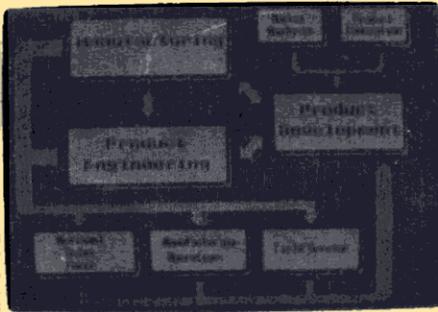




DYNAMIC MEMORIES

FEBRUARY 1986

Go on, live a little.



SOUTHBAY USERS GROUP

YOUR STEERING COMMITTEE

	MEMBER	SBUG-80 USERNAME	PHONE
Chairman:	Chris Oman	(OMAN)	(408) 985-9460
Treasurer	Don Rhodes	(DON)	(408) 996-1008
Secretary	Jim Gonsalves	(MANGR)	(408) 241-9347
Newsletter Editor	Joel Lee	(EDITOR)	(408) 926-3999
Librarians:	(disc) Bernie Thompson	(BERNIE)	(408) 867-7455
	(docs) Gary Dixon	(GDIXON)	(408) 262-6937
SBUG-80 Syops:			
SYSOP I & COEDITOR	Gerry McKee	(Gerry)	(408) 752-3207
SYSOP II	Don Rhodes	(Don)	(408) 253-6293

OTHER KEY INDIVIDUALS

Cover Artist:	No, It was not Rubens		
Host Computer:	SBUG	(ALL)	(408) 292-7284(SBUG)
	Also		(408) 943-9729

If the need arises, feel free to give any one of us a call.

THE EDITOR'S BYTES AND BITES

One can only feel encouraged by the direction our club is taking. The initiation of a new bulletin board system with the input of knowledgeable and enthusiastic people, the purchase of a new MSDOS computer, all this speaks well for the future of the club.

At the last meeting, there were as many visitors as club members. Don Rhodes' advertising genius was responsible for that. The importance of the bulletin board cannot be over emphasized, even though not all members have modems, even though not all modem owners have much interest in using them. The bulletin board allows rapid communication and diffusion of information amongst the members. It becomes a focal point of the club.

Cliche though it may be, all members start off equal on the bulletin board. We are of diverse ethnic, social and political backgrounds, not quite so diverse economically. There are probably no millionaires amongst us and it is difficult to buy computers with food stamps. (They told me so.) The difference in technical knowledge and competence will out, but the mouse may help the elephant, the pig the giraffe. (A thank you to Aesop for that one).

Anonymous communication is notably uninhibited. It inspires both the opinionated and the shy. Thus the bulletin board may extrude the glue that holds the club together. Let us get on with it.

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

From the desk of DON RHODES
SBUG Financial Statement

January 31, 1986

Receipts:	January	Y-T-Date	% Used	Budget
Members dues	171.00	171.00	17.10%	1000.00
SBUG BBS Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
Disk Library	0.00	0.00	0.00%	120.00
Load80	0.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
Documentation	0.00	0.00	0.00%	40.00
Interest	3.54	3.54	11.80%	30.00
Total Receipts	174.54	174.54	10.98%	1590.00
Disbursements				
Phone	22.92	22.92	9.55%	240.00
Utilities	40.00	40.00	15.15%	264.00
Printing	97.37	97.37	27.05%	360.00
Postage	10.00	10.00	6.67%	150.00
P O Box	0.00	0.00	0.00%	26.00
Bank charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Disk Library	0.00	0.00	0.00%	50.00
Documentation	0.00	0.00	0.00%	80.00
SBUG BBS	0.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
Total Disbursements	170.29	170.29	12.43%	1370.00
Begin Cash Balance	1584.62	1584.62	100.00%	1584.62
Net Receipts	4.25	4.25	1.93%	220.00
BBS Computer	1070.00	1070.00	1065.00	
Ending Balance	518.87	518.87	70.15%	739.62

Do you have a TRS80 Model 4 and are not using Pronto?

An article from Personal Computing, February 1986, page 13, "Utilities from Tandy"

Do you deliberately ignore Tandy/Radio Shack products or simply not do your homework? The article "Get Organized" (PRODUCTIVITY, October) details the various desk-organizing software programs available. The majority of products discussed and charted are for the IBM and the remainder for the Apple line. It is as if the TRS-80 line didn't exist.

I happen to use a TRS-80 Model 4 on a daily basis with a utility called PRONTO from Misosys, Inc. that is superior to what I read about SideKick for the IBM. It has everything Sidekick has and a whole lot more including an RPN calculator for programmers; Typer, which allows me to suspend a foreground program and turn my computer into a typewriter with a one line correctable preview; screen-saver to allow

printing of a current screen from within a program; import-export of data windows; a program to allow me to write windows into any BASIC program I am designing; a DOS access utility; and an appointment book, as well.

It takes only 32k on my paltry (by IBM standards) 128k system, leaving me with more than adequate space for any applications I run, including 64k for my word processing package. It wasn't even mentioned in passing in the article.

The article "The Best Software Utilities For Under \$100" (PRODUCTIVITY November) added salt to the wound by leaving out all the utilities available for the Radio Shack line. In every category in the table of products, there are comparable or superior products available for the Radio Shack line.

I think my Model 4 is every bit as powerful a business machine as the IBM PC for half the price. The real kicker is that software for the TRS-80 line is usually one-half to one-third the price of the software for the IBM.

Stephan A. Torkko
North Bend, Or

ODDS AND ENDS FROM COMPUTER MAGAZINES

You can now buy an ATARI (of course you want one) with color monitor, a megabyte of memory, a double-sided double density 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch disk drive and DOS for 1,119.95.

Apropos, all the authorities agree that the home computer concept is dead, if indeed it was ever viable. Of course they'll have to explain why BRODERBUND essentially a home/small business software firm, is profitable and one of the fastest growing companies in these United.

As was pointed out here in a previous article, computers have not yet penetrated many areas of business. Many of the small offices, where they could be of immense help are simply unaware of the micro's potential and relative simplicity. The Idea of C-O-M-P-U-T-E-R with its stark, cold hexadecimals and snarling megabytes is terrifying. Little by little this will change.

Anyone who makes under \$20,000 a year (and lots who make much larger gobs of money) is always scrambling for that extra buck. Writers and teachers were amongst the first to glom on to micros. Many others will join them in specialized areas. We're not talking Exxon here, we mean Walt Gibson down to the postoffice who rents boats and sells bait and fishing tackle at Lake Mud in the summertime.

Probably the next massive advance in computers will be in speech synthesis and voice recognition. According to an article in INFOWORLD by Alice LaPlante, a system from VOTAN of Fremont has enabled a hospital to cut its restaurant staff from 22 to 8 employees. A meat and cheese company in Boston is working with a VOTAN system also.

Will programmers disappear like the telegraphers, the old brass pounders? What do you need a programmer for when you can give orders in English (or Tagalog or Twee) to your computer? Yes, the computer will have to be programmed to receive those orders, but how many programmers does that take?

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

OYEZ, OYEZ

SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP BUYS NEW COMPUTER...

The South Bay Users Group, formerly the South Bay TRS-80 Users Group, has just purchased a new computer for their Bulletin Board Service (BBS). Plans for this have been in the mill since December, 1985. The SBUG Steering Committee decided to buy a MsDos PC-XT rather than a TRS80 due to multiple advantages over TRS-Dos and the cost of adding a hard disk drive to a TRS80.

The new computer has 640k RAM, real clock, two serial ports, two parallel ports, a game port, one 5-1/4 inch floppy disk drive and a 20 megabit hard drive.

The system is now installed at Gerry McKee's home with a new telephone number for the SBUG BBS: 408/292-SBUG. This phone number exchange should be centrally located for most members and it call forwards to Milpitas. For those closer to Milpitas, they can call Gerry's BBS number directly at: 408/943-9729.

The BBS software chosen is called Fido and has been in the testing stages since December at Don Rhodes' home, alternating with the BES system on the Model I. Fido was introduced at the SBUG membership meeting in January, 1986. There is a handout instruction for those that would like a copy; contact Don Rhodes or Gerry McKee.

Beginning February 1, 1986, our able Sysop#1 will take over running the BBS. Thanks goes to Don for filling in during the past year as Sysop#2. Now, Gerry let's see how you do it!

Coco users

There has been a flurry of coco (TRS80 Color Computer) calling the BBS in the last 3 weeks. It seems that they are looking for a new home.

Talk among them is about forming a new SBUG SIG for CoCo or possibly they may start their own club... We, welcome the Coco users and wish them success. We of SBUG hope that they will join us. We have much to share with each other.

FIDO USERS' INSTRUCTION KIT

by Don Rhodes

Using a Bulletin Board Service

Bulletin Board Service (BBS) provides the users with a means to use their computer as a communications device in sending and receiving information to and from a host computer which has been equipped with the necessary BBS software and hardware.

You, the user, will have a computer equipped with an RS232 interface card, this is called the COM port and a modem plugged into the COM port, an ordinary telephone line (like the one plugged into your telephone jack) is plugged into the modem.

The user will also have in addition to the above mentioned equipment, a software program for communications. This program comes on a diskette and is inserted into one of the user's computer drives. The communications software is usually referred to as

a terminal program. Its function is to provide an interface and control between the user and the hardware. It will send and receive all the necessary signals to the COM port, modem, and to the host computer. The terminal program will provide the user with a menu for the user's local computer screen so that the user can make selections and issue commands.

The commands and menu selections usually found on the user's terminal program allow the user to select:

- baud rate, parity, and stop bit,
- method of file transfer,
- telephone number to be dialed,
- transmit or receive a file

The host computer BBS will have the same equipment, i.e., a COM port and be modem equipped. The communications program is much different, in that it will automatically answer incoming telephone calls and provide the caller with a menu of functions to select. The caller is offered choices that are sent to their local screen. These choices usually consist of:

- Read messages
- Download a file
- Chat with the Sysop
- Read announcements
- Send a message
- Upload a file
- Select a message board
- Change terminal configuration

Generally, there are two types of Bulletin Board Services:

- 1) Privately owned and operated BBSs like the South Bay Users Group's which offers its service to its members. Private BBSs may or may not require pre-registration, they may charge a one time fee or an annual fee, some are free for anyone to use.
- 2) BBS like CompuServe or Dow Jones News Service, which provide their service to the public and charge a registration fee and usage fee. No one can use the service without first registering and paying a registration fee. They may even require a method for automatically charging against your credit card or bank checking account.

How to access South Bay Users Group's BBS: The South Bay Users Group (SBUG) operates a BBS software program called Fido. The hardware used is an IBM-PC-XT computer equipped with a hard drive and a Hayes compatible modem.

Fido is similar to most private BBSs in that it has the ability to send and receive messages and files. In addition, it has a feature to exchange messages (E-Mail) with other Fido BBSs. These messages are automatically exchanged at a pre-arranged time between Fido BBS using a message network system that can include amateur radio as well as regular telephone lines.

To access SBUG Fido, the user must have a computer equipped with a telecommunications hardware and software as defined above. Once this hardware and software has been installed, the user may dial the SBUG BBS. Once the phone call has been placed, the BBS's modem will answer the ringing and then send a tone to the caller. This is a high pitched tone that is understood by the caller's modem. The caller then

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

sends a tone to the BBS. With automatic modems, the tone exchange is done automatically. On manual modems, the caller must listen for the BBS's tone then manually turn on their tone (in the originate mode). The user must have set up his communications parameters for one of the two settings:

300 baud, 8 bit word, no parity, 1 stop bit
1200 baud, 8 bit word, no parity, 1 stop bit

Once the BBS modem has detected the callers return tone, the modem sends a signal to the BBS computer, telling it to start processing a call. The user then presses their RETURN or ENTER key twice to notify the BBS of the baud rate. The Fido BBS needs this signal to continue otherwise it will eventually time out and disconnect.

The BBS computer then sends the caller:

A welcoming message, identifying the BBS's name

Prompts for logging on: It will ask the caller for their name and password. If the caller is in the BBS user file, the BBS will send the Main menu to the caller. If the user is not in the user file, then the BBS will request the user to answer some questions asking for the callers address and telephone number. The caller is not granted access to the main menu until the BBS System Operator (Sysop) has installed the proper access level for the caller. The caller will have to call back another day. Usually the Sysop will review new user requests for access each day and grant access so that the caller may access the BBS on the following day.

Fido's Main Menu.

M) Enter the messages area
F) Enter the files area
B) Read the Bulletin
E) Read the Editorial
G) Goodbye (log-off)
S) Statistics (User's)
Y) Yell at the Sysop
C) Change Help Level, Name, Nulls
U) List of Users
V) Version of Fido
?) help menu

Main: M F G S A B Y C U E V or ? for Help: ?

Pressing M will cause the Fido to send the caller another menu:

A) Select a Message area
M) Return to MAIN Section
L) List of messages
R) Read Messages
E) Enter message
K) Kill a message
I) Search messages

- S) Statistics: Mail, costs, etc.
- G) Goodbye (log off)
- ?) help menu

FidoNet Msg Area#9: MSGPATH±
 A)rea-change L)ist R)ead E)nter K)ill
 I)nquire Statistics G)oodbye M)ain menu

Mail: A L R E K I S G M or ? for Help: ?

By entering "A", all nine areas may not be displayed as some of them are for higher access levels, such as the club's steering committee.

- 1) Open board
- 2) TRS80 board
- 3) IBM board
- 4) Portables board
- 5) Coco board
- 6) For Sale board
- 7) CP/M board
- 8) Steering committee Board
- 9) Network messages

Each of these areas is kept in separate hard disk subdirectories (just like keeping each area on a separate floppy diskette). All messages and files for download are kept in their own special area. By selecting one of the areas, the user will only be able to read, send, upload and download files for the area selected.

The "OPEN" board is a general purpose area for non-computer specific kinds of messages and files. The "TRS80" board. If a user has a model 3, for example and wants to exchange messages or files that pertain to TRS80 machines, the user should select the TRS80 board. That way users with the same type of computers can keep their messages and files together in one area.

Files Areas...

From the MAIN menu, select "F" for files. The following menu is displayed.

FILES SECTION

- A) Change file area
- M) Quit to Main menu
- F) List of files
- L) Locate a files(s)
- T) Type (display) a file
- D) Download a file (to you)
- U) Upload a file (from you)
- S) Statistics: Disk Space, etc
- G) Goodbye (log-off)

A)rea-change L)ocate F)iles T)ype G)oodbye
 U)pload D)ownload S)tatistics M)ain menu
 R)aw-display K)ill-file

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File: A L F T G U D S M R K or ? for help:?

When files are uploaded, the user supplies the filename and after Fido receives the file, the user is prompted to supply a brief explanation of the file. The user should specify which TRS80 model the file is for. Example:

IBM.COMD 1,218k Model 1: Used for IBM/TRS80 conversions

The file is named slightly differently on a IBM disk than it is on a TRS80 disk. Instead of the file being named IBM/CMD as it is on a TRS80 computer, it will be named IBM.COMD on Fido. The dot is used in place of the / to indicate the separation between the filename and extension. IBM machines do not have passwords added to the file name as the TRS80 does: IBM/CMD.pswd. Files are protected by a separate command and will not be indicated within the filename.

When downloading a file from Fido, the user should determine the correct file extension name for their particular computer. The user's terminal program will prompt the user for the file name when it is about to receive a file from the host. The user can provide any valid file name when their terminal prompts for the name of file to receive. The file name does not have to be the same name as it is listed on Fido.

The user must be specific and exact in providing Fido with the file name to be transmitted (sent), otherwise Fido will not be able to find the file in it's subdirectory, or it may find the wrong file.

All IBM (MsDos) files which are executable, will have a filename extension of EXE or .COM or .BAT. Where as in TRS80 files the executable files have /CMD or /JCL extensions.

Basic files in both MsDos and TRS80 will have extensions of .BAS. .BAS or /BAS is not required for basic programs, but it is helpful for basic programs to be distinguishable from other types of files such as TEXT or ASCII files. All text or ascii files should have the filename extension of .TXT or .ASC or .DOC added so that they are easily recognizable.

The "FOR SALE" board is used for messages about things that are for sale or things wanted. No files for upload or down load are provided. The messages can pertain to services or products of any kind offered for sale or wanted. Commercial as well as private individuals are welcome to use this area.

The NET WORK message area.

The network message area is provided to users who have previously arranged an account with SBUG. A deposit to cover future messages to be sent to other Fido BBSs is added as a credit in Fido's accounting system. When the user enters a message, Fido will subtract the cost of sending the message from the users account.

At the time of this writing, there are no charges for any messages sent to other Fido BBSs within Nevada or all of California. A schedule of rates and a list of other Fido BBSs around the world is available for viewing. When at the Message Area#9, select "E" for enter a message and then the following is displayed:

This will be message #6
From: Your name here On Fido 142/17

Currently in Fido NET 143

Pick a Fido ?-Help, /-pick NET, #-pick NODE:

At this point, you have 4 options:

- 1) ? will display a help menu
- 2) / will list all the NETS to select from
- 3) # will list all the NODES in the current NET
(This will also show the node name and cost
to send a message to that node)
- 4) Just type in the NET/NODE number like this:
143/1

After entering the NET/NODE number, answer the following prompts:

Kill after sending (y,n):
To: (name of person) or to Sysop
Private (y,n):
Attach file (y,n):
Subject: (enter brief description)

1: you begin entering the actual message you want sent. Each line will be prenumbered for you. When finished entering your message, Press the ENTER (or RETURN) key at the beginning of a blank line and you will be offered a command line:

Enter-Msg Command:
L)list A)abort D)delete I)nsert T)o subject
C)ontinue E)dit S)ave ? for Help

L A D I T J C E S ? : ?

Typing ? will provide the Help menu:

L ... List the message	S Save the message
C ... Continue adding Msg	E Edit a line
I ... Insert a line	D Delete a line
T ... Change the To:	J Change the subject line
A ... Abort msg (not saved)	

How the network message system works.

Each Fido BBS is equipped with a software scheduling system. The scheduler can schedule many tasks for the sysop. One of the tasks it performs, is to condense the messages left by its users into a packet to be sent. At the pre-arranged time, the scheduler automatically dials the other Fido BBSs as specified in each packet. This time is set for 1:00am Pacific time. Upon connection with the destination, it will send the packet. This is repeated until the packets for every destination have been sent. During this period (window from 1:00am to 3:00am), All Fido BBS also are standing by to receive packets from other Fido BBSs. Should any Fido BBS be busy, a retry occurs repeatedly at a few minutes interval. Each message that is successfully sent is marked as "SENT" and the sysop then can delete the messages after printing them or copying them to a Sent file.

SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP

SOME SWAP MEET IMPRESSIONS

Apparently no one from the club but me went to the swap meet. (Unless they were heavily disguised and didn't wish to whisper the password). In general, there were fewer people and fewer exhibitors. I still felt that my time was reasonably well spent.

There was an APPLE booth selling two versions of MACINTOSH and diverse APPLE products. If the price of a Fat Mac is compared with the IBM clone prices and what the clones deliver, it is obvious that only the uninitiated and those specialists who need certain MACINTOSH advantages, would buy a Mac.

ATARI had some representation, AMIGA almost none. Bruce Cargo had a stunning program from a Laser disk on exhibit. Century 21 had an exhibit. S.A.F.E. fire extinguishers had an exhibit. All the rest was The Gospel according to IBM, brother and sister be compatible, do MSDOS.

Certainly the price of components is still dropping. One of the aspects of the standardization of MSDOS that I have not seen commented on, is that it has not made the industry more monolithic, on the contrary a lot of small firms (a lot) are now competing with IBM, and with considerable success.

Consider this; our club with its very considerable technical knowledge, was able to put together an excellent clone for \$1070. The lowest price at the swap meet was for an AT/XT clone with 640K two 360K DS/DD drives, 4.77-8 Mhz., all for \$750. He would add a monitor for another \$100, and indicated that he could be dickered with.

The wide diffusion of MSDOS has brought the amateur/semi-amateur programmer out into the sunshine. Excellent public domain programs are available for spreadsheets, data processing, word processing, and communications. An outfit called "Public Brand Software" puts out a catalog of these programs with ratings and what seems to be a competent and honest attempt to give the consumer a square deal.

So where are we now? \$950 for a complete system, add two external 360K drives to give you a total of 1.4K storage, scrounge an MSDOS system disc and its manual (copying is against the law, but scrounging isn't), spend \$50 for public domain software. \$1200 and you're in business with a system that will do most of what most of us applications users want to do. Of course if you have heavy duty files to maintain you're going to have to add a hard disk, a few hundred more.

Another interesting item at the meeting was "OnLine Want Ads". The name more or less describes this service. They have dBase III on line to take calls by modem for advertisements. Their >sell< line is not ready yet, but I used their >buy< line number to browse a little bit. They obviously don't have many advertisers yet, but I think they may. At least for \$10 (cut rate to \$7.50 until March 1) one can afford to take a chance. It is a cliché in advertising that the quality of the people reached is as important as the quantity. Anyone who has a computer and modem is not likely to be on AFDC.

#32 4 31 Jan 86 21:01:13

From: Gerald McKee

To: Dusty Van

1. They use computers don't they?
2. If your computer catches on fire they can put it out.

FEBRUARY

REPLY TO #17
Subj: NOT TRS

HI RUSTY...NO, IT'S NOT TRS, BUT IT DOES WORK. WE DO COVER TRS-80 THO,
IN ALL THE SAME WAYS...SAME AS ALWAYS, JUST COVER LOTS OF OTHERS AS
WELL...BEST OF
(TRS) COMPUTING FRIEND.
SYSOP G. MC KEE

#30 8 31 Jan 86 15:00:07
From: Will Michaels
To: All
SEE ALSO #34
Subj: JOB OPENINGS

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN APPLYING
FOR
FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT (TECHS,SR.TECHS & JR ENGINEERS) IN THE GROUND
SATELLITE
COMMUNICATIONS FIELD. BACKGROUNDS SHOULD INCLUDE BOTH RF AND
DIGITAL
EXPERIENCE...FOR MORE INFORMATION AND SPECIFICS PLEASE LEAVE A
MESSAGE AND I
WILL GET BACK TO YOU.

** WILL MICHAELS **

#26 11 30 Jan 86 19:44:20
From: Sysop
To: Joel Etc
Subj: TELEPHONE #

THANKS JOEL, I HAVE CORRECTED THE NUMBER TO 292 -SBUG! NOT 252.
HOPE THE GUY GETS SOME SLEEP NOW...GERRY

#21 17 29 Jan 86 16:56:13
From: Joel Lee
To: All
Subj: FIDO

I find FIDO easy (so it must be, I am the authority on easy), as soon as we
get some chit-chat going, a few veiled? insults, a few cliques a few claps,
we'll be sailing along.

#19 16 26 Jan 86 20:23:30
From: Sysop
To: All
Subj: Welcome...

Hello, All. Welcome to the new SBUG BBS.. This is the first test call
Will be calling tomorrow.

#18 16 23 Jan 86 12:23:38 (RECV'D)
From: Ed Hoover
To: Sysop
Subj: QMODEM

Hi Don, lights TR, MR & HS are on during this hook-up. Everything works fine
as long as I use Videotex and ASCII protocol. I have not tried to use QMODEM
in ASCII mode but will try it. Thanks for your help.

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

#17 16 23 Jan 86 09:16:23

From: Sysop
To: Dusty Van
REPLY TO #16 SEE ALSO #32
Subj: BBS Equipment

Hello, Dusty. I would say that's true. I don't think Fido runs on a Tandy / Radio Shack Model I, III, or 4. It can, however, run on a Tandy 1200. Would you believe that Fido runs on a PC-XT clone with 20 megabytes? Yes, that's what Fido runs on. Our Club's BBS computer equipment was stolen about a year ago, it was a Model I running 3 eight-inch drives. We have been limping along with loaned model I equipment since. Alas! The insurance check came through allowing us to replace the stolen computer. We are in the process of computer shopping and BBS software shopping for the new SBUG BBS.

Meanwhile, we are trying out Fido on Don's PC-XT. We are also interested in using TBBS (for MsDos) for programming flexibility. Fido has some interesting features, though. FidoNet, is a international network for sending and receiving messages to and from other Fido BBSs. We would like to have the best of both BBS software systems. Any suggestions? Maybe have two telephone lines... one for Fido, one for TBBS? Maybe we could just share a local Fido board for international messages and just use TBBS for local SBUG members..

. . . . Don Rhodes, Sysop#2
#16 15 23 Jan 86 08:32:44 (RECV'D)
From: Dusty Van
To: Sysop
SEE ALSO #17
Subj: howdy!

I didn't think FIDO was for a TRS computer. You are running a Trasher, right?
Dusty

#15 15 21 Jan 86 11:06:13
From: Sysop
To: All
Subj: Fido hours

SBUG's Fido BBS is normally on-line from 9:00pm to 9:00am, 7 days a week alternating with the TBBS system which is usually on line from 9:00am to 9:00pm, 7 days a week.

When Fido is on-line, the caller must wake up Fido by tapping the ENTER or RETURN key a couple of times. Fido needs this to determine the baud rate as either 300 or 1200. Fido is not as smart as TBBS in this regard.

During every night, Fido gets busy doing some work for the Sysop. Fido checks This Sysop's scheduler and performs all instructions to the letter so that the Sysop doesn't have to do the work. One of the jobs that is in the Scheduler, is to have Fido send and receive all FidoNet messages that have been entered in the message area #9 MSGPATH±.

At 1:00am to 2:00am Fido is Busy sending and receiving FidoNet messages and doesn't want to be bothered (Interrupted) by callers. Fido will answer all calls coming in during this time and wait for a special SYNCH code, if Fido doesn't get the SYNCH code, Fido disconnects the caller. So if you call in during this time, you may get either a busy signal (Fido is making phone

Every week, the FidoNet newsletter is distributed to all Fido nodes in the world. SBUG's copy usually is received on-line for its users by Tuesday evening. Look for it in the <F>iles area #1 GENERAL as:

FIDO###.NWS (### is the date code)

Your in the M)essage area #1 GENERAL, to get to the F)iles area, go back to the M)ain menu and select F)iles, then select A1 for area #1 GENERAL, then select F)iles listing which lists all the files in the GENERAL files area. You then can T)ype the file out on the screen, or you can D)own load it to your computer.

#12 24 20 Jan 86 03:13:51

From: Hee So

To: All

Subj: DeltaWing

ANOUNCING: THE DELTAWING BBS

NUMBER: 408-370-6527

SOFTWARE: RBBS-PC CPC13.1A

FEATURES: Mags, Up/DnLoad

40/80 COLUMN SUPPORT

SUPPORT MOST COMPUTERS

BAUDS: 300/450/1200/2400

*** (NEW TIME SCHEDULE) ***

ON-LINE: 4p-4a/7 Day

#11 27 19 Jan 86 20:01:32

From: Sysop

To: All

Subj: Fido Newsletter

FidoNet publishes a newsletter every week. It is sent Via Fido net to very Net/node around the world. It is expected to be received each Tuesday night from 1/1 Thomas Henderson. The file is received as FEW###.ARC and I will de ARC it into a doc file and put it in the File area GENERAL.

#10 23 19 Jan 86 00:17:56

From: Ian Webb

To: All

Subj: Hardware for MSDOS board

I have put a hardware/price list on the file section of this general open board which lists MSDOS machine costs if we try to assemble an IBM XT Clone system with 20 Mbyte hard drive and Hayes Clone modem. Looks like we can probably do it for \$1400.

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

FIRST CLASS MAIL