Using a pendulum to select crystal for your CB

You would not dream of building a violin using cheap wood and plastic for a concert. A violin is a resonant device, and the resonance or sound emitted depends in large part on the size and materials used. The concert is also an important event and you want every instrument to be in tune. Similarly a Cloud buster is a resonant device. Pipe length, diameter and the crystals all play a part in achieving the resonant frequency for maximum effect.

In the light of this it would make sense to find a way to select crystals which will resonate in harmony with the rest of the design.

I have found a simple way to do this using a pendulum. Anyone can do this What is a pendulum: it is a weight hanging at the end of a string.

Making a simple pendulum:

Use a piece of wood, it does not matter what wood, but it is better if it is made of wood, an old spinning top from your kid's toy box would do. It can be quite light, mine weighs 4 grams.

Attach a cotton thread about 3 inches long: there is your pendulum.

If you do not have wood, then use your ring at the end of a string or even a bolt.

Hold your pendulum string between the thumb and the next finger, at the end of your arm held freely. Do not rest your elbow or your wrist. The way it works is that your body is really more sensitive than you think, your arm acts as an amplifier for tiny movement generated by your subconcious in response to the energy fields around you.

Finding your positive.

Hold the pendulum over the positive pole of a battery, a AA or AAA battery, even a flat one will do will do. Make your pendulum oscillate back and forth away from you gently, then hold it over the battery. After a little while it will start to spin. It may rotate clockwise or anticlockwise, it does not matter, every one is different. This rotation indicates a positive device. Now hold your pendulum over the minus side of the battery, and watch the pendulum rotate the opposite way. You now have a detector to find out the polarity of things. It may take a few tries to get the pendulum to move, the trick is the initial back and forth from which the pendulum can find its rotation.

How to select the crystals

Here is what to do: Hold a double pointed crystal in your left hand, pointing up, and hold the pendulum hanging about one inch above the crystal point. The pendulum will eventually spin. The rotation will indicate the polarity as for the battery.

There are 3 possibilities:

- 1- The pendulum spins clockwise on one point and anticlockwise on the other. This is a true Double terminated crystal, use the positive side to point up in your cloud buster
- 2- The pendulum spins the same way on both sides. This is not a double terminated crystal (it may look like one) but rather 2 separate crystals growing back to back. You can use this crystal in your HHG but not in a cloud buster.
- 3- The pendulum does not spin on one side, do not use it. Your pendulum may take a while to work again as that end has drained energy. Wait a few seconds before testing another one.

I have a perfect DT which spins on one side, but not on the other, yet it is perfectly shaped, so some are like that and it is really important that you check them.