

[0022] FIG. 8 is a side elevation view illustrating the top and bottom halves of FIGS. 6 and 7 after assembly, and indicating application of polymer tape along the seam line and of felt covers overlapping the polymer tape to produce a moldable member;

[0023] FIG. 9 is a section view of the moldable member of FIG. 8 taken along section lines 9-9 thereof and illustrating the molding of the moldable member to draw together the edges of the felt covers and to soften and cure the polymer tape;

[0024] FIG. 10 is a perspective assembly view illustrating another embodiment of the invention utilized in training a dog or other animal or utilized during play with an animal;

[0025] FIG. 11 is a perspective view illustrating the training toy of FIG. 10 fully assembled;

[0026] FIG. 12 is a perspective view illustrating a molded rubber component utilized in producing the training toy of FIG. 10;

[0027] FIG. 13 is a block flow diagram illustrating a method for fabricating the toy of FIGS. 10 to 12;

[0028] FIG. 14 is a perspective view illustrating an alternate embodiment of the invention;

[0029] FIG. 15 is a perspective view illustrating a sound device that can be utilized in the animal toy of FIG. 14;

[0030] FIG. 16 is a perspective view illustrating another sound device that can be utilized in the animal toy of FIG. 14;

[0031] FIG. 17 is a section view illustrating additional construction details of the sound device of FIG. 16 and taken along section line 17-17 thereof;

[0032] FIG. 18 is a section view illustrating a method for producing an animal toy comparable to that illustrated in FIG. 14;

[0033] FIG. 19 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 18 for producing an animal toy;

[0034] FIG. 20 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 18 for producing an animal toy;

[0035] FIG. 21 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 18 for producing an animal toy;

[0036] FIG. 22 is a section view illustrating another method for producing the animal toy of FIG. 14;

[0037] FIG. 23 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 22 for producing an animal toy;

[0038] FIG. 24 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 22 for producing an animal toy;

[0039] FIG. 25 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 22 for producing an animal toy;

[0040] FIG. 26 is a section view illustrating still another method for producing an animal toy comparably to the toy of FIG. 14;

[0041] FIG. 27 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 26 for producing an animal toy;

[0042] FIG. 28 is a section view further illustrating the method of FIG. 26 for producing an animal toy;

[0043] FIG. 29 illustrates an alternate method for producing an animal toy in accordance with the principles of the invention;

[0044] FIG. 30 illustrates a further alternate method for producing an animal toy in accordance with the invention;

[0045] FIG. 31 illustrates another alternate method for producing an animal toy in accordance with the invention;

[0046] FIG. 32 illustrates still a further alternate method for producing an animal toy in accordance with the invention;

[0047] FIG. 33 illustrates the mode of operation of a sound module constructed in accordance with the invention;

[0048] FIG. 34 illustrates an alternate random sound pattern produced by the sound module of FIG. 33;

[0049] FIG. 35 illustrates a further random sound pattern produced by the sound module of FIG. 34;

[0050] FIG. 36 illustrates another random sound pattern produced by the sound module of FIG. 33;

[0051] FIG. 37 illustrates an animal toy with a sound module movably stored therein;

[0052] FIG. 38 is an assembly view illustrating the animal toy of FIG. 37;

[0053] FIG. 39 is an assembly view illustrating the construction of an animal toy in accordance with an alternate embodiment of the invention;

[0054] FIG. 40 is a top view illustrating the toy of FIG. 39 assembled and with a felt covering applied thereto;

[0055] FIG. 41 is a front section view illustrating the construction of an alternate embodiment of the animal toy of the invention;

[0056] FIG. 42 is a front section view illustrating further construction of the animal toy of FIG. 41;

[0057] FIG. 43 is a front section view of the construction of another embodiment of the animal toy of the invention;

[0058] FIG. 44 is a front section view illustrating further construction of the animal toy of FIG. 43;

[0059] FIG. 45 is a front section view illustrating construction of still a further embodiment of the animal toy of the invention;

[0060] FIG. 46 is a front section view illustrating further construction of the animal toy of FIG. 45;

[0061] FIG. 47 is a front section view illustrating still further construction of the animal toy of FIG. 46;

[0062] FIG. 48 is a front section view illustrating yet still further construction of the animal toy of FIG. 45; and,

[0063] FIG. 49 is a partial section and perspective view illustrating an alternate embodiment of the animal toy of the invention.

[0064] Briefly, in accordance with the invention, an improved animal toy is provided. The toy includes a compressibly elastically deformable hollow thin-walled rubber core sealingly circumscribing and enclosing a selected compressible gaseous volume. The rubber core includes a center, an outer surface, a wall less than about five-sixteenths of an