

Farewell dinner Kees Tuinman and Guus de Groot

(Noord Sleen, 11th of January 2013)



Initially, long time in advance, the venue of the cocktail party for the farewell occasion of Kees and Guus was intended in Assen, Grand Café Liff. But in due course the plan came up to make a change into a surprise party and therefore kept strictly secret to the both of them. So when they arrived at the café entrance they got collected by Paul (because of illness Irma was excused) and “abducted” in his car up to restaurant Wielens in Noord Sleen. And so a transition operation from a simple drinking party into a full fare well dinner was achieved. At Wielens all together the DEMMA members, partners included, with the exception of Jan, who was in Thailand, welcomed them with a loud “For they are jolly good

fellows”*. After an aperitif drink around the bar, Rutger Hissink as our master of ceremonies guided the group to the special dining room. Here we had, first of all, a speech of Jur in which he reminded us of the first years of DEMMA. After the starters Edwin held a speech about the last visit to Mytishchi and the marvelous stay in Podlipki Sanatorium. Afterwards Kees and Guus received DEMMA presents, which contained of a gift coupon for a painting by the well known Tatyana Murova from Groningen. Mark presented a bouquet of flowers to Kees` and Guus` wives Janny and Barbara. After the main course Coen gave a hilarious Kees imitation show as John Cleese. In addition even Aleid Tensen, as special DEMMA guest, thanked Kees and Guus for their fine cooperation and teamwork in all those years. Finally Paul gave a presentation about the long history of DEMMA and the major role Kees and Guus played in it. After his words he handed over (surprise number two) a certificate of *Honorary Membership*. At dessert Kees, also on behalf of Guus, addressed himself to the audience in a full blow speech and in his final words he thanked everybody for the nice and interesting time he had in the DEMMA group and wished us all the good luck in the future. And finally he offered, of course as a good honorary member, to be stand by and helpful in local projects, if desired, all the time.

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