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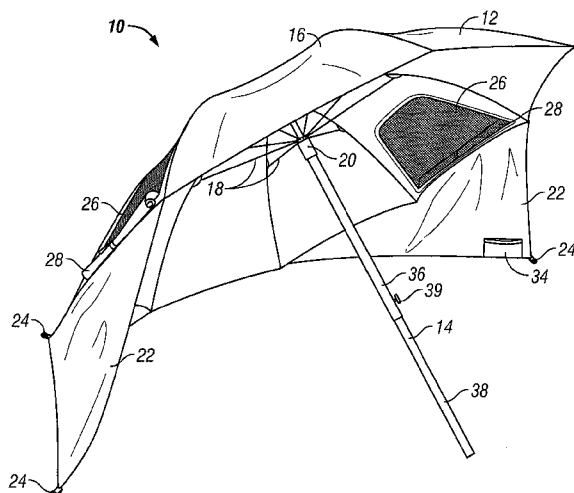


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A portable sun and weather shelter is provided. The shelter comprises an umbrella foldable between open and closed positions. The umbrella has a center post, a canopy, and a frame to fold the canopy up and down. A pair of wings are attached to the perimeter edge of the canopy and can be extended outwardly beyond the canopy so as to increase the coverage area of the shelter so as to protect two or more people from the sun and rain.

TITLE: PORTABLE SUN AND WEATHER SHELTER**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

5 This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 61/131,367 filed June 9, 2008, and U.S. Utility Application Serial No. 12/466,476 filed May 15, 2009.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 The invention is directed towards a portable pop-up shelter to protect people from the sun, wind, rain, and other weather conditions. This shelter includes wing extensions so as to increase the shelter area.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 Umbrellas of various designs are well-known for protecting people from rain and the sun. A hand-held umbrella typically protects one person from the elements, but normally is not large enough to protect additional people very well. Large umbrellas for providing shade are also commonly used on decks and patios. These larger umbrellas are mounted on a pole and typically include a large weight at the bottom for stability, or extend
20 through a table so as to be supported at the base and at a point on the pole above the base. Such large umbrellas are normally set up and maintained in one place, and are not intended to be portable for traveling with a person. However, it is often desirable to have an enlarged umbrella-type shelter which can be easily folded up and down for portability and for use by two or more people for protection from the sun and rain.

25 Therefore, a primary objective of the present invention is the provision of a portable sun and weather shelter.

 Another objective of the present invention is the provision of an umbrella-type shelter which can be quickly and easily folded up and folded down for use by one or more people.

30 Another objective of the present invention is the provision of a pop-up shelter having extendable wings for increased protection.

A further objective of the present invention is the provision of an umbrella shelter having a center pole, a canopy, and a frame interconnecting the pole and canopy, with a pair of wings attached to the canopy which extend outwardly beyond the canopy.

5 Still another objective of the present invention is the provision of an umbrella shelter having a canopy defining a primary coverage area, and one or more flaps which can be extended to define and expanded secondary coverage area.

Yet another objective of the present invention is the provision of a portable shelter which can rest upon the ground or can be set upright above the ground.

10 Another objective of the present invention is the provision of a portable shelter which can be staked to the ground for stability.

A further objective of the present invention is the provision of a portable umbrella-type shelter having a canopy with wind gust vents.

Another objective of the present invention is the provision of an umbrella shelter having at least one window in the canopy.

15 Still another objective of the present invention is the provision of an umbrella-type shelter having a canopy with a screen portion and a flap for covering the screen.

A further objective of the present invention is the provision of portable shelter having at least one storage pocket.

20 Still another objective of the present invention is the provision of portable umbrella-type shelter having a metallic under coating for enhanced sun protection.

Another objective of the present invention is the provision of portable sun and weather shelter which is economical to manufacture, and durable and safe in use.

These and other objectives will become apparent from the following description of the invention.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The portable sun and weather shelter of the present invention comprises an umbrella foldable between open and closed positions. The umbrella includes a center pole, a canopy, and a frame interconnecting the pole and canopy. The shelter further includes a pair of wings or flaps attached to the canopy and extendable outwardly beyond the canopy to increase the coverage area of the shelter. The center pole may include telescoping

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sections. Rings may be provided on the canopy to stake the shelter to the ground. The canopy also includes wind gust vents, and one or more windows or screens to provide visibility through the canopy. One or more storage pockets may be provided on the wings. The underside of the canopy includes a metallic coating for enhanced protection from the sun. The wings can be folded against the canopy and maintained by clips, or can be folded outwardly from the canopy for expanded protection from the weather.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the portable umbrella-type sun and weather shelter of the present invention resting on the ground.

Figure 2 is a side elevation view of the shelter.

Figure 3 is a front elevation view of the shelter

Figure 4 is a rear elevation view of the shelter.

Figure 5 is a front elevation view of the shelter with the center pole inserted into the ground and the canopy positioned above the ground.

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 5 from the rear of the shelter.

Figure 7 is a perspective view looking upwardly inside the canopy and showing the vents.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The sun and weather shelter of the present invention is generally designated by the reference numeral 10 in the drawings. The shelter 10 includes an umbrella 12 having a center post 14, a canopy 16, and frame members 18 extending between the canopy 16 and post 14. The outer ends of the frame members 18 are connected to the inside of the canopy 16, and the inner ends of the free members 18 are connected to a collar 20 slideably mounted on the post 14 such that the umbrella 12 can be opened and closed in a manner similar to conventional rain umbrellas. A clip or pin (not shown) on the collar 20 engages a hole (not shown) in the post 14 so as to maintain the canopy 16 in an opened condition. A button (not shown) on the collar 20 releases the clip or pin from the hole so that the collar 20 can slide downwardly along the post 14 so as to close the canopy 16.

The shelter 10 includes a pair of wings or flaps 22 sewn, or otherwise attached in any convenient manner, to the outer periphery of the canopy 16. The wings 22 can be moved from a first position adjacent the canopy 16 to a second position extending laterally outwardly from the canopy 16.

5 When the umbrella 12 is opened, the canopy 16 defines a primary coverage area. When the wings 22 are opened to the extended position, the canopy 16 and wings 22 define an expanded secondary coverage area greater than the primary coverage area.

 The wings or flaps 22 may include a ring 24 adapted to receive a stake (not shown) so as to secure the shelter 10 to the ground. Ring 24 may also be clipped to a clip 25 on the
10 canopy 16 to maintain the wing 22 in the folded up or closed position.

 The canopy 16 may include one or more windows for viewing through the canopy. The windows may be opaque plastic, or may be a mesh screen 26, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. A flap 28 is provided for covering each screen 26. The flap 28 is attached to the canopy 16 at one edge, and is moveable between a closed position covering the screen 26
15 and an open position exposing the screen 26. The flap 28 may be retained in the closed position in any convenient means, such as by a zipper or a Velcro® type fastening material.

 The canopy 16 may also include one or more wind gust vents 30, preferably adjacent the center of the canopy 16, as best seen in Figure 3. A cap or cover 32 is provided over the vents 30 to prevent rain from passing therethrough.

20 One or more storage pockets 34 may be provided in the shelter 10. For example, as seen in Figures 1 and 3, pockets 34 are provided in one or both of the wings 22 for storing small personal items. The pockets 34 may include a zipper or a Velcro® type closure.

 The center post 14 may be formed of telescoping sections 36, 38. The lower section 38 may be extended and retracted relative to the upper section 36, with a conventional
25 twist block action to maintain the selected positions of the sections 36, 38. Alternatively, a thumb screw 39 may be provided on the upper section 36 to maintain the lower section 38 in a selected position. Preferably, the upper section 36 has a length approximately equal to the radius of the canopy 16, so that when the umbrella 12 is folded down, the perimeter edge of the canopy 16 is adjacent the lower end of the post section 36, with the lower post
30 section 38 being fully retracted within the upper section 36.

In use, the shelter 10 may be opened and set upon the ground, such that the lower end of the post 14 and the canopy 16 engage the ground, as shown in Figures 1-4. The wings 22 may be extended and staked to the ground. In this opened position, two or more people can comfortably sit beneath the canopy 16 for protection from the sun, rain, or other weather elements.

Alternatively, the shelter 10 can be stood upright, as shown in Figures 5 and 6, with the lower end of the post 14 engaging the ground, and a plurality of strings 40 attached to the canopy 16 and/or wings 22 and staked to the ground so as to maintain the shelter in an upright position. The lower end of the lower telescoping section 38 may be pointed so as to be pushed into the ground to further stabilize the upright shelter 10.

The shelter 10 can be folded down when not in use, and can be easily stored within a carrying bag or case (not shown) having handles for carrying the shelter 10. The bag can also hold the stakes and string for securing the shelter to the ground 10, when not in use.

The invention has been shown and described above with the preferred embodiments, and it is understood that many modifications, substitutions, and additions may be made which are within the intended spirit and scope of the invention. From the foregoing, it can be seen that the present invention accomplishes at least all of its stated objectives.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable sun and weather shelter, comprising:

an umbrella foldable between open and closed positions, and having a center pole, a

canopy, and a frame interconnecting the pole and canopy; and

5 a pair of wings attached to the canopy and extendable outwardly beyond the canopy.

2. The shelter of claim 1 wherein the pole has a length substantially equal to a radius of the canopy and having a telescoping section to extend a distance greater than the canopy radius.

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3. The shelter of claim 1 wherein the wings include rings to stake the shelter to the ground.

4. The shelter of claim 1 wherein the canopy includes a mesh screen portion.

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5. The shelter of claim 1 wherein the wings are removable.

6. An umbrella shelter for protection from the sun and rain, comprising:

a canopy foldable between open and closed positions and having an outer perimeter, the

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open position defining a primary coverage area; and

at least one flap attached to the canopy and being foldable between a first position within the primary coverage area and a second position beyond the primary coverage area defining an expanded secondary coverage area greater than the primary coverage area.

25

7. The umbrella shelter of claim 6 further comprising a center pole and a frame extending between the pole and the canopy.

8. The umbrella shelter of claim 6 the flap includes a ring to stake the shelter to the

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ground.

9. The umbrella shelter of claim 6 wherein the canopy includes a mesh screen portion

10. The umbrella shelter of claim 6 wherein the flap is removably attached to the canopy.

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11. A collapsible weather shelter providing a coverage area for a person, comprising:
a cover;

a telescoping center shaft;

a plurality of ribs connecting the cover to the shaft, and moving the cover between open

10 and closed positions when the shaft is extended and retracted, respectfully; and

a pair of side wings connected to the cover to increase the coverage area when the cover is
open.

12. The shelter of claim 11 further comprising a plurality of cords to secure the side
15 wings to the ground.

13. The shelter of claim 12 wherein the side wings include rings to attached the cords.

14. The shelter of claim 11 wherein the side wings are removable.

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15. The shelter of claim 11 further comprising a mesh screen attached to the cover.

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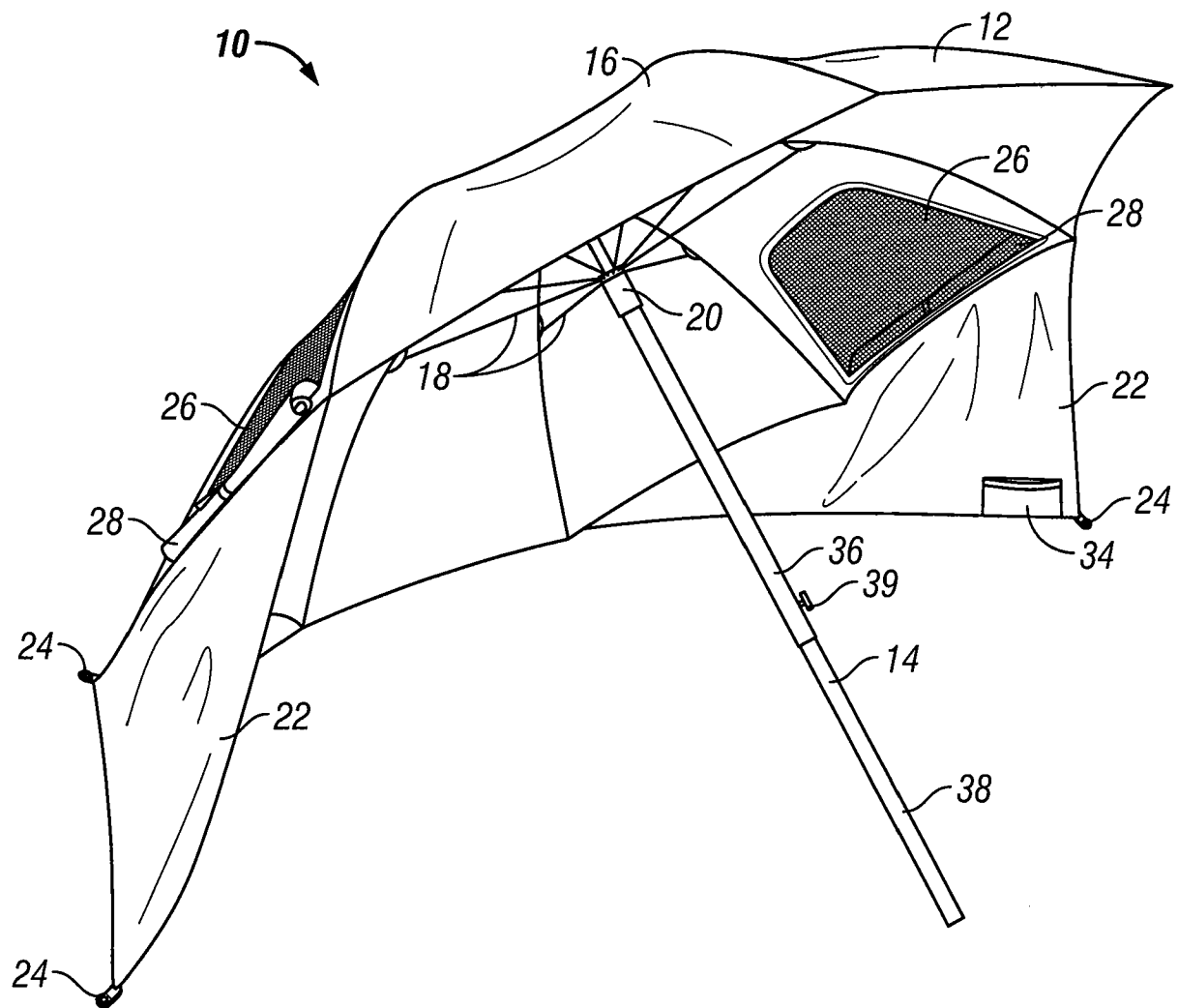


FIG. 1

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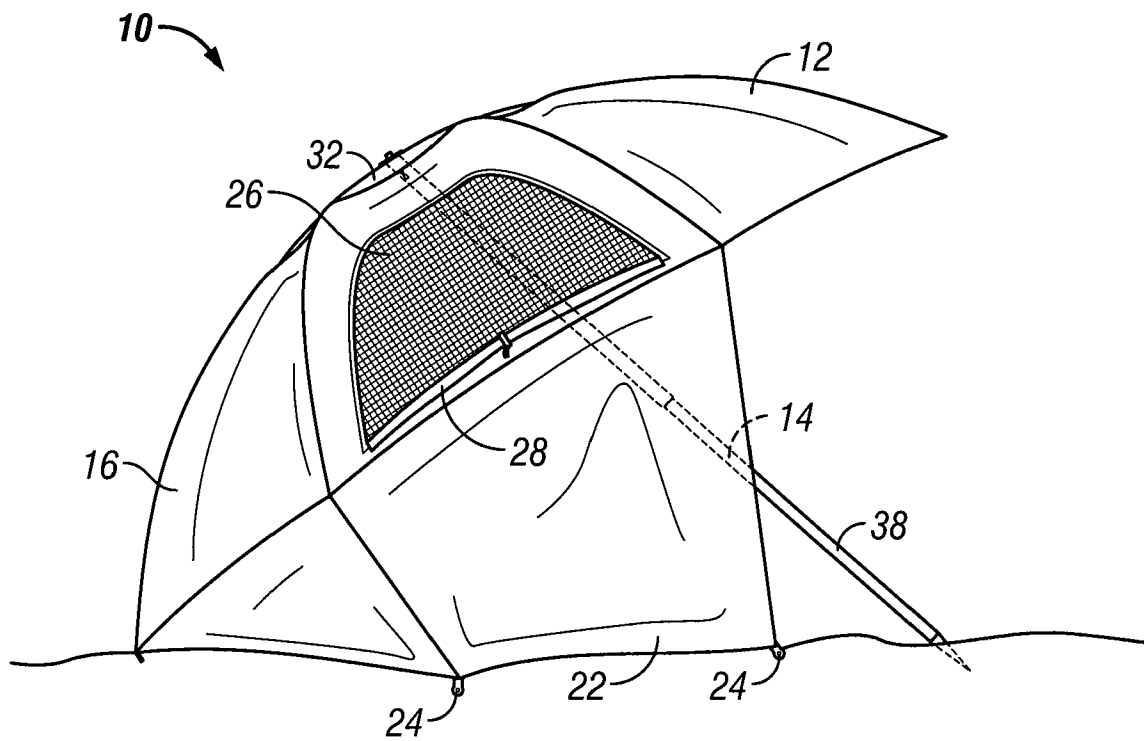


FIG. 2

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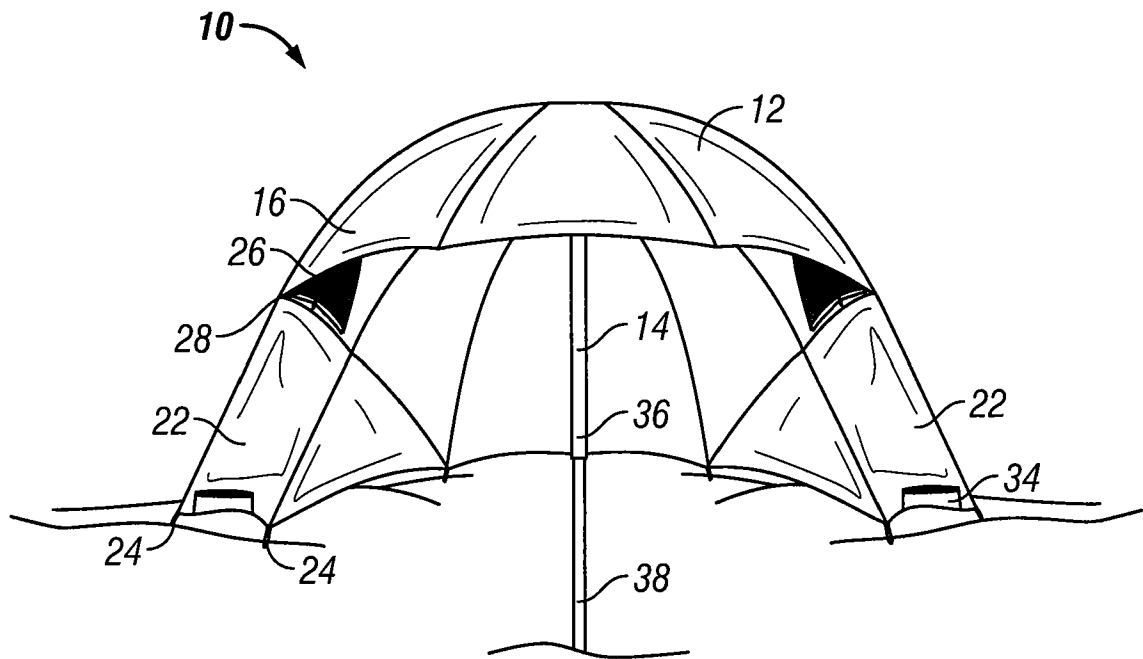


FIG. 3

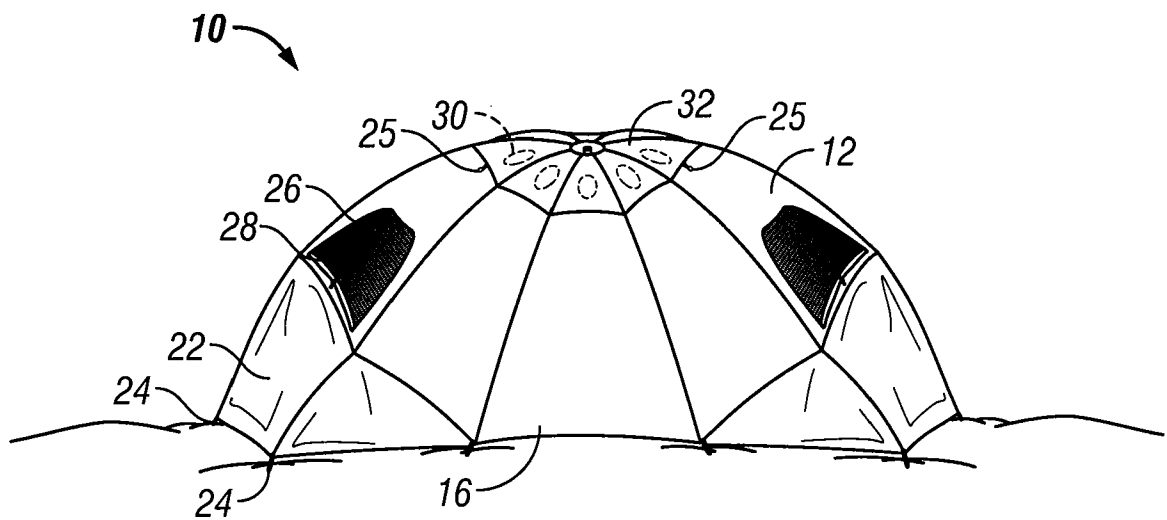


FIG. 4

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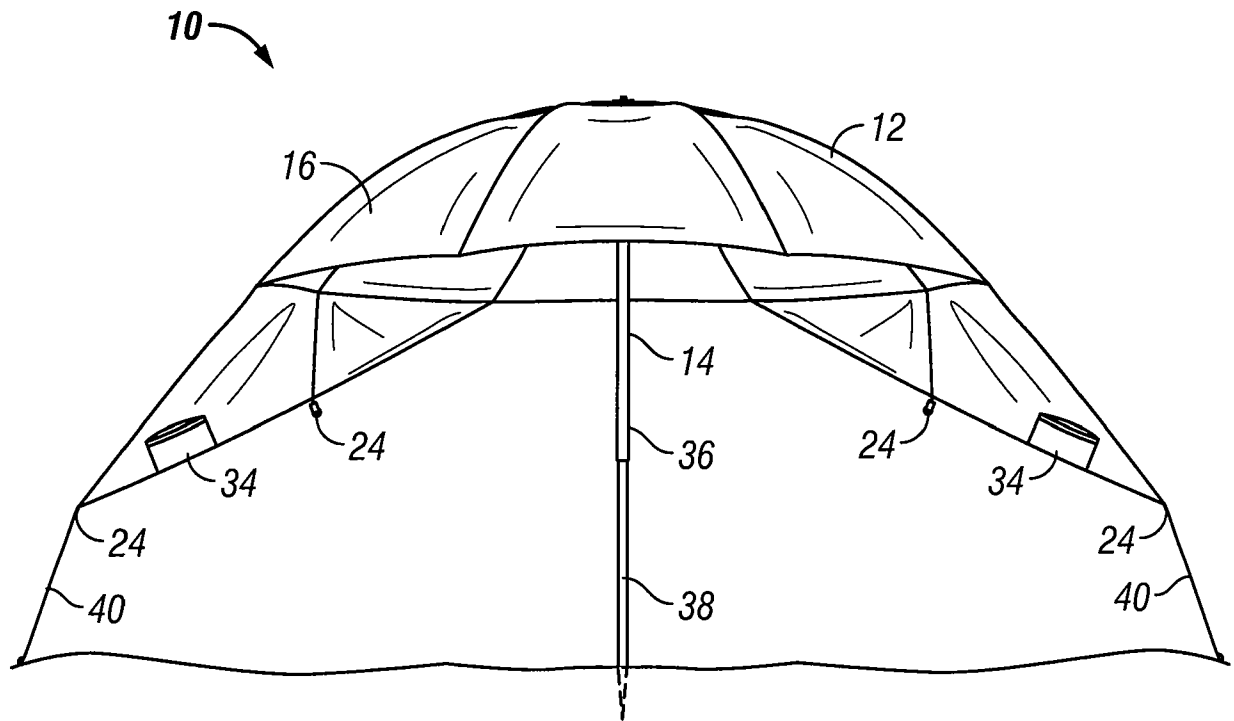


FIG. 5

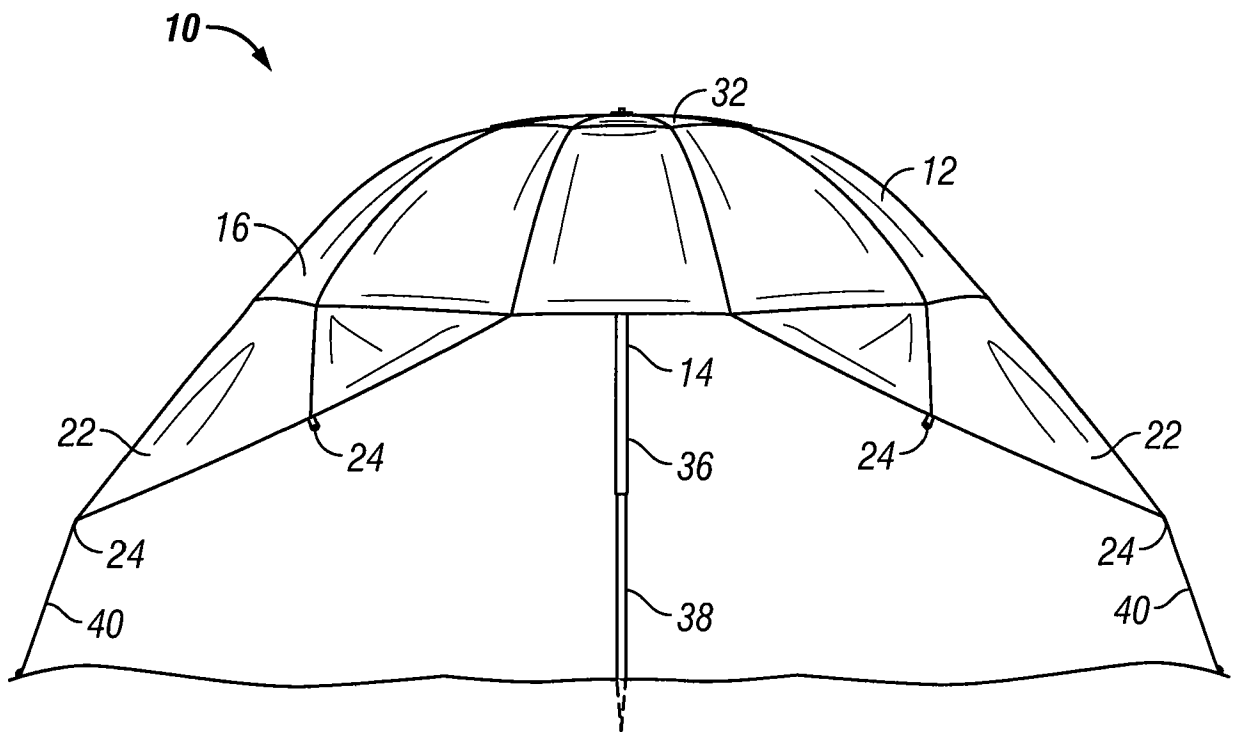


FIG. 6

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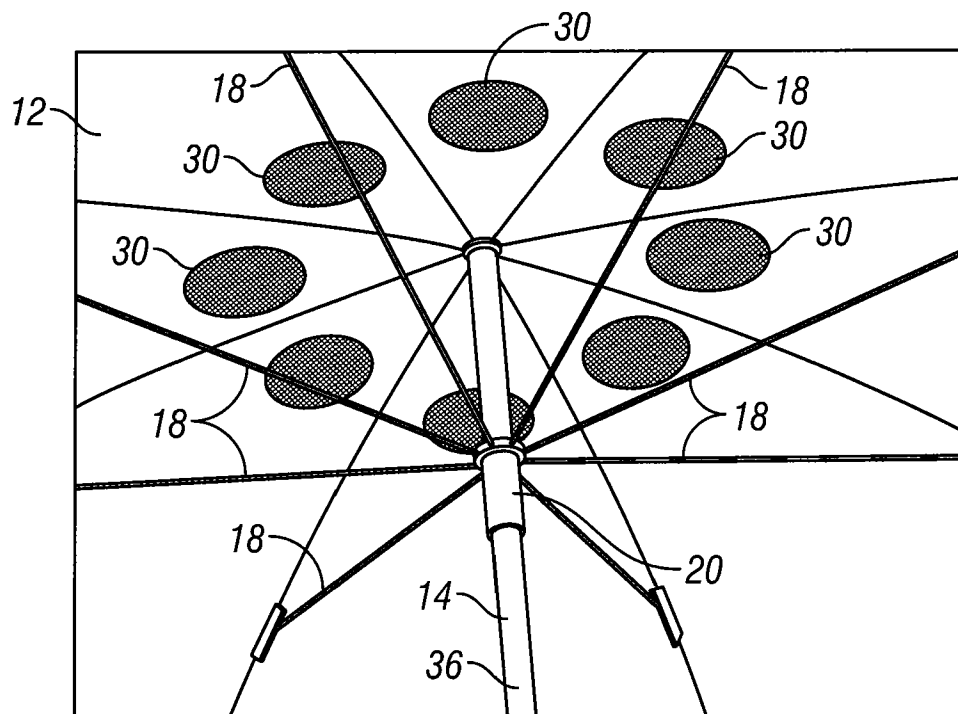


FIG. 7