

First
SHAPE Officer's Association (SOA) &
SHAPE Cavalry and Armour Officer's Association (SCAOA)
Joint Event

by
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The SOA Crest

On 17 September 2015, SHAPE Officer's Association (SOA) members and members of the SHAPE Cavalry and Armour Officers' Association (SCAOA) gathered in a casual setting at "The Chalet" (close to SHAPE Inn) for a common beer call.



The SCAOA Crest

SOA and SCAOA have similar aims. The SOA was established in 1961 to foster friendship among officers (and civilians of equivalent rank) currently serving at SHAPE and those who have served here in the past by providing them a forum to meet and share experiences and to perpetuate the traditions of SHAPE. The SCAOA was founded on 27 March 1984, with the purpose to share common cavalry traditions and establish a platform for the exchange of views and ideas in the international "Cavalry and Armour Officers' Community" of SHAPE.



SOA (left) & SCAOA President (right)

Both associations have therefore decided to seek synergies and initiate cooperation around mutually beneficial and reinforcing activities, in particular through opening-up some of their events to the other association. On 17 September both associations took advantage of a traditional SCAOA beer call to organize their first joint get together, which allowed some of their members to meet and get to know each other.

For the SCAOA, this event was also an opportunity to farewell Col Jerzy Jankowski (POL A), its outgoing President, and LTC Gkoritsas Odysseas (GRC A), the SCAOA secretary, as for both their three-year tour of duties in SHAPE came to the end. New members were also welcomed in the association. Open his departure, Col Jankowski handed over SCAOA Presidency to Lt Gen Michel Yakovleff, SHAPE Vice Chief of Staff, who is the 20th SCAOA President.



Enjoying Polish delicacies

As the outgoing President of the SCAOA was also the Polish NMR, some Polish delicacies were served at this beer call.



SOA-SCAOA membersThe SCAOA Crest

This agreeable get together has been much appreciated by all participants, who left this gathering with the hope that this joint event was only an initial step in the development, over time, of closer ties between both associations.