



CAPE SAAACA

P O Box 2567, BELLVILLE, 7535, South Africa

Telephone: (021) 9461712 Facsimile: (021) 949 0045

capesaaaca@sfa.co.za

www.capesaaaca.co.za



NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER



URGENT WARNING!

It has come to our attention that S365 with lot number starting with 048 is a defective batch. (Lot number is on a sticker at the bottom of the tin.) The tin contains S335 or S355. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THIS BE USED.

If you do have S365 with a lot number starting with 048 then you should contact SOMCHEM at 021 850 2911 or email elmarie.zikmann@dlswc.co.za. The powder can lead to abnormal high pressures and can cause damage to you or your rifle.



We still see our efforts dominated by the spectre of relicensing instead of focussing our energies on developing the underlying common interest.

Members are invited to contact the Chairman if they are prepared to become involved in any way. We are in the process of planning 2008 and without members' active involvement we are about as useful as a tax return! So please folks, make CAPE SAAACA work for YOU by helping in any way possible by becoming involved. Any interested parties must please reply with an indication in which role they will be willing to serve before the 30th of November to allow me to set up a planning meeting early in December.



OCTOBER TALK

Notes on the talks at the end of the newsletter.



UPCOMING NOVEMBER TALKS:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, the 6th of December, at 19:00 **punctual** at the CTH Officers Mess inside the Cape Castle. (Parking inside the grounds behind the Castle off Strand Street). We suggest you come earlier to allow you to register your attendance and to buy a refreshment before the talks start at 19H00. Please be considerate of the time in respect of those who do.

Members are invited to bring artefacts on which they wish to deliver a short talk. Reminded that you must please prepare a short summary of your talk which you can e-mail to the Chairman to be included in the next newsletter.

Members are reminded that strict safety protocol on the handling of any firearm will apply; ALL MOVING PARTS MUST BE REMOVED and displayed separately, unless prior cleared with the Chairman. NO live ammunition will be handled.



OUTSTANDING RE-LICENSING APPLICATIONS DUE 31ST MARCH 2007

All those involved has been personally contacted and reminded to submit same as soon as possible.



SAPS CFR 31ST OF MARCH 2008 RE-LICENSES CYCLE APPLICATIONS:

Relevant to those born in the months July/August/Sept.

All has been contacted personally reminding them to attend to the matter without delay.

The Membership Committee meets once a month and new applications on average takes about three months to evaluate and properly work through to ensure the integrity of the information supplied. As such it will be wise to submit it before the end of December as no guarantees can be given on any applications submitted from January, given the deadline of end March 2008 for this cycle. Contact your Chairman should you need any help to get it done.

Late submissions place huge demands on the membership Committee with great costs and effort to all involved. Take note of the relevant applicable additional categorisation and collectibility application fees.

The Membership Convenor Robert Nothhaft can also be contacted directly at robert@westernshooters.co.za

Some comments read in conjunction with Gauteng SAAACA and NAACCSA notes.

Application process for Relicensing of firearms, and applications for New Licenses.

Despite this issue being covered in previous newsletters, members are still confused when confronted with the daunting prospects of preparing their submissions.

It is actually quite simple if you start with defining the reason you collect and what you collect as your INTEREST part. From that you write your motivation, and that you condense into your Field of Interest description upon which you build the subsequent organogram. Don't make it more complicated than necessary.

For those who consider all of this to onerous and over zealous. What is important to realize is that the requirements in the Act can not be read in isolation, but must be considered against the background of the overall requirements of the Association's accreditation, its legal obligations in terms of this accreditation, and Administrative law principles to which it is now subject as a statutory entity under the Act.

In a recent note to NAACCSA members, Advocate John Welch comments as follows –

“The registrar must be independently convinced, based on the information contained in the official forms (SAP 271) AND the corroborating EVIDENCE contained in the association's forms”.

So what does all this mean in English?

The Member must prepare a motivation for the firearm which is in enough detail for the Association to “determine its collectability based on the values of the firearm” as detailed in Section 17(1)(a) the (Amendment) Act – e.g. History, Heritage, Technology, Rarity, Investment, Thematic etc value (11 of them), and that it “fits” in the Members approved Field of Interest / Theme / collection.

Obviously not all values apply to all firearms and the ones you use are informed by how you have described and agreed on your Field of Interest with the Association. The motivation for a Lee Metford rifle will look different from a member who is collecting it as an example of the history of firearms used in Natal Midlands battlefields, to one as an example of the development of the magazine fed breech loading service rifle. Both have “History” but the content of that “history” is different.

Once the member and the association have reached agreement on this motivation , the Association will confirm the organogram and that it fits within the members Field of Interest, Theme, and Category (“*qualifies to collect*”) , and that the member is in “good standing” with the Association .

The Association will issue a “solemn declaration” to this effect, for which it remains accountable (even in Court if necessary).

The Member can then take this Motivation and the Association's declaration and submit it to the SAPS as part of the SAPS 271.

Note that we have agreement from CFR that the motivation as submitted to and agreed with the Association will suffice and that a separate motivation for the SAPS 271 is not required unless the member chooses to separate them (although why he/she would want to do this is not clear). However the Registrar (CFR) is still entitled to see the information on which the Association based its decision.

In order to streamline the process, the above requirements have been summarised into one document, which is available from the Office in electronic format.



FEES PAYABLE:

Joining fee	R150.00
Annual subs for firearm collectors	R450.00
Categorisation and Field of Interest applications/reviews.	R250.00
Subsequent Collectibility applications	R100.00
Annual subs for all other secretariat collector categories	R250.00
Student membership subs	R100.00



SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS:

To allow proper control, it may only be submitted via registered mail or direct submission at our Offices. A dated receipt will be issued against which the application status may be monitored.

We suggest that applications first be submitted via E-mail in electronic format to be circulated amongst the Membership Committee for comments to allow possible refinements before printing and submitting hard copies. Once you received the nod from Robert, you must submit three complete hard copies as required.



SAPS CFR FEEDBACK:

We held various meetings with the Provincial DFO Director Sandra Japhta and her staff and are satisfied that relicencing on provincial level are progressing at a more satisfactory level. They requested our assistance in establishing working protocol for them as far as private collectors are concerned and we have an open door invitation from them. We are still concerned that matters are running less than satisfactory at national CFR level. We did address this through the NAACCSA Offices and will keep you posted.

Feedback on the Draft Regulations

Comments of the Draft have been worked through and along with various input from members some of the following issues will be considered by NAACCSA at their next EXCO meeting on the 20th November.

- Refining the definition of “Good Standing”
- Aligning the requirements in Regulation 7 (was old Regulation 5) for the Accreditation of Collectors Associations with the requirements of the Amended Act, particularly with regard to Field of Interest, Theme, Category , and approval for collection of firearms.
- Clarifying Category E – entry level.
- Clarifying the collectability requirements for Restricted and Prohibited firearms, and historic cannon in Regulation 17

- Refining the mechanisms for storage of Restricted and Prohibited firearms.
- Suggesting a proposal for transitional provisions for Cap and Ball (Percussion) revolvers

Once the Regulations have finally been ratified, we will all be able to digest it and plan our road forward, and as such we are quite anxious to reach a point of order. We will keep you posted.



2008 AGM

Attending members were surprised with a gift of a lead glass whisky/sherry decanter with the CAPE SAAACA logo sandblasted on as well as a complimentary bottle of Sedgewicks Old Brown Sherry courtesy of Distillers. Thank you Eben Coetzee and Distillers as well as members Graham Mac Millian who made a donation towards the cost. Awesome Tools kindly donated two sachets of dehumidifying crystals, and we thank Graeme Smith for making that possible.

Members who wish to obtain one of these rare valued decanters may purchase one at the cost of R300.00.

The normal agenda matters were addressed at the AGM and the following were confirmed to serve on the EXCO.

Stephan Fourie
 Henk Mulder
 Andrew Wium
 Robert Nothhaft
 Peter Voigt
 (Co-opted) Gerhard du Toit

The Chairman elicited active participation on agenda issues and a lot of time was spent on firearm relicencing and specifically the categorisation certification process involving the Field of Interest Organogram. The financial report and statements were ratified and the membership fees of R450.00 per annum for 2008 approved.

Whilst the members attended the AGM on Saturday the 17th of November at Simonstown, our families went on a tour of the Naval Museum which was kindly opened with special permission being under restoration.

After a sumptuous lunch at the 7 Seas Officers Club, the guests were divided into three groups who in turn visited the Frigate SAS Amatola F145 with its confusing array of electronic equipment and spacious layout, down the hatches into one of the new submarines type 209 SAS Charlotte Mxheke (oh boy its cramped and hot down there!) and a short cruise on a Namakura class patrol vessel of the Maritime Reaction Squadron where some experienced being drenched with the refreshing spray, after which we all retired rather foot sore to the 7 Seas Club for refreshments. The Navy personnel were absolutely fantastic and never seemed bored by the questions from ignorant landlubbers.

All were unanimous that it was an exciting fun filled day and that the family format is what made it so successful with such a huge turnout. Our most sincere appreciation and

thanks to Capt John Lamont who made it all possible.

It left us with only one concern, how to improve on it for 2008?



SECRETARIATS NEWS:

This is where we keep you up to date with what happened at our various secretariats. Come on chaps, let us have your monthly news reports!

FORT KNOKKE MILITIA:

Interested parties can contact John Lamont at glentyne@yebo.co.za.

CAPE SAAACA WESTERN SHOOTERS:

Interested parties can contact Robert Nothhaft (Big Boar Bob) at 021 851 4405 or roronoma@telkomsa.net.



OCTOBER TALKS:

Ian gave us a live firing of a 2 pounder muzzle loader followed by a most interesting talk on the muzzle loading cannons of yore. Our appreciation and thanks to Ian!

Live Firing

The live firing of a 2 pounder Blomefield/Armstrong field gun took place off Leerdam Bastion at 20h 00. The cannons were cast in 1810 and were mounted on a replica Griebuval carriage of circa 1800. The Chairman had the honour of igniting the charge, but apparently didn't see anything of the blast as his eyes were held tightly shut!

Notes on Ian's talk;

Cannon – Igniting History

Ian van Oordt

Introduction

Cannon have been around for more than 800 years. Initially weak they were soon to become powerful weapons of war.

Although we still refer to cannon as large weapons the original definition was

- 1) It fired a non explosive projectile.

- 2) It was muzzle loading with a shot weight of 32 Pounds.
- 3) It used gunpowder as the propellant.

There are many different types of cannon which evolved over many years. The various types can be summarized into the following groups:

- 1) Cannon which fired a solid round shot.
- 2) Howitzer which fired an explosive shell.
- 3) Mortars which fired an explosive shell.
- 4) Carronade a short gun which fired mainly grape shot.
- 5) Swivel gun of which there were two types Breech and muzzle loading.

There are many interesting cannon types some which are very ornate. One such cannon called a Lantaka which was used in the Asian countries. I have a beautiful bronze original example which dates to the 17th Century and comes from Brunei. The cannon are very long and thin. The manufacturing technique and the fact that the bore has at least 3 sets of iron chaplets are as an indication that she is an original.

Shot Type

Cannon use various types of projectiles. Initially the shot was a sphere and was made from stone either Marble or Granite. An example of the type dating back to the late 15th Century was passed around. The shot was a Portuguese Camelette cannon ball of 165mm diameter with a weight of 12 pounds. Stone shot was made by scores of stonemasons slowly chipped round and then finally ground smooth. The roundness of the shot is amazing and is within a 1mm tolerance. Stone shot was replaced by iron shot from the early 16th Century but examples of both types persisted into the 17th Century. Stone firing cannon can be identified by the fact of the large bore, thin wall thickness as well as a gun powder chamber.

The other types of projectiles include bar shot, chain shot and grape shot, each had its specific use. Howitzer and mortars fired an explosive shell to which crude fuses were fitted so that the shells would explode amongst the enemy troops. The shell diameters were large in the order of 10 to 13 inches.

Ignition Systems

The most common used system was the lint stock or slowmatch. This was a very difficult system to use and was fraught with danger as well as very uncertain ignition timing, common time from igniting the priming powder to firing of the cannon could be as long as 2 to 4 seconds. This variable ignition time led to poor aiming on board ships.

The English during the American War of Independence developed the gun lock which followed the flintlock principle as used on pistols and rifles. This new form of ignition improved both the fighting distance as well as speed of loading to such an extent that the Royal Navy was firing as least 3 times

faster than the French in the Battle of Saints on 14th April 1782. This invention, when the French got to hear of it, forced the French to redesign their 1786 gun patterns 1787.

An original working gun lock made by Henry Nock of London around 1800 was passed around. This lock manufactured from brass was made to fit the 18 pounder Blomefield cannon pattern (the same type and size of cannon used as Cape Town's Noon Gun).

A copy of the original Navy Board instruction detailing the new "Invention" was shown; this was dated 13 March 1781. It is interesting to note the way the invention of the gun lock is mentioned in the document "32 Pounder Gun, with its respective part".

The gun lock was to remain in use on cannon until supplanted by percussion ignition systems as late as 1890.

Loading Equipment

The various pieces of loading equipment were shown;

- a) Wad Worm – to remove any burning embers from the gun bore.
- b) Sponge – To kill any burning embers left in the bore after a firing.
- c) Ladle – To load the new charge of gun powder
- d) Rammer – To ram the charge, wad and shot home
- e) Vent Reamer – to puncture the cartridge.

REMINDERS:

Everyone should have received their 2008 renewal notices by now. PLEASE remember to indicate very clearly on your deposit slip your full initials and surname followed by 2008 to allow us to reconcile your payment, and then FAX or e-mail proof of payment to us. Omission of this requires numerous telephone calls to trace same and simply wastes scarce association funds and more than often means your membership remains on record as outstanding.

The EXCO wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas, festive season and prosperous collecting 2008.

Greetings,

Stephan Fourie

Chairman

CAPE SAAACA

PO Box 2567, Bellville, 7535

Ph: 021-946 1712

Fax: 949 0045

capesaaaca@sfa.co.za

www.capesaaaca.co.za