

17. BIRTHDAYS

21 Years -the coming of age

The President's Banquet on 15 October 1981 was heavily sponsored by the food industry.



The cutting of SAAFoST's 21st birthday cake by Presidents (l to r) Professor H de Muelenaere, Mr J de Wit, Mrs J Huskinson representing her father, Dr G Dreosti and Mr L Ginsburg. (*SA Food Review* Dec. 81/Jan. 82)

Some 200 members and guests heard Mr Lazar Ginsburg recount the birth and maturing of SAAFoST to the point at which, after 21 years, the industry could safely provide sufficient wholesome and nourishing food for the rapidly expanding, heterogeneous population of South Africa. He said that SAAFoST was really the brainchild of Professor Chris Smit, Professor of Food Science at Stellenbosch. The catalyst for the formation was Dr Guido Dreosti. The initial plans were laid at his office in the Fishing Industry Research Institute with Professor Smit, Mr Knock (Metal Box), Mr JG Schoonens (Deep Freezing and Preserving) and Mr Tony Lewis. The association joined the Athenaeum, which provided the first home for SAFST. Mr Ginsburg also

complimented *SA Food Review* on the effort they put into promoting the aims and interests of SAAFoST.

30 Years

A one-day symposium was organised to celebrate this anniversary which was held at the Holiday Inn, Sandton in 1990. At a dinner, Ernest Newbery (who was involved with the association from very early on) presented a slide show covering SAAFoST's first 30 years. This document and the accompanying slides gave a detailed summary of SAAFoST activities from 1960 to 1990 without which the association's history would be incomplete. (This presentation is housed in the SAAFoST archives). Besides this there are many useful accounts of the first ten years published in *Food Industries of South Africa* and, thereafter in *Food Review*. Some of the minutes of the first ten years of the association have unfortunately been lost, although records of branch activities are well preserved.

40 Years



Cutting the 40th birthday cake
l to r. Nigel Sunley, Jonty Eales, Lizette Rennie,
Ron Timm, Owen Frisby and Maurice Kort
(*SA Food Review* Sep. 2000)

The presentation on the history of the association at the 40th anniversary banquet, was presented by Ron Timm (SAAFoST's official archivist) at the Hilton Hotel in Sandton, which was part of the one day 40th birthday symposium.

The presentation consisted of a 35mm slide show giving a short resume of each of the important people in the life of SAAFoST and mentioning other events that shaped the organisation. The dinner was sponsored by McCormick and a video of the event is held in the archives.

The symposium was held at Gallagher Estate in August 2000.

50 Years

The 50th birthday celebration was held at the Nederburg Estate in Paarl on Wednesday 25th August 2010 and formed part of the IUFoST World Congress on Food Science and Technology. One thousand guests from all over the world attended (including all the members of the IUFoST Governing Council and representatives from food science associations across the globe). At this event, Incoming President Dr Gunnar Sigge was inaugurated, Mr Owen Frisby was awarded the highest honour that can be given to a SAAFoST member – that of Honorary Life Membership for outstanding service to the association over most of the past 50 years. Mr Ron Timm gave a Powerpoint presentation spanning the past 50 years.

Cake pic here

With the birthday cake (from left to right: Robert Rauch, Rosie Maguire, Ron Timm, Nick Starke, Gunnar Sigge, David Watson, Peter Bush, Owen Frisby).