



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



MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING MAY TALK:

Our next talk will be Thursday the 28th of May at the Officers Mess of the Cape Town Highlanders inside the Castle of Good Hope.

SHOW AND TELL

The following talk will be held on Thursday the 25th of June.



CHAIRMAN:

Back after a beautiful four days walking and stalking the elusive Springbuck on Zoetvlei near Beaufort West and enjoying the wide open plains and the beautiful open sky at night around a pleasant fire side... alas work awaits! Believe me they make you work for that privilege and after 10km's up and down rantjies you are bushed. But the satisfaction of that careful shot going home more than makes up for everything!

A somewhat nervous period followed the end March dead line going towards the end June date when all firearms had to be surrendered if not duly applied to be relicensed.

To my mind too many people left it too late to do too much to retain their licences, but such is the nature of mankind! The Membership Committee are left holding the end of a heavy stick with many late late applications to be considered as categorised Private Collectors. We undertook to give it our full support to the very end and facilitate regular workshops to educate applicants on the intricacies involved. Light your candles for these poor souls fellow members! That includes the harassed Membership Committee!

Although some concerning developments took to the air and the SAPS CFR took some hard lines in the media, it is my conviction and experience that some water still has to run its course before that date. The various interest groups are not taking this lying down and will do its utmost to promote and protect its members' interest. To that end interim special notices will be circulated from this desk as matters evolve. Till then do not be overly alarmed and given to all kinds of deductive alarmist rumours without testing the facts.

Personally I am looking forward to the period after that when our collective efforts could be directed towards more constructive efforts to promote our real underlying interests through all kinds of initiatives.

SAPS CFR DIRECTIVE TO HAND IN ALL PENDING LICENCE WEAPONS ON THE 30TH OF JUNE 2009.

This is an issue that is rather emotive and highly disturbing. It needs to be clarified that it DOES NOT involve any relicense applications pending, only NEW APPLICATIONS submitted before end June.

Various media exposures to date by senior SAPS CFR staff on talk shows left members with much to ponder upon, not the least thinking what happened to the "service" part of Public Servants? Personally I do not think anything constructive can flow from threats to arrest otherwise law abiding citizens.

Much of this are also covered under the next paragraph.

NAACCSA MEETING WITH DIR BOTHMA REGARDING END JUNE ISSUES:

Primarily the issues flowing from the recent SAPS CFR directive that all pending NEW firearms licence (not renewals) firearms must be handed in to the SAPS for storage in their S13 stores pending the outcome of the applications. The main concern being that they would not have sufficient safe storage nor be able to maintain valuable pieces.

The Forum (consisting of delegates of all firearm interest groups) proposed amendments to this arrangement given the obvious practical constraints and limitations on the SAPS' side, suggesting the possibility of temporary licences to possess being issued pending the final outcome of their applications.

Dir Bothma took cognisance of the concerns but said that he would not be able to give a ruling until he met with his provincial heads middle May, and undertook to come back soon after that. I was hoping to be able to give you some feed back by this date and will do so the moment we do hear from his desk.

At this date we are still awaiting the outcome and a special newsletter will be circulated once we receive the outcome, with further news on what the Firearms Forum decided to take with various feasible options remaining, BUT all heavily dependant on YOUR committed involvement.

SAHRA MEETING 14 MAY 2009:

The meeting was attended by representatives of all interest groups in the firearm industry.

Those included both private and public collectors (museums), SAPS, gunsmiths, firearm dealers and even some oddities.

Attention was given to develop various guidelines and redrafting definitions to clarify current confusion on what constituted heritage objects and how it should be administrated and the way forward.

It was realized that serious attention towards establishing meaningful working relationships between Customs/SAPS/SAHRA attending to the export of firearms were required to ensure that the Heritage Act were enforced.

Various working documents were directed and instead of committees, these documents were to be circulated to all attendees for comments to ensure as wide possible input to formulate reviewed guidelines.

Serious attention went towards the "end June" debacle and the decision was accepted that SAHRA would write a letter to Dir Bothma insisting on a moratorium on the destruction of all weapons until SAHRA inspectors had time to do their job. (Hold thumbs that this would succeed)

The biggest impression I was left with given the huge voids between effective responsible governance networking between the involved Governments dept's, in effect working against each other, and whether anything constructive could be reached in the little time left to end June lest we are left with admirable guidelines managing nothing left.

All in all a most constructive meeting, but four years over due as I am concerned that the damage has already been done, but at least we could look forward to an improved system on that remaining in the hands of the small nucleus of Private and Public Collectors!

Mrs Isaacs (Chief Exec Officer Heritage Objects) has agreed to attend a meeting hosted by CAPE SAAACA to explain matters and answer some questions, but asked that we wait pending clarity of above.

IN MEMORIAM:

It is with sadness that we heard of ex member Hannes Willer's death last Friday following a struggle with cancer. Hannes will be remembered by many for his active participation in just about every shooting discipline or club and was an avid hunter. Our sincere condolences to his Family.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

FIRE RELICENCING:

Refer our web site for SAPS CFR related forms or go directly to;
http://www.saps.gov.za/crime_prevention/firearms/formseng.htm



WEB SITE: www.capesaaaca.co.za

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

Part of our web site is to keep you informed of all **CAPE SAAACA EVENTS** and other related interest group activities. Members are reminded to submit information on any related activities and or events to be included on our web site calendar. Invite all those other clubs and associations with complementing interests to post their events for free to promote it as a site where everyone can go to see on one site what's on when. Contact the webmaster at: webmaster@capesaaaca.co.za

To help YOU promote your own collection, we are going to create a "**FINDERS CORNER**" where everyone can post notices of such items they are still looking for. Mail a list with your direct contact details of what you are looking for to the Chairman.

The "**MEMBERSHIP FORUM**" is the space to post interesting subject topics or post questions on research matters you might be looking for some advice. Submit such information to web@capesaaaca.co.za or forward to the Chairman.

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**". Visit our web site to view some excellent bargains! Contact our webmaster with the necessary information, a digital picture in Jpeg format and 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.

ACCREDITED DEALERS:

Visit our web site to support our accredited dealers.

CLASSIC ARMS: www.classicarms.co.za ; andrew@classicarms.co.za ;

SUBURBAN GUNS Plumstead: Charles Montgomery. www.suburbanguns.co.za

PAROW ARMS: Joe Da Silva at parowarms@mweb.co.za

ZIMBI BOOKS: www.zimbibooks.com with a 5% discount to Cape SAAACA members, quote membership number.

The Military Bookshop: Johan van den Berg at warbooks@mweb.co.za with a 10% discount ditto above

CFW: Specialist dehumidifiers at affordable prices. Ralph at Ralph@cfw.co.za

The "**DEALERS MARKET**" on our web allows Dealers to offer various items for sale to Collectors.

More later, but let it suffice that we have to do everything we can to promote networking on 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.



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.

Our shoots increasingly are becoming popular and we hope to attract enough attention in the various categories to facilitate a competitive level as well.

- 1. Muzzle loading firearms (Pistol and rifle)**
- 2. Bolt action rifles and revolvers**
- 3. Semi-auto assault rifles and pistols.**

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!

FUTURE SHOOTS:

6th Jun 2009 (1st Saturday Jun) Range 3 (In front of Club house)

4th Jul 2009 (1st Saturday Jul) Range 3 (In front of Club house)

TIME: 09H30 for 10H00.

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
Francois du Toit (Safety)

COSTS: R20,00

Shoots at Atlantis can unfortunately only be booked quarterly in advance.

The next NSADF Atlantis Range Booking date is 14 July 2009 for the subsequent quarter.

Under real conditions 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 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!



Minutes of the Castle Talks held 30th of April 2009:

The chairman Mr S.F. Fourie welcomes those present with a good turn out despite the start of a long weekend.

He confirmed the current list of Cape SAAACA Accredited Dealers where our members enjoy a discount, and reiterated the importance to support the surviving firearm dealers to ensure a mutual supporting network for the benefit of all.

He next informed members that an aggressive ads campaign is on the cards for the next few months in various magazine's like *Magnun* etc. and newspapers for gun collecting and to promote Cape SAACA. Ads will be run in regional newspapers inviting members of the public intent on handing firearms in to the SAPS CFR come end June to rather advertise it on our web site. Members are requested to pass on the contact details of the local newspaper in their area to the Chairman.

Our webmaster Wouter currently in consultation with Stephan is also actively busy improving the website. Wouter next explained that lots of information can be added to the website under various forums that could be facilitated through our web site only if members participate. Those interested should let him know. Those who prefer to remain anonymous should not be worried as their e-mail addresses could only be passed on through the website by vested parties.

On a question concerning the licence position of a seller during the grey period (until 30th June) the chairman replied only NEW firearms licences whose applications has not been approved by then must be handed in as per SAPS directive. All problems concerning this issue should hopefully be sorted out before the end of May given urgent Firearms Forum presentations directly to the Ministry, and anything of a critical nature will immediately be send out in the newsletter.

The Chairman informs the members that he would be part of a meeting on the 14/05 to be facilitated by SAHRA to discuss various developmental work to revise heritage administrative guidelines, etc.

Next followed a discussion from the table concerning illegal exporting of firearms from the table which led to the chairman explaining the role of SAHRA in that regard and that three Government agencies/departments formed part of that process, the SAPS CFR, SAHRA and Customs. Anybody wishing to do so had to obtain permission from all three before proceeding, but that in practice those departments didn't cooperate, thus defeating due control and the objects being sold off over seas. The essence of the explanation was that the authorities concerned has little if any concern for the heritage value of firearms and are therefore not motivated to do their job properly. He explained his countless meetings with the relevant Government institutions and Police concerned, even offering them sponsored data base programs etc. to ease and streamline their jobs – but to no avail and with little progress to address this issue before the horse has bolted. Clearly integrated government departmental functionality seems a distant ideal.

Their followed strong reaction from the table asking for a special general meeting to address this as an urgent issue before the final batch of firearms are destroyed by the SAPS CFR come end June. The only solution seemed to be a court interdict to prevent them from destroying weapons of heritage value. Next a discussion followed about the legal and financial implications of this and whether members would be willing to support this. The Chairman reminds them that there are less than 2000 arms collectors in the country and the cost will be prohibitive. Most members present indicated that they would be willing to support this.

The Chairman undertakes to call for such a meeting soon after the coming SAHRA meeting to first get clarity on immediate developments.

The Chairman then reminded members that serious Private Collector members do not need to worry as to date no Cape SAACA license applications has so far been turned down due to our thorough certification process and administration.

He also advised members in the meantime to hand new application firearms to fire arms dealers with a proper firearms dealers code while their licence applications is pending and to make sure that the dealer does not disappear. They must also ensure that the paper trail is correct.

On a question concerning compensation for arms the chairman explained that that will only be due in cases where formal licence applications were submitted but since refused, and not in those cases where people voluntary handed in firearms.

Pieter van Zyl also indicated that he heard news of member Willem Steenkamp been attacked in his house in Oranjezicht. The chairman and other members than offered their concern about this news.

The “Show and tell” part of the evening then started with Cyril Lautenbach passing on a .32mm calibre “heel” bullet that was about 80-90 years old. Heeled bullets were a step in the evolution of the self-contained metallic cartridge. The bullet is the same diameter as the cartridge case. The tail has a step of reduced diameter to enable it to be inserted in the cartridge case. The revolver cartridge displayed at the meeting is a .320 British calibre and the bullet is a true measured .320 inch diameter. For easier manufacture later bullets were of reduced diameter overall and today’s .32 ACP has a diameter of .308 / .309 inch and the .32 S&W short and long has a diameter of .311 / .312 inch and are straight sided. The only heeled bullets in general used today are the .22 Long Rifle and the .22 Winchester Magnum Rimfire introduced in 1887 and 1959 respectively.

The chairman then passed on a packed of modern 7.62 x 39mm Soviet cartridges wrapped in a typical Eastern Block quality paper box which caused for great amusement several times when handled by some members when it spilled open and members had to dash under the table to

recollect them!

Bruce Cairns then circulated a U.S. army model .22mm Colt Ace long rifle pistol in its box case. It is a .45 1911 type model converted to a .22 caliber and was originally manufactured between 1931 – 1941. It's got a floating chamber to increase recoil and works on the blow-back principle with no locking slide. This particular model has fired about 20 000 rounds and is still in good condition.

John Lamont then produced a pewter beermug which he had on his shelf for about 3 years before he started investigating the history of the item. It turned out that the mug came from the Lancastria – the very ship that had the misfortune to be responsible for Britain's biggest maritime disaster when 4 to 6000 people drowned when she was sunk near the coast at St Nazaire off the coast of France during the Dunkirk debacle in 1940. She was a passenger liner and was busy with a similar evacuation operation. John also produced a book written on the subject also dealing with Churchill's news blackout of the situation, leaving the public totally ignorant of the disaster and survivors often being court martialed for having lost kit, their stories not being believed in the absence of formal records of the tragedy.

A last thought quoted by John Vorster (member) during the court interdict discussions: "THE ESSENCE OF HAPPINESS IS FREEDOM, AND THE PRICE OF FREEDOM IS COURAGE"

The Chairman then closed the meeting and invited everyone for refreshments at the bar.



TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP:

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------|
| 1. | Ordinary Member (Firearm Collector) | R450,00 p/a |
| 2. | Associate Member (Non Firearm Collector/Enthusiast) | R250,00 p/a |
| 3. | Student Membership | R100,00 p/a |

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS ON WEB SITE: www.capesaaaca.co.za

FEES PAYABLE:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Joining fee | R150.00 |
| Annual subs for Private Collectors (Firearms only) | 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 |

APPLICATION FORMS ON OUR WEB SITE:

WWW.CAPESAAACA.CO.ZA

Greetings,

Stephan Fourie

Chairman
CAPE SAAACA
PO Box 2567, Bellville, 7535
Ph: 021-946-1712
Fax: 021-949-0045
capesaaca@sfa.co.za
www.capesaaca.co.za

"The home of the discerning Private Collector"