

The PATSCAN Calendar of Bizarre Patents for 2009 is brought to you by PATEX Research and Consulting Ltd.

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To start off the New Year, the traditional PATSCAN calendar of bizarre patents presents some of the world's most interesting inventions, celebrating the human creativity that began when the first hominids banged rocks together to make tools.

From the Stone Age to the Nuclear Age, some of the greatest advances in technology were weapons of war; possibly in this millennium we may see sustainable technologies turned towards the survival of the planet and the human race.

Successful technologies are rare: even scientists in the great research corporations base a small percentage of successful inventions on a large number of failures. Often the most profitable inventions were accidents, such as "Post-It" notes.

I salute the inventors of the world who have had the courage to hitch their wagon to a star.

**Ron Simmer
President,
PATEX Research and Consulting Ltd.**

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5230 Patrick St.,
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Contacts:

**ron@patex.ca
phone: 604 438 5935
fax : 604 438 5945
www.patex.ca
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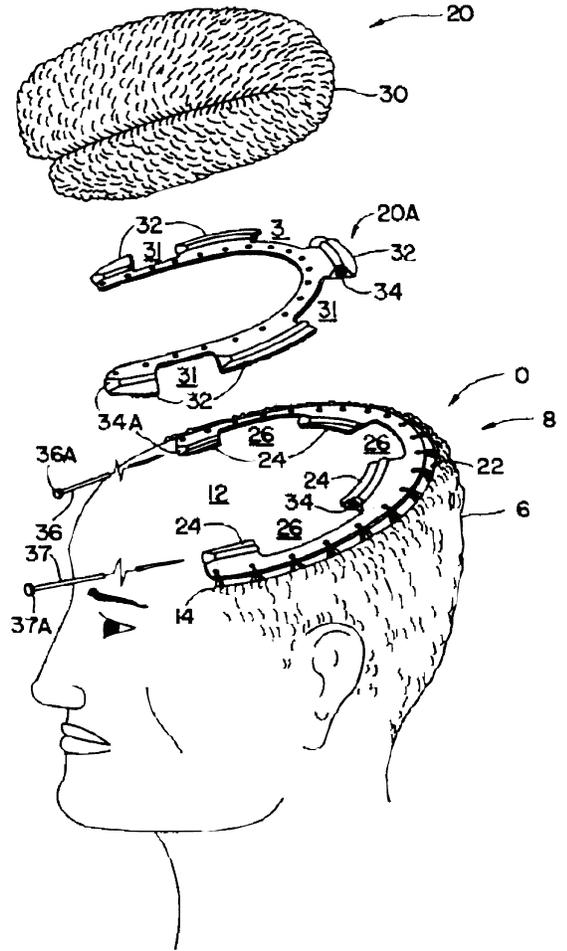
**PATEX and PATSCAN are registered Canadian trademarks,
held by PATEX Research and Consulting Ltd.**

Cover by P. J. Woodland

January 2009

US5419345: Hairpiece
Kadymir, Jack 1995-05-30

A centrally disposed hairpiece for a corresponding located central bald area of the user, in which cooperating outer “permanently” and removably inner components are attached along confronting edges characterized by interfitting elements, such as are typically used for a pivot hinge, by using as the equivalent of the hinge pin one of a flexuring construction material so that insertion therethrough is facilitated to position the inner component over the bald area when the user is in a public situation, and is readily withdrawn preparatory to removal of the inner component when conditions of privacy prevail.



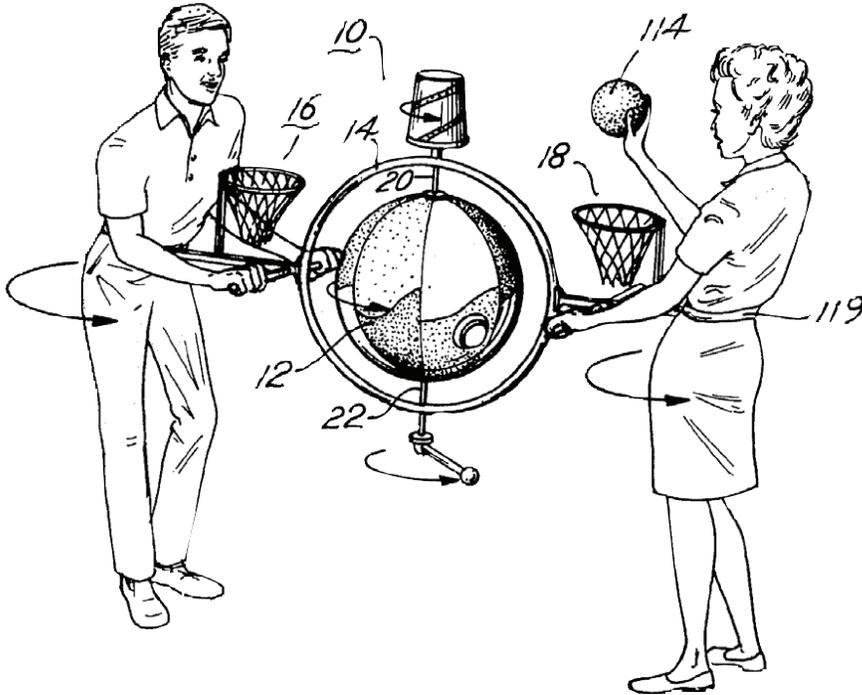
**“ As you ramble on through life brother,
whatever be your goal: keep your eye on
the donut, and not upon the hole.”**
Murray Banks.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
December 2008 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28			1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Chinese New Year's Day	27	28	29	30	31

February 2009

“Between two evils, I always pick the one I never tried before.”
May West.

US4274639: Exercise and game apparatus
 Flanders, Ralph W.; 1981-06-23



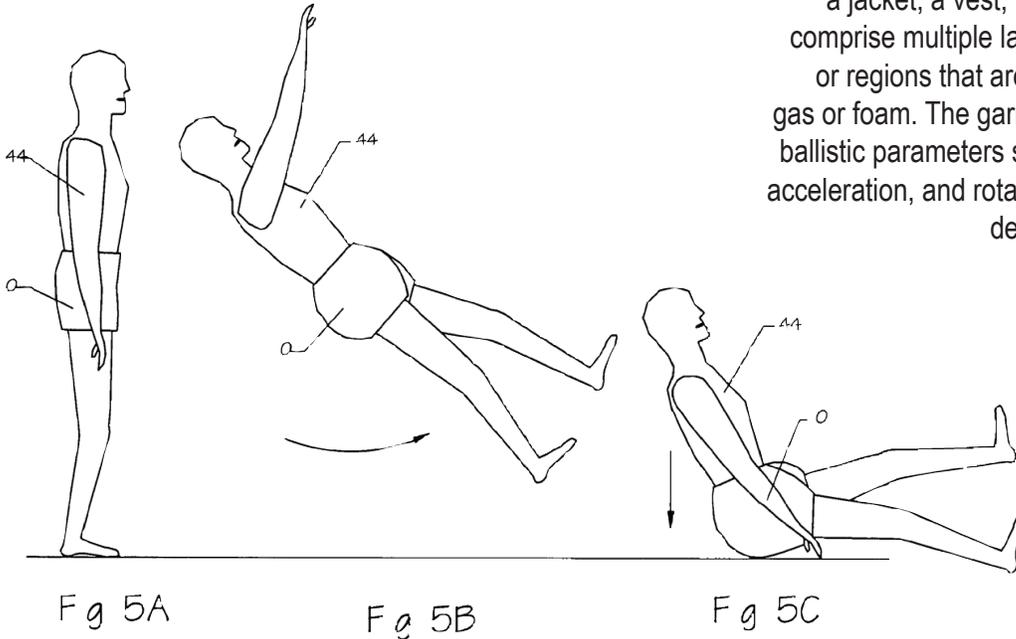
An exercise and game apparatus in which a ball having shafts attached thereto is rotatably mounted by the shafts within a hoop. Two attachment bars extend diametrically outwardly from the hoop and are secured to devices on belts around two people using the apparatus. Handles on the bars are provided to assist in steadying the apparatus as a revolving movement of the person's hips causes the ball to spin within the annular ring. Baskets may be provided on the attachment bars so that the people using the device can throw a ball back and forth, attempting to throw the ball into the basket on the opposite side of the hoop while continuing the hip movement necessary to keep the ball spinning.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day	17	18	19	20	21
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March 2009

US7017195: Air bag inflation device
 Buckman, Robert F Lenker, Jay A Kolehmainen,
 Donald J 2006-03-28

This invention relates to active protective garments which are inconspicuously worn by an individual and which activate upon certain conditions being met. Activation causes inflation of regions of the active protective garment to provide padding and impact cushioning for the wearer. The invention is an active protective garment such as pair of shorts or pants, a jacket, a vest, underwear, and the like. The garments comprise multiple layers of material that constrain pockets or regions that are inflatable by a source of compressed gas or foam. The garments also comprise sensors to detect ballistic parameters such as acceleration, distance, relative acceleration, and rotation. The sensor information is used to determine whether activation is required.



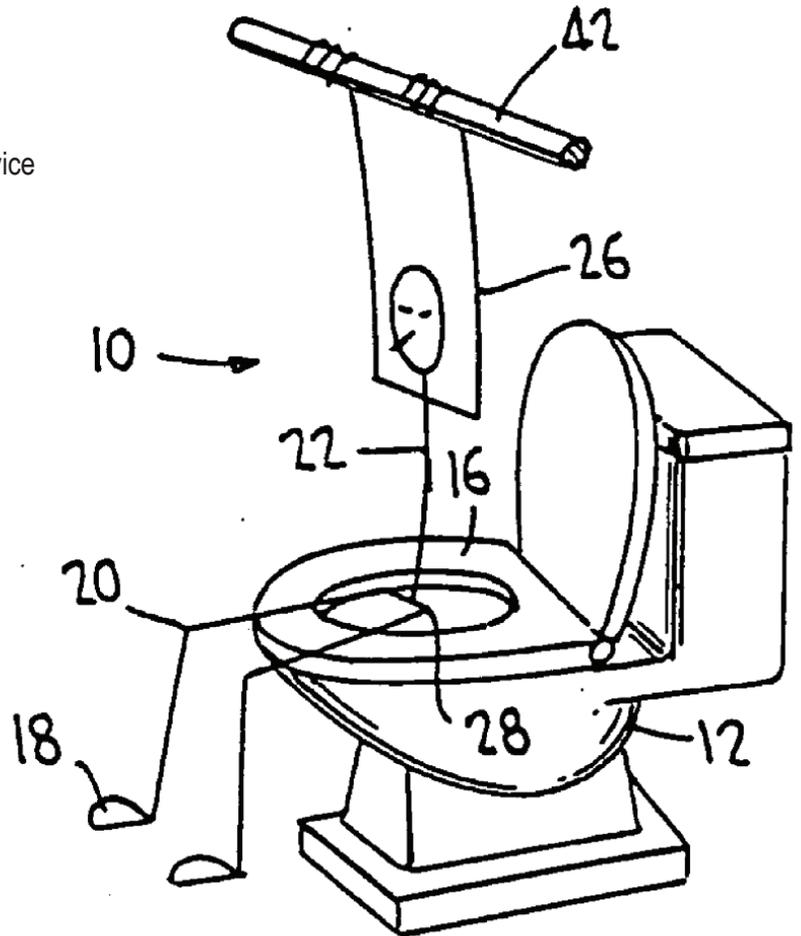
“ Success is the ability to go from on failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.”
Winston Churchill.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		St. Patrick's Day				
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April 2009

US20040177433A1: Anti-constipation method and device
 Reydell, Boris; Siyagine, Anatoly 2004-09-16

A device and method for treatment of constipation wherein a horizontal bar is positioned a sufficient distance above a toilet that a person using the toilet can passively "semi-hang". The act of passively "semi-hanging" partially removes weight from the perianal area and straightens the torso thereby unfolding the sigmoid colon, increasing the sigmoid-rectal angle and the anorectal angle to facilitate defecation.



“It may be that your sole purpose in life is to serve as a warning to others.”
Howard Aiken.

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12	13 Easter Monday	14	15	16	17 Good Friday	18
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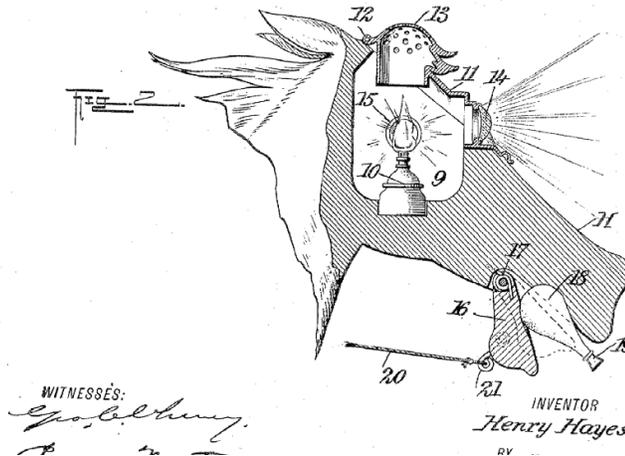
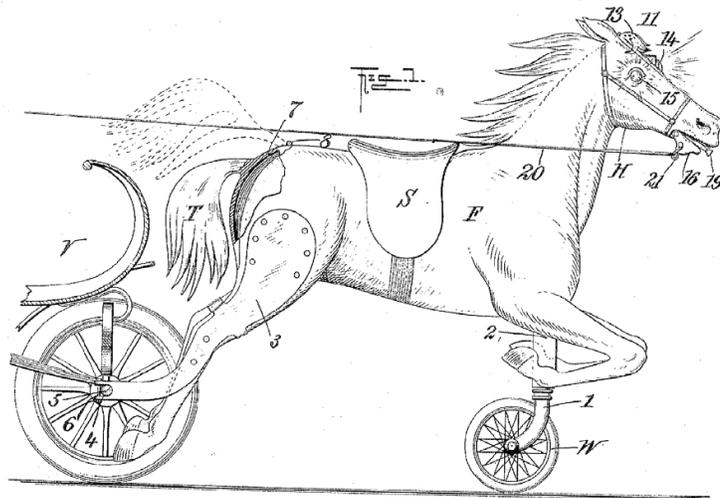
May 2009

US777360

Motor vehicle attachment.

Hayes, Henry 1904

This invention relates to an attachment for vehicles from frightening the horses attached to horse drawn vehicles upon the highways. The object of the invention is to provide a figure of an animal, preferably a horse of approximately life size, with means for attaching it to the front of a motor vehicle in such a manner to present the appearance of a horse drawing the vehicle.

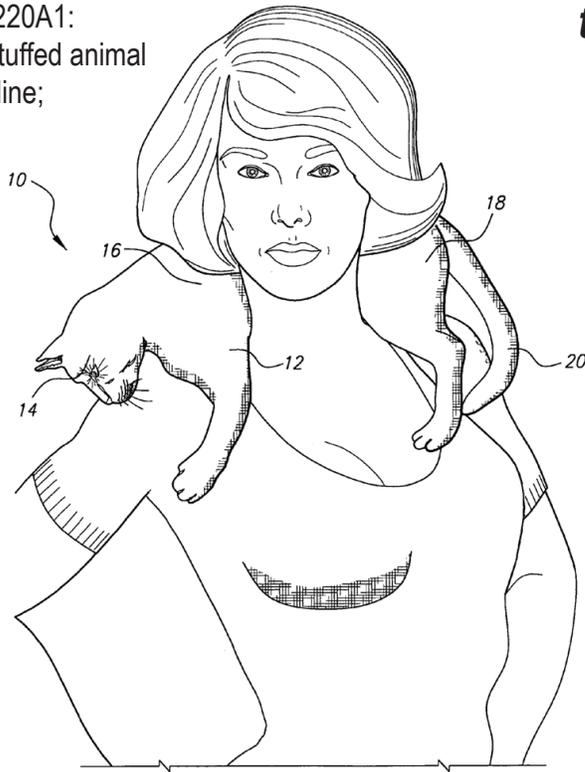


“ Just tell me, can we shovel the shit back into this horse? ”
Old Canadian saying.

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June 2009

US20050101220A1:
Therapeutic stuffed animal
Jackson, Pauline;
2005-05-12



“You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can make a fool of yourself anytime.” Anon.

The therapeutic stuffed animal of the present invention includes a stuffed animal at least partially stuffed with herbs, at least one pocket defined within the stuffed animal, and at least one reusable gel pack disposed within each pocket. The herb-stuffed animal also includes illuminated eyes, which are energized by a battery recharged by a solar cell positioned on an exterior surface of the stuffed animal. The stuffed animal may be positioned around a user's head, neck, shoulders or upon any other desired area of a user's body to provide relief to the user. The herbs in the stuffed animal emit vapors that provide various therapeutic benefits to a user. The gel pack may be cooled or warmed before insertion in the pocket to cool or warm a desired area of a user's body.

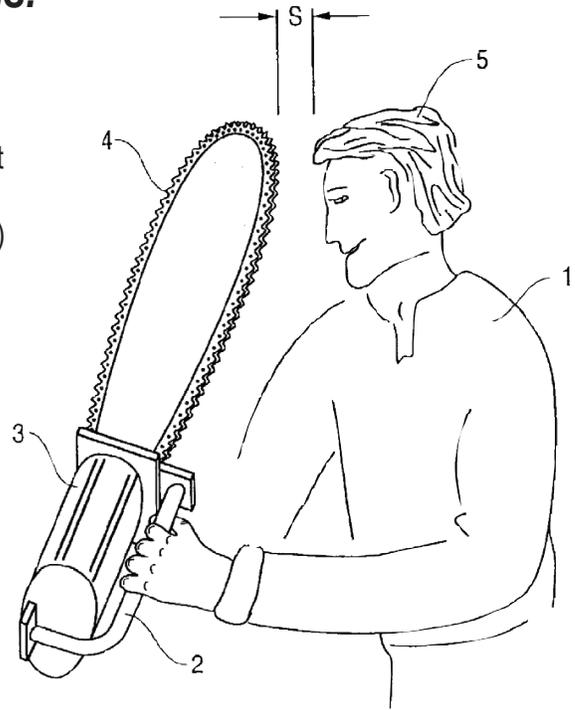
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July 2009

US5942975: Method and a device for sensing the distance between a first object and a second object
 SOERENSEN, JOERN 1999-08-24

**“A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools.”
 Douglas Adams.**

A method and device for sensing the distance between a first object and a second object so as to activate or facilitate predetermined actions when the distance has attained a certain value. A person (1) (first object) holds a handle (2) of a power tool, the handle being connected to a function generator (6) for a signal in turn connected to a unit (7) for encoding or modulating the signal. A capacitance (C1) exists between the hand of a person (1) and the handle (2). A capacitance (C2) exists between the person (1) and the active portion (4) (second object) of the tool connected to a demodulator or tone decoder (8) in turn connected to a control unit (9) incorporating the control circuitry. The control unit (9) controls the security system (10) in turn controlling the protective measures such as braking or power cut-off (11)



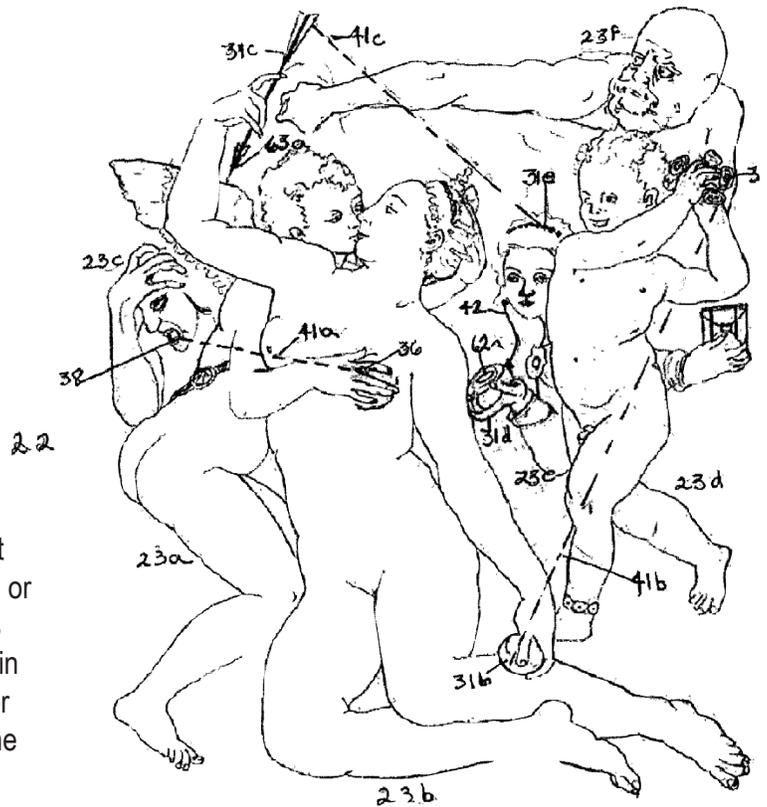
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	August 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23/30 24/31 25 26 27 28 29

August 2009

US20030083544A1:

Method and apparatus for finding love
 Richards, Catherine; Snelgrove,
 W. Martin 2003-05-01

An apparatus is presented which, carried by or embedded in a lonely or socially inept individual, communicates with like devices in such a way as to divine the likelihood of attraction due to relative sexual, social, intellectual or spiritual interests of the bearers. It may either be programmed explicitly by a trusted body, or suspect compatibility by observing and mining patterns of behaviour, environment and physiological response in the users of the said devices. The users are signaled or led to initial interaction in such a way as to maximize the likelihood of prolonged and deepened contact.



“**Love is a snowmobile racing across the tundra and then suddenly it flips over, pinning you underneath. At night, the ice weasels come.**”

Matt Groening, “Love is Hell”

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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2	3 <small>Civic Day</small>	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

September 2009

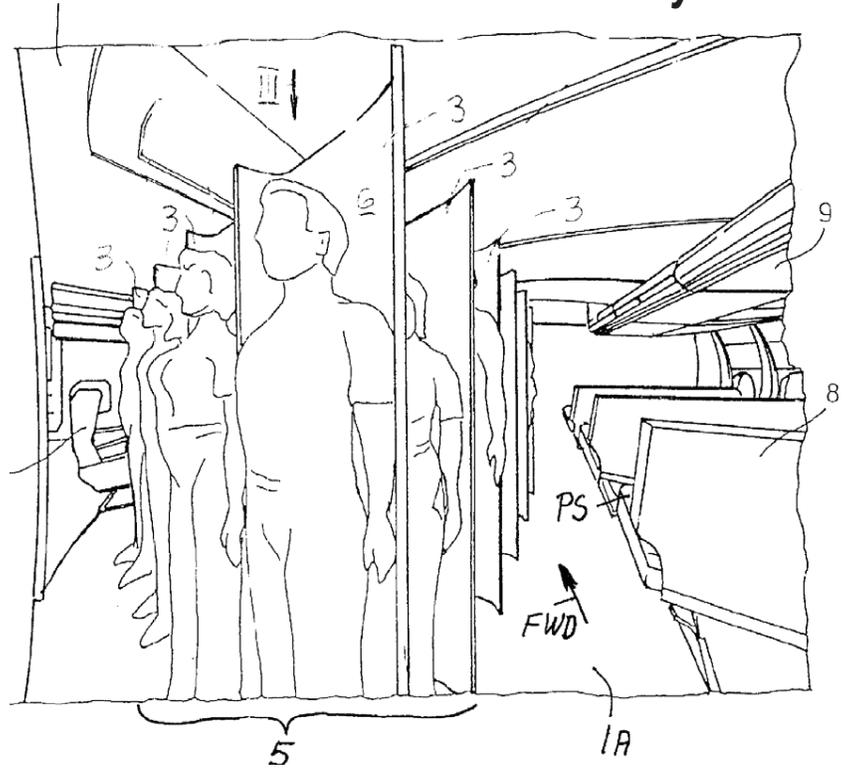
“ There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all. ”

Anonymous

US6467728: Aircraft passenger cabin with a stand for transporting a passenger in an upright position

Angerami, Jade Gaeta; Baatz, Andreas Hiesener, Stefan, Merensky, Harald;
Airbus Deutschland GmbH, Deutsche Lufthansa AG, 2002-10-22

Passengers are transported in a cabin of a passenger aircraft in an upright position. For this purpose the aircraft cabin is equipped with passenger stands. Each stand has a passenger backing and a safety belt, preferably a three-point safety belt. The stands are positioned in a standing room area of the cabin which has a sufficient vertical clearance between floor and ceiling for accommodating passengers in the upright position. The passenger backing has preferably a shell-shape forming a back support as a lean-against portion and at least one side portion for privacy.

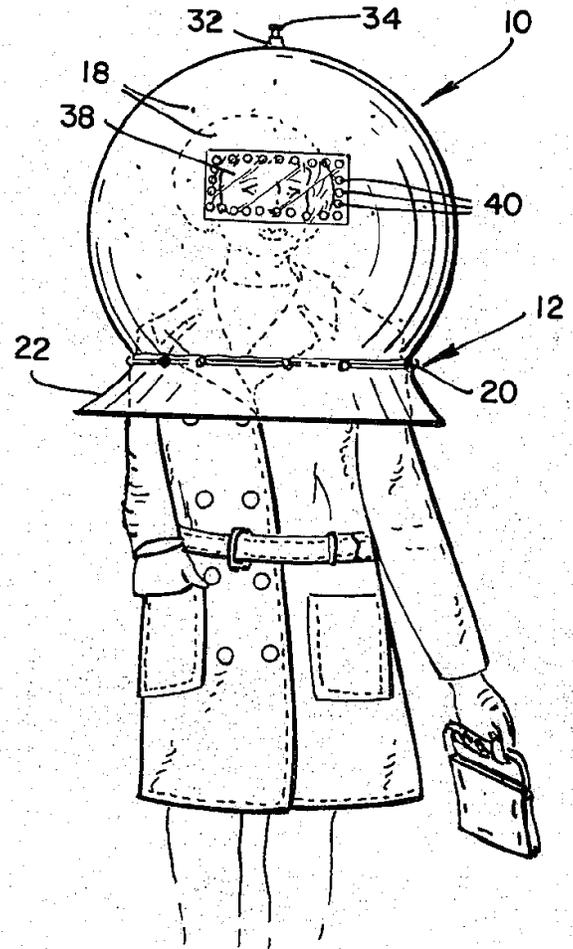


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27	28	29	30			October 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

October 2009

US3951160: Ball umbrella
Nitu, Jon E. 1976-04-20

A ball type umbrella covering the head and extending below the top of the shoulder line being held in place by a draw string arrangement. The umbrella device is double layered with means of inflation thereof providing optional inflating means at two points within and without the device. The two layers are welded at a multiplicity of points whereby the ball or globular appearance of the umbrella is substantially maintained after inflation and during use due to uniformity of air pressure throughout the interlayer space.



“ Just because something doesn’t do what you planned it to do doesn’t mean it’s useless ”
Thomas Edison.

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11	12 Columbus Day Thanksgiving Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

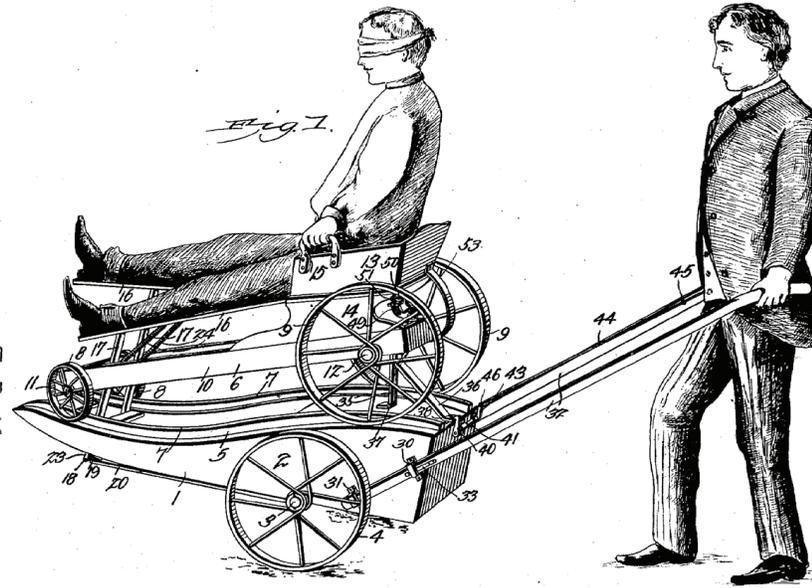
November 2009

US736704 Initiating Apparatus
Edmond and Ulysses De Moulin 1903-08-18

“Genius may have its limitations
but stupidity is not thus handicapped.”

Elbert Green

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive initiating apparatus designed for use by lodges in initiating candidates and adapted to afford considerable amusement for the spectators and at the same time be perfectly harmless to the candidate. A further object of the invention is to provide an apparatus which will enable a candidate to be given the impression of riding a goat and which will be capable deceiving the candidate as the character of the motion to which he is subjected.



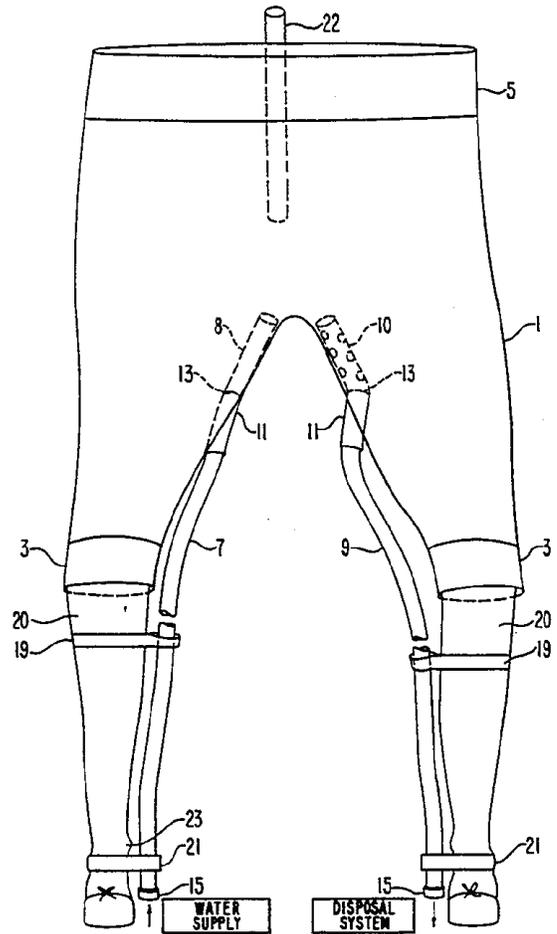
No. 736,704.
PATENTED AUG. 18, 1903.
F. & U. S. DE MOULIN,
INITIATING APPARATUS,
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1902.
NO MODEL.
3 SHEETS-SHEET 1.

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December 2009

US5334174: Personal waste disposal garments
Street, Norman A 1994-08-02

A vacuum powered personal waste garment apparatus comprising a waterproof and breathable garment having thigh bands and a waistband that are snug when worn on a patient. A first hose attached to a warm water supply on one end and the garment through a cuff at the other end to provide a fresh supply of water to the garment. A second hose attached to a wet-dry vacuum cleaner on one end and the garment through a cuff at the other end wherein the vacuum cleaner creates a vacuum within the garment so that any liquid or solid waste within the garment flows into the second hose to the vacuum cleaner.

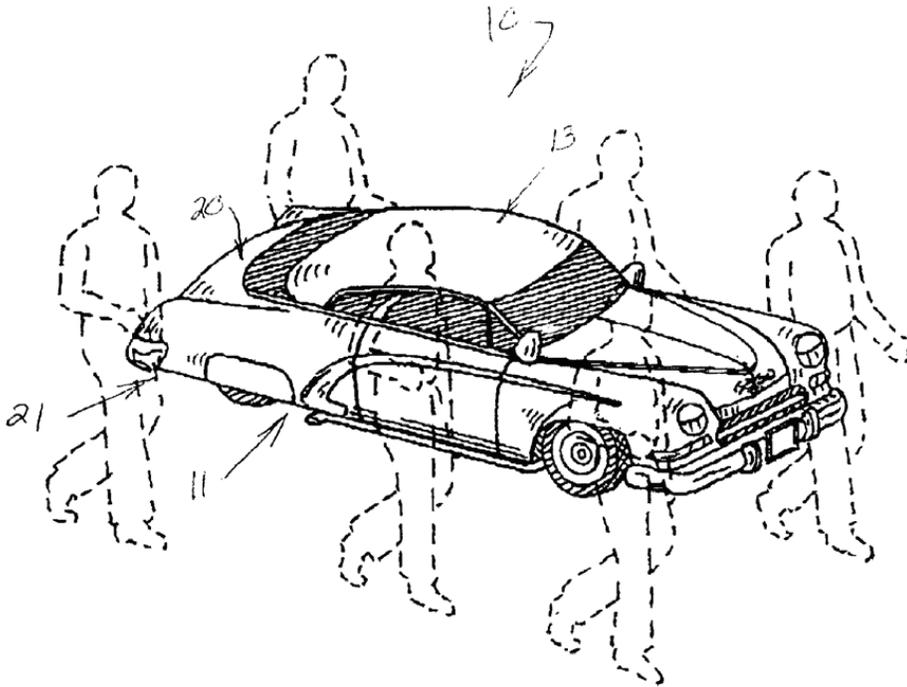


**“ In order to learn from mistakes,
you have to first recognize that
you are making mistakes ”**
Wall Street Journal

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
November 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	2	3	4	5
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						January 2010 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

January 2010

US6370744: Car shaped coffin construction
Mendez, Daniel; 2002-04-16



A car shaped coffin construction (10) including a coffin receptacle member (20) configured to represent the lower portion (21) of a stylized vehicle chassis below the vehicle chassis window line (30) and including recesses (35) formed in both the front (24) and rear (25) bumpers, as well as side exhaust pipe rails (27) which form hand grip surfaces for pall bearers, and a coffin lid member (50) hingedly connected to one side of the coffin receptacle member (20) and configured to represent the upper portion (21') of a stylized vehicle chassis. The coffin lid member (50) is provided with a simulated side view mirror (56) which serves as a handle for raising and lowering the coffin lid member (50) relative to the coffin receptacle member (20)

“ Attack life, it’s going to kill you anyway. ”
Steven Coallier

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
December 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					1	2
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