

CAPE SAAACA



**SOUTHERN AFRICA MILITARIA
COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION**

CAPE SAAACA SAMCA NEWSLETTER NO 12 APRIL 2007



CAPE SAAACA

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FIREARM RE-LICENCING, END OF MARCH 2007.

Experience gained during the last cycle certainly helped, especially with the normal last minute influx of applications literally days before the end. We seriously implore all those who have to re-licence this year to start early as it takes serious research to establish a valid field of interest. (The average compilation takes about three months) We have about 18 applications pending, for which we issued "*deferment letters*" to be submitted to the SAPS to meet the 31st of March deadline, allowing prospective members to compile their submissions for proper consideration.

It is no simple application which can be completed in a weekend with an inventory with a bit of a write up attached. It should rather be viewed as a research thesis on your chosen field(s) of interest, as against the formal training courses/exams that dedicated hunters/sport shooters have to comply with.

It should be noted that applications must fully compliant as detailed in the application docs, and NOT be submitted piecemeal, especially when close to dead lines. Incomplete applications will be returned.



CATEGORISATION AND APPROVAL OF A PRIVATE COLLECTOR'S FIELD OF INTEREST:

We experience that applicants seriously underestimated the importance of compiling and a well researched submission around their field(s) of interest. Members will be well advised to remember the legal technical role that it plays in the bigger picture. Sport and hunters has to undergo an actual theoretical and practical course/exam before attaining dedicated status. In our case the field of interest submission constitutes that same weight

and should more be viewed as a research thesis to validate their bona fides as a private collector, instead of treating it as a cursory rubbers stamp exercise simply to retain their current firearms. As such, a submission acts as a sort of RPL to validate their collecting activity to date. (Obviously we need to accommodate emerging collectors, and this is receiving due attention, but to date all our attention went towards facilitating current collectors.)



SHOOTING VENUES:

1. NSADF Cape of Good Hope Range at Atlantis. In the process of obtaining SABS range accreditation. (Contact person Francois du Toit 084 9099317)
2. NSVO RANGE in a picturesque setting against Table Mountain. .22 Silhouette. (Contact person Greg Ronnie 082 4906871)
3. TERRY REINDERS RANGE at Joostenberg Vlakte. "Fun shoots" Due to security only by invite/reservation. (Contact person Stephan Fourie 021 9461712 or Peter Voigt 083 440 9804).

Regular shoots are held at each venue. Whilst not detracting from the current "fun shoot" events, we aim to develop specific discipline shoots for the various firearm action types in the combined format of handgun/shotgun/rifle with competitive scores on quarterly/annual basis;

1. Muzzle loaders.
2. Center fire firearms
3. Military type firearms

Format Handguns at 10m/Shotguns at 25m/Rifles at 100m

All suggestions are welcome for any other types of shoots to enhance/complement our firearm collection endeavours. Please contact the Chairman.

Members are reminded that attendance to our monthly talks/shoots counts towards your annual compliancy credits, which has to be met in order to retain your "good standing" required to retain your Private Collector status.



REENACTMENTS:

A Suggestion was tabled to resurrect the "Fort Knokke Militia", further to complement future Military Taptoes. The Chairman coopted John Lamont, Greg Ronne and Willem Steenkamp to prepare and table further suggestions. Please submit further/additional suggestions.



FEBRUARY SAMCA TALK

The meeting of the 29th of March followed the pattern established with the highly successful "display & tell" format meeting of January & February. The main topic of the evening was a Colt New Service although in the British calibre .455 cal., brought along by Cyril Lautenbach. Cyril gave us an interesting insight into this unique weapon, proving beyond a doubt that he is most knowledgeable on the subject. Ian Craythorne brought along an SMLE that he showed around. Don Schoeman spoke briefly of the pararigs used by the "Bats" from inception of the unit until current– this subject will be more fully explored at the next meeting.



UPCOMING CAPE SAAACA SAMCA TALK:

The next meeting of SAMCA will be held on Thursday, 26 April, at 19:00 at the CTH Officers Mess inside the Cape Castle. (Parking behind the Castle off Strand Street) Although on the eve of a long weekend, we hope many of you will still be able to attend. [Diarise our monthly talk events for the last Thursday of each month.]

The speakers at the next meeting are:

- 1) Pierre de Villiers who will display some weapons in the CTH collection that originated in the SWA Border & Angolan Wars.**
- 2) Don Schoeman will give a more detailed talk on the parachute rigs used by the SA Paras over the years.**
- 3) Any ad hoc members' "show and tell".**

Note we "dumped" our previous request that members must notify us in advance to allow us to plan accordingly should we get too many exhibitions. We will allow this along casual lines till practicalities force us otherwise.

STRICT SAFETY MEASSURES APPLY TO THE HANDLING OF ANY FIREARMS!

Attention Militaria Collectors

Surplus original Nutria 44 Parachute Regiment Para jump jackets will be for sale @ R500 each at the talk. Limited numbers in the various sizes available, strictly on a first come, first serve basis.



The Cannon Association has been requested to assist the City of Cape Town with the firing of a chain of old muzzle loading cannons which link Simon's Town and the V&A Waterfront on Freedom Day on the 27th of April 2007. Members are invited to attend any "setting".

The firing of the guns roughly represents an old Dutch signal system which existed prior to 1806.

Members of the public are invited to witness the firing of the gun most convenient to them.

The first gun will be fired at the False Bay Yacht Club in Simon's Town by gunner John Newton at 10h00. The second gun will be fired from the point in Kalk Bay at 10h15 by gunner Martin Venter and the third near Muizenberg station at 10h30 by gunner Peter

Wright. The signal will thus progress from gun to gun with 15 minute intervals until the Noon Gun joins in at 12h00.

The fourth gun will be fired by gunner Jurg Zimmermann at the Constantia Nek Restaurant at 10h45 and the Hout Bay 24 pounder at West Fort near "Fish on the Rocks" will join in at 11h00. The sixth gun will be fired at the Suikerbossie Restaurant above Hout Bay at 11h15 by gunner Jacobus van Niekerk.

Gunners Leon and Gerry (jr) de Vries will fire the seventh gun which will be placed just above the two old cannons at the Northern end of Camps Bay, this firing will be at 11h30. Gunners Alf Parris and Allan Martheze will fire the eighth gun at the two old cannons in Kloof Nek at 11h45.

For the first time in many years a cannon will be fired from the very top of Signal Hill where the Dutch had a gun which alerted the Castle to approaching ships. This, the ninth gun will be fired by gunners Ryk and MJ de Wit at 11h55. The Noon Gun will form the tenth in the line at Noon precisely, as it has done for more than a century.

The arriving signal will be acknowledged at Chavonne Battery near the Clock Tower in the V&A Waterfront by a four gun firing by Cape Field Artillery using WW II vintage 25 pounder guns.

At Chavonne Battery, amid military music and a guard of halberdiers, the Mayor of Cape Town, Helen Zille, will make a short Freedom Day speech and then fire the last cannon to complete the ceremony. This last cannon will be served by gunner Johann van Zyl.



FOR USE TO COMPARE METRIC/IMPERIAL CALIBRES

<http://world.ru/calc.htm>



TRADE NEWS

Members are invited to keep us informed of interesting events, which we could include in our "annual event" web site calendar currently under construction. (Please visit www.capesaaaca.co.za)

The long-awaited hardcover version of the publication *Grensoorlog/Border War 1966-1989* is finally available. Additional copies of the paperback edition have also been printed.

Louis Bothma has received the 5th imprint of his highly successful book on 32 Battalion "Die Buffel Struikel" – already over 4 000 copies sold! Contact the scribe.

Dennis Croukamp has informed the Scribe that the 2nd print run of his highly successful "Only my friends call me Crouks", is now available. The final print run is limited to 300 copies, of which more than a third has already been sold. So folks, there is still a chance (albeit a fleeting one!) to own a copy of this popular book!

SAMCA COMMITTEE:

Stephan Fourie CAPE SAAACA/SAMCA Chairman – email: capesaaaca@sfa.co.za)

Johan van den Berg SAMCA Scribe – Ph: 082-579-0386 & email: warbooks@mweb.co.za)