beyond the outermost annular edge when the at least one attachment component is attached to the edge portion of the personal card.

[0010] Another embodiment of the present invention provides an auxiliary member system for use in a card carrying case having at least one compartment. The system includes a plurality of personal cards and a plurality of multi-purpose auxiliary members. Each multi-purpose auxiliary member attached to a personal card such that the extension component extends beyond the outermost annular edge of the personal card.

[0011] Yet another embodiment of the present invention provides a multi-purpose auxiliary member that includes technology associated with either an attachment component and/or an extension component.

[0012] According to an aspect, there is~~In still further embodiments, the present invention~~ provided a multi-purpose auxiliary member that is a tool for removing a personal card from a card carrying case. Such multi-purpose auxiliary member tools include an attachment component that is a generally a flattened body having a generally planar top card gripping arm and a generally planar bottom card gripping arm extending distally from a common base such that the top gripping arm and bottom gripping arm are opposed and held in a generally parallel orientation to each other, the top gripping arm and the bottom gripping arm together defining a card slot having an open front end and a closed back end, the card slot being adapted to removably accept and secure a personal card by tight friction fit; and an extension component disposed upon and extending distally from the base of the attachment component, said extension component being adapted for gripping and removal a personal card from a card carrying case when the tool is secured to the personal card.

[0013] In certain ~~aspects~~embodiments of the multi-purpose auxiliary member tool, the attachment component is a single unit that is made of rigid metal, plastic or a combination of metal and plastic. Such attachment components can be manufactured, for example, by metal injection molding.

[0014] In certain ~~aspects~~embodiments, the back end of the card slot is narrower than the front end of the card slot, the card slot being tapered from back to front. For example, the back end of the card slot can be about 0.30mm to about 0.90mm wide and the front end of the card slot is about 0.40mm to about 1.00mm wide. In other ~~aspects~~embodiments, the card slot is stepped, having a narrower region adjacent to the back end that is adapted to secure a thin personal card, and a wider region adjacent to the front opening that is adapted to secure a thick personal card. For example, the narrower region of the card slot can be about 0.30mm to about 0.55mm wide and the wider region of the card slot is about 0.55mm to about 1.00mm wide. In certain embodiments, the stepped card slot can accommodate two personal cards.

[0015] The top gripping arm and bottom gripping arm of the multi-purpose auxiliary member tool generally can have a generally rectangular or circular shape, or any shape that is desired. Optionally, the attachment component can include an arm adapted to secure the tool in a card carrying case.

[0016] In certain ~~aspects~~embodiments, the extension component is hingeably attached to the base of the attachment component. Furthermore, the extension component can be adapted to rotate about the hinge from a closed position in which the extension component lies flat upon the attachment component, to an open

position where the extension component is perpendicular to the closed position. In other embodimentsaspects of the invention, the extension component is immovably attached to the base of attachment component. In certain embodiments, the extension component is a continuation of a design element of the attachment component.

[0017] To assist in gripping the tool, the extension component can include a ridge disposed on an outer surface of the attachment component. The extension component can include such materials as metal, leather, plastic, and/or glass. In certain embodiments, the extension component can also includes a decoration such as paint, enamel, embossing, engraving or a stone.

[0018] In yet further embodiments, the tool can include a magnetic stripe, a semiconductor chip device, an integrated circuit device, a radio frequency identification tag device or a bar code.

[0019] According to another aspect, there isAlso provided is a multi-purpose auxiliary member tool for securing and removing at least two personal cards from a card carrying case that includes an attachment component that is a generally flattened body having at least one generally planar top card gripping arm and at least one generally planar bottom card gripping arm, each card gripping arm extending distally from a common base such that the at least one top card gripping arm and the at least one bottom card gripping arm are opposed and held in a generally parallel orientation to each other, the at least one top gripping arm and the at least one bottom gripping arm together defining at least two card slots each card slot having an open front end and a closed back end, the at least two card slots being adapted to removably accept and secure a personal card by tight friction fit; and an extension component disposed upon and extending distally from the base of the attachment component, said extension component being adapted for gripping and removal of the at least two personal cards from a card carrying case when the tool is secured to the at least two personal cards. In certain aspects of this embodiments, the multi-purpose auxiliary member tool includes a first card slot and a second card slot, such that the bottom card gripping arm of the first card slot is coextensive with the top card gripping arm of the second card slot. In certain aspectsembodiments, the at least two card slots are staggered.

[0020] The foregoing and other objectives, features, and advantages of the invention will be more readily understood upon consideration of the following detailed description of the invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0021] **FIG. 1** is a front view of a personal card collection showing multi-purpose auxiliary members of the present invention attached to cards of the collection in a pouch of a card carrying case.

[0022] **FIG. 2** is a perspective view of a personal card collection with multi-purpose auxiliary members of the present invention attached thereto, in pockets offset from one another, the cards being oriented such that the long edge portion is exposed, and a single card with a multi-purpose auxiliary member is in a specialized pocket and/or slot.

[0023] **FIG. 3** is a plan view of a personal card collection with multi-purpose auxiliary members attached to the cards thereof, in slots offset from one another, the cards being oriented such that the short