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ILLUMINATED CAMP MAST

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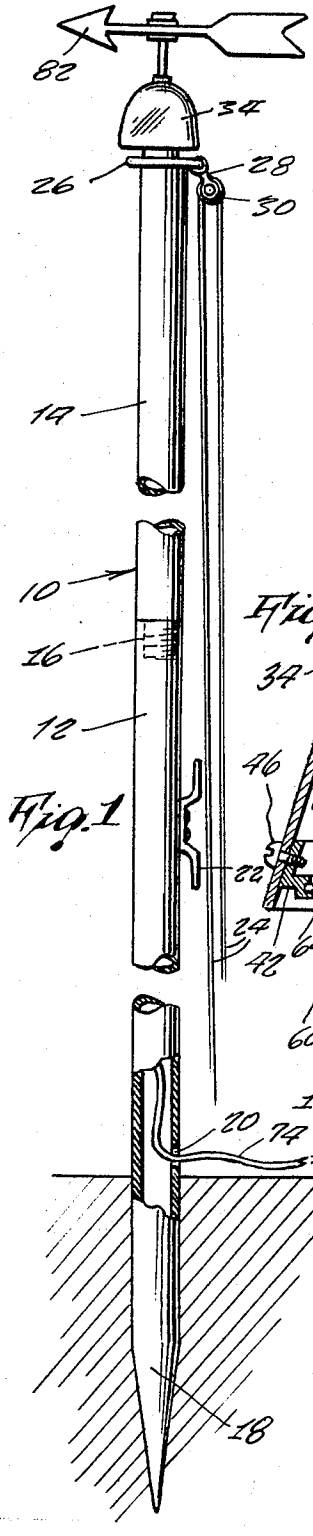


Fig. 1

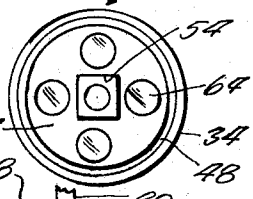


Fig. 3

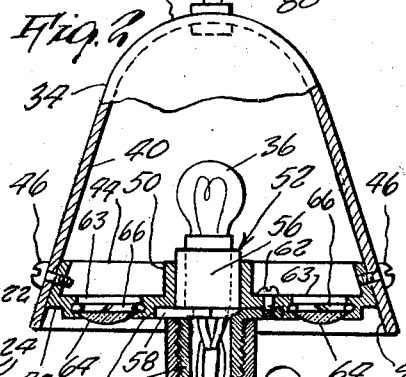


Fig. 2

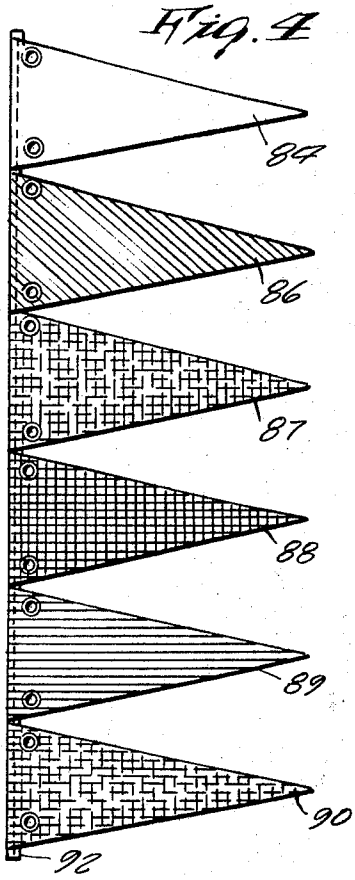


Fig. 4

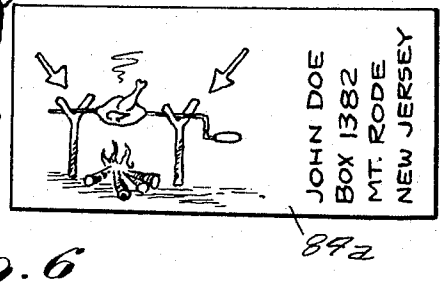


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

INVENTOR.
CALVIN E. KLINGER
BY
Carl Miller
ATTORNEY

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ILLUMINATED CAMP MAST

Calvin E. Klinger, % William Bown, 69 D. Edgewater Park, Bronx, N.Y. 10465

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mast for use by a camper at his camp site to fly one or more pennants which will identify the camper as well as signal an activity. The mast is a hollow tube having a ground penetrating point at its lower end and carrying at its top end a reflector cone including lenses and containing a light source for illuminating a pennant flying at the top of the mast. A halyard mounted on a pulley located just beneath the reflector cone at the top of the mast serves to raise or lower the pennant.

This invention relates to a mast for use at a camp site to fly a pennant that will identify the camper at the site. Other pennants may be utilized to signal a variety of camping activities, emergency, et cetera.

It is accordingly the primary object of this invention to provide a mast including a pulley and halyard for displaying one or more pennants to be flown at the top of the mast, the pennants being raised or lowered by the halyard

Another object of this invention is to provide at the top of the mast a reflector cone housing an electric light which will illuminate the pennant at night.

A further object of this invention is to provide the reflector cone with a supporting base plate which carries a plurality of lenses serving to focus the light passing therethrough directly onto the pennants flying therebeneath irrespective of wind direction.

Still another object of this invention is to provide detachable supporting means at the top of the mast to which the reflector base plate is detachably connected in a fixed non-rotative connection.

Further objects will appear as the description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the above and related objects, my invention may be embodied in the form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, attention being called to the fact, however, that the drawings are illustrative only, and that change may be made in the specific construction illustrated and described within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is an elevational view of the mast,

FIGURE 2 is a detail view partly in section of the reflector cone and associated structure at the top of the mast,

FIGURE 3 is a bottom plan view of the reflector cone,

FIGURE 4 is a combined grouping of various colored pennants for use with the mast,

FIGURE 5 shows a camper identifying pennant containing a camper's coat-of-arms and identifying data.

FIGURE 6 shows a pennant embodying the camper's colors.

Referring now to the drawings in more detail, a tubular metal mast **10** is formed in two sections **12** and **14** with the lower end of the upper section **14** provided with an extension **16** that telescopes within the upper end of the lower section **12** and preferably in threaded engagement therewith. The lower end of the lower section **12** is

provided with a tapered preferably solid end **18** to facilitate insertion of the section **12** into the ground. At a suitable point above the tapered end **18** there is provided an opening **20** in the wall of section **12** which is located above ground level for a purpose to be hereinafter described. A double hook cleat **22** is attached to section **12** for attachment of a halyard **24** (which may or may not be endless) thereto. The upper section **14** is provided at its upper end with a flange **26** on which an arm **28** carrying a pulley **30** is pivotally mounted. The halyard **24** is mounted on pulley **30**. Preferably the halyard **24** is made endless to insure that it will at all times be in engagement with the pulley **30**. While only two sections **12** and **14** are shown, assembled to form mast **10** it is to be understood that the mast may be of any desired number of sections to provide a mast of any desired length or height. The mast **10** is easily assembled and is just as easily disassembled for storage.

Mounted on the upper end of the upper mast section **14** is a reflector cone **34** within which is an electric light bulb **36**. The reflector cone **34** is formed of metal and is in an inverted position. The top or apex **38** of the cone **34** is rounded and the inside surface of the cone is provided with a reflecting surface **40**. To support the reflector cone **34** there is provided a base **42** that is circular and formed with an upstanding peripheral frusto-conical flange **44**. The base **42** is fitted within the lower open end of the reflector cone **34** such that the flange **44** is in complete abutting engagement with the inside surface of the cone, as seen in FIGURE 2. Screws **46** secure the reflector cone **34** to the flange **44** of the base. Preferably the lower end portion of the reflector cone **34** extends below the base **42** to provide a protecting shirt **48** for a purpose to be hereinafter described.

At the center of base **42** there is formed an upstanding cylindrical collar **50**. Detachably mounted on the upper end of mast section **14** is a support sleeve **52** having a lower threaded portion **54** threadedly received within the upper end of mast section **14**. The support sleeve **52** includes an upper sleeve section **56** and an intermediate integral support flange **58** that is formed square. As seen in FIGURE 2, the support flange **58** seats directly on the terminal end of mast section **14**. The base **42** on its under side is formed with a central square depression or recess **60** which is complemental in shape to that of the support flange **58** to receive the same therein. Correspondingly, the collar **50** of base **42** receives in a snug fit the sleeve section **56**. It is thus seen that the base **42** is provided a positive fixed non-rotating support on the support sleeve **52** and is detachably secured to support flange **58** by one or more screws **62**.

Provided in base **42** are four lens receiving openings **63** arranged in diametrically opposed pairs at 90° apart. Fitted in each opening **63** is a lens **64** that is held in place by a split spring ring **66**, as shown in FIGURE 2. The skirt **48** of reflector cone **34** serves as a protective shield for the lenses **64**.

Suitably mounted within sleeve section **56** of the support sleeve **52** is an electric light bulb socket **70** which electrically receives the light bulb **36**. Attached to light socket **70** are the conductors **72, 73** of an electric cable **74** which extends down through the mast **10** and out of the opening **20**. A plug **75** is attached to the outer end of cable **74** for connection to a source of electric supply. When so connected, light emanating from the light bulb **36** is reflected downwardly from the reflecting surface **40** through the lenses **64** to illuminate the area around the mast **10**.

The apex or rounded top **48** of the inverted reflector cone **34** carries a standard **80** which is rigidly secured

thereto, and rotatably supported by the upper end of the standard **80**, is a weather vane **82**.

Provided for use with the camper's mast **10** is a plurality of ensigns or pennants each varying in color and when individually mounted on the halyard **24** and positioned at the top of the mast **10** will signal a message to any camper or visitor to the camp. Thus, pennant **84** is white and may have thereon the coat-of-arms of the camper indicating that he is at this particular camp site. The pennant **84** may also have thereon the name and address of the camper as shown on pennant **84***a*, FIGURE 5. The camper may also have a pennant bearing his colors such as shown by pennant **85**, FIGURE 6. Either one or both of pennants **84***a* and **85** may be flown at one time along with any one of pennants **86, 87, 88, 89, 90**. Thus, pennant **86** when flown will signal that guests are welcome; pennant **87** when flown will signal that a party is in progress; pennant **88** when flown will signal that those in the camp are resting; pennant **89** when flown will signal that the camper is boating; and pennant **90** when flown will signal that the camper has gone fishing. Obviously other pennants differently colored, multicolored and varying in shape may be used to signal other activities, request help for emergency, et cetera. The pennants **84** to **90**, as seen in FIGURE 4, are shown mounted on a bar **92** and are individually removable therefrom for attachment to the halyard **24**.

It is contemplated that the signal message conveyed by the use of the pennants will be standardized, described in a booklet and made available to all campers.

At night with the cable **74** plugged in to a source of electric supply the pennants on the halyard **24** will be illuminated by the light passing through the lenses **64**. Where a particular camp site does not have electricity the cable **74** may be connected to an electric battery. It is to be understood that the electric light and reflector is entirely optional as the mast **10** and the pennants for use therewith may be marketed without the same.

While certain novel features of my invention have been shown and described and are pointed out in the annexed claims, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the device illustrated and in its operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A camping mast for flying one or more pennants comprising:
(a) a tubular mast,
(b) a ground penetrating tapered portion at the lower end of said mast,
(c) a base plate detachably and non-rotatably secured to the upper end of said mast,
(d) there being at least one lens receiving opening in said base plate,
(e) a lens secured in said opening,
(f) a reflector cone having an inner reflecting surface mounted in supported engagement on said base plate,
(g) a socket for an electric light bulb supported on the upper terminal end of said mast and within said reflector cone,
(h) conductor means connected to said socket extending downwardly through said mast and outwardly thereof through an opening therein above said lower ground penetrating tapered portion for connection to a source of electric supply,
(i) a pulley supported at the upper end of said mast, and
(j) a halyard mounted in said pulley for raising a pennant to the top of said mast, whereby light from the electric light bulb will be reflected downwardly from the reflector cone through said lens to illuminate the flying pennant therebeneath.

2. The mast of claim **1**, including:

(a) a support sleeve having an upper sleeve section, an intermediate radial flange and a lower sleeve section,
(b) said lower sleeve section extending into the upper end of said mast and secured therein,
(c) said radial flange seating on the upper terminal end of said mast,
(d) an upstanding cylindrical collar on said base plate surrounding the upper sleeve section,
(e) said radial flange supporting said base plate, and
(f) fastener means detachably securing said base plate to said support sleeve.

3. The mast of claim **2**, wherein:
(a) said base plate is formed with an axial recess in its under side complemental to said radial flange to receive the same,
(b) both said radial flange and said axial recess receiving the same being of polygonal form whereby said flange will support said base plate in a fixed non-rotative engagement,
(c) said base plate being circular, and
(d) an upstanding frusto-conical flange at the peripheral edge of said base plate.

4. The mast of claim **3**, wherein:
(a) said reflector cone at its apex is rounded to provide a closed top,
(b) said reflector cone being open at its lower end,
(c) said reflector cone being supported by said frusto-conical flange of said base plate engaging the inside surface of said reflector cone,
(d) removable fastener means securing said reflector cone to said frusto-conical flange, and
(e) a lower end portion of said reflector cone extending below said base plate to provide a protective shield for said lens.

5. The mast of claim **4**, wherein:
(a) said base plate is formed with a plurality of circumferentially spaced lens receiving openings,
(b) a lens seated in each opening, and
(c) detachable locking means associated with each opening for securing the lens therein and to said base plate,
whereby said lenses surround the top of the mast to completely iluminate the flying pennant irrespective of its position as determined by wind direction.

6. The mast of claim **5**, wherein said detachable means comprises:
(a) an annular groove in the wall of each lens opening adjacent to the peripheral edge portion of the lens seated in said opening, and
(b) a split spring ring positioned in each groove and bearing against the edge portion of the lens to securely hold the lens within its opening,

7. The mast of claim **6**, including:
(a) a weather vane mounted on the top of said reflector cone.

8. The mast of claim **1**, wherein said tubular mast comprises:
(a) a lower section,
(b) an upper section,
(c) a tubular extension at the lower end of the upper section having a telescoping fitted connection within the upper tubular end portion of the lower section,
(d) said lower section including at its lower end said ground penetrating tapered end portion.

9. The mast of claim **8**, including:
(a) a radial flange on the upper section adjacent the upper terminal end thereof,
(b) an arm pivoted at one end to said radial flange, and
(c) the other end of said arm rotatively mounting said pulley.

10. The mast of claim **9**, wherein:
(a) said tubular extension is externally threaded for threaded engagement with internal threads provided

in the inside wall portion of the upper tubular end portion of said lower section to provide said telescoping fitted connection.

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NORTON ANSHER, Primary Examiner

R. W. ADAMS, Assistant Examiner

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