will be held on Thursday, 22 February, at 19:30 at the CTH Officers Mess at the Cape Castle. (Same place as the 2006 AGM).

To test the validity and successful future of “Trade & Display” evenings, the forthcoming meeting will be structured similarly to that of January in order to perfect the concept. All and sundry is therefore invited to bring along some interesting piece of militaria to share with the fellow-members.

Given that the second batch of relicencing group (April/May/June birthdays) has to submit their relicencing applications before the end of March 2007, we will again start our talk with a brief overview of what is required from Public Collectors (that’s us). The chairperson will again explain the required Field of Interest Organogram (FoI) that Public Collectors has to submit to CAPE SAAACA to obtain your Categorized Collectors Certificate required to meet the SAPS CFR requirements for purposes of licencing. We have changed the format somewhat to accommodate the larger collections.

The FoI talk will be followed by a “Trade & Display / Show n’ Tell” session during which Members may display their collections and an opportunity to swap amongst each other.



SAMCA COMMITTEE:

- **Stephan Fourie** (CAPE SAAACA/SAMCA Chairperson – email: capesaaaca@sfa.co.za)
(The SAAACA Chairman is (constitutionally) automatically Chairperson of SAMCA).
- **Johan van den Berg** (SAMCA Scribe – Ph: 082-579-0386 & email: warbooks@mweb.co.za)

Kind regards

Johan van den Berg

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