Russian supper. Again many a toast was given.

After the main dish Irina as the executive director explained what we had talked about during the afternoon.[18]

This approach was welcomed as reasonable.

Also next year's meeting was discussed, several suggestions were made, and Irina was given again the freedom to make something out of this. In the meantime, supper continued and everybody felt satisfied.

> It was not difficult to be open-minded under these circumstances, and to listen carefully to what was said and taste everything that was offered.

Sergeĭ Strelkov was interested whether there was a version of emTEX which runs without errors under OS/2. He also liked to work with `WEB` under C but did not know of a public domain C compiler for the PC, and especially did not know how to get it. I whispered something about LINUX. . . He also was interested in cooperation for Russian people with people in the West. I pointed to the LATEX call for volunteers, and to the list of TUG working groups.

After some photographs and the inevitable evening tsai the meeting ended at roughly nine o'clock and everybody went home, feeling happy! Very pleasant indeed this meeting à la Russe.

In the night after dreaming it all through I composed the opening sentences of my Publishing with TEX book, and I decided definitely about its approach and scope.

5.3 Sergeĭ Posad

At the meeting Irina G was approached by Andreĭ Slepouchin. He lives at the monastary of St Sergeĭ, at the place which was named Zagorsk by the Soviets. Recently the name was changed back into its old name Sergeĭ Posad.[19] This place is the religious centre of the Russian Orthodox Church, and has several cathedrals within its walls. It also has a Theological Academy where Andreĭ studies.

I had been there already in 1968, but now I could see it from the other side, from the inside. And I saw it from the inside indeed. First we were guided to the holy wells, and drank some of the water. No tourist was to be seen there. Then I got a magnificient guided tour by one of his 'colleagues,' a student who spoke English perfectly.[20] Finally Andreĭ showed us his working place, a tower with in every niche some advanced computer.[21] He loves to work with computers and this is the only way he can do so, in the Theological Academy via a so-called free study program. His background is computer algebra and obeject oriented programming. He whispered also something about (picture) data compressing via fractals?!?

The idea is that this religious centre will in future be the publishing house of all Russian Orthodox Churches, taking care of all of the publications to be made. Impressive, and bound to become important.

When leaving us at the train he made the suggestion that it might be possible to have a CyrTUG meeting here. He also welcomed cooperation on the fonts issues, for example with Yannis Haralambous. I understood the hint and promised that I would in some way communicate this to Yannis.

5.4 Parting gift

My hosts organized a party for me leaving. A la Russe as can be guessed. From Olga Lapko (MIR publishers) I got their Cyrillic fonts, and from Irina Makhovaya their Call for Membership.[22] I enjoyed it very much and I offered my guests my gratitude. I hope they can have a PC at their home next week.[23] Thank you Sergeĭ and Irina for the hospitality received and the friendship shared!

6 Conclusion

The program was well-done. The attendees enjoyed the meeting. It was a success. Absolutely spoken it can be improved as always.

Next year the meeting will be held in summer and probably in the same place. It was decided that CyrTUG will reserve some funds to buy an overhead projector. If you plan to attend next year's meeting take your walking boots with you next to your morning slippers. Contribute a nice paper if not for some software to share (or hardware to give away). And don't forget your Cyrillic

[18] TUGboat in Russia via redistributing the articles for non-commercial use either in printed form but then only feasonable when Russian advertisements can be added, or in electronic form.

Can TUG (or users) help in getting the files from the archives? Starting from the CD ROM and the TUGboat articles on disquettes. Then only the most recent additions have to surface-mailed once in a while. A call for volunteers will be made—loud and clearly—in for example TTN. NTG's files of MAPS will be sent as will be 4(all)TEX, let us say with X-mas.

[19] This changing of names is also a difficulty for a foreigner to get around, as I also had experienced at Prague.

[20] My question about the main difference between the Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church was well-taken and very clearly answered. The main difference comes down to that the Patriarch is the 'primus inter pares' that is the first under equals, while the Pope is infallible.

[21] He works on fonts. En-passant he showed 3B2 a 'WSYIWYG' TEX system. The source and the result each in a window, with editting from the *result* as well! I have seen a similar functionality before in the GRIF project, but then two data files were maintained, and Andreĭ assured me that here there was only one.

[22] As said my trunk was loaded on arrival. On departure it was even heavier! So many souvenirs were given to me.

[23] I decided to 'pay' my host for my stay. Enough for a second-hand 286 machine at their home; that will help them a lot.

font charts! To know the Cyrillic alphabet is an absolute necessity in order to move around.

As a member I will join next year's meeting and in order to walkabout easier I decided to give my learning of Russian a retry.

I can only congratulate CyrTUG for this successful meeting and thank them and MIR[24] for having invited me, and having made me a honorary member. And I like to thank Irina Gorbunova for translating so much for me and being my inseparable help. I like to thank NTG for reimbursing the trip costs.

Let's go for a double number of attendees next year.

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- ★ to participate in conferences organized by *CyrTUG*;
- ★ to publish the findings of your TEXdevelopments in the bulletin of *CyrTUG*.

We would like to help you enter *CyrTUG* if you communicate with us.
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[24] MIR means world and also peace. And peaceful the meeting was for sure.