



CAPE SAAACA

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MAY 2008 NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING MAY TALKS:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, the 29TH of May 2008, at 19:00 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 some refreshments before the talks start at 19H00.

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 when handling firearms.



ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL MATTERS:

Competency Certificates:

It has come to our attention that some Collectors' competency certificates were not issued as Private Collectors. Numerous complications arise when applying for a licence for collecting purposes as a private collector's competency has to be issued as such.

It probably arose from the fact that the SAPS competency application form does not have any data field to identify it as such. We have been warning members to ensure that they write in bold on the first page of the SAP Competency application form that they are private collectors so categorised.

I am in negotiations with the Western Cape CFR Offices on the matter and request that all members who find themselves so affected contact me and inform me of the full details involved to assist in resolving matters. It will be astute to make sure you have copies of their original applications indicating that they did clearly mark their private collectors status. Applications not so marked would require re applications as SAPS indicated that in such cases it was not by their fault.



31st of MARCH 2009 RE-LICENSES CYCLE applications for those born in the months Oct/Nov/Dec.

You are reminded to start as early as possible to prevent a last minute rush that may result in

delays because of the time frame involved around the due diligence that private collectors applications has to meet. It invariably involves serious research to develop a sound Field of Interest and topic motivation.

For those who has not yet submitted their docs before the dead line, but had to rellicence this year, contact the Membership Convenor Robert Nothhaft at robert@westernshooters.co.za

Regardless of when you were due to rellicence, all old licences will remain valid until the 31st of June 2009. That will allow them time to sell or swap their firearms. Based on Classic Arms Auction prices, the market has firmed on the better quality firearms.



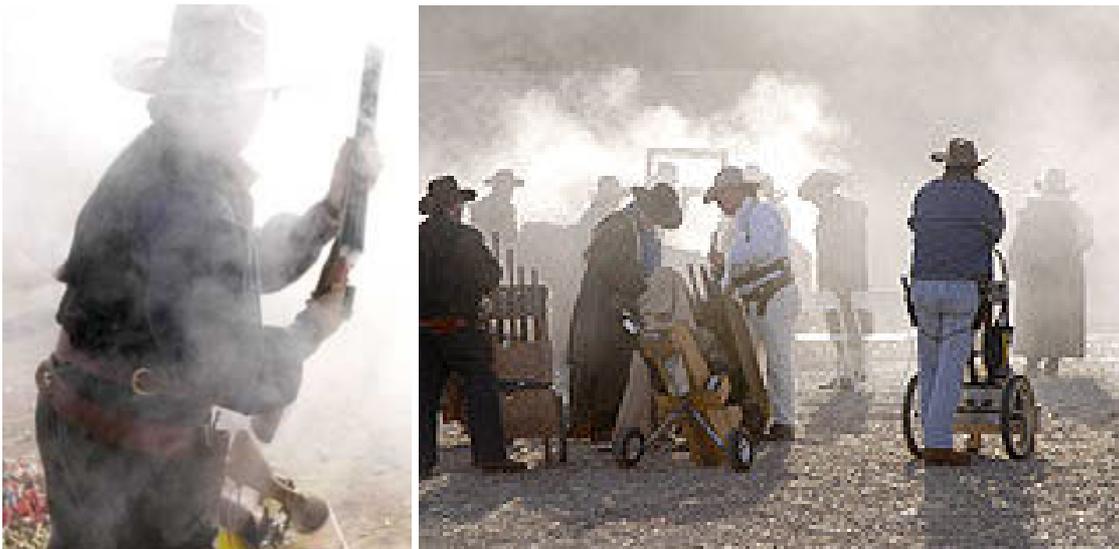
SECRETARIATS NEWS:

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 KNOCKE MILITIA:

Under review due to lack of involvement.

CAPE SAAACA WESTERN SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION:



A typical American 'Cowboy Action Shooting' Black Powder match.

Cape SAAACA's Western Shooter's Association get's together every third Saturday of each month for a shoot at the False Bay Shooting Club. We do what is known today as Cowboy Action Shooting, the fastest growing gun sport in the world. We shoot a 3-Gun Shoot that comprises of being timed for shooting at targets with two revolvers, a Lever Action Rifle and a side-by-side Shotgun or a pump-action Shotgun. All guns either have to be pre-1900 or replicas of those pre-1900 weapons. We are affiliated too and shoot according to SASS (Single Action Shooting Society) rules.

Most of our members are shooting with Single Action, Cap-n-Ball, Black Powder Revolvers. Some of us are patiently waiting for our cartridge firing, Cowboy Revolver licenses to come through. Shooting with Black Powder Revolvers 'can' be quite fun and I think it might be due to the fact that more of one's senses are involved in such a shoot. Cartridge firing guns go off with a "Crack" and that's it. Black Powder Revolvers go

off with a “Boom” and lots of visual and smelly smoke, especially when firing 10 rounds against a clock. They leave you with the sense of sound, sight and smell. If the wind is blowing in the wrong direction, a cough or two can be produced by the shooter and onlookers alike, which is normally followed by lots of smiles and laughter. As much fun as they can sometimes create, they can also create frustration when they jam up or misfire, but the events are fun and the company even better. That’s what Cowboy Action Shooting is all about.

SASS’s SPIRIT of the GAME

As the game of Cowboy Action Shooting has evolved, members have developed and adopted an attitude towards their participation we call “The Spirit of the Game.” Competing in “The Spirit of the Game” means you fully participate in what the competition asks. You do not look for ways to create an advantage out of what is or is not stated as a rule or shooting procedure. Some folks would call “The Spirit of the Game” nothing more than good sportsmanship. Whatever you call it, if you don’t have it, Cowboy Action Shooting is not your game.

Graeme Smith

Aka: Slip Shootin Smith

www.westernshooters.co.za



MONTHLY TALK AT THE CTH OFFICERS MESS CAPE CASTLE.

Thursday the 24th of March we met in the hallowed chambers of the CTH Officers Club at the Cape Castle for our monthly talk.

Upon our arrival we found ourselves locked out as our host forgot about the date, but that was quickly rectified once I phoned him. In the mean time we were entertained by yet another glamorous social event that was taking place inside the Castle. There were numerous trade shows, some displays including canon and musket firing as well as liberal wine and finger dinner offerings with numerous bar and restaurants set up for all to enjoy, and later some live music and dancing. Whatever the do was, it was clearly that most of our members seemed to belong to it as they quickly mingled and shared in the spoils and a good time was had by all.

Eventually our replacement host arrived and we got down to the serious business of discussing collecting and whatever it is we do.

John Lamont displayed a rather unique ship to ship line throwing rod that initially were fired from a .303 Lee Enfield with a blank and later the Navy acquired some R4’s over and above its R5’s for purposes of firing line throwing rod. He explained the intricacies involved and shared some stories of amusing incidents he experienced in his naval career.

Stephen Van Diggle brought a sword complete with a scabbard as issued to the SADF Officers and various members shared their knowledge on the topic with us. A discussion followed on how swords evolved over time with some attention to different designs during the Napoleonic period and how the British ordinance always tended to fall behind times with its soldiers often ill equipped when war started, yet they had to make do with aplomb.



CAPE SAAACA SHOOTING DISCIPLINES:

NOTE AMENDMENTS TO THE SHOOTING DETAIL FORMATS

- VENUE:** At the NSADF Range at ATLANTIS on Range C in front of Club House. (If in doubt, enquire at Clubhouse)
- DATES:** 7th of June 2008
- TIME:** Registration from 9H30 and shooting commences at 10H00. We should be wrapped up by 12H00.
- COSTS:** R20,00 for members and R30,00 for non-members. All welcome.

Bring a ground sheet or carpet off cut to lie on if you are partial to the odd dreaded Cape duwweltjie! Braai packs for sale at the cash bar after shoot when we normally light the braai fires and share tales and generally network with each other. At the last shoot that rained out the members got so involved in an "impromptu show and tell" that the first only left at 12 noon. Mike di Bona's enthusiasm and dedication was infectious and he hauled out various of his black powder pieces that soon had the members enthralled. That is the spirit that we all enjoy!

Based on recent experience we found that most participants are simply not on par with a competitive edge and that our current details do not motivate rather than encourage people to participate. Given some feedback we decided to shorten the distances to make it within the means of the average shot.

The whole basis of our shoots is designed to allow details as close to reality as possible in which various pieces were used at its time. Given that firearms predominantly evolved for military purposes with some secondary hunting applications, it followed that one did not have the luxury to settle down on bench rests etc with hair triggers. One was under pressure to shoot as you were and normally enemy contacts happened at short distances. Our shooting details are designed to emulate that, although we have the "enemy's" permission to allow a somewhat more relaxed time span to allow all the old soldiers to get their breath. So for those who believe in reincarnation for firearms, I dare you to dust off your old pieces and give them a second wind to show what they did when they were young, bold and in uniform!

The basic rules are thus to ensure that firearms should be used in its standard configuration. Yet we are open to further suggestions as this format is still in its infancy although I eventually envisage and hope that it would develop with its own following and competitive spirit. All great things had a humble beginning but had ambitious participants who drove it.

- 2 Gun Shoots under liberal time limitations. *Condition: No rests (bi-pods or sand bags) allowed.*
- We will also bring two bench rest tables for those who wish to range their rifles after the 2 Gun

This is both a fun event hosted at the Atlantis Shooting Range as published on our web site. It is an opportunity to develop your shooting skills under a hybrid format from various other shooting disciplines intended to give us a shoot as close to the real thing in which the various types were originally used. So load up your favourite revolver and grab that lever action Martini or bolt action Mauser and come take your position on the shooting line and start working on your ranking on the annual log. The lucky few with Ruger Mini 14's or LM4's can grab their semi auto pistols and do the "lock and roll" bit as well.

We will keep scores and compile an annual score board in each class, and at our annual year end event we will issue certificates to those in the first three places. It will also allow collectors to become familiar with the working side of their pieces and compete with their own PB (personal best) times as they improve.

Class 1: Modern Assault Weapons

Semi & full auto assault rifles and semi auto pistols.

30m	Assault rifles	Standing position	5 shots in 15 seconds
10m	Semi-auto pistols	Standing position	5 shots in 15 seconds

Class 2: Breach Loading Weapons

Lever and bolt action magazine rifles and single and double action revolvers.

30m	Lever and bolt Assault rifles	Standing position	5 shots in 30 seconds
10m	Revolvers	Standing position	5 shots in 30 seconds

Class 3: Single shot black powder breach loading rifles (A one gun event)

100m	Single shot black powder breach loading rifles	Prone position	7 shots in 15 minutes
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Class 4: Black powder muzzle loading and cap and ball weapons

Muzzle loading flint/percussion muskets and cap and ball revolvers or flint lock pistols.

100m	Muskets	Prone position	5 shots in 12 minutes
10m	Revolvers	Prone position	5 shots in 12 minutes

Further shooting details will evolve given interest, maybe something for only handguns?

Range Officers:

- Mike de Bona
- Stephan Fourie
- Graeme Smith
- Francois du Toit

Volunteers to assist the R.O.'s are invited to contact the Chairman.

As Range Officers are a SETA rated qualification and compulsory for hosting organised shoots, we intend that all such volunteers be sent on a R.O. course at our expense to ensure our safety and remain legit.

At each shoot the proper range safety procedures will be explained and strictly adhered to.

Come and enjoy it! Even if you don't want to shoot, the camaraderie alone is worth it!!



WEBSITE:

www.capesaaaca.co.za (This site soon to be revamped)

Check our calendar for events, and if you know of any interesting forthcoming event, let our webmaster know in advance to allow him to post it. webmaster@capesaaaca.co.za

Download application forms, refer to popular links, keep abreast of affairs as it unfolds, etc.

TRADERS CORNER:

All and anybody who wishes to sell or trade anything (related to our mutual interest) may post ads here for FREE. Contact our webmaster with the necessary information, price and contact details. webmaster@capesaaaca.co.za

We suggest you refer anyone who decided to get rid of their firearms to place a free add on our web site and or to contact Andrew to have it put on auction rather than hand it in to the SAPS for destruction.

DEALERS CORNER:

Visit our web site to support our accredited dealers.

Classic Arms Auction dates:

Auction 28; 7th of June Voortrekker Monument Pretoria

Auction 29; 2nd of August War Museum Johannesburg.

(W) 013-656 2923

andrew@classicarms.co.za

www.classicarms.co.za

Warbooks:

General militaria specialist books and special orders on request.

Johan van den Berg at warbooks@mweb.co.za



Download application forms from our web site for new members, categorisation and collectibility applications, etc. www.capesaaaca.co.za

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

Greetings,

Stephan Fourie

Chairman

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"If firearms cause crime, then pencils cause illiteracy"