United States Patent

[11] 3,581,423

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[54] **DISPLAY UNIT**
1 Claim, 3 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **40/158B**
[51] **Int. Cl.** **G09f 1/10**
[50] **Field of Search** 40/158, 158B, 152

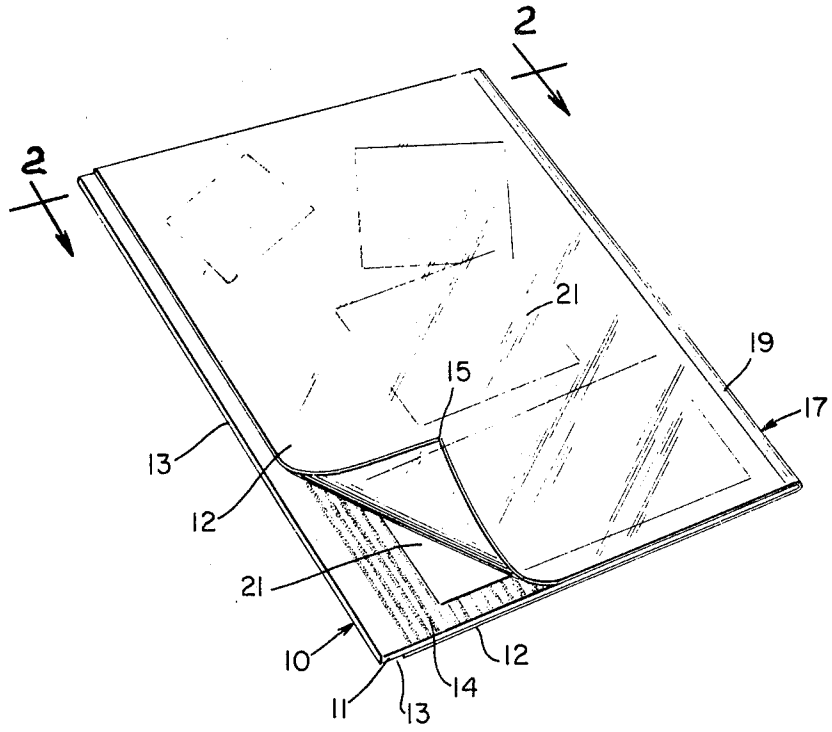
[56] **References Cited**

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3,381,402	5/1968	Ohfuji	40/158
3,386,199	6/1968	Nagatsuka	40/158

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ABSTRACT: A self-sticking page for photograph albums, production scheduling charts, presentation pages, advertising layouts and the like, wherein there is provided a board or support member having a pair of transparent sheets associated therewith.



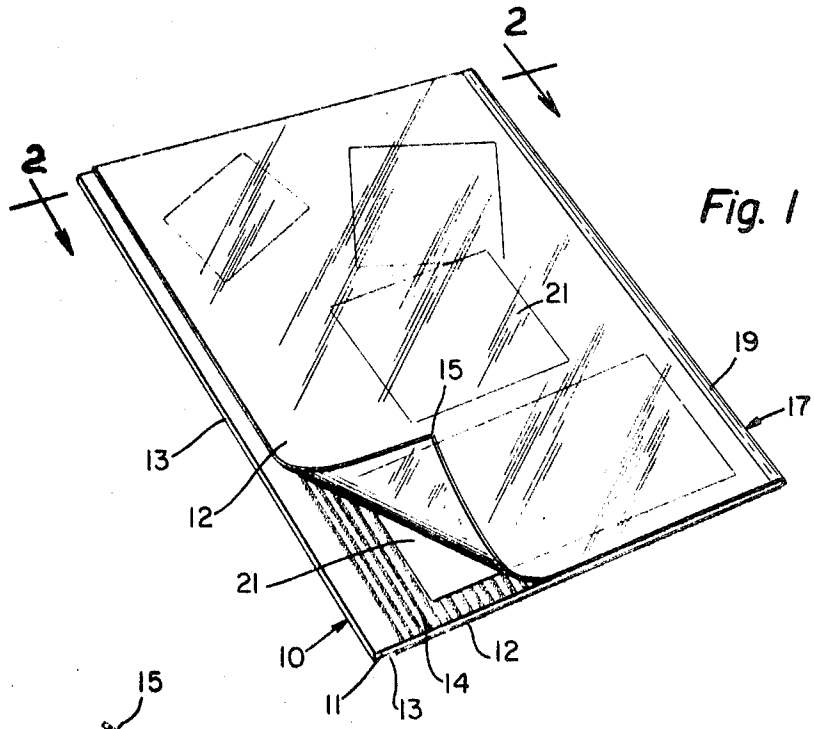


Fig. 1

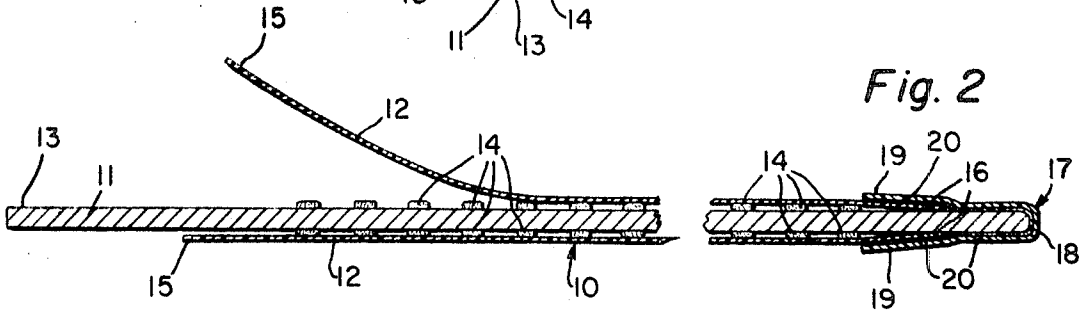


Fig. 2

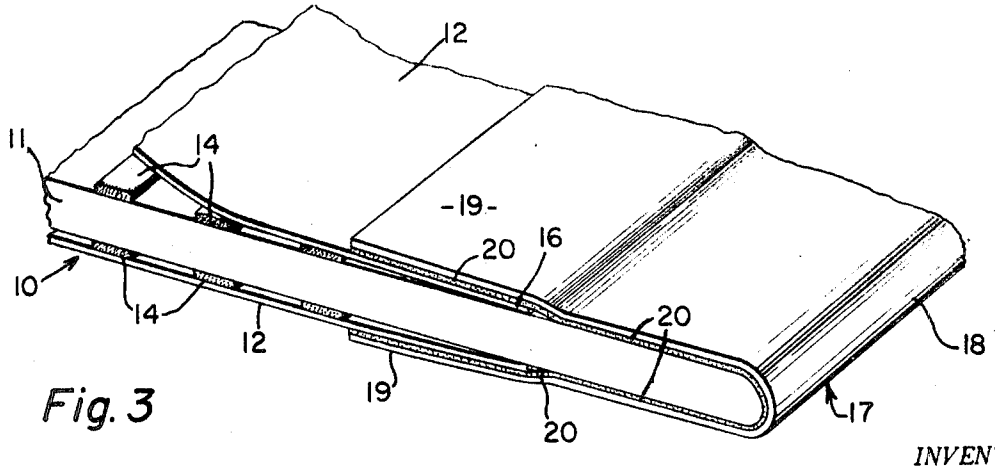


Fig. 3

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DISPLAY UNIT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention pertains to the field of Card, Picture and Sign Exhibiting, as defined in Class 40, subclass 158.

2. Description of the Prior Art

The prior art includes the following prior patents:

U.S. Pat. No. 2,283,026
U.S. Pat. No. 2,876,572
U.S. Pat. No. 2,963,809
U.S. Pat. No. 3,381,402
U.S. Pat. No. 3,386,199

Some of the differences or advantages that the present invention has over these prior patents is as follows:

The present invention uses only a single sheet of board such as cardboard which is in the form of a support member rather than a page which is folded in half and glued so that the board or support member is lighter in weight whereby an additional number of pages can be utilized in any particular capacity photograph album or the like. Also, the single thickness of board or support member eliminates the possibility of having two parts splitting apart or becoming separated due to faulty adhesion. Further, the present invention utilizes two separate sheets of transparent film which are adhered to the outside edge of the page or support member, and this construction prevents the transparent covers or sheets from being entirely peeled off of the device. Also, the transparent films or sheets overlap the adhesive on the support member, and this provides a readily accessible and a convenient finger-engaging portion to permit the sheet to be peeled back so that the adhesive surface can be exposed. The adhesive pattern can be laid down with many variations of design, and, in addition, the adhesive can be applied to materials other than board such as leather, plastic, leatherette, metal surfaces and the like.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided a display unit which can be used for various purposes such as for self-sticking pages for holding a plurality of photographs in a photograph album, and wherein there is provided a board or support member having a single thickness, and associated with the support member are two separate sheets of transparent film which are anchored to the outside edge of the support member, and wherein various types of adhesive patterns can be applied to the support member as desired or required.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing one of the display units of the present invention, and showing a corner portion of a transparent sheet peeled back from the adhesive coating on the support member.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 2–2 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary enlarged perspective view, with parts broken away illustrating certain constructional details of the anchor means for the transparent sheets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Attention is directed to the drawings, wherein the numeral **10** indicates one of the display units or photo album pages of the present invention which is shown to consist of a board or support member **11** that may have a generally rectangular formation, and the support member **11** is adapted to be made of a rigid opaque material such as cardboard having a single thickness. Each of the display devices or pages **10** further includes a pair of transparent plastic sheets **12** which are arranged adjacent to or contiguous to the opposite sides of the support member **11**, and the sheet **12** may also have a rectangular formation. As shown in the drawings, the sheets **12** are slightly smaller than the support member **11** whereby there is provided along one side or edge **13** a border that can be

punched or provided with openings for permitting a plurality of the pages **10** to be conveniently mounted in a photograph album or the like. Both sides or faces of the support member **11** are substantially coated with an adhesive **14** that may be a tacky nondrying, pressure-sensitive type of adhesive. As shown in the drawings, the inner edge or border **13** is free of the adhesive **14**. The transparent sheets **12** have their inner edges projecting slightly beyond the adhesive coating **14** so as to provide a convenient finger-engaging tab or portion **15** which may be readily manually grasped in order to permit the sheets **12** to be conveniently peeled back from the adhesive coating **14** as, for example, when articles such as the photos **20** are to be positioned in place, or removed from the area between the transparent sheets **12** and the adhesive coating **14** on the support member **11**.

The outer or opposite edges **16** of the pair of transparent sheets **12** are anchored in place by means of a single strip **17**, and the strip **17** includes an intermediate portion **18** as well as side portions **19** that overlap or surround the outer side edges **16** of the sheets **12**. The strip **17** is adapted to have adhesive **20** on its inner surfaces which affixes and secures the strip to the adjacent portion of the support member **11** as well as securing the adjacent edge portions **16** of the sheets **12** in place. The adhesive **14** on the member **11** is preferably a tacky nondrying pressure-sensitive type.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that there has been provided a photo album page or display unit, and in use with the parts arranged as shown in the drawings, one or more articles such as the photos **21** are adapted to be held in place by each of the transparent sheets **12** so that such articles can be readily viewed through the transparent sheets **12**. Due to the provision of the adhesive **14** on the support member **11**, the articles **21** will not be shifted or moved out of their proper location. Also, it is to be noted that only one edge of each of the sheets **12** is anchored in place by the strip **17** so that the major portions of the sheets **12** can be peeled away from the support member **11** in order to permit convenient placement of or removal of the articles **21** from the pages.

It is to be noted that each of the units or devices **10** consist of a support member **11** which is made from a single thickness of suitable material such as a somewhat rigid opaque material such as cardboard. In addition, both sides or faces of the member **11** are substantially coated with the adhesive **14**, and there is provided the two separate transparent sheets of film **12** which are anchored in place by the single strip **17**.

It is to be understood that the parts can be made of any suitable material and in different shapes and sizes.

It will be seen that the photo album page with the adhesive pattern, or display unit, includes two clear sheets of plastic film which are edged at one side, and wherein the sheets **12** can have the adhesive pattern **14** on the front and back faces on a single piece of board or other material **11**. The present invention does not use a folded board or support member but instead uses the single thickness for the member **12**.

By using the single sheet of material or board **11** rather than a page which is folded in half and glued, a board or support member which is lighter in weight can be utilized so that more pages can be used in any particular capacity photo album. In addition, this construction eliminates the possibility of having the two parts split apart due to faulty adhesion or the like. Also, with this construction there are used or provided the two separate sheets **12** of transparent film which are adhered or affixed to the outside of the page with the pressure-sensitive strip **17**, and this construction does not permit the transparent cover sheets **12** to be entirely peeled off. Further the taped edge **17** provides an anchor which is advantageous if the cover sheet **12** is to be lifted as far as possible across its entire width. Also, the present invention does not use heat or pressure to affix or adhere the clear film sheets to the board. In addition, the transparent films or sheets **12** overlap the adhesive **14** in the area close to the border **13**, and the border **13** is subsequently punched or the like to provide a means for receiving fasteners so that a plurality of the pages can be conveniently

bound in a photograph album or other article. This construction also permits the user to easily grasp the cover film along the inner edge **15** so that the cover sheets can be peeled back to expose the adhesive surface **14**.

It is to be further noted that the present invention permits an adhesive pattern to be laid down with many variations of design in addition to the strip arrangement shown in the drawings, and, for example, the adhesive design may have the configuration of stars, circles, numerical and alphabetical designations and the like. Further, the construction of the present invention permits an adhesive pattern to be applied to other materials besides board, such as leather, leatherette, plastic, metal surfaces and the like. In addition, the variations in materials and the patterns on which the adhesive pattern of the present invention can be applied permit the page to be used for other purposes and, for example, it can be used for display boards, production scheduling charts, presentation pages, advertising layouts and the like.

The mounting unit or display unit of the present invention includes the central pasteboard element **11** which has both of its sides coated with a nondrying tacky adhesive, and the transparent sheets **12** releasably adhere to the central member **11**, whereby the transparent sheets **12** can be readily withdrawn from attachment to the central member **11** so that a photograph or photographs or other articles can be arranged face upward on the tacky surface, and the transparent sheet over these articles serves to form a protective enclosure for the photographs, and whereby when desired such photographs can be subsequently removed and replaced. Also, it is to be noted that a plurality of the devices or pages **11** can be used to form a looseleaf binder which functions in a highly efficient manner.

When the present invention is being used in a photograph album as a mounting means for photographs, it will be noted that such photographs can be held in place without the need of using glue or corners, and whereby the photographs can be changed as often as desired. The units **10** are in the nature of self-sticking pages which hold a plurality of pictures. Photographs such as the photographs **21** can be changed as often as desired and, in addition, such photographs can be rearranged at any time and the photographs or other articles are held in place automatically. The articles will lie flat for easy viewing.

While the invention has been herein shown and described in what is conceived to be the most practical and preferred embodiment, it is recognized that departures may be made therefrom within the scope of the invention, which is not to be limited to the details disclosed herein but is to be accorded the full scope of the claims so as to embrace any and all equivalent devices and apparatus.

I claim:

1. A display unit embodying a generally rigid opaque support member consisting of a single thickness of material, said support member being of rectangular formation, a pair of rectangular flexible transparent sheets positioned adjacent to the opposite sides of the support member, said sheets having a width that is slightly smaller than the width of the support member, each side of the support member having a nondrying pressure sensitive adhesive coating thereon, said adhesive coating having a width less than the width of the transparent sheets, the inner free edges of the sheets extending outwardly beyond the adhesive when the sheets are in superposed relation with respect to the support member so that there is provided an adhesive free finger engaging tab means for facilitating the manual engagement of the free edges of the sheets in order to permit the sheets to be loosened and manually peeled away from the support member, a single strip anchoring the outer side edges of the sheets to the outer edge portions of the support member, and said strip embodying an intermediate portion as well as side portions, the intermediate portion of the strip being of arcuate formation, the side portions of the strip overlapping and surrounding the outer edge of each of the sheets, said strip having adhesive on its inner surface for fixing and securing the strip to the support member and to the adjacent edge portions of the sheets, only one edge of each of the sheets being anchored in place by the strip, the strip preventing the transparent sheets from being peeled off of the unit, said strip consisting of the sole anchoring means for the pair of sheets that are arranged adjacent the opposite sides of the support member.