



CAPE SAAACA

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OCT 2008 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING OCTOBER TALKS:

There will be no scheduled talks for October



ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL MATTERS:

Chairman Duties:

NAACCSA:

The AGM of this body will be on Saturday the 25th of October 2008 at Truvelo in Midrand.

The Chairman will give feed back on this in the newsletter following that date.

CFR AND LEGAL MATTERS:

CAPE SAAACA has established excellent working relationships with the Western Cape SAPS CFR and is working towards establishing equal effective working relationships with the national SAPS CFR.

It is too early to share the details of the following, but we are working towards establishing a "Legal Support Secretariat" (for those who don't know the jargon, secretariat is the name we use for our various working committees) for our members and are negotiating with local attorneys well experienced in firearm matters. More about this as it materialises.

SAHRA (South African Heritage Resources Agency)

The Chairman had another meeting with the national management of SAHRA where the following operational aspects were discussed and plans deliberated on addressing some.

1. A more user friendly web based application form for members of the Public to apply for deactivation/export and destruction (SAPS).
2. Developing a national network of acknowledged subject experts to assist SAHRA with inspections/evaluations of heritage artefacts.
3. The problem inter alia existing between the various government agencies that exasperate the problem of heritage certified objects that to date ended up being destroyed in regardless. A future workshop consisting of SAHRA/SAPS CFR/Museums and certain role players were tabled to establish an effective operational platform to promote the effective preservation of our Heritage Artefacts as a national asset.
4. That we would start a pilot project to build a data base of all possible heritage deemed artefacts, whether in museums or private collections.
5. That SAHRA will take a more meaningful approach in dealing with SAPS CFR on the destruction of possible heritage artefacts. A meeting with those role players has also been scheduled.
6. The pro active addressing of the loop holes currently allowing the wanton export of

- heritage firearms.
7. The Chairman in his SAHRA capacity subsequently has meetings with various Dealers and all agreed that they in the future would abide and honour the SAHRA prescribed protocol when exporting firearms. It was also agreed that the Chairman in that capacity would inspect all lots before it was exported.
 8. From that various complimentary options evolved that would benefit collectors persé, on which the Chairman would report back as it unfolds.

2008 AGM

This AGM will only be a report back meeting to our members as office bearers are only elected every second year. So we will again go to the “polls” in 2009 as also the *great* voting year for the country.

On this AGM we will give feed back on the progress of our stated plan of action to date and how our finances look and what we still plan for the next year forward. Notices will soon be posted.

We will also give feed back of any developments affecting our members’ interests.

Venue: CTH Officers Mess Cape Castle
Date: 29/11/2008
Time: 10H00

Formal notice, agenda, financials and minutes to follow by snail mail.

Talks at High Schools:

This is proving a huge success and we request anybody who is willing to assist in promoting the passion of collecting amongst the youth to contact the Chairman. If we do not make a concerted effort to develop a lively interest amongst the emerging youth, we very well might find ourselves and our interests as firearm collectors declining into oblivion as we age.

EXCO:

Members who have not yet applied to become Categorised Private Collectors have been contacted individually by various EXCO members in an effort to get them fully compliant. The most shocking aspect of this was the ignorance and how many thought they were OK simply being members.

The Chairman is meeting with a UN cultural attaché on the 30th of Oct in New York on the promotion of “regionalised history” as they like to call nationalism. It is envisaged that SAHA will become a facilitator on a higher regional level in this regard. More feed back as matters develop.

Membership Committee:

The membership Committee is attending to its normal work load of new members applications, applications to be categorised and applications to have further firearms declared collectible as our members build out their collection. In this regard we are happy to be able to confirm that one of our members were able to have no less than 10 new licences approved within TWO months! This was possible firstly because CAPE SAAACA’s regime is soundly based and secondly because such members went through the correct sequence and protocols with their applications.

The Chairman also wishes to extend a hearty thank you to the Convenor of the Membership Committee who goes to such great lengths to assist new members to clear the hurdles in becoming categorised as Private Collectors. Well done Robert and thank you very much!

Web site:

Part of our web site is to keep you informed of all related activities. Members are reminded to submit information on any such activities and or events to be included on our web site calendar.

Our web site also offers an opportunity for anybody ***to advertise for free*** any firearm or general militaria or historical artefacts they wish to sell. See "**TRADERS CORNER**".

A new development is in the offering. A "**DEALERS MARKET**" on our web site where they can offer various items for sale. More later, but let it suffice that we have to do everything we can to promote networking at all levels to ensure the big picture survival of all role players to allow us a place in the sun to pursue our interest as private collectors. Each group drifting on their own little cork will add no value and simply serve towards polarising everybody as another step towards overall disarmament.

Submit such information to web@capesaaca.co.za

An annual Cape collectors' show:

Looking at similar events we learned from their strengths and mistakes and took note of what their exhibitors said. It quickly became clear that it would be no easy task.

One concern is the falling participation probably resulting from a declining overall collectors corps which would impact on the exhibitors with financial gain motives.

To that end it became clear that if we with even less critical mass numbers would have to think out of the box, and that led us to work towards an event that would include various complimentary parties not necessary within our immediate interest areas.

The idea would be to include literally any- and everybody who would be interested in displaying and promoting themselves subject to some basic quality and ethic criteria.

So at this stage we are compiling a data list of such parties and would appreciate YOUR valuable input in helping us building as wide a base as possible to make the event feasible.

From that as basis we would be able plan more clearly.



FIRE ARM RELICENCING:

31st of MARCH 2009 RE-LICENCING 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 documents before the deadline, but had to relicence this year, contact the Membership Convenor Robert Nothhaft at robert@westernshooters.co.za

Regardless of above, the licences of those who neglected to relicence 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 so all is not doom and gloom.

Refer the web site for SAPS CFR related forms.



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!

A Secretariat simply is a specialist interest sub-group within CS better served to promote and facilitate its own growth by being organised around its own unique activities. Anyone is welcome to submit proposals to the EXCO to allow it to be properly structured and given formal sanction.

CAPE SAAACA WESTERN SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION:



A lady shooter using an Uberti 1866 “Yellowboy” Saddle Ring Carbine.

Cowboy Action Shooting is the fastest growing shooting sport in the world. Thousands of people participate in this sport world-wide. The simple fact is it's a non-professional sport, geared for fun to be enjoyed by the whole family.

Getting started in Cowboy Action Shooting:

You'll need 2 single Action revolvers, one pistol caliber lever action rifle, and one side-by-side shotgun without ejectors or an external hammer pump shotgun (Winchester '97) or lever action shotgun (Winchester 1887 — black-powder only unless one of the promised replicas actually becomes available). We shoot according to SASS (Single Action Shooting Society) rules, which stipulate that all firearms be pre-1900 or replicas of such. Today we're looking at Rifles.

Rifles: The American West was blazed by explorers, mountain men, scouts, farmers, and soldiers, who carried long guns as a primary defensive weapon and food-gathering tool. The handgun, be it single-shot, muzzle-loading, or revolver, was a last resort, close quarters, self-defence firearm.

For CAS, only one pistol caliber lever action rifle is needed. Today, there are more Western Style

Lever Action Rifles and Carbines available than there ever was in the real American West.

We will start with the assumption that you would want something resembling the Winchester Lever Action Rifles and Carbines and then talk about their replicas.

In South Africa, one can still pick up original Winchester Rifles and Carbines like the popular 1866 Yellowboy (with brass receiver) and 1873 WCF, but they will be too expensive and rare to actually use for CAS. Some of the original Winchester 1892's in pistol caliber can make a great Cowboy Shooting rifle and they would not be that expensive. I picked up a good condition Winchester 1892 in caliber .32-20 for R1500.00, which would be nice for CAS. One would also be able to pick up a few original Marlin Rifles and Carbines that wouldn't be too expensive and are quite popular with shooters today.

The majority of Cowboy Action Shooter's, shoot with replica firearms and they are spoiled for choice over there in the States. In South Africa, there are quite a number of Uberti replica 1866 Yellowboy's and 1873 WCF's on the market in calibers .38 Sp, .357 Mag and .45 LC's that I've seen ranging in price from R500.00 to R2500.00. Uberti manufactures very good quality firearms and are probably the most popularly used replica throughout Cowboy Action Shooting, especially the Uberti 1873 in .45LC.

The Rossi '92 Lever Action Saddle Ring Carbine was also a very popular weapon in South Africa and quite a lot of them pop up for sale at a good price. They are based on the Winchester 1892 model and I've seen quite a few for sale in calibers .38Sp and .357Mag. They are short and lightweight and perfect for Cowboy Action Shooting.

This month's shoot went well. Attendance was good. Our range was being worked on and we had to use a bigger and longer range than we usually do. This allowed us to set a bigger and longer stage for shooting. For shotgun, we used a bird popper, a falling steel plate that throws a 'bird' in the air and for the rifle we got to shoot from behind a "dead horse" at small targets at 100 meters. (No animals were injured during the fun time we had. The dead horse was a large steel drum with a saddle mounted on it and the birds were of the clay variation.)

If you feel that this Shooting Sport might appeal to you, please feel free to contact us through our web-site www.westernshooters.co.za or just pop in at the False Bay shooting range every 3rd Saturday of every month. (Directions can be found via our website.)



MONTHLY TALK AT THE CTH OFFICERS MESS CAPE CASTLE.

Thursday the 25th of September we again met in the hallowed chambers of the CTH Officers' Club at the Cape Castle for our monthly talk.

Due to the Proxima projector not being available, we had to shelve the scheduled talk and as no one brought anything to show and tell and John were not prepared to show us his whistle again, the talk evolved along general lines, and what fascinating topics arose! Definitely a must at a future date.

The Chairman again requested members who give input at the meetings to provide a short write up of their contribution as soon as possible after the talk for inclusion in the forthcoming monthly newsletter.

Paul Brown showed a photograph of a Russian tank used in South Ossetia clad in what he thought was “bricks” and asked if anybody could explain what it was. Various members responded and a lively discussion developed around the subject.

Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA)

A question was asked about the reactive armour blocks seen on the images used by Pierre de Villiers in his presentation on the Russian-Georgian conflict. He explained that the blocks were add-on protection to counteract the destructive impact of anti-tank missiles. The idea originated with the Soviets, but never proceeded with. It was German scientists who perfected the idea and the Israeli army was the first to take up the usage of explosive reactive armour in combat.



Russian-built T-72 with explosive reactive armour (ERA) in Georgia

Reactive armour is a type of vehicle armour that reacts in some way to the impact of a weapon to reduce the damage done to the vehicle being protected. It is most effective in protecting against shaped charges and long rod penetrators. The most common type is *explosive reactive armour* (ERA), but variants include *self-limiting explosive reactive armour* (SLERA), *non-energetic reactive armour* (NERA), *non-explosive reactive armour* (NxRA), and electric reactive armour. Unlike ERA and SLERA, NERA and NxRA modules can withstand multiple hits, but a second hit in exactly the same location will still penetrate. We only look at ERA.

Essentially all anti-tank munitions (with the exception of HESH) work by piercing the armour and killing the crew inside, disabling vital mechanical systems, or both. Reactive armour can be defeated with multiple hits in the same place, as by tandem-charge weapons, which fire two or more shaped charges in rapid succession. Lacking these weapons, emulating this effect is difficult as it requires either precision artillery, close-quarter use of either shoulder-launched anti-tank weapons or adhesive explosives such as satchel charges.

The principle works as thus: An element of explosive reactive armour consists of a sheet or slab of high explosive sandwiched between two plates, typically metal, called the reactive or dynamic elements. On attack by a penetrating weapon, the explosive detonates, forcibly driving the metal plates apart to damage the penetrator. Against a shaped charge, the projected plates disrupt the metallic jet penetrator, effectively providing a greater path-length of material to be penetrated. Against a long rod penetrator, the projected plates serve to deflect and break up the rod.

The disruption is attributed to two mechanisms. First, the moving plates change the effective velocity and angle of impact of the shaped charge jet, reducing the angle of incidence and increasing the effective jet velocity versus the plate element. Second, since the plates are angled compared to the usual impact direction of shaped charge warheads, as the plates move outwards the impact point on the plate moves over time, requiring the jet to cut through fresh plate material. This second effect increases the effective plate thickness during the impact significantly.

To be effective against kinetic energy projectiles, ERA must use much thicker and heavier plates and a correspondingly thicker explosive layer. Such "heavy ERA," such as the Soviet-developed Kontakt-5, can break apart a penetrating rod that is longer than the ERA is deep, again significantly reducing penetration capability.

Explosive reactive armour has been valued by the Soviet Union and its now-independent component states since the 1980s, and almost every tank in the eastern-European military inventory today has either been manufactured to use ERA or had ERA tiles added to it, including even the T-55 and T-62 tanks built forty to fifty years ago, but still used today by reserve units.

ERA tiles are used as add-on (or "appliqué") armour to the portions of an armoured fighting vehicle that are most likely to be hit, typically the front (glacis) of the hull and the front and sides of the turret. Their use requires that the vehicle itself be fairly heavily armoured to protect the vehicle and its crew from the exploding ERA; usually, ERA cannot be mounted on the less heavily armoured sides or rear of a vehicle.

A further complication to the use of ERA is the inherent danger to anybody near the tank when a plate detonates (disregarding that a HEAT warhead explosion would already present a great danger to anybody near the tank). Although ERA plates are intended only to bulge following detonation, the combined energy of the ERA explosive, coupled with the kinetic or explosive energy of the projectile, will frequently cause explosive fragmentation of the plate. The explosion of an ERA plate creates a significant amount of shrapnel, and bystanders are in grave danger of serious or fatal injury. As a result, infantry needs to operate some distance from vehicles protected by ERA in combined arms operations.

African & Aerospace Exhibition 2008

The chairman spoke briefly about the recent arms expo and air show held at Ysterplaat AFB. He says that an illustrated comment will be presented at a future meeting.

Militaria Displays/Reenactment

Capt. John Lamont recently attended the annual War & Peace Show at the Hop Farm County Park at Beltring (Kent) in the UK. He shared his excitement with us regarding what is to be seen and experienced at this display of privately-owned militaria and vehicles. Even an SADF display of the Border War era was represented.



CAPE SAAACA SHOOTING DISCIPLINES:

While we as collectors learn a lot from historical records about our collections, shooting them teaches us what was possible and how they performed. That certainly opens new insights around our interest fields.

COME AND TRY YOUR HAND WITH THAT CHERISHED PIECE IN YOUR SAFE THAT LONGS TO HEAR ITSELF ONCE AGAIN COME ALIVE FOR WHAT IT WAS MANUFACTURED FOR, AND TO SHARE IT AT A SHOW AND TELL MEETING WITH FELLOW COLLECTORS!

The last shoot was well attended and great fun was had by all who part took. We are hoping to see more of you at the next shoot!

Try either your revolver and old .303 or pistol and any semi auto rifle combo. It's a nice blend of a bit of competition and just plain fun burning cordite, and we get to peek at other collectors' scarce and

interesting pieces.

FUTURE SHOOTS:

1st Nov 2008 (1st Saturday Nov) Range 3 (In front of Club house)

6th Dec 2008 (1st Saturday Dec) Range 3 (In front of Club house)

10th Jan 2009 (2nd Saturday Jan) Range 5

The range only opens on the 9th Jan 2009. So our first shoot next year will be on the 2nd Saturday.

The next NSADF Atlantis Range booking meeting is 20th Jan 2009 for: Feb, Mar and Apr.

VENUE: At the NSADF Range at ATLANTIS on Range C in front of Club House. (If in doubt, enquire at Clubhouse)

RANGE OFFICERS: Stephan Fourie Graeme Smith RO in charge
Mike di Bona (Black powder) Francois du Toit (Safety)

COSTS: R20,00

Under real conditions one was under pressure to shoot as you were and normally enemy contacts happened at short distances. Out shooting details are designed to emulate that for the various firearm types, although we have the "enemy's" (paper targets) permission to allow a somewhat more relaxed time-span to allow all the "old soldiers" to get their breath and to get our shaky watery eyes on target. 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! It also serves as an ideal opportunity to introduce a novice to collecting, possibly your own son or the neighbours'?

IT'S FUN AND IT SMELLS OF CORDITE!



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:

andrew@classicarms.co.za

www.classicarms.co.za

The Military Bookshop:

General militaria specialist books and special orders on request.

Johan van den Berg at warbooks@mweb.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
Associated Dealers	R500,00

Greetings,

Stephan Fourie

Chairman

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"If firearms cause crime, then pencils cause illiteracy"