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(54) **SPATULA CLEANING ASSEMBLY**

(71) Applicants: **Joe Schmidt**, Pleasanton, CA (US); **Ray Schmidt**, Pleasanton, CA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Joe Schmidt**, Pleasanton, CA (US); **Ray Schmidt**, Pleasanton, CA (US)

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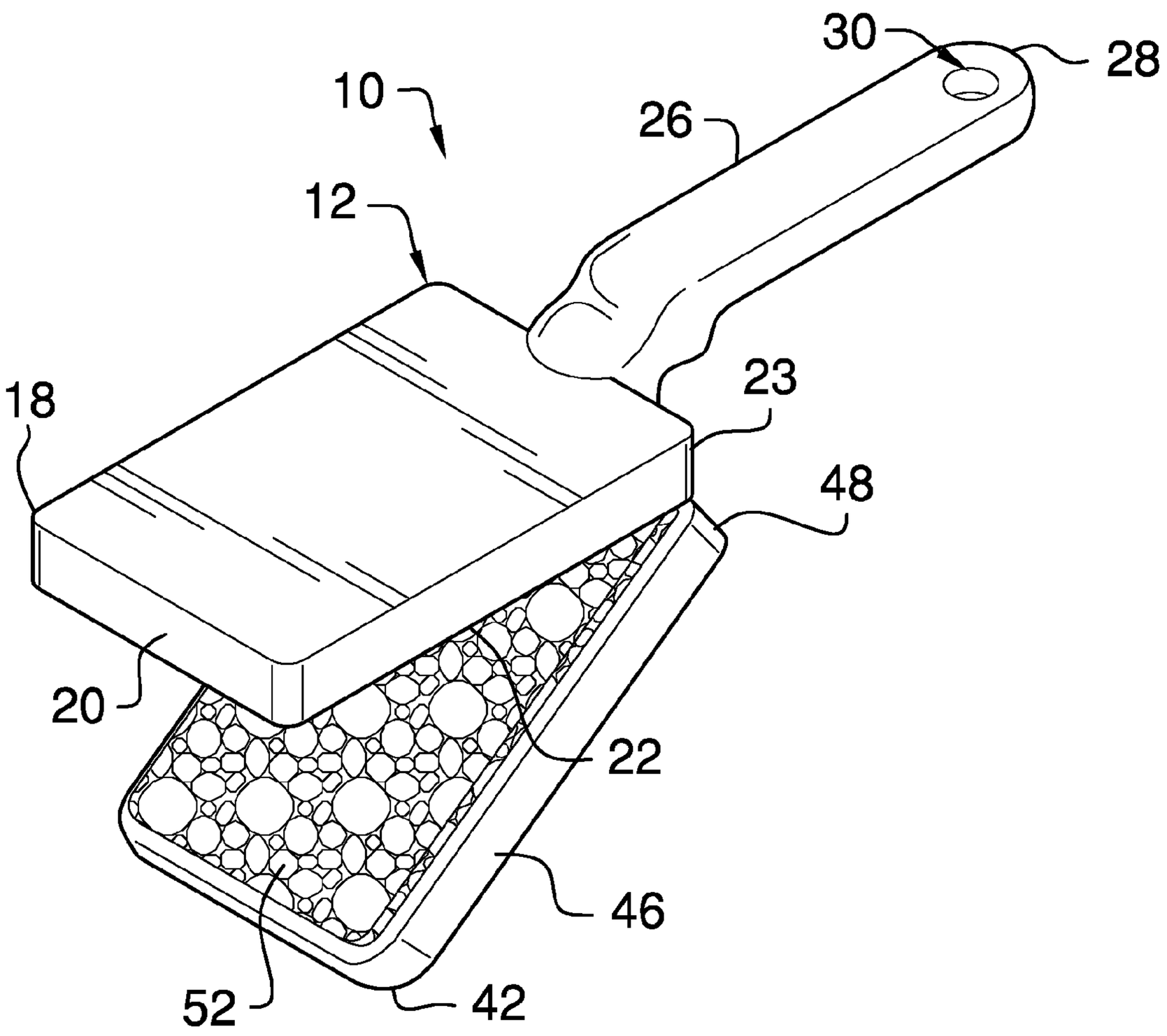
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A spatula cleaning assembly for cleaning a spatula includes a scraper that may be manipulated. The scraper frictionally engages a spatula such that the scraper removes debris from the spatula. A panel is hingedly coupled to the scraper. The panel is manipulated to compress the spatula between the scraper and the panel.



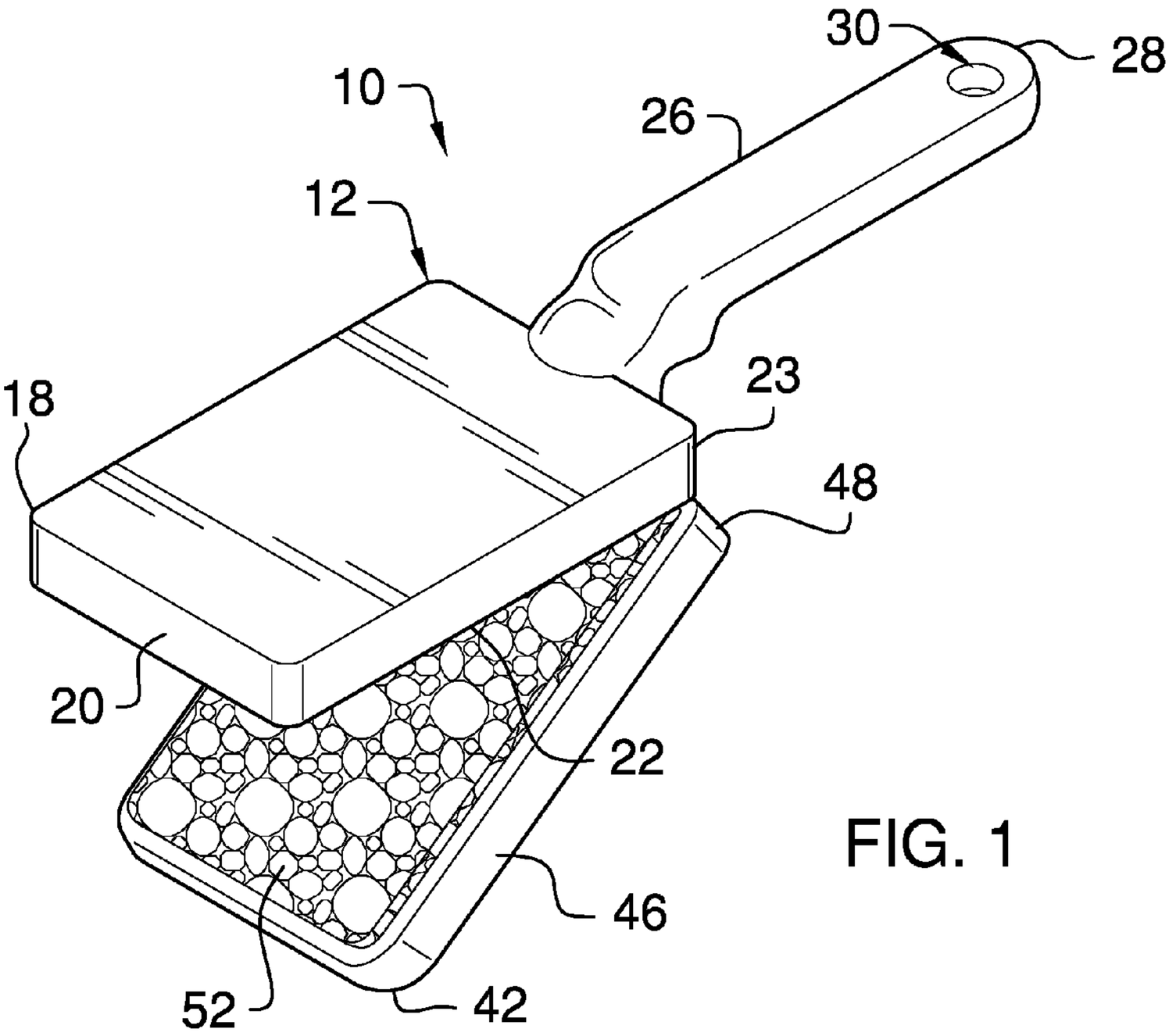

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FIG. 1

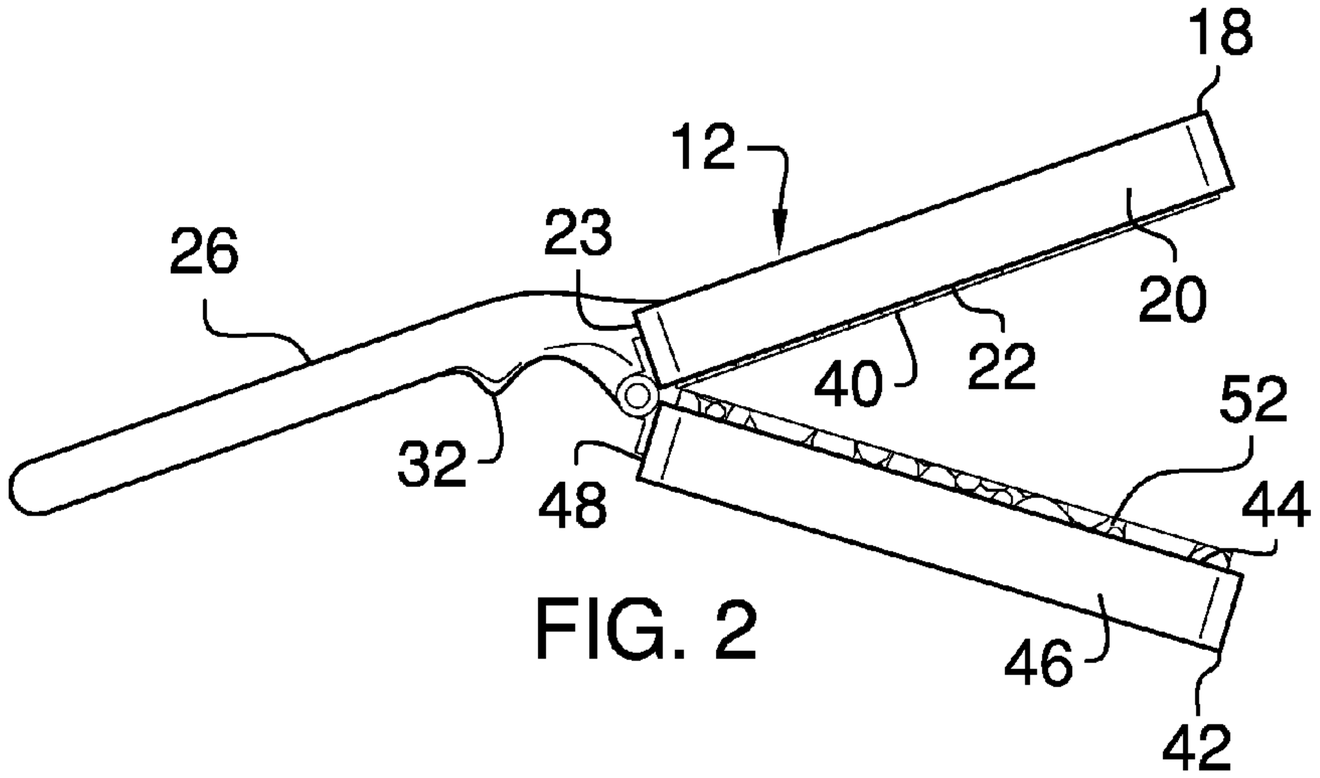

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FIG. 2

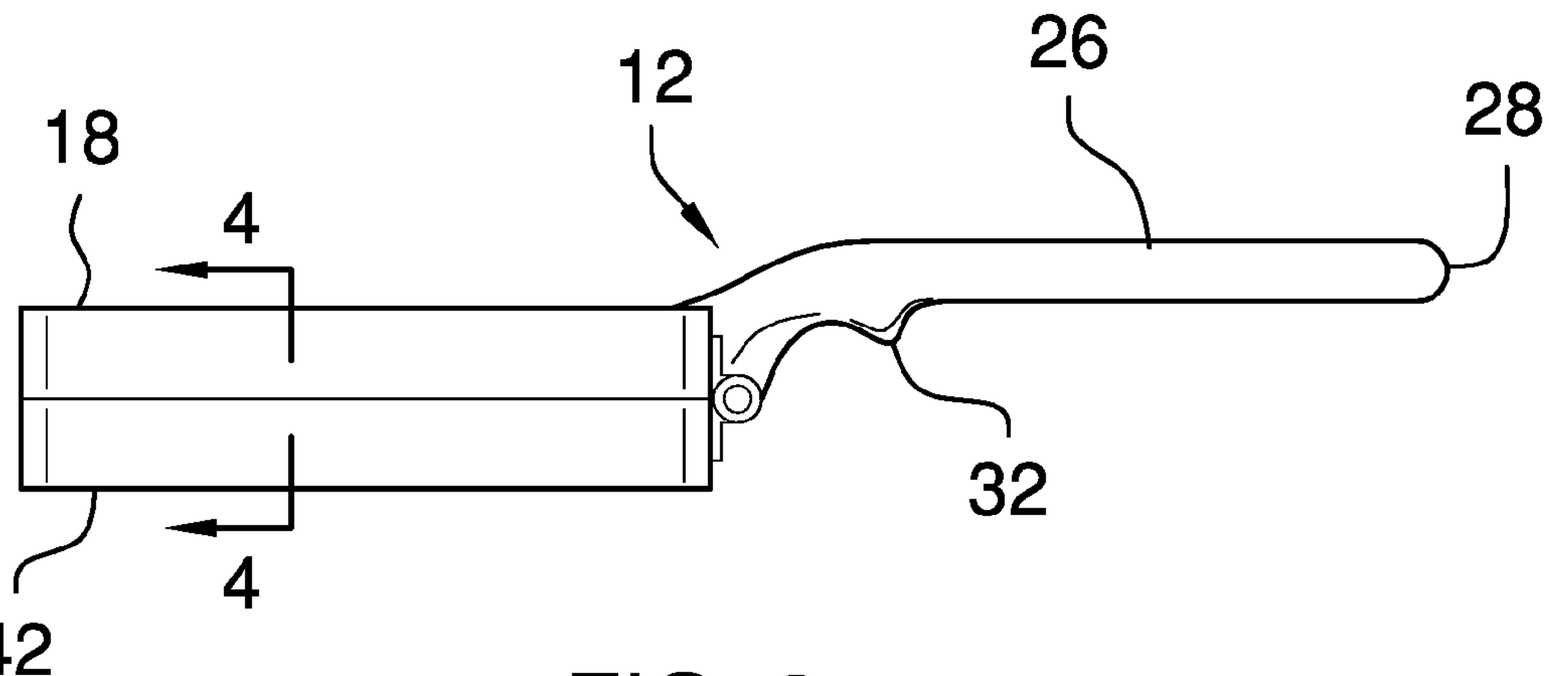


FIG. 3

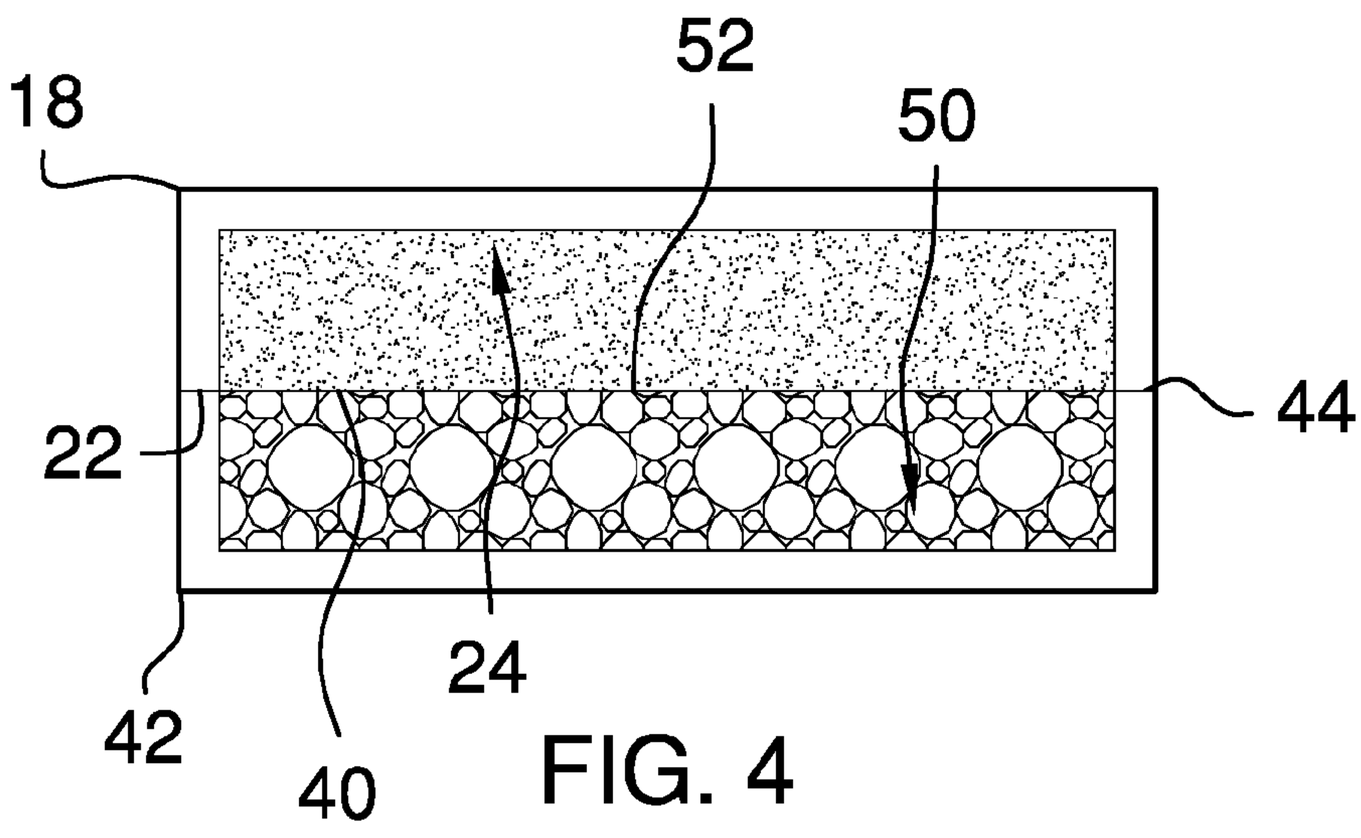


FIG. 4

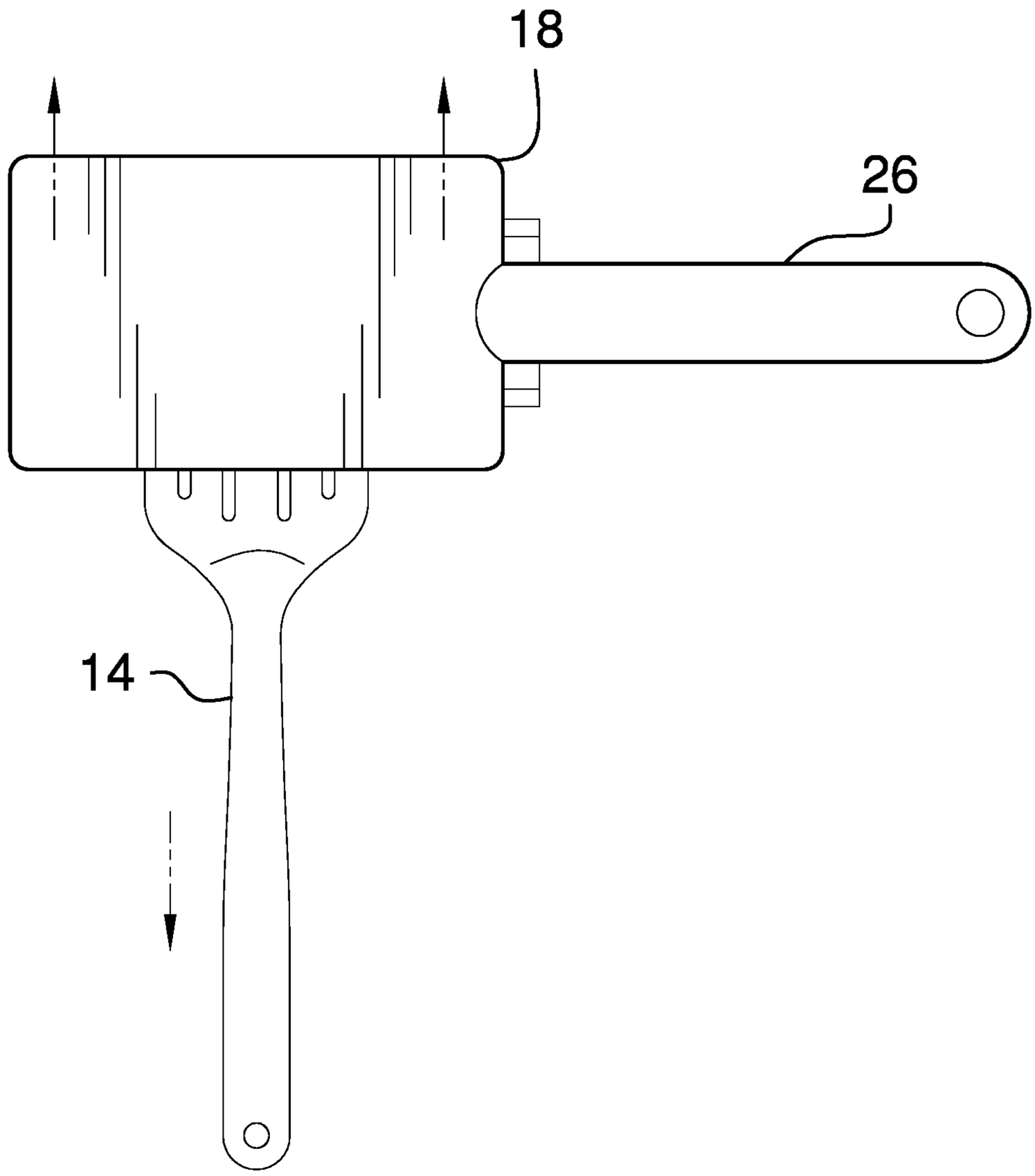


FIG. 5

SPATULA CLEANING ASSEMBLY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not Applicable

THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT

[0002] Not Applicable

INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC OR AS A TEXT FILE VIE THE OFFICE ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

[0003] Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR DISCLOSURES BY THE INVENTOR OR JOINT INVENTOR

[0004] Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention

(2) Description of Related Art Including Information Disclosed Under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98

[0005] The disclosure and prior art relates to spatula cleaning assemblies and more particularly pertains to a new spatula cleaning assembly for cleaning a spatula.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] An embodiment of the disclosure meets the needs presented above by generally comprising a scraper that may be manipulated. The scraper frictionally engages a spatula such that the scraper removes debris from the spatula. A panel is hingedly coupled to the scraper. The panel is manipulated to compress the spatula between the scraper and the panel.

[0007] There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the disclosure in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the disclosure that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

[0008] The objects of the disclosure, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the disclosure, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S)

[0009] The disclosure will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

[0010] FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a spatula cleaning assembly according to an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0011] FIG. **2** is a right side view of an embodiment of the disclosure in an open position.

[0012] FIG. **3** is a left view of an embodiment of the disclosure in a closed position.

[0013] FIG. **4** is a cross sectional view taken along line **4-4** of FIG. **3** of an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0014] FIG. **5** is a perspective in-use view of an embodiment of the disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0015] With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to FIGS. **1** through **5** thereof, a new spatula cleaning assembly embodying the principles and concepts of an embodiment of the disclosure and generally designated by the reference numeral **10** will be described.

[0016] As best illustrated in FIGS. **1** through **5**, the spatula cleaning assembly **10** generally comprises a scraper **12** that may be manipulated. The scraper **12** frictionally engages a spatula **14** such that the scraper **12** removes debris **16** from the spatula **14**. The spatula **14** may be a bbq spatula or the like. The debris **16** may be grease or organic material that is cooked onto the spatula **14**.

[0017] The scraper **12** comprises a plate **18** that has a peripheral edge **20** and a first surface **22**. The peripheral edge **20** has a back side **23**. The first surface **22** has a first well **24** extending inwardly therein. A handle **26** is coupled to and extends away from the back side **23**. The handle **26** may be gripped.

[0018] The handle **26** has a distal end **28** with respect to the plate **18**. An opening **30** extends through the handle **26**. The opening **30** is positioned closer to the distal end **28** than the plate **18**. The opening **30** may receive a hook or the like thereby facilitating the scraper **12** to be stored. A lobe **32** extends downwardly from the handle **26** thereby enhancing gripping the handle **26**. The lobe is 32 positioned closer to the plate **18** than the distal end **28**.

[0019] A first pad **40** is positioned within the first well **24**. The first pad **40** frictionally engages the spatula **14**. The first pad **40** is comprised of a resiliently coarse material. Thus, the first pad **40** scours the debris **16** from the spatula **14**.

[0020] A panel **42** is hingedly coupled to the scraper **12**. The panel **42** is manipulated to compress the spatula **14** between the scraper **12** and the panel **42**. The panel **42** has a primary surface **44** and a perimeter edge **46**. The perimeter edge **46** has a rear side **48**. The rear side **48** is hingedly coupled to the back side **23** of the plate **18**. Moreover, the primary surface **44** faces the first surface **22**. The primary surface **44** has a second well **50** extending inwardly therein.

[0021] A second pad **52** is provided. The second pad **52** is positioned within the second well **50**. The second pad **52** frictionally engages the spatula **14**. The second pad **52** is comprised of a fluid permeable material. Thus, the second pad **52** may rinse the spatula **14**. The second pad **52** may be sponge or the like and the fluid may be water.

[0022] In use, the second pad **52** is soaked with the fluid. The spatula **14** is positioned between the panel **42** and the plate **18**. The panel **42** is manipulated to compress the spatula **14** between the panel **42** and the plate **18**. The spatula

14 is pulled through the scraper **12**. Thus, each of the first pad **40** and the second pad **52** clean the spatula **14**. The spatula **14** is pulled through the scraper **12** repeatedly until the spatula **14** is clean.

[0023] With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of an embodiment enabled by the disclosure, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by an embodiment of the disclosure.

[0024] Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the disclosure. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the disclosure to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the disclosure. In this patent document, the word "comprising" is used in its non-limiting sense to mean that items following the word are included, but items not specifically mentioned are not excluded. A reference to an element by the indefinite article "a" does not exclude the possibility that more than one of the element is present, unless the context clearly requires that there be only one of the elements.

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. A spatula cleaning assembly being configured to clean a spatula, said assembly comprising:

a scraper being configured to be manipulated thereby facilitating said scraper to frictionally engage a spatula such that said scraper removes debris from the spatula, said scraper comprising:

a plate having a peripheral edge and a first surface, said peripheral edge having a back side, said first surface having a first well extending inwardly therein, and

a handle being coupled to and extending away from said back side wherein said handle is configured to be gripped;

a first pad being positioned within said first well wherein said first pad is configured to frictionally engage the spatula, said first pad being comprised of a coarse material wherein said first pad is configured to scour debris from the spatula;

a panel being hingedly coupled to said scraper wherein said panel is configured to be manipulated thereby facilitating the spatula to be compressed between said scraper and said panel, said panel having a primary surface and a perimeter edge, said perimeter edge having a rear side, said rear side being hingedly coupled to said back side of said plate having said primary surface facing said first surface, said primary surface having a second well extending inwardly therein; and

a second pad being positioned within said second well wherein said second pad is configured to frictionally engage the spatula, said second pad being comprised of a fluid permeable material wherein said second pad is configured to rinse the spatula, said first pad and said second pad being compressed together when said plate and said panel are positioned in abutment wherein said first pad and said second pad have abutting surfaces and said plate and said panel have abutting edges, said abutting surfaces of said first pad and said second pad being coplanar with said abutting edges of said plate and said panel.

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