

# Bachot $\TeX$ '98 – TUG at hand

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## abstract

A report of GUST's 6<sup>th</sup> conference in Bachotek, Poland

## keywords

Bachotek, Bachot $\TeX$ '98, GUST, Poland, Polish  $\TeX$  Users Group, conference

The usual Bachot $\TeX$  meeting of the Polish  $\TeX$  usersgroup was on. I was once again invited, this time because of an out-of-the-ordinary occasion. The meeting was cooked from the ingredients tutorials, workshops, reports, and the bonfire social event with the 'guitars at night.' Some old faces did not show up, alas, while promising new  $\TeX$ ies joined. In total roughly 80 people attended accompanied by some 25 relatives who just enjoyed the holiday; the family affair as noticed last year continues. Only 5 from abroad attended: the diehards Volker Schaa, Gyöngy Bujdosó, and me, the new ones Petr Olsak and the polyglot Christopher Piñón – he is fluent in English, French, German, Hungarian, Polish, Spanish . . . – from the USA. I was this time the only dutchie, but accompanied by my dog. He socialized better than I ever did. All loved him.

Participants got a Bachot $\TeX$ '98 T-shirt.

The upcoming TUG meeting later this year in Toruń, to be hosted by GUST, was dangling.

I was happy to be able to communicate now with Janusz Nowacki in . . . Russian.

## Conference

Nearly all reports were in Polish, except for Petr Olsak's lecture in Czech and my 'Tiling in PostScript and Metafont' in English. Happily, abstracts were also provided in English, and volunteers provided simultaneous translations

As usual the BoP(P) company – Jacko, Piotr and Piotr – had their impressive contributions. A tutorial about the in-and-outs<sup>1</sup> of digital graphics, and demonstrations of their new tools, all in (portable) PostScript: improved version of PS\_View, TIFF2PS, TTF2PS, PF2AFM, and Colormap. The latter allows modifying a bitmap – colourizing black and white graphics, brightening and the like – from within  $\TeX$ . In short all graphic formats can be brought back to EPS and handled in a tidy, trustworthy, and efficient way. Other reports dealt with

- Haskell – yet another tool supporting work with  $\TeX$  by Ryszard Kubiak
- Aspects akin to the Polish language, such as spellingcheckers for Polish,  $\LaTeX$  2 $\epsilon$  and the Polish language<sup>2</sup>
- Petr Olsak lectured about  $\TeX$  and Czech<sup>2</sup>
- Computerizing the old Póltawski's Antykwa font by Janusz Nowacki<sup>3</sup>.
- Andrzej Tomaszewski once again captivated us by his typographer's experience.

The following tutorials offered the participants to keep up with the world outside.

- PostScript and raster graphics – what is it all about, by Jacko (Bogusław Jackowski)
- SGML by Adam Dawidziuk
- AU $\TeX$ ,  $\TeX$ ing from within the emacs editor by Ryszard Kubiak
- $\TeX$  and acrobat by Tomek (Thomasz Przechlewski)
- $\LaTeX$ 2HTML by Piotr Bolek

## Workshops

As usual there were also various workshops offered: Jacko (Bogusław Jackowski) about  $\TeX$ , Metafont, PostScript, . . . Staszek (Stanisław Wawrykiewicz) about the file server and so on. However, the interest was less than usual.

## General meeting

Nearly all showed up. Very lively, joyful and democratic. Tomek was reelected as president. Jacko, Jola (Jolanta Szelatyńska), Bogus, Jerzy Ludwichowski, and so on – in total 10! – are on the board. To the list of honorary mem-

1. From the abstract: The basic kinds of discrete computer graphics will be presented (the black-and-white, the shadowed, the palette, RGB, CMYK, and other kinds of graphics). Topics related to retrieving graphics on raster devices will be discussed (kinds of screens, Moire's effect, smoothing, etc.) together with known ways of data compression. The lecture will be crowned with a survey of the most popular formats of graphics: PCX, GIF, TIFF, JPEG, with a stress on the capabilities of PostScript and how to use them for illustrations in  $\TeX$  documents.

2. They refrain from Babel!?!?

3. Interesting was the non-computer aspect: which of the variants is the real one!

bers were added: Hanna Kołodziejska, Marek Ryćko, and ... me.

## Conclusions

Bachot $\TeX$ s continue to be a family affair. GUST is doing well. PostScript and  $\TeX$ -Metafont/Post are GUST's primary tools, with literate programming in the background. They have their knowledgeable stable kernel of  $\TeX$ ies, a nice bulletin, their (email) network and fileserver, and annual meeting to socialise. Next to that they take their share in organising international  $\TeX$  meetings, with the Toruń TUG meeting in August as their second effort. My congratulations.

Thank you GUST for having invited me, thank you Ryszard Kubiak and Piotr Bolek for the simultaneous (private) translations of the lectures.

See you next year, hopefully earlier.