THE RAYS OF SPRING - AS DRAWN ON SUPER-
SKETCH, AND PRINTED USING THE SKETCH-MATE
UTILITY.   SEE JUNE RAFFLE NOTICE INSIDE.

MARCH 19,1985

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Bruce Willard,President. There were 42 members present.

The SECRETARY'S REPORT was accepted as published in the newsletter.

The TREASURER'S REPORT was reported by Bruce. The bank balance is $397.94. Expenses:$75 for the newsletter, $26 for postage and $15 for rental of the monitors. Income: Raffle income $27 and new members and renewals $68.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GReat Lake Software is offering a two for one sale of their software purchases until April 23rd. If you wish further information contact Bruce.

The raffle tonight is for 10 OMNI disks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HARDWARE

Bernie Miller had nothing to add to his report that was published in the newsletter.

SOFTWARE TEXT

Jack Sughrue was not present to give his report.

LIBRARY

Al Cecchini reported that the library was set up for lending.

OLD BUSINESS

The thrust of the officers meeting was on the membership drive. Posters will be available for members to display at business locations to advertize the existence of MUNCH. All members are asked to volunteer to display them in their communities.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made to start the business meeting at 7:15 PM beginning in April to allow more time for the Special interest groups and allow the younger members to get home earlier.

Brian O'Brien has offered the SUPER SKETCH for one of the raffles. Suggestions were made to charge $1.00 for these tickets since the item is worth about $60. It was also suggested that we continue to sell the tickets until the $60 is realized. Any other suggestions concerning this raffle will be greatly appreciated.

There are some copies of the Munch constitution available for interested members.

The raffle of the disks was won by Don Swensen.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Members then participated in the special interest groups of their choice.

Respectfully submitted,
Vivienne Foster-Erlandson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Finally, the smell of spring is in the air. The winter bulbs are starting to pop out of the ground and people are getting their lawns ready. This is the time when more and more people will be getting out to the monthly meetings. Attendance at the meetings has been steadily rising. Last month's total was 42. And that figure would have been higher, but the flu bug was holding a few people at home. If it wasn't for the flu and some special commitments for a few other people who notified me they couldn't make it we would have had about 50 in attendance. Keep up the good work. Encourage people you know, who have TI-99/4A's, to come to the meetings, and even become members.

You may have noticed something odd about this newsletter's front cover. There seems to be a lack of continuity in the version number of this newsletter and the March issue. Basically, your President messed up. January should have been Version 4.1. With this issue we will get back on track.

Just a reminder, the business meeting will start at 7:15 from now on.

There is another Boston Area Microcomputer Show and Computer Fleamarket on Saturday May 4, 1985. It will be open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It will be held at the Northeast Trade Center in Woburn, Mass. I will have Discount Coupons at the meeting. You can save $1.00 off the $7.00 adult admission with this coupon.

The membership flyer has gone to press. Wait until you see it; very professional. I know all of you are interested in a growing membership. So, I am asking for a LITTLE HELP from MANY PEOPLE. To do what? First, I need two or three people to divide the flyers into groups of twenty-five. And second, the flyers need a way to get into the libraries at the schools and colleges. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE... We need peoplepower now more than ever before. These flyers, strategically located, will resurrect many, many closet TI-99/4A's. What a group we will have!!!

---------------------------- Bruce Willard, Pres. --------------------

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jim Murphy of Worcester, Richard Baldasz of Natick and William McGrath of Holliston.

AGENDA for April 16, 1985

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7:00 - 7:15 Open Demonstrations
            New Member Registration
            Software Exchange (members only)

7:15 - 7:45 Business Meeting:
            Approval of Minutes
            Treasurers Report
            Committee Reports
            Old Business
            New Business
            Announcements
            Raffle
7:45 - 9:00 Special Interest Group Meetings
            and Open Demonstrations and Discussion

            Basic Programming -- by Jack Sughrue
            TI-WRITER -- by John Doon
            Assembly Language -- by Dan Rogers

            Plan for May meeting:

            More on TI-WRITER
            Regular and advanced programming to
               continue
```

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MUNCH OFFICERS AND NUMBERS (all in 617 area)

President	Bruce Willard	852-3250
Vice Presidents	Ota Jiroutek	852-0835
	John Doon	852-4295
Secretary	V. Foster-Erlandson	481-8060
Treasurer	Jim Cox	869-2704
Editor	Pete Blackford	892-4946
Hardware Chair	Bernie Miller	429-5723
Programs Chair	Pete Rauktis	799-6035
Adv Prog. Chair	Dan Rogers	248-5502
Club Reviewer	Jack Sughrue	476-7630
Library	Al & Lisa Cecchini	
Mail & Messages	Video Connection	852-8213

" _ _ _ RAFFLE _ _ _ RAFFLE _ _ _ "

The ten-pack of OMNI disks at the March meeting was won by Don Swenson.
Congratulations Don.

The raffle prize for April is a game on cassette, called "Mr. T", donated by
Bernie Miller. It's a real fun dodge'em game.

We just got another donation to the club's raffle. Hector Beaudreau,
proprietor of Bailey's Audio Visual on Chandler Street, Worcester has donated
24 high quality C-30 cassettes. Thank you Hector.

At the May meeting we will raffle another box of OMNI Resources disks or a
stack of 12 C-30 cassettes. It will be the winner's choice.

Here is the final word on SUPER SKETCH. We will start selling different
colored tickets for Super Sketch at the May meeting and finish selling them at
the June meeting. At that time we will have the drawing for the Super Sketch.
The tickets will still be $.25 each and 5 for $1.00. This way even the
children will be able to spend their hard earned money for a chance at the
item.

The raffle is open to all who attend. The drawing will be held immediately
after the business meeting before we break into the various Special Interest
Groups. Remember:
   $$$$$ YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN $$$$$

                                           Bruce Willard, Pres.

****

RENEWALS

The date that your membership expires is on
the address label of this newsletter.
All renewals are $12.00. They can be mailed
c/o the Video Connection, brought to the
meeting or to the store.

OTHER GROUPS

We now exchange newsletters with over twenty other Users' Groups around the country.

****

MUNCH NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Leicester, Ma.   01524

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Paxton, Ma.   01612

Bob Doyle
210 Sewall St.
Boylston, Ma.   01505

Bruce Willard
1 Marmion Ave.
Worcester, Ma.   01606

M.U.N.C.H.
c/o Vid. Con.
560 Lincoln St.
Worcester, Ma.   01605

****

LIBRARY NOTICE

Please return all borrowed materials to the MUNCH library at each meeting. This will give other members a chance to enjoy our collection of "text-ware" as much as you have !!!   THANK YOU !!!

WANTED:
USED PRO STICK II JOY STICK W/ADAPTER CABLE.
                CONTACT BRUCE WILLARD 852-3250

THE VIDEO CONNECTION
"The Chain That Has No Equal!"

INFOCOM ADVENTURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

ZORK	39.95
ZORK II	44.95
ZORK III	44.95
DEADLINE	49.95
STARCROSS	49.95
SUSPENDED	49.95
WITNESS	39.95
PLANETFALL	39.95
ENCHANTER	39.95
INFIDEL	44.95
SORCERER	44.95

10% discount on all software for
M.U.N.C.H. members!!!!

T.I. Monitor (demo)	199.00
T.I. Modem (demo)	79.95
MBX System (demo)	74.95
CorComp RS232 card	109.95

There is still a good supply of soft-
ware available, but it is selling fast.

560 Lincoln St.
Worcester
next to McDonald's

852-8213

LAST CHANCE

✳ *JUST RELEASED!   A new Word Processor from TSG INC..* The easiest processor anyone could imagine using without any compromise in performance.

Editing and text entry cursor is incredibly fast at speeds of over 1250 characters per minute or in excess of 250 words per minute. Would you believe, much faster than the IBM PC?

AUTO-TYPE III will process any variable length record. Handles TI-Writer files, EDITOR/ASSEMBLER source code files, in fact any format from variable 1 to 254 including executable merge program files.

Many features that even the overpriced commercial word processors do not have yet is so simple to operate that the majority of AUTO-TYPE can be used without any manual at all.

Anyone who can read can use AUTO-TYPE III. Special classes are not required to use AUTO-TYPE III effectively.

✳ Here's the good news. For $65 you can obtain a prerelease copy of AUTO-TYPE III providing the minimum Club order is at least five(5). This offer will terminate upon the closing of the next *MUNCH Meeting. Regular price thereafter will be $98.00.*

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✳ Did you know that the first book of Crossword Puzzles was made available to the public on April 17, 1924... YUP!

To commemorate this Gala event, TSG is offering CROSSBITS & MEMORY for a "STEAL" price of $12.00. Both Programs will provide hours of brain stimulating enjoyment.

✳ *What's one minute?* Perhaps to many of us no more than the letters to make up the word. When was the last time you scrutinized Telephone charges for a one minute call? Depending on the number of calls you make per month, the one minute charges can build quite rapidly, especially if you never made or completed the call.

TSG has conducted a very careful analysis of calls made and completed. In a two month period, we discoverd errors which amounted to slightly over $13 for calls attempted but were never completed because they were busy, dialed in error,
disconnected, etc. In two distinct cases we were charged for calling a number in our own town and, (get this one), charged for dialing our own number. These discrepencies were shared by two of the well known telephone Companies.

✳ TELE-MODEM will manage your telephone cost, time, and create your own telephone directory. Ask us about it at the next meeting.

TELE-MODEM can be used as a stand-alone program or integrated with an existing business program and/or the new and powerful TERMINAL EMULATOR pacakage called the AMA LINK.

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✳ NEED HELP? TSG has always been willing to answer questions about programming or assist in technical areas of interest. The best time to call is after 5pm to 9pm weekdays or 10am to 7pm on Saturdays. Of course you may call during the regular work day if you can catch us between the busy singals.

✳ PROGRAMMING TIPS - Want more than the conventional 140 character limit imposed by the INPUT or LINPUT statements? Use the COMMANDS below in the DIRECT mode or within a program.

ACCEPT IN$. For Subscripted strings use: ACCEPT IN$(N), where (N) is the numeric value of the array pointer.

Would you like to eliminate the question mark which follows an INPUT or LINPUT statement? Use this form: INPUT "":IN$ or INPUT "";IN for numeric values. The benefit is that you can make use out of that space occupied by the question mark and also keeps the text squared off.

Do you want to return the TI-TITLE screen after your program ends? Use this to END your program. CALL INIT::CALL LOAD(-31804,0,36)

================

✳ Did you read your last news letter??? Unless we know what's cn your mind or what you would like to see, we may never produce it. Let your club officers know or give TSG a call.

One last line from the bottom of TSG's "BIT-BUCKET". "Old Programmers never die, they just make excuses" !!!!!!!!!

Kingsbury Rd. Box 222
Spencer, MA 01562
TEL. 885-6425

Regards,
J. P.

SEE REVIEW OF AUTO-TYPE III IN THIS ISSUE, AND C O M E TO THE MEETING !!

MATHEMATICAL MOSAICS

by Tony Falco

An important feature of a computer is its power to help us answer questions. However, I think an even more important advantage to using computers is the incentive it gives us to dare to ask questions that we would otherwise not even consider asking. We sit by our machines and think questions like "What if we try...", and after time, thought and some trial and error we can say "Aha! so that's how it works." This process enables us to learn about our computers and other topics such as graphics, music, finance, or mathematics.

The program that follows illustrates the results I got when I asked my machine to generate artistic patterns based on mathematical functions and operations built into the BASIC language. The program was surprisingly simple to write. The functions (see lines 310 to 450) were selected on the basis of intuition, chance, trial and error and insight. In that order.

Readers are encouraged to experiment and try some of their own functions. I have picked a combination of green and yellow tones that I felt went well together but I also give users an option to change colors after each pattern is displayed. When using this option the zero to four keys change the foreground colors for each of the five characters while the five to nine keys change the respective background colors. If you want to print the patterns you can insert a call to a screen dump routine between lines 220 and 230. Who knows, maybe a future use for our home computers will be to design our own personalized cloth, tile or wallpaper patterns?
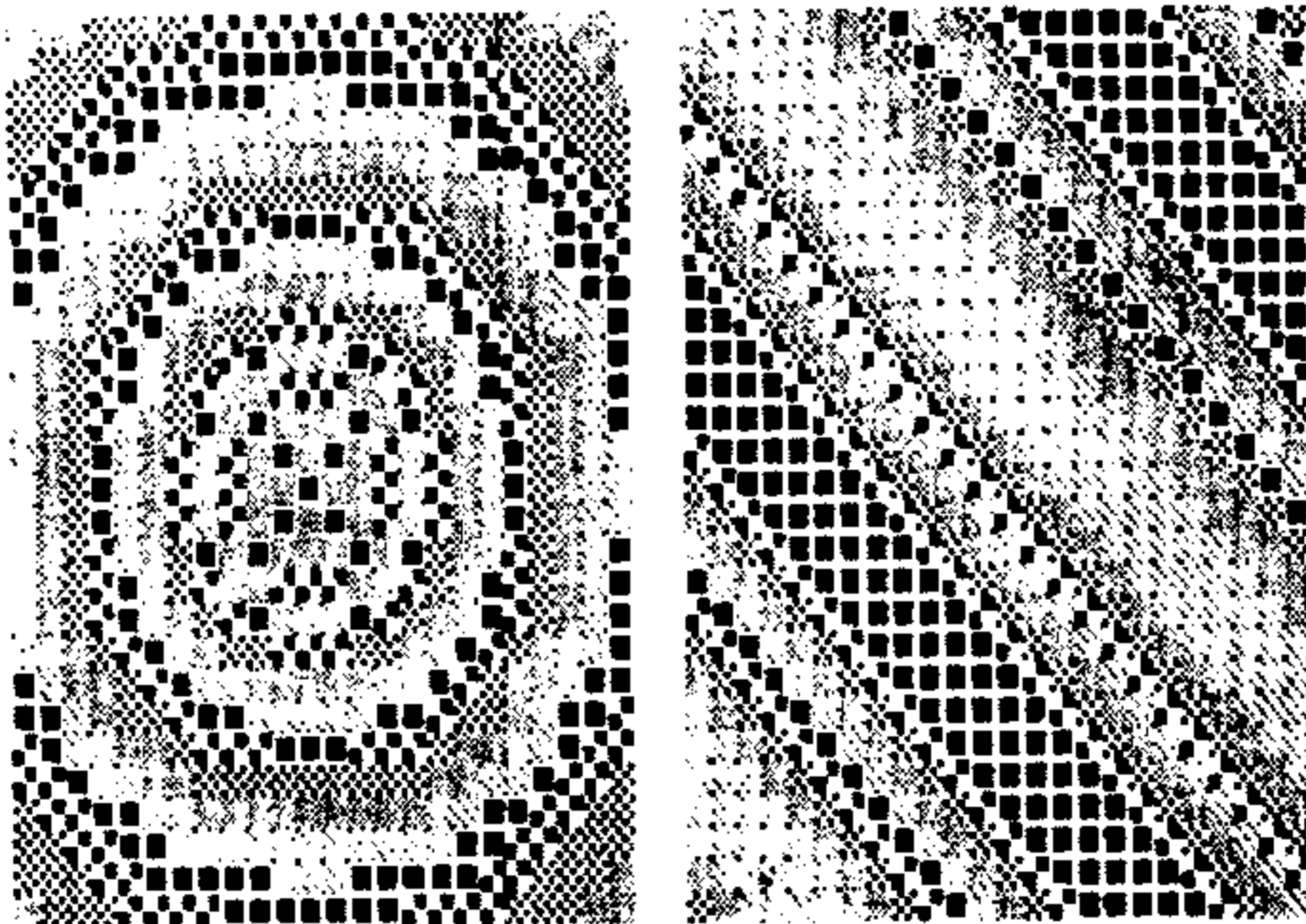
```
10 REM$MATHEMATICAL MOSAICS$
20 REM$    BY TONY FALCO     $
30 DIM A$(13),Y(13),Z(13)
40 CALL CLEAR
50 CALL SCREEN(15)
60 DATA 13,3,"007E7E7E7E7E7E
00",3,4,"F0F0F0F00F0F0F0F",4
,11
70 DATA "CCCC3333CCCC3333",1
1,12,"AA55AA55AA55AA55",12,1
3,"9122448811224489"
80 FOR T=9 TO 13
90 A$(T)=CHR$(24+8*T)
100 READ Y(T),Z(T),P$
110 CALL COLOR(T,Y(T),Z(T))
120 CALL CHAR(24+8*T,P$)
130 NEXT T
140 DEF M(X)=X-5*INT(X/5)+9
150 FOR X=1 TO 8
160 FOR R=1 TO 24
170 FOR C=1 TO 28
180 ON X GOSUB 310,330,350,3
70,390,410,430,450
190 W=INT(ABS(M(W)))
200 PRINT A$(W);
210 NEXT C
220 NEXT R
230 M$="C=NEW COLORS--ENTER=
CONTINUE"
240 GOSUB 670
250 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
260 IF S=0 THEN 250
270 IF K=67 THEN 470
280 CALL CLEAR
290 CALL SCREEN(15)
300 NEXT X
310 W=R+C
320 RETURN
330 W=R*C
340 RETURN
350 W=LOG(5*((R-12)^2+(C-14)
^2)+1)
360 RETURN
370 W=5*LOG((R-12)^2+(C-14)^
2+1)

380 RETURN
390 W=5*SIN((R+C)/4)
400 RETURN
410 W=LOG(R/C)
420 RETURN
430 W=LOG(C^2+R^2)
440 RETURN
450 W=ABS(R-12)+ABS(C-14)
460 RETURN
470 M$=" (0-9)=NEW$ B=BACK$ O
=ORIGINAL"
480 GOSUB 670
490 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
500 IF S=0 THEN 490
510 IF K=81 THEN 280
520 IF K=79 THEN 720
530 K=K-39
540 IF (K<9)+(K>18)THEN 490
550 IF K>13 THEN 610
560 Y(K)=Y(K)+1
570 IF Y(K)<17 THEN 590
580 Y(K)=2
590 CALL COLOR(K,Y(K),Z(K))
600 GOTO 490
610 J=K-5
620 Z(J)=Z(J)+1
630 IF Z(J)<17 THEN 650
640 Z(J)=2
650 CALL COLOR(J,Y(J),Z(J))
660 GOTO 490
670 FOR T=1 TO LEN(M$)
680 CD=ASC(SEG$(M$,T,1))
690 CALL HCHAR(24,T+2,CD)
700 NEXT T
710 RETURN
720 RESTORE 730
730 DATA 13,3,3,4,4,11,11,12
,12,13
740 FOR T=9 TO 13
750 READ Y(T),Z(T)
760 CALL COLOR(T,Y(T),Z(T))
770 NEXT T
780 GOTO 490
```
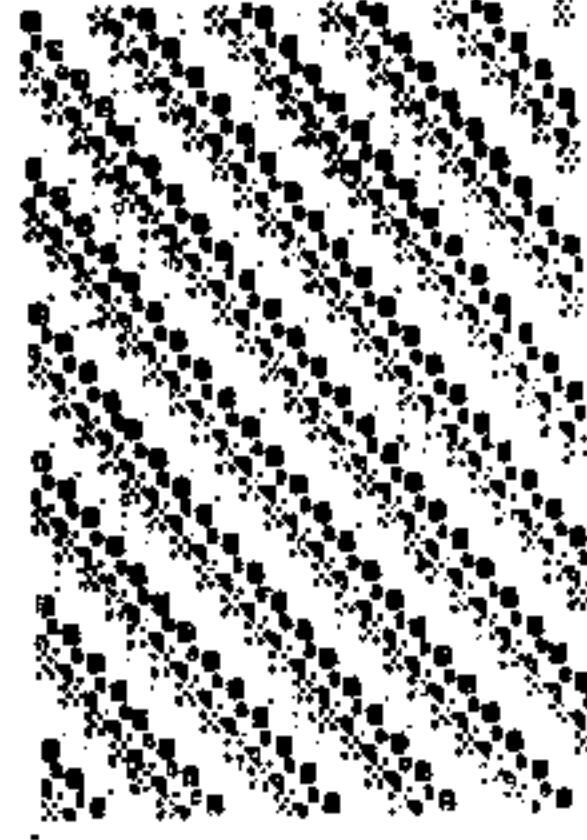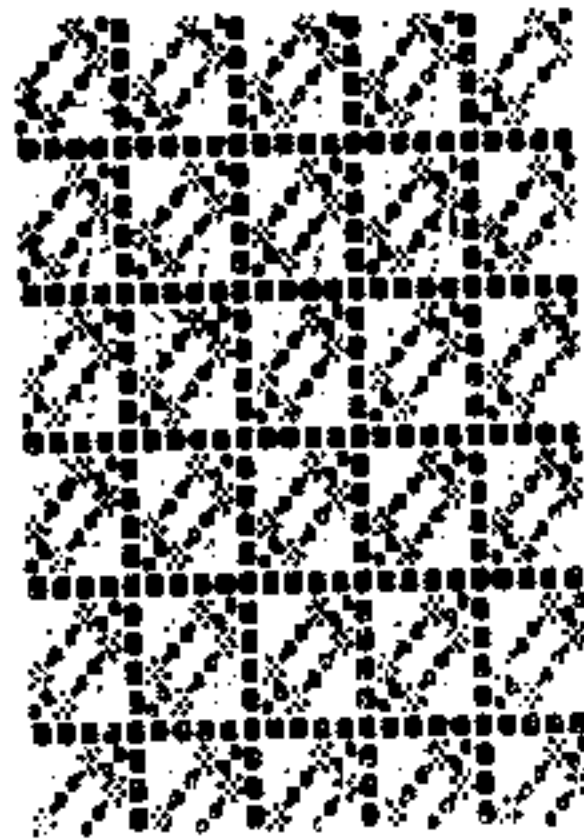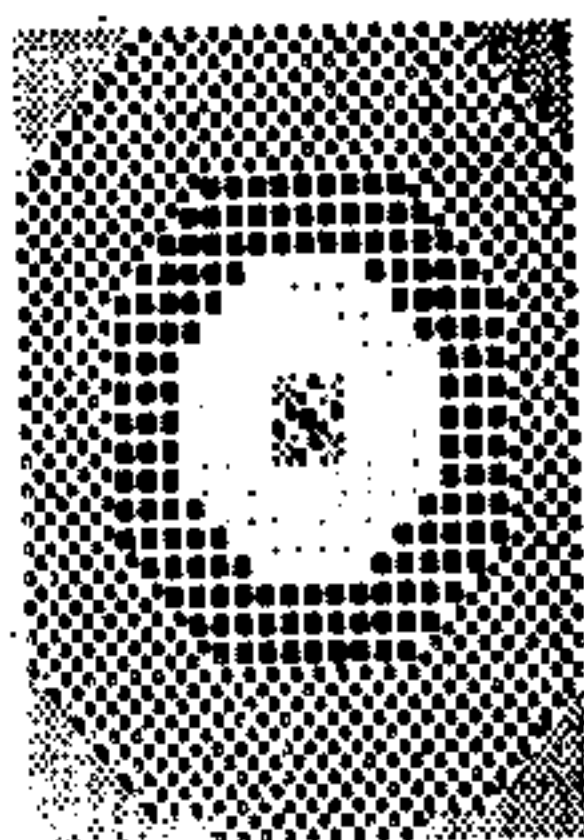
SOFTWARE REVIEW

AUTO-TYPE III

We recently had the opportunity to use what will become the latest version of the AUTO-TYPE word processor from Technologies Support Group in Spencer, Massachusetts.

As many of you know, these folks have been around for some years now, providing many innovative and interesting programs ranging from graphics through some very useful business applications programs, all based on the humble TI-99/4A! When we did a review of the TSG AUTO-TYPE word processing program almost two years ago, we commented on the ease of use of the program, to the extent that our daughter, Amy (then age 11), was able to learn the commands and complete a book report on the system in her first sitting.

Now, they have (as the saying goes) done it again. AUTO-TYPE III is a grown-up and very sophisticated version of the original program, and can compete head-to-head with anything this author has used as far as simplicity of command structure, and smoothness of operation are concerned. Once you get past the fundamental similarities of the load-and-run operation (well, now you can change the background, foreground, and text colors during initialization, to suit your taste and reduce eye-strain), and find the familiar main menu, the similarity stops and the fun begins: First of all, there is now a 32-column screen, so a "normal" typed line of text uses exactly two screen lines. If you have tried systems which "window", you have experienced some disorientation when the shift occurs; and while business (that's BU$INE$$) word processing systems have a full 80-column screen, this type of resolution is just not that easy to come by in any home system. Even the 64-column mode on the Editor-Assembler gets very hard on the eyes.

Next, while continuous typing is not possible, the
input buffer does hold 255 characters; but here's
the best part: How many times have you hit "enter"
and then seen a technicolor typo in the text just
typed? Never fear: just hit (CTRL)L twice, "enter",
and you are back in the previous buffer with the
ability to add, delete, etc., just as if you never
left!

Not only has the edit mode itself been improved, by
allowing continuous wrapped input up to the 255
character buffer limit; but it is also possible to
edit text while scanning through it in "R"eview mode!
This is best used for fixing those little typos, as
adding or deleting great amounts of text in this
mode can produce results which only a very
experienced user can predict. In fairness, the
copy of the program which we were given for the
purpose of preparing this review is so new, that
documentation was not yet available. In retrospect,
the amount of work one can do with this software
without a users manual is actually quite amazing!

What does one do, you might well ask, after having
added a substantial amount of text into a line which
has now become a 200+ character "monster"? Not to
worry. After you have finished an editing session
and saved the text, just hit <FCTN>0 to enter the
re-format mode, which opens up yet another world of
possibilities. Here, you may: 1. Simply absorb
lines which have been stretched or shortened by
editing. 2. Change the width of the entire text.
3. Merge a file on disk with the file in memory.
Even better, you could even let the processor do all
three at the same time (and remember, I still
haven't read the manual)!

As you have already guessed, the normal operating modes (aside from REFORMAT) also allow for merging of an existing file with text in memory, and for those of you (who, me?) who like to start a file today and stretch it tomorrow, newly created text can be added in the "MERGE" mode much, much faster than line-by-line. This has to be one of the best features of AUTO-TYPE III, in addition to the enlarged buffer space (now up to 7300 characters or 125 lines worth), and vastly improved editing. Lest we forget (we already find ourselves taking it for granted), the cursor has also been speeded up, which makes both text entry and editing a joy. Even the "SAVE" mode now employs full error checking, which makes it slightly slower, but very sure! While we're on the subject of SAVE, whatever program you are using or writing, don't forget to SAVE your work regularly. Kids have a habit of sneaking up and hitting <CTRL>+•&•%* whenever your back is turned, and ANY program can be crashed!

Everything considered, we feel that AUTO-TYPE III deserves high marks as an effective, easy-to-use addition to your TI software library. One of its best features remains the fact that a user can obtain professional results with a minimum of effort; a characteristic of any good program, and somewhat unique for a word processor.

Yes, the improvements are substantial, but previous purchasers of AUTO-TYPE should not dismay: updates are available for $25, with the new version selling for $98.

PMC

NOTE: SEE MUNCH MEMBERS SPECIAL
ON AUTO-TYPE III, PAGE 8, GOOD
THROUGH THE APRIL 16 MEETING ONLY

M.U.N.C.H.

560 LINCOLN STREET

WORCESTER, MA. 01605

FIRST CLASS

TO:

****
IMPORTANT NOTICE
****

APRIL MEETING WILL BE ON APR. 16, 1985
AT UNIVERSITY OF MASSCHUSETTS MEDICAL CENTER
(COME TO THE VISITORS ENTRANCE AND FOLLOW THE SIGNS FOR MUNCH...)