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(54) PORTABLE, PERSONAL TABLE SYSTEM

(76) Inventor: **Lanny Gist**, Richmond Hill, GA (US)

Correspondence Address:
Bradford E. Kile
Kile Goekjian Lerner & Reed, PLLC
Suite 800
1101 Pennsylvania Av. N.W.
Washington, DC 20004 (US)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **108/26**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An adjustable, portable, personal table system for one person that holds a plate and a drink container. More specifically, the invention is directed to an adjustable, portable, personal table system fashioned with a wire base, plate holder and cup holder components, a central tubular stanchion, and a securing component connected to said stanchion for engaging a ground surface.

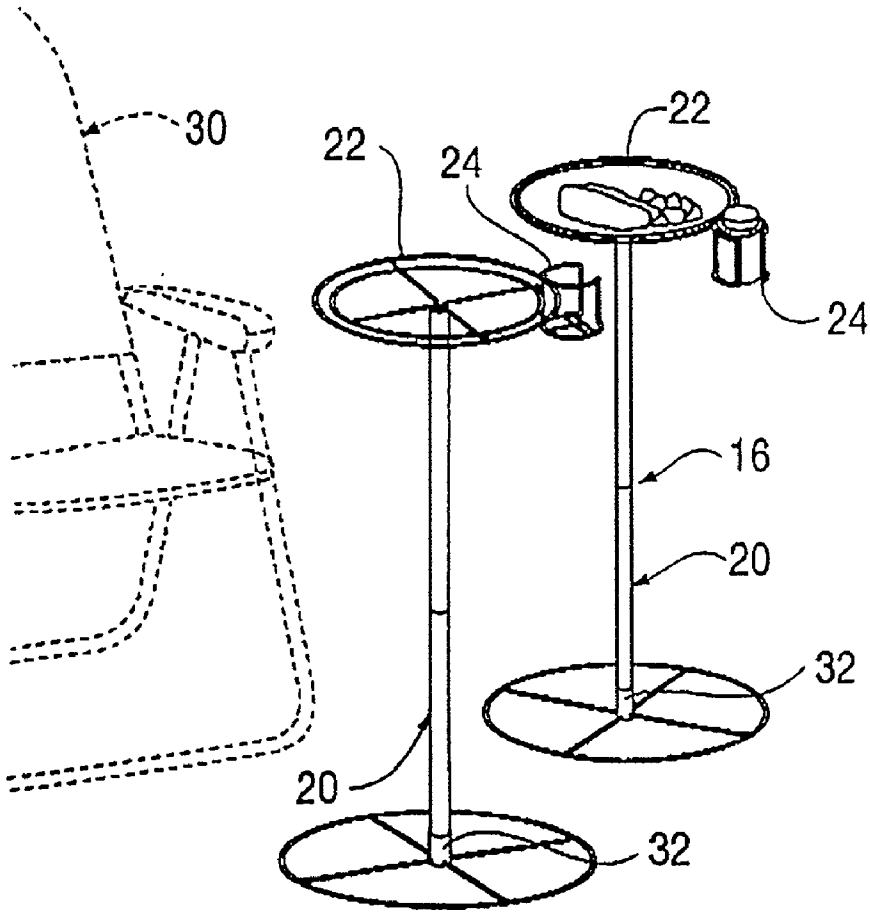

FIG. 1A

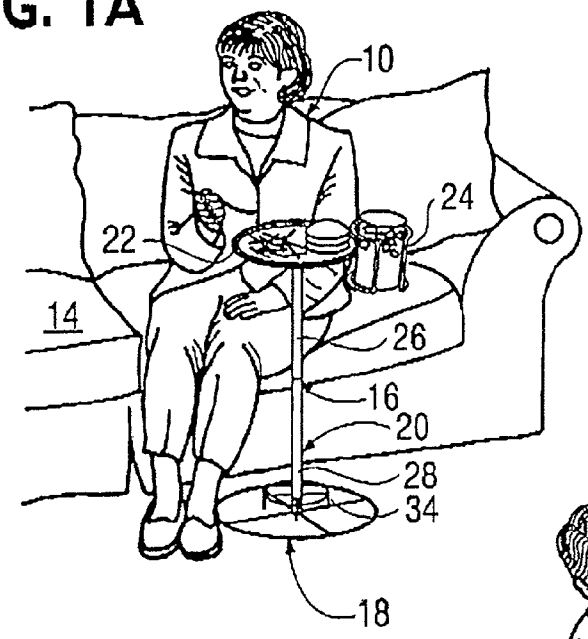

FIG. 1B

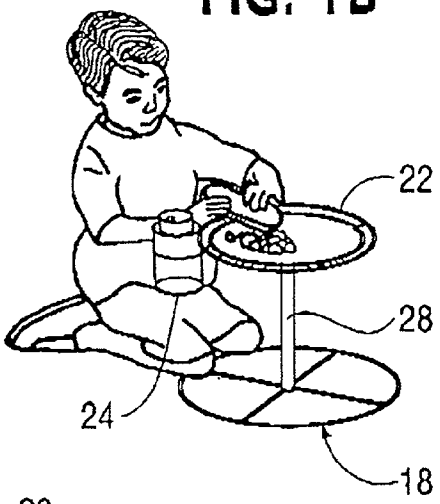

FIG. 2

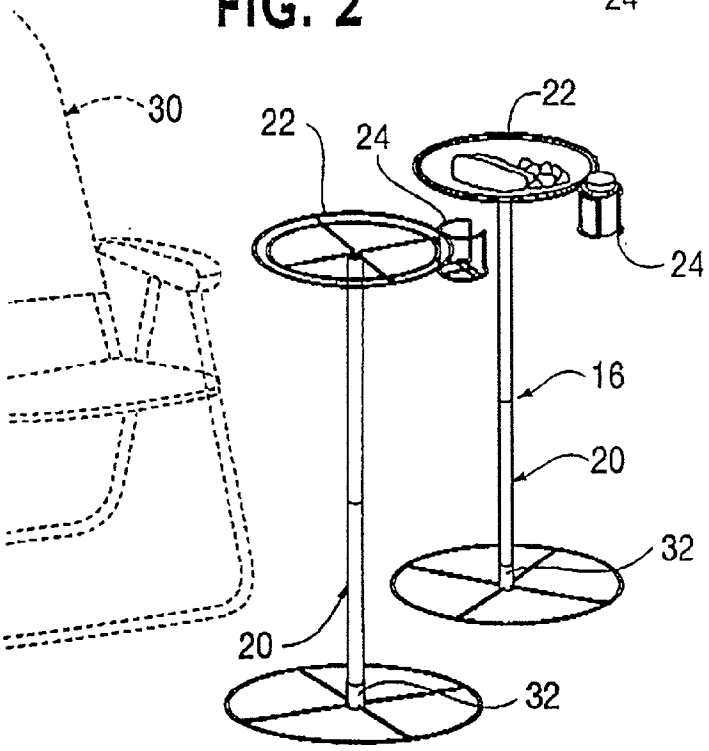

FIG. 3

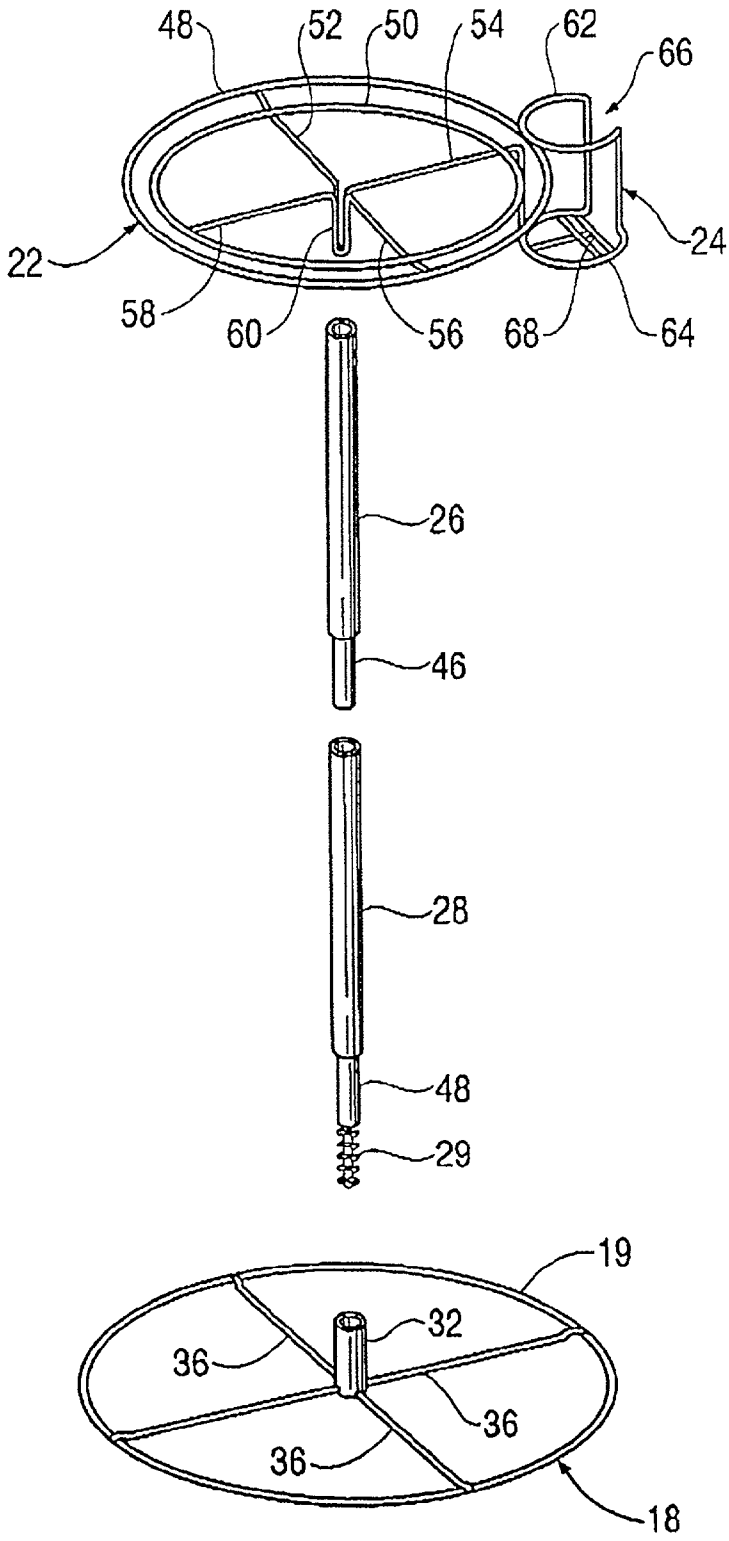

FIG. 5

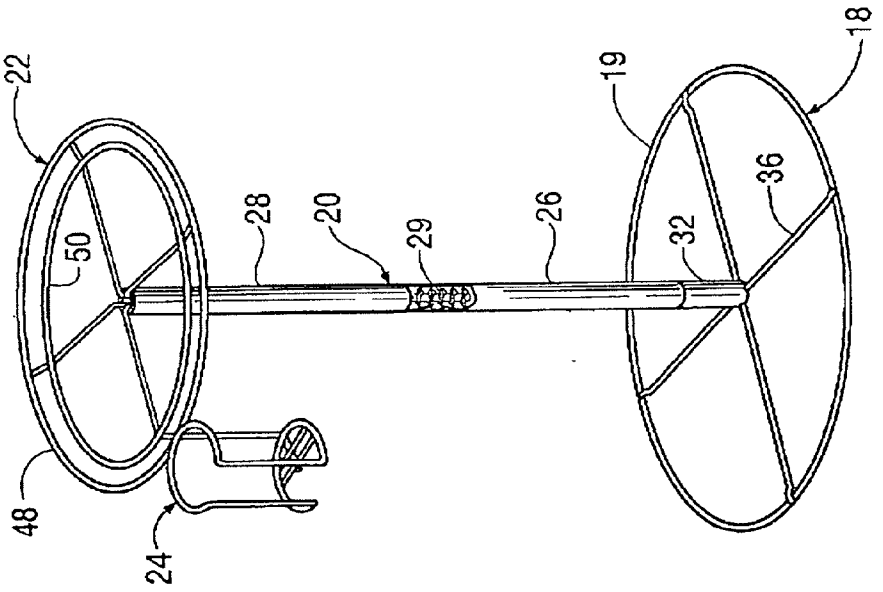

FIG. 4

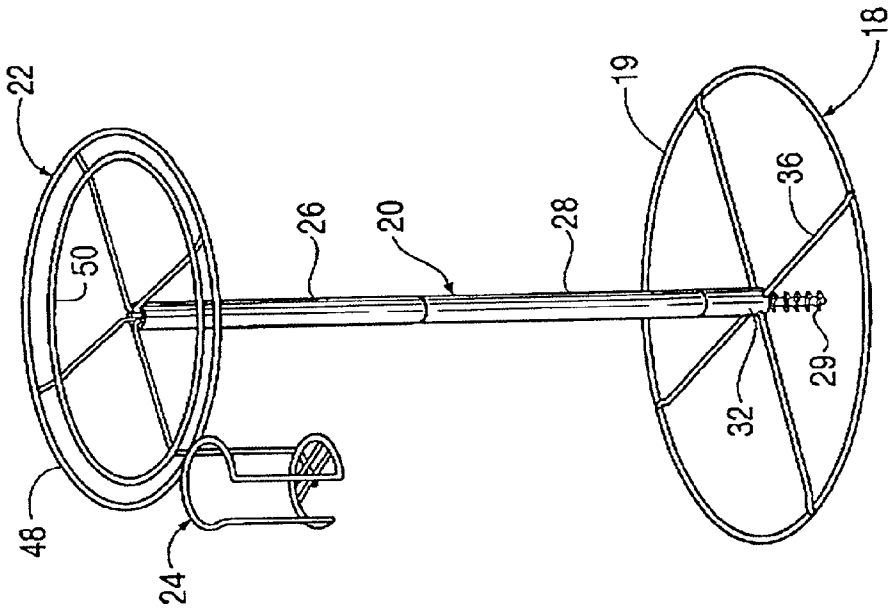

FIG. 6

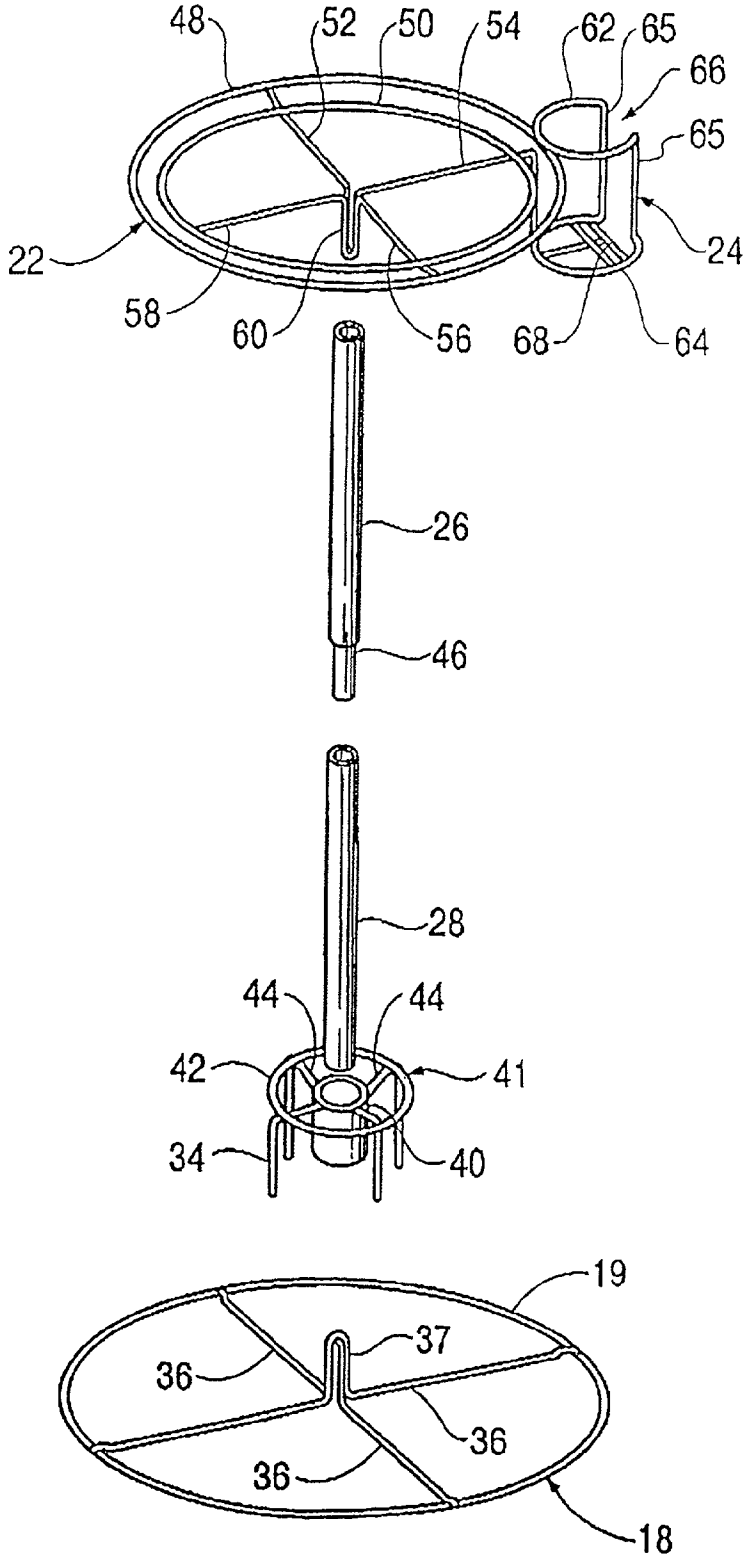
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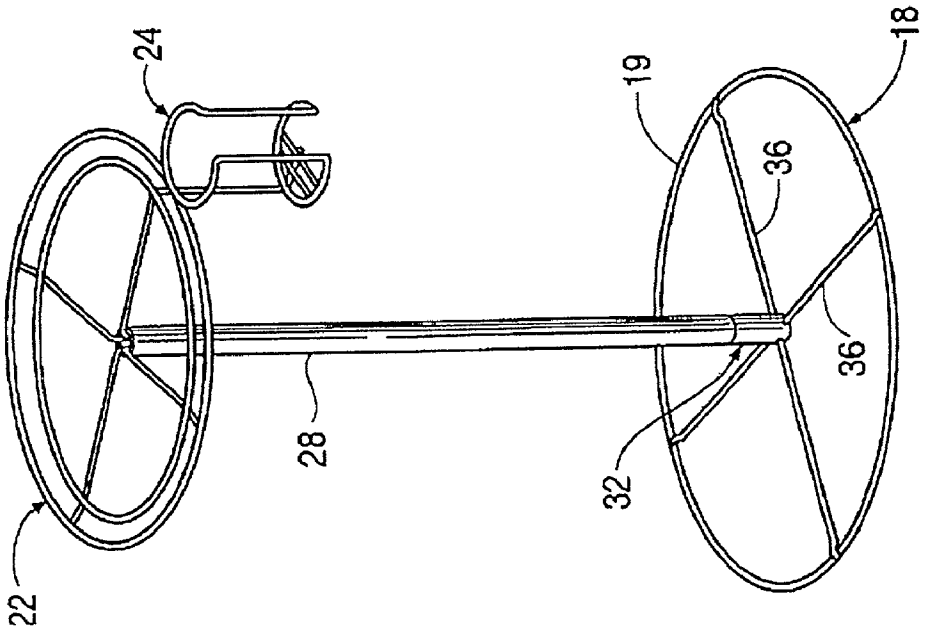
FIG. 8

FIG. 7



PORTABLE, PERSONAL TABLE SYSTEM

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application relates to and claims priority of provisional application Ser. No. 60/177,224 filed on Jan. 21, 2000.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates to outdoor grilling, picnicking and casual meal consumption where conventional table facilities are either not available or undesirable. More specifically, the invention is directed to a portable table for one person for casual dining.

[0003] Grilling out has become very popular for backyard cookouts, grilling at the beach, tailgate parties at ball games, auto races, etc. No matter where people gather for a cook out, one problem is consistent, there are either inadequate or no table facilities available. The only current resolution to the problem is to carry portable tables and chairs to the picnic site. A difficulty with this is that most passenger vehicles have limited size and space accommodations for transporting bulky items. Carrying large items also limits the remaining available space for basic necessities such as a cooler, picnic basket, etc.

[0004] Another important factor is safety. Tables, chairs and other bulky items protruding from the trunks of vehicles, held in by ropes, bungy cords, or the like, present a danger to the occupants and to other motorists. Such items can block driver vision or fall into the path of another vehicle.

[0005] An inconvenience associated with the increasing popularity of outdoor grilling and picnicking is eating from a paper plate while standing and balancing a cup on any available surface. In addition, some paper plates are quite flexible which exacerbate the balancing problem. Campers traveling in motor homes or other types of RV's also find that the complete lack or shortage of outdoor table facilities requires that they balance a plate on their lap and place their cup wherever they can. It would therefore be highly desirable to provide an individual means for safely and securely holding a paper or plastic plate and a cup simultaneously for such occasions.

[0006] If picnic food is served buffet style on a single table or a row of tables, it is awkward to handle a paper plate and a cup at the same time. Accordingly, it would be desirable to provide a system where a cup and paper plate could be retained in one hand so that it would be possible for a user to serve themselves from open dishes.

[0007] In addition, people gathered at home for a reunion or Super Bowl game need more table surface than the typical home provides for dining. Again, guests have no choice but to sit or stand wherever possible and juggle their plate and cup as best they can while eating.

[0008] Still further, many adults and children like to eat while casually sitting in a family room environment such as on a couch or on the floor while they watch television or a video. Conventional portable tables are inconvenient to set up or too flimsy to provide a stable system to hold a plate and a cup. Moreover, conventional tray tables are not vertically adjustable to accommodate a person sitting on a couch or chair and also a child that might want to sit on the floor.

[0009] The difficulties and limitations suggested in the preceding are not intended to be exhaustive, but rather are among many which demonstrate that although significant attention and energy have been devoted to improving features of indoor and outdoor dining accommodations, the features of portability, ease of assembly and disassembly, storage and flexibility of use of tables for indoor and outdoor dining in the past will admit to worthwhile improvement.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

[0010] It is therefore a general object of the invention to provide a novel, portable dining unit, for one, which will obviate or minimize difficulties and achieve desired results of the type previously described.

[0011] It is another general object of the invention to provide a novel, portable table that can be transported to and from picnic sites conveniently and safely.

[0012] It is a specific object of the invention to provide a novel, portable table that will assemble and disassemble for transport and storage in minimal space.

[0013] It is a further object of the invention to provide a novel, portable table that can be quickly assembled and or disassembled without the use of any special tools or additional equipment.

[0014] It is another object of the invention to provide a novel, portable table that will reliably hold a paper plate and cup.

[0015] It is yet another object of the invention to provide an individual, portable table that provides a cup holder device that will accommodate all sizes and shapes of drink containers such as soft drink cans, cans with insulation covers (koozies), bottles, glasses and coffee cups or mugs.

[0016] It is a still another object of the invention to provide a portable table that has a stable base or platform capable of secure use on different types of surfaces from hard flooring to sand on the beach.

[0017] It is a further object of the invention to provide a portable table that has a base that is adaptable to sandy or uneven surfaces to eliminate or minimize wobbling or tipping.

[0018] It is still a further object of the invention to provide a portable table that can be adjustable so that it can be set in a high or low position to accommodate both children and adults at two distinctly different seating heights.

[0019] It is yet a further object of the invention to provide an individual, portable table that is strong enough to withstand rigorous outdoor use while being light weight for ease of travel.

[0020] It is another object of the invention to provide a portable table that is constructed to allow for easy cleaning after use.

[0021] It is still another object of the invention to provide a portable table that after being disassembled will fit into a small storage space or compartment in a home, car or RV for storage or travel.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

[0022] A preferred embodiment of the invention which is intended to accomplish the foregoing objects includes a portable table system comprising a base; a hub positioned at the center of said base; a wire plate holder; a wire cup holder connected to the side of the plate holder; a stanchion extending between the base and plate holder; and in certain embodiments ground engaging means operable to secure the base to a ground surface.

[0023] The portable, personal table system of the present invention provides an individual with freedom to eat in different locations. The portable table of the present invention also provides a convenient means for safely and securely holding a paper plate and cup simultaneously. Unlike conventional tables, the portable table system of the present invention also has the advantages of portability and ease of assembly, disassembly and storage. Moreover, the portable table system can securely stand on a variety of surfaces both indoors and outdoors, and can accommodate users of varying heights. Unlike conventional wooden tables, which are susceptible to absorption of moisture and warping, the present invention is fabricated of durable powder-coated steel wire components, which provide support and durability for extended use indoors or outdoors.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0024] Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of preferred embodiments thereof taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

[0025] **FIG. 1A** is a schematic view of the invention (Go-Table™) stand being used at a comfortable height by an adult seated on a couch;

[0026] **FIG. 1B** is the stand depicted in **FIG. 1A**, at a lower use position operable for a child seated on the floor;

[0027] **FIG. 2** is a perspective view of the subject invention used in an outdoor environment;

[0028] **FIG. 3** is a perspective, exploded, view of the wire components of the invention, shown in suspension, as they fit together to function as a portable table for one person;

[0029] **FIG. 4** is another perspective view of the subject invention, as assembled together, with a means for securing the base in the form of an auger like screw tip operable to be turned into the ground to secure a circular base element;

[0030] **FIG. 5** is a perspective view of the subject invention for use on a hard, indoor surface with reversible stanchion elements, where one stanchion segment of the invention, with an attached auger element, is shown mounted in a top position and another stanchion segment, without the ground engaging auger, is placed in the lower position and attached to the base;

[0031] **FIG. 6** is a perspective, exploded view, of another embodiment of the invention where an anchor ring is used to secure the base to a ground surface;

[0032] **FIG. 7** is a side perspective view of the invention with an anchor stanchion element removed so that the stand extends to a height for either a child or an adult to use the subject portable table while seated on a floor or ground surface; and

[0033] **FIG. 8** is a view of another embodiment of the invention wherein a lower stanchion segment of the invention includes a tapered tip to anchor the stanchion into a ground surface.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0034] Context of the Invention

[0035] Referring now to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals indicate like parts, and particularly to **FIGS. 1A, 1B** and **2**, there will be seen the present invention in its intended operating environment. In this, **FIG. 1A** depicts an indoor family room or covered porch setting where a female **FIG. 10** is shown seated on a couch and consuming a lunch from a portable, personal table system **16** in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention. The portable, personal table system **16** includes a base **18**, an upstanding tubular stanchion **20**, a wire plate holder **22** and an attached wire cup holder **24**.

[0036] The stanchion **20** is divided at approximately its center location and includes an upper segment **26** that is telescoped into a lower segment **28**. Accordingly, if it is desirable to use the subject personal table by someone, such as a child, that would like to sit on a ground surface, the upper stanchion segment **26** can be operably removed, the plate holder **22** inserted into the top of the lower stanchion segment **28**, and the subject portable table may be facilely used at a lower elevation as shown in use by a child in **FIG. 1B**.

[0037] Another operating context is shown in **FIG. 2**. In this, the subject portable, personal table system **16** is particularly useful in an outdoor environment such as at a picnic or beach function. In this environment, the subject portable, personal table system **16** is often used in cooperation with lawn chairs **30**. When used on grass or sand, the stanchion **20** maybe fitted in one embodiment with an auger like screw or ground engaging means (shown in **FIGS. 3 and 4**) for securing the subject portable, personal table system **16** into a ground surface. Alternatively the ground engaging means can be a pointed tips or a collar with ground engaging times.

[0038] The subject invention is designed specifically to provide a convenient stable device for holding a dinner plate and cup for both adults and children while dining inside or out, at home or away, on a flat hard surface or an uneven or loose surface. The detailed features of presently preferred embodiments will now be discussed.

[0039] Portable, Personal Table System

[0040] Turning to the drawings, **FIG. 3** discloses an expanded view of a preferred embodiment comprising the components of the subject invention, including an auger like screw member or ground engaging means. **FIG. 4** shows the invention as it would be anchored into a ground surface with the auger like member, and **FIG. 5** discloses the assembled invention as it would be used on a hard surface.

[0041] As shown in **FIG. 3** (an exploded component view), the base **18** comprises a circular ring of wire **19** with a plurality of inwardly radiating wire arms or spokes **36**, coplanar with said ring **19**. The spokes extend inwardly

toward and connect to a hub member **32**, positioned at the center of said base **18**. The hub **32** is composed of a short cylindrical tube, which is operable to receive within its interior a lower portion of the stanchion segment **28**. In one embodiment, a ground engaging means **29** is positioned at a distant end of the stanchion segment **28** to extend into a ground surface.

[**0042**] The base **18**, per se, provides a stable platform for the table on hard surfaces indoors such as hardwood floors, tile, carpet and the like as well as outdoor patio and deck surfaces constructed of cement, wood, and the like. The base **18** also provides for a large measure of stability for the table on outdoor surfaces such as grass, sand and the like. In a sand environment the spokes **36** and base ring **18** may be settled into the sand to secure the stand.

[**0043**] The upper stanchion segment **26**, like the lower stanchion segment **28**, is composed of metal tubing and has the same diameter as the lower stanchion segment **28**. The upper segment **26** has a reduced portion **46** that can be fitted into a top end of the lower stanchion segment **28**. The lower stanchion segment **28** has a reduced portion **48** fits into the hub **32**. In a preferred embodiment a ground engaging means comprising an auger component **29** is axially to the reduced portion **48** of the lower stanchion. It should be noted that the use of the upper stanchion segment **26** will add sufficient height to the subject table system so that it is of a comfortable height to be used by an adult while seated in a conventional chair or couch. Alternatively, removal of the upper stanchion segment **26** will position the table's height to a lower use position for either a child or an adult seated on the floor or ground surface.

[**0044**] The lower stanchion segment **28**, with attached auger **29**, is cooperatively received within the interior of the hub **32**. The auger **29** projects beneath the plane of the base **18**, and is operable to bore into a ground surface by rotating the stanchion to provide support for the portable table system.

[**0045**] The plate holder **22** is constructed of metal wire similar to the wire of the base **18** and is comprised of two wire rings **48** and **50** having a common central axis. The outer ring **48** is larger in diameter than the inner ring **50**. The rings **48** and **50** are attached to radiating support arms **52**, **54**, **56** and **58** which are connected to the rings as shown in **FIG. 3** by the plurality of said radiating support arms. The radiating support arms **52-58** are welded to the rings **48** and **50** in such a manner that the small ring is offset in a plane slightly beneath the plane of the larger ring. This enables the upper ring to generally conform to the diameter of a conventional serving plate and the smaller, lower ring to conform to the base of the plate. The radiating wires **52-58** are bent downwardly in the center at approximately a right angle to form a downwardly extending column **60**. This column **60** is operably received within an upper portion of the stanchion segment **26** to securely support the plate holder **22** in a horizontal posture.

[**0046**] The cup holder **24** is composed of wire and is connected to the side of the plate holder **22**. A lateral wall surfaces of the cup holder is formed by wire having a C-shaped upper ring **62** and a similar C-shaped lower ring **64**. The rings **62** and **64** are interconnected by vertical rods **65** to form a generally cylindrical cup holder. A gap in the rings **62** and **64** serves as an opening **66** for the handle of a cup or mug. The upper ring **62** of the cup holder **24** is attached by means of a weld to the upper ring **48** of the plate holder **22** and the lower ring **64** of the cup holder **24** is attached to a downwardly bent extension of radiating arm **54** of the plate holder **22**. A pair of crossing wires **68** is used to provide a base for a cup positioned within the cup holder. Although the wires **68** are shown in a parallel position other configurations are envisioned such as a radiating design.

[**0047**] The plate holder **22** and cup holder **24** can be rotated one hundred and eighty (180) degrees to suit the needs of both left and right handed users. In a preferred embodiment the wire is coated with powder paint which is baked on to provide a smooth outer surface that is resistant to rust.

[**0048**] **FIG. 4** depicts an assembled portable, personal table system where the plate holder **22** and cup holder **24** are fitted into the top of the upper stanchion segment **26**. The upper segment **26** is telescoped into the top end of the lower stanchion segment **28**, and the lower stanchion segment **28** is telescoped through the hub **32**. In a preferred embodiment the lower segment **28** has attached at its posterior end an auger like ground engaging element **29**. The lower segment **28** that is fitted with the auger **29** is inserted into the upper portion of hub **32**, and the auger **29** projects beneath the plane of the base **18** to secure the base to the ground. Referring to **FIG. 5**, when it is not necessary to secure the base **18** to the ground, the upper segment **26** and the lower segment can be reversed and the auger **28** is positioned within the interior of the stanchion segment **26**.

[**0049**] **FIG. 6** depicts an alternative embodiment of the inventions. The base **18** comprises a ring of wire **19** with a plurality of inwardly radiating wire arms **36**, coplanar with said ring **19**. The arms **36** are bent ninety degrees upwardly at the center of the base **18** to form an upstanding mounting column **37**. In this, the individual upwardly bent wire components cooperatively form a generally cylindrical member which can be received within the interior of the base portion of a lower stanchion segment **28**. Although the use of four spokes **36** is preferred it is possible to use three or five, as desired to provide a stable base.

[**0050**] As shown in **FIG. 6**, the base **18** can be operably stabilized by an anchor ring **41** which is formed from wire components attach to a metal collar or hub **40**. The wire components include a ring **42** and a plurality of radiating spokes **44** which extend from the center of the anchor ring **42** and hub **40**. The radiating spokes **44** are connected to the ring **42** and are then bent downwardly ninety degrees having free ends or tines **34** operable to be releasably embedded into a ground surface for outdoor use. Application of a moderate amount of downward force on the metal ring **42** by a user's foot will serve to implant the tines into the ground or sand. The metal hub **40** at the center of said anchor ring **41** is slightly larger in diameter than the lower stanchion segment **28** and operably slides along the stanchion. When the invention is being used on a hard surface, the four (4) tines **34** of the anchor ring **41** rest on the surface of the base ring **18** as the anchor ring **41** is free to slid up on the lower stanchion segment **28**. Alternatively the anchor ring **41** can simply be removed. The combination of the base **18** and the anchor ring **41** together provide a stable platform for the subject invention. The anchor ring **41** is slidably received along the lower segment **28** and the subject invention is

operable for use in an outdoor lawn or beach environment next to a folding picnic chair.

[0051] In another operative mode the upper stanchion segment **26** is removed and the plate holder **22** and attached cup holder **24** are mounted directly into the upper end of the lower stanchion segment **28** as shown in **FIG. 7**. This form of the invention can be used by a child sitting on a floor surface watching TV as shown in **FIG. 1**. Alternatively, the anchor ring **41** can be attached and the lower elevation invention used alongside a low beach chair or the like.

[0052] Finally another embodiment of a ground engaging means is shown in **FIG. 8**. In this embodiment the lower stanchion segment **28** is formed with a generally sharp-end or spike component **31** that can operably be pushed into a ground surface to secure the base **18** to a ground surface.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ADVANTAGES OF THE INVENTION

[0053] The present invention represents an enhanced option for informal dining both indoors and outdoors. There are numerous occasions when people gather together to celebrate family reunions, birthdays, ball games and the like in their home where there is not enough seating and table space to accommodate everyone present. The portable, personal table system is very useful during these occasions as it can be set up quickly and used anywhere in the house. When not in use the subject portable table breaks down and stores away in a drawer, cabinet, closet or the like.

[0054] There are many uses for this unique invention in today's mobile society such as tail-gate parties at sporting events, camping at the beach or wherever people have a picnic table in their backyard and they are in short supply at park and campgrounds as well. As a result people are forced to sit with a paper plate in their lap and nowhere to place their cup when they are cooking out. Additionally, the portable table is manufactured from strong heavy gauge steel wire and then powder coated with non-toxic paint to protect it for many years of physical use. It is constructed to be cleaned and stored away very quickly and conveniently. Other materials such as plastic could also be used to form some or even all of the components of this invention.

[0055] A stanchion element is divided into two sections so that the height of the plate holder can be lowered by removing one section. The plate and cup holder are faciely removable from the stanchion so that a paper plate and cup can be easily supported with one hand to pour a drink or add food to one's plate with the free hand.

[0056] In describing the subject invention, reference has been made to a preferred embodiment and illustrative advantages of the invention. Those skilled in the art, however, and familiar with the instant disclosure of the subject invention, may also recognize other additions, deletions, modifications, substitutions and/or other changes which will fall within the purview of the subject invention and claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable, personal table system comprising:

a wire base operable to be disposed upon a support surface;

a hub connected to said wire base and positioned at the center of said wire base;

a wire plate holder operable to support a food plate in a generally horizontal posture;

a wire cup holder connected to said wire plate holder and being operable to support a drinking cup;

a stanchion cooperatively received at one end through said hub and connected at the other end to said wire plate holder wherein a food plate and drink cup my be operably supported above a support surface to facilitate casual personal dining; and

means connected to a lower portion of said stanchion for securing said wire base to a ground surface to provide support for said personal table system.

2. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 1 wherein:

said wire base comprises a ring of wire with a plurality of radiating wire arms operably coplanar with said ring of wire to provide a stable support for said stanchion.

3. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 2 wherein:

said wire base includes four inwardly radiating wire arms.

4. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 2 wherein:

said hub is operably connected to the radiating wire arms and is operable to cooperatively receive the other end of said stanchion.

5. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 1 wherein:

said means for securing comprises an auger screw member at a lower portion of said stanchion.

6. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 1 wherein:

said means for securing comprises a sharp end component at a lower portion of said stanchion.

7. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 1 wherein:

said stanchion is divided into two vertical sections with a lower portion of an upper section telescoped into an upper portion of a lower section at a joint intermediate the length of said stanchion.

8. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 6 wherein:

the position of said upper section is operable to be exchanged with the position of said lower section, wherein said lower section connected to said means for securing is telescoped into an upper portion of said upper section to provide for use of said table system on an indoor flooring surface.

9. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 1 wherein:

said plate holder comprises two wire rings having a common central axis, and a plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings and extending to a central position to releasably connect to an upper end portion of said stanchion.

10. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 9 wherein:

a first of said two wire rings has a first diameter slightly larger than a diameter of a dining plate and second wire

ring has a diameter less than said first diameter and said two wire rings operably form said plate holder; and

said plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings extend at approximately an angle of forty-five degrees from said first wire ring to said second wire ring.

11. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 9 wherein:

said plate holder comprises four radiating support arms.

12. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 10 wherein:

said cup holder comprises at least one vertical wire member extending between an upper wire ring and a lower wire ring of said cup holder and being operable to provide support for a drink container positioned within said cup holder.

13. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 10 wherein:

said cup holder includes at least one wire member connected between opposing edges of said lower wire ring of said cup holder and being operable to support a bottom portion of a drink container positioned in said cup holder.

14. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 13 wherein:

said cup holder includes at least two transverse wires members that extend between opposing portions of said lower wire ring and being operable to support a bottom portion of a drink container positioned in said cup holder.

15. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 14 wherein:

said cup holder comprises a single wire member extending radially from the base portion of said plate holder and bent downwardly between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring of said cup holder and extending generally across the central area of the base portion of said cup holder to operably connect to said at least two transverse wire members to form a base of said cup holder.

16. A portable, personal table system comprising:

a wire base operable to be disposed upon a support surface and comprising a ring of wire a wire hub positioned at the center of said ring of wire and a plurality of wire arms radiating from the hub to the ring of wire and operably coplanar with said ring of wire to provide a stable support for a stanchion;

a wire plate holder operable to support a food plate in a generally horizontal posture and comprising two wire rings having a common central axis and a plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings and extending to a central position;

a stanchion cooperatively received at one end within the interior of said hub and connected at the other end to a central portion of said wire plate holder wherein a food plate my be operably supported above a support surface to facilitate casual personal dining;

a wire cup holder connected to said wire plate holder and being operable to support a drinking cup and formed from a rectangle of wire and having the long side of said rectangle of wire curved to form a generally cylindrical C-shaped configuration with an upper wire ring and a lower wire ring and wherein said cup holder further comprises an open, outer lateral portion between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring; and

ground engaging member connected to a lower portion of said stanchion and being operable to engage a ground surface to provide support for said wire base and table system.

17. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 16 wherein:

said stanchion is a cylindrical rod and is divided into two vertical sections with a lower portion of an upper section telescoped into an upper portion of a lower section at a joint intermediate the length of said stanchion.

18. A portable, personal table system comprising:

a wire base operable to be placed upon a support surface and comprising a ring of wire a hub positioned at the center of said ring of wire and a plurality of radiating wire arms operably coplanar with said ring of wire to provide a stable support;

a stanchion cooperatively received at one end through said hub

a wire plate holder operable to support a food plate in a generally horizontal posture and comprising two wire rings having a common central axis and a plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings and extending to a central position to operably connect to an upper end portion of said stanchion; and

a wire cup holder connected to said wire plate holder and being operable to support a drinking cup and formed from wire with a generally cylindrical configuration with an upper wire ring and a lower wire ring and wherein said cup holder further comprises an open, outer lateral portion, between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring, and at least one wire member connected between opposing edges of said lower wire ring and being operable to support a bottom portion of a drink container positioned in said cup holder.

19. A portable, personal table system comprising:

a wire base operable to be disposed upon a support surface;

a wire plate holder operable to support a food plate in a generally horizontal posture;

a wire cup holder connected to said wire plate holder and being operable to support a drinking cup; and

a stanchion connected at a lower end to said wire base and connected at an auger end to said wire plate holder wherein a food plate and drink cup may be operably supported above a support surface to facilitate casual personal dining.

20. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 19 wherein:

said wire base comprises a ring of wire a hub and a plurality of radiating wire arms operably coplanar with

said ring of wire to provide a stable support for said stanchion connected to said wire base.

21. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 20 wherein:

said wire base comprises four radiating wire arms.

22. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 20 wherein:

said wire base comprises a plurality of radiating wire arms bent ninety degrees upwardly at the center of said base to be cooperatively received within the interior of a base portion of said stanchion.

23. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 19 wherein:

said stanchion is a tubular member and operably slides over the upwardly bent wire arms of said wire base.

24. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 23 wherein:

said stanchion is divided into two vertical sections with a lower portion of an upper section telescoped into an upper portion of a lower section at a joint intermediate the length of said stanchion.

25. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 19 wherein:

an anchor is operably connected to a base portion of said stanchion, said anchor sewing to releasably pin said wire base to a ground surface.

26. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 19 wherein:

said wire plate holder comprises two wire rings having a common central axis, and a plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings and extending to a central position to operably connect to the upper end portion of said stanchion.

27. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 26 wherein:

a first of said two wire rings has a first diameter slightly larger than a diameter of a dining plate and larger than a diameter of a second of said two wire rings of said plate holder;

a second of said two wire rings has a diameter less than the diameter of said first of said two wire rings and being operable to support a bottom portion of a dinner plate; and

said plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings extend at approximately an angle of forty-five degrees from said first wire ring to said second wire ring.

28. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 28 wherein:

said plate holder comprises four radiating support arms.

29. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 19 wherein:

said cup holder is formed from a wire member having a generally cylindrical configuration with an upper wire ring and a lower wire ring, and wherein said cup holder further comprises an open, outer lateral portion between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring.

30. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 29 wherein:

said cup holder comprises at least one vertical wire member extending between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring of said cup holder and being operable to provide side support for a drink container positioned in said cup holder.

31. A portable, personal table system comprising:

a wire base operable to be disposed upon a support surface and comprising a ring of wire, a wire hub and a plurality of inwardly radiating wire arms operably coplanar with said ring of wire to provide a stable support for a stanchion connected to said wire base;

a wire plate holder operable to support a food plate in a generally horizontal posture and comprising two wire rings having a common central axis and a plurality of radiating support arms connected between said two wire rings and extending to a central position to operably connect to an upper end portion of said stanchion;

a wire cup holder connected to said wire plate holder and being operable to support a drinking cup and formed from a generally rectangular wire having the long side of said rectangular wire curved to form a generally cylindrical configuration with an upper wire ring and a lower wire ring and wherein said cup holder further comprises an open, outer lateral portion between said upper wire ring and said lower wire ring; and

a stanchion connected at one end to said wire hub and connected at the other end to said wire plate holder wherein a food plate and drink cup may be operably supported above a support surface to facilitate casual personal dining.

32. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 31 further wherein:

an anchor is operably connected to a base portion of said stanchion, said anchor being operable to releasably pin said wire base to a ground surface.

33. A portable, personal table system as defined in claim 31 wherein: said stanchion is a tubular member and is divided into two vertical sections with a lower portion of an upper section telescoped into an upper portion of a lower section at a joint intermediate the length of said stanchion.

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