WOLFGANG RUECKER
GERMANY
wolfg.ruecker@t-online.de

June 19, 2007

PATENT NEWS especially for PLUMB BOB COLLECTORS

WR PATENT NEWS # 2007-25

US1178056 CRAIG 1916 SELF FASTENING PLUMB LINE HOLDER
US1324171 PROBST 1919 CONTAIER FOR CHALK LINES
US2472300 KEMPLIN 1946 SELF-FASTENING CORD HOLDER
US2475745 HUMLEGARD 1949 PLUMB LINE HOLDER

Today I have some examples of patented EXTERNAL WINDERS.

The first is from 1916 "SELF-FASTENING PLUMB LINE HOLDER"

Perhaps you have already seen on Ebay plumb bobs with this external winder formed of wire, but you did not know that it was PATENTED.
It is difficult to write "patented" on a wire ☺ :

My invention is a self fastening plumb line holder and the object thereof is to provide a holder for the plumb line which will support the plumb line and bob when in use without fastening. I attain this object by the holder illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 shows the holder in use, and Fig. 2 shows the naked holder.

As shown by Fig. 2 the holder is made of steel wire, having a straight winding portion, 2, several inches long and each end thereof having the wire turned into coils, 3, 3, close together. The plumb line 4 is wrapped along the straight portion and to use the holder the line is unwrapped to the desired length and fastened by being drawn through one of the coils and the holder laid down on the top of a wall or other surface with a square edge as shown in Fig. 1. The weight of the holder in this position will support the line and bob without fastening. The coiled ends also provide means whereby the holder may be held against rolling on an uneven surface.

I claim:

1. A cord holder formed of wire or the like, comprising a single straight body portion, about which the cord is wound, and closed terminal eye portions integral with the body, and having their bodies disposed in substantially the same plane, and constituting fastening means for the cord.

W. H. CRAIG.
SELF FASTENING PLUMB LINE HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 27, 1915.

1,178,056. Patented Apr. 4, 1916.

FIG. 1

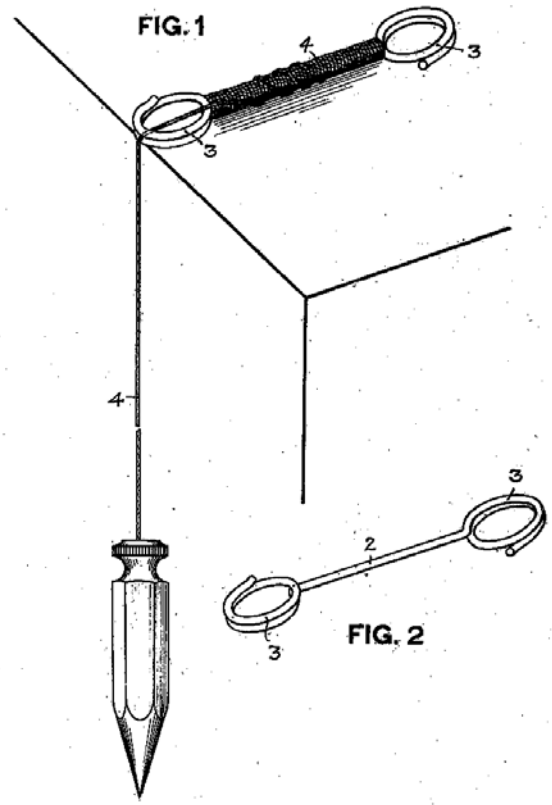

FIG. 2

WITNESSES
J. R. Keller
John F. Hill

INVENTOR
William H. Craig
By Alfred Stiller
his Attorney

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GERMANY
wolfg.ruecker@t-online.de

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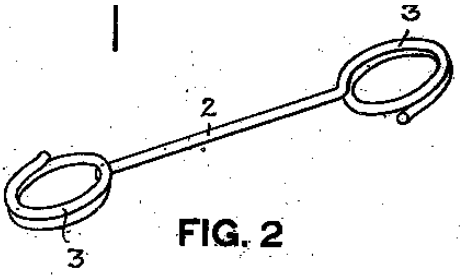
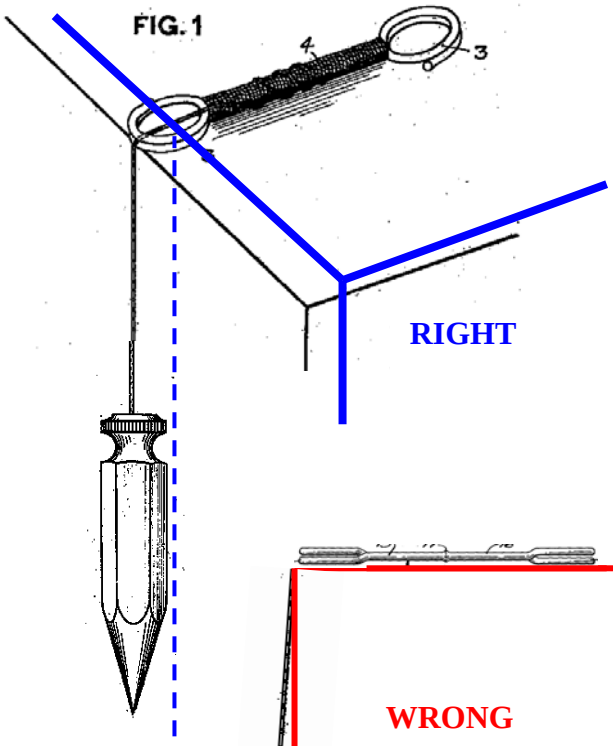


FIG. 2

As you can see the "body" is a single wire.

*1) If you will wind up a line of 10 feet (3 meters) you need more than **120 turns**! It will be late evening, when you are ready to work ☺*

*2) The other point where I don't agree with this patent is the drawing. The shown POSITION of the holder has as result a plumb bob that touches the wall. To let the plumb bob swing freely you have **to hang over** the holder minimum half of the plumb bob diameter.*

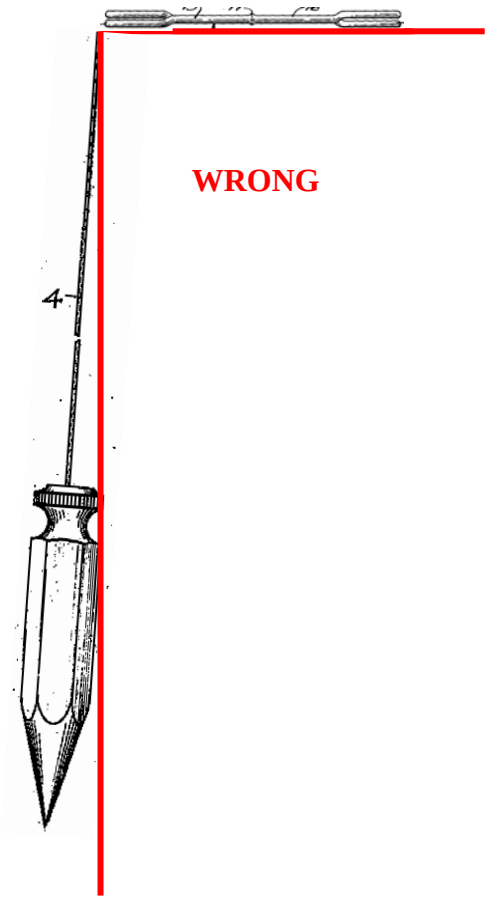


3) If you make now a calculation with the weights and distances you get as result:

*You can use a plumb bob of **maximum 120 grams** for a holder of 3 4/8 inch (9 cm) length. Under the best conditions. (Calculation on demand). My two plumb bobs have a weight of 160 and 180 grams, so it doesn't work with these plumb bobs, but with smaller ones.*

One holder of my collection that seems to be original and also the plumb bob looks like on the patent drawing.

Two other holders (the left from my collection) have a different shape, so that you can store the line with less turns, because you have two wires with a distance to store the line.



Last minute I found a patent from 1946 (30 years later) that shows a solution for the mentioned problems:

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KEMPLIN called 1946 his tool CORD HOLDER and not PLUMB LINE HOLDER!

His claim:

I claim as my invention:

A cord holder formed of a single wire and having a pair of spaced convolutions at each end connected by a straight portion of the wire on one side of the centerline of the two convolutions and parallel thereto and straight end portions of the wire extending from the pairs of convolutions into abutting relation on the other side of the centerline of the two convolutions and in spaced parallel relation thereto, the straight spaced parallel portions forming a body portion upon which the cord may be readily wound and the two pairs of the same.

RAY V. KEMPLIN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,178,056	Craig	Apr. 4, 1916
1,710,384	Sommer	Apr. 23, 1929

June 7, 1949. R. V. KEMPLIN 2,472,300

SELF-FASTENING CORD HOLDER

Filed Jan. 5, 1946

Fig. 1

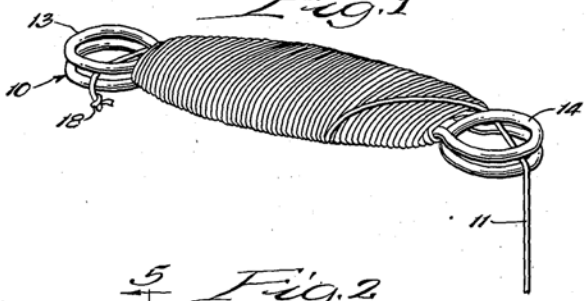


Fig. 2

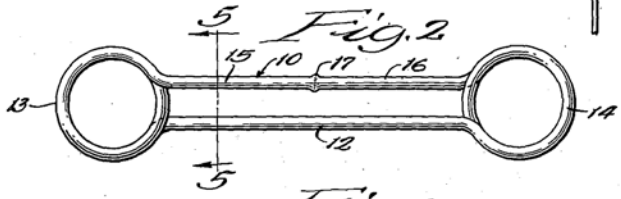


Fig. 3

WELDED POINT

Fig. 4

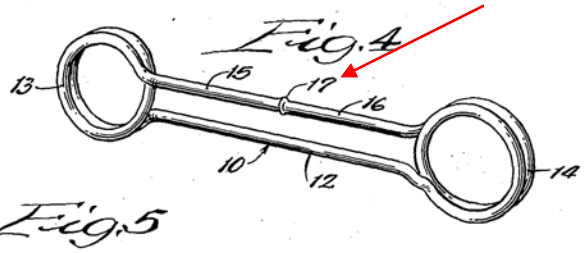
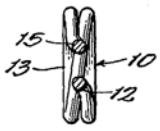


Fig. 5



Inventor:
Ray V. Kemplin,
By Dawson, Cobb & Spangler,
Attorneys.

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GERMANY
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There are a lot of other patents with external winders, but today I will present two of them only: US1324171 from 1919 and US2475745 from 1949. If anyone of you has a PICTURE of these tools, please let me know.

*For me it is very interesting to read in the patents how they describe the **actual situation (COMMON PRACTICE) before the invention:***

It is now common practice among mechanics to accumulate a number of feet of the chalk line upon the spool and secure the outer end portion, when not in use, by tying a loop at such portion and placing the loop over one end portion of the spool. Also, as a portion of the line is played out, or unwound, for use, the remaining portion about the spool is kept from unwinding by the tying of another loop in the line, intermediate its end portions, and passing such loop over the head of the spool. As a result when the mechanic is through with the line for the time being, he winds the extending portion of the cord about the spool, without first removing the second-mentioned loop, and when the line is again brought into use, say for making a line of greater length than that for which the line was previously used, the operator must first remove the end loop from about the spool, play out the line until the second loop is reached, remove it from engagement with the spool, untying such second loop, play out more line, and then form another loop after the desired amount has been played out, and place said last-mentioned loop about the spool to prevent the remaining portion of the line from unwinding. All of this takes time, and often results in a number of mechanics remaining idle while the line is being made ready for use. Furthermore, if the loops are removed from the end portion of the spool other than that end portion over which it was first placed, the line becomes knotted which is

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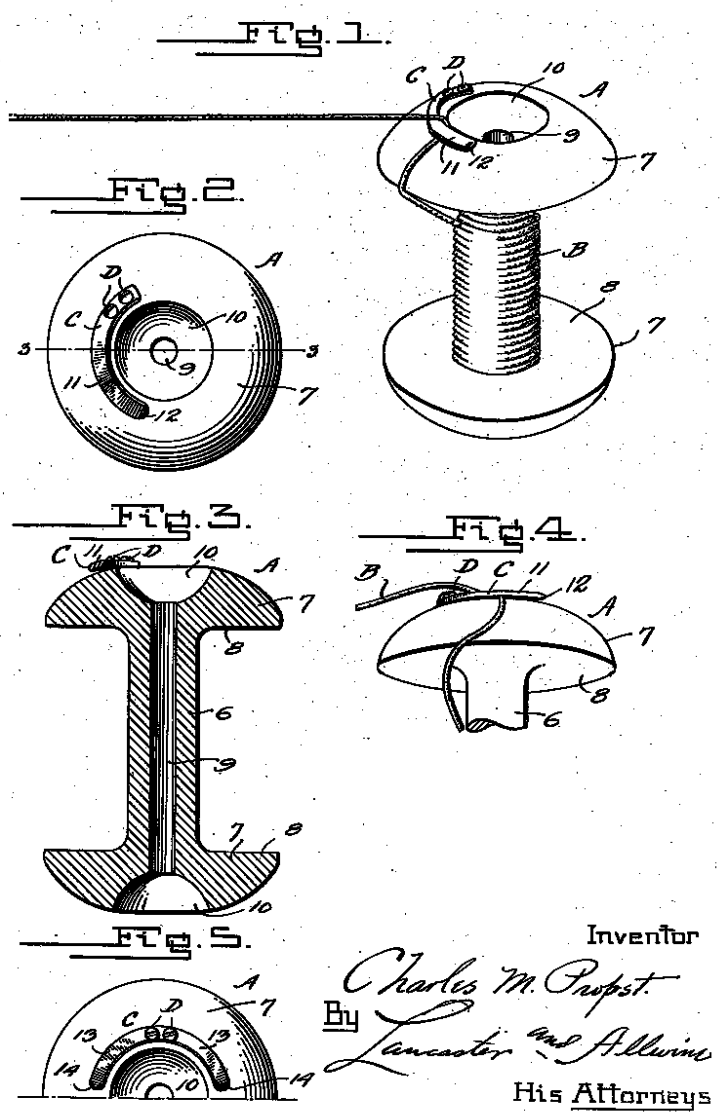
line has been played out. I am aware of the fact that cord and thread retainers have been brought into use, and that such have been patented, but my invention is particularly adapted for chalk lines, and the retainer is so shaped and positioned with respect to the spool as to not interfere with the unwinding action when the spool is grasped at ends by the thumb and one of the fingers of the hand, and also to retain the line intermediate its ends against accidental or casual displacement, enabling the mechanic to quickly make ready the desired line and in all, facilitate the operation.

C. M. PROPST.
CONTAINER FOR CHALK LINES.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 3, 1916.

1,324,171. Patented Dec. 9, 1919.



Inventor
Charles M. Propst.
By Lancaster and Allwine
His Attorneys

He believes:

From the foregoing it is made manifest that I have provided a container for chalk lines where it will not be necessary to tie loops in the line in order to secure either the end portion or any portion intermediate the ends to the spool.

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*The patent from HUMLEGARD I will show as drawing only: It is **FLAT, not round!***

July 12, 1949. K. G. HUMLEGARD 2,475,745

PLUMB LINE HOLDER

Filed Feb. 20, 1946

FIGURE 1.

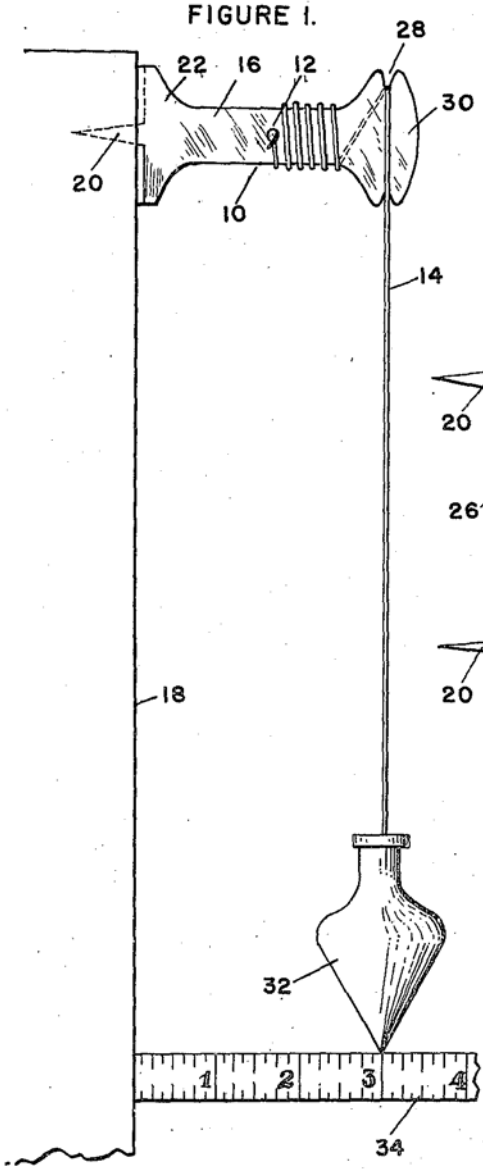


FIGURE 2.

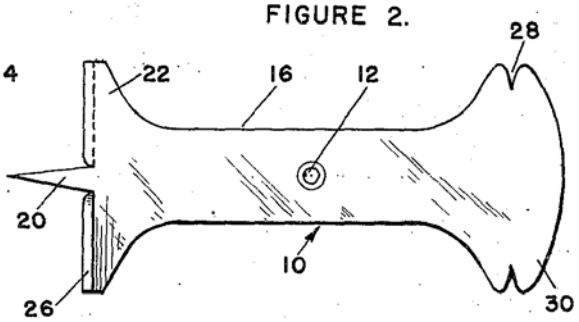


FIGURE 3.

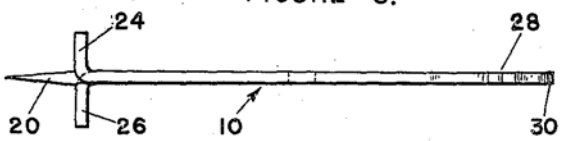


FIGURE 5.

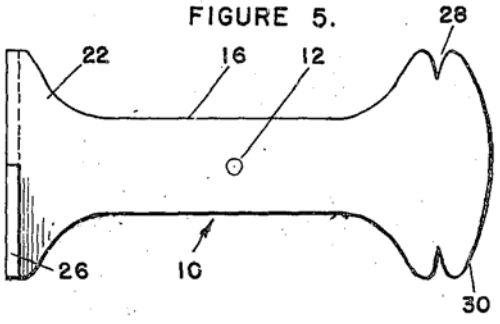


FIGURE 6.

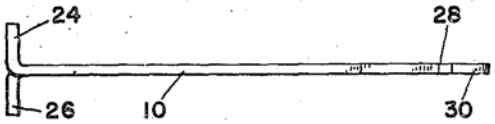
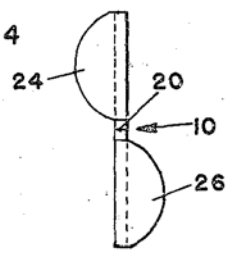


FIGURE 4



INVENTOR.

KARL G. HUMLEGARD

BY Victor J. Evans & Co.

ATTORNEYS

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GERMANY
wolfg.ruecker@t-online.de

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At least some pictures of external winders that were offered in the last times on Ebay from FRANCE, SPAIN, ENGLAND and CHINA:

*In my opinion **not very useful** is the RING to wind the line that is often used in England.*
Does anyone know why the ring is used?