include additional time slots of a particular frequency channel, or additional time slots of several frequency channels. The amount of bandwidth allocated may also be based on other factors including availability of communication channels and demand for services.

Task **516** determines if a data message was transmitted successfully in task **514**. If the transmittal is unsuccessful, task **524** is performed. In task **524** the data message is provided for a pre-determined number of retries. Examples of unsuccessful transmittals include destination subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) in use or busy, communication system **10** (FIG. 1) disallows access to the system, or originating subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) not working correctly. In one preferred embodiment, the pre-determined number of retries is selected by a subscriber. In another preferred embodiment, the pre-determined number of retries is a default set by subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) and/or communication system **10** (FIG. 1).

When a retry is unsuccessful, but less than the pre-determined number of retries, task **526** provides the message to task **514**. Task **514** transmits the message again. Task **516** determines if the transmittal is successful or not. If task **516** determines the transmittal is unsuccessful, task **524** retries the transmittal. This loop preferably continues until task **524** determines a successful retry or task **526** determines a time-out.

If task **516** successfully transmits a message or task **524** determines a retry is successful, task **518** preferably records the time the successfully transmitted message is sent. After task **518**, task **520** sends an indication that a message was sent. Task **522** preferably stores an indication in field **310** (FIG. 3) that a message was transmitted.

If task **524** determines that a retry is unsuccessful and reaches the number of pre-determined retries, task **526** times out the message transmittal. Task **528** cancels the message transmittal. Once a message transmittal is canceled by task **528**, task **520** preferably sends an indication to task **522** that the message was canceled. Task **522** stores an indication of the canceled message transmittal in field **310** (FIG. 3). An indication stored in field **310** (FIG. 3) may provide a subscriber with visual alpha-numeric or iconic or video display **52** (FIG. 2), audio tone, visual signal, or vibrational signal.

FIG. **6** illustrates receive schedule table **600** suitable for use in a preferred embodiment of the present invention. Receive schedule table **600** is preferably located in storage medium **55** (FIG. 2). Receive schedule table **600** records messages received by a subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) in field **602**. Type of message is provided by an originating subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) in field **302** (FIG. 3). Field **602** lists the type of message files, such as: data files **604**, fax files **606**, pre-recorded voice files **608**, pager message files **610** or video files **612**.

Field **614** is where a file name of a message is stored. The name of a subscriber originating a message is recorded in field **616**. The time when a message is received is recorded in field **618** by subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 2) preferably using a time provided by timer **48** (FIG. 2).

A message status indicator(s) in field **620** is preferably received from personal preferences table **400**. Message status field **620** includes indicators, such as: a message stored indicator **622**, a provided to destination party indicator **624**, or a default indicator **626**. Stored indicator **622** may be associated with store for destination party option **414** (FIG. 4). Provided to destination party indicator **624** may be associated with provide to destination party immediately option **412** (FIG. 4). Default indicator **626** may be associated with default option **410** (FIG. 4). A received message file with an associated message status in field **620** of stored indicator **622** or default indicator **626** is preferably stored upon receipt in storage medium **55** (FIG. 2) of destination subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 2).

Storage location field **628** is preferably the location in storage medium **55** (FIG. 2) of destination subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) of received message files identified in field **602**. When a message is stored in storage medium **55** (FIG. 2), a storage location in field **628** is associated with file name in field **614**, subscriber name in field **616**, and receive time in field **618**. In one preferred embodiment, a destination party enters one or more fields of receive schedule table **600** into subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 2) for retrieving a message. Fields entered from receive schedule table **600** are comprised of: file name field **614** and/or subscriber name field **616** and/or receive time field **618**. A stored message associated with an entered field at associated storage location from field **628** preferably is retrieved. In another preferred embodiment, a destination party peruses a list of file names in field **614** and/or subscriber names in field **616** and/or receive times in field **618** and selects an associated message for retrieval preferably located at an associated storage location in field **628**.

FIG. **7** illustrates a simplified diagram of procedure **700** for receiving a pre-programmed message transmitted for use in a preferred embodiment of the present invention. In the preferred embodiment, receive procedure **700** is performed by processor **44** (FIG. 2) in conjunction with timer **48** (FIG. 2), memory **43** (FIG. 2), storage medium **55** (FIG. 2), and transceiver **42** (FIG. 2). Subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) sends a message file using transmit procedure **500** (FIG. 5). The message file is received using receive procedure **700**. Receive procedure **700** is capable of autonomously accepting an incoming message file and placing the message file in storage as a data file, fax file, voice file, pager message, or video file and recording the storage location.

Task **702** preferably accepts a message file transmitted by transmit procedure **500** (FIG. 5). To accept a message file, subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) monitors broadcast channels **18** (FIG. 1) to detect messages which may be addressed to them. Subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) preferably answers a page or responds to a ring-alert on broadcast channel **18** (FIG. 1). Communication system **10** (FIG. 1) assigns subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) a communication channel to lock on to for message communication. In one preferred embodiment, communication system **10** (FIG. 1) preferably locates destination subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1). Communication system **10** (FIG. 1) preferably assigns traffic channel **17** (FIG. 1) to destination subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1). In another preferred embodiment, rather than a two-way traffic channel, a one-way channel is assigned by communication system **10** (FIG. 1). Subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1) receives a message on the assigned channel. In one embodiment of the present invention, communication system **10** (FIG. 1) allocates channel bandwidth based on the type of message (from field **302** (FIG. 3) transmitted by an originating subscriber unit **26** (FIG. 1)) or the size of the message file or data file. For example, a very large data file would be allocated a large bandwidth, while small message files would be allocated less bandwidth. In the preferred embodiment, an allocation of more bandwidth would include additional time slots of several frequency channels. The amount of bandwidth allocated may also be based on other factors including availability of communication channels and demand for services.

After task **702** receives a message file from communication system **10** (FIG. 1), task **704** identifies the type of