

8. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

To quote the constitution:“An Honorary Life Member shall be a person who has rendered outstanding service in the advancement of the objectives of the association.”

YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME
1963	Professor Chris JB Smit	1991	Dr Maurice J Kort (deceased)
1970	Professor Maurice Ingram (deceased)		Mr W Aubrey Parsons
1973	Dr Guido Dreosti (deceased)	1993	Professor Nick Starke
1983	Mr Jan de Wit (deceased)		Mr Peter Bush
	Mr Lazar Ginsburg (deceased)	2003	Dr Arno C Visser
1989	Dr Pieter van Twisk	2005	Mr Ron Timm
	Professor Hector J de Muelenaere (deceased)	2007	Dr CG Bernard Cole
	Mr Ernest Newbery (deceased)	2010	Mr Owen Frisby



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

At the 2005 Congress in the Cape:

Dr Aubrey Parsons, Professor Nick Stark, Dr Maurice Kort and Dr Arno Visser.

BRIEF PROFILES OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS OF SAAFoST

We salute our Honorary Life Members who have established and developed this association into one of high stature and status in the scientific community.

DR GUIDO DREOSTI

See section 9

PROFESSOR CHRIS SMIT



In 1960 Professor Smit was Professor of Food Science at Stellenbosch University. He served on the committee of SAAFoST. In those days there was only one committee - in the Cape. There was no National Council with branch committees in the regions. In 1962 Professor Smit attended the first International Congress on Food Science and Technology on 18 to 21 September in London.

Professor Smit relocated to the USA in 1963 and was Professor of Food Science at the University of Georgia from 1968. He retired in 1993 as Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programmes, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia.

Professor Smit was elected the first Honorary Life Member of the Association in 1963

He returned to South Africa to take part in the Fourth Congress in 1977 and we were privileged to have Professor Chris Smit and Mrs Smit present at the 40th birthday banquet in 2000.

DR MAURICE INGRAM



Dr Ingram, Director of the British National Meat Research Institute, was the invited overseas speaker at the first National Congress held in Cape Town in September 1970. He was an expert microbiologist, whose papers were outstanding, and he joined in the discussions to good effect. (FIOSA Nov. 1970). He was so strongly supportive of SAAFST that he was elected an Honorary Life Member at that Congress.

MR LAZAR GINSBURG

See section 9

MR JAN DE WIT

See section 9

DR ARNO VISSER



He was one of the early graduates in Food Science from Stellenbosch University before obtaining his MSc and PhD in Food Science at the University of California Davis. He joined the Food Technology section of the Fruit and Fruit Technology Research Institute at Stellenbosch as Senior Professional Officer. He was a co-opted member of the Dried Fruit Board of South Africa.

Dr AC Visser was a member of Council in 1961 and then from 1970 to 1979, initially representing the Cape Branch and, from 1972, as an elected Vice-President and Chairman of the Executive Committee (Exco). He had always promoted food technology education and the professional status of food science. In 1978 he was instrumental in getting the Department of Health to establish SAFSAC which was a means of consulting the food industry professionals prior to publishing proposed legislation. Arno was elected to Honorary Life Membership in 2003.

MR ERNEST NEWBERY



SAAFoST's First Biennial Congress was held in Cape Town in 1970. The chairman of the organising committee for this event was Mr Ernest Newbery. He served SAAFoST in a number of capacities: Chairman of the Cape Branch, Vice-President and Chairman of the Executive Committee. He was elected an Honorary Life member in 1989.

Ernest's career embraced senior positions at Reckitt and Colman Food Division and Table Top Frozen Foods. He retired in Pretoria and died in 1996

The Council decided to honour Ernest's memory by inaugurating the "Ernest Newbery Memorial Lecture" which is delivered at the beginning of each Biennial Congress. Professor Fergus Clydesdale of the University of Massachusetts presented the first Ernest Newbery Memorial Lecture.

PROFESSOR H J H DE MUELENAERE

See section 9

DR PIETER VAN TWISK

See section 9

MR PETER BUSH

See section 9

DR MAURICE KORT

He was a SAAFoST stalwart for as long as most members can remember. He started off as the representative of Sugar Milling Research Institute in 1972. He became a member in his own right in 1979 and a Professional Member in 1981. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership in 1991.

Maurice was a member of the Natal Branch committee from 1972 to 2003 and was also elected to Council in 1972 as the Natal Branch representative, a position he held until 2001. On the Branch Committee he was Treasurer for most of his years, as well as being Chairman from 1975 to 1981.



On Council Maurice was elected Vice-President in 1981 and again in 1985 and served in the same office from 1993 to 2001 and was then co-opted until 2003. In addition, he headed the Constitution and Protocol portfolios of Council. During the period 1993 to 2003, Maurice was also Chairman of the Executive Committee (Exco), which attended to the daily affairs of the organisation and was also the National Secretary. In 2004 the workload became too heavy for a part time National Secretary and van der Walt & Co were appointed and the secretariat moved to Johannesburg

PROFESSOR NICK STARKE

See Section 9

DR AUBREY PARSONS

See section 9

MR RON TIMM

See section 9

DR BERNARD COLE



He started his association with SAAFoST after the 1979 Congress as Institute Member Representative of Davis Gelatine Industries in Krugersdorp whom he continued to represent until his retirement in 2000. He became a member of SAAFoST in his own right in 1989.

In 1985 he was elected to the Northern Branch Committee and continued as a member until 2005. He was Branch Secretary for several years, Vice-Chairman from 1999 to 2001 and Chairman from January 2002 to August 2003.

In 1992, while studying part-time at the University of Pretoria for a PhD, he was awarded the Koeppen Memorial Scholarship.

In 1995 he was elected to the Council where he served until 2005. In 1995 with President Aubrey Parsons he started production of the SNIPPETS, the Food Science newsletter (see Section 24).

In 1996 he started the first website for SAAFoST, www.saafost.org.za. In about 2004 the SAAFoST Secretariat took over the hosting and control of the website.

In 2003 he joined the Food Advisory Consumer Service (FACS) committee and started the FACS website, www.foodfacts.org.za which was later handed over to the Secretariat in 2005. In 2007 Bernard was elected to Honorary Life Membership.

MR OWEN FRISBY



Owen was recruited to join SAAFoST by Dr Pieter van Twisk when he joined the NFRI in 1975 and was invited to attend a Northern Branch lecture which turned out to be the Biennial General Meeting and found himself elected unopposed as Branch Treasurer & Secretary. He has served on the Branch committee continuously since that time. He was elected to the Council in 1991 representing the Northern Branch and served as Branch Chairman from 1995 until his appointment as SAAFoST Executive Director in 2002.

He has been involved in all the Northern Branch congress, symposia and workshop Organising Committees since 1977 and chaired the organising committee for the Pretoria Congress in 1997. He was a member of the IUFOST Local Organising Committee for the World Congress in 2010. He has been Master of Ceremonies of many SAAFoST events including the 30th, 40th and 50th anniversary celebrations. As Executive Director of SAAFoST he has overseen the development of the association from a purely volunteer-run entity to one having two permanent staff members and a professional secretariat. He was elected an Honorary Life Member in 2010.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS PRESENT AT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET



BACK ROW: Dr Arno Visser, Mr Owen Frisby, Mr Ron Timm, Mr Nick Starke
FRONT ROW Dr Maurice Kort, Mr Peter Bush, Dr Pieter van Twisk, Dr Bernard Cole