



**Volume 19 • Number 1 • April 2020**

Welcome to *Nib Noise*. I hope you'll enjoy reading this month's issue.

*PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS NEWSLETTER!*

The robot that sends it out refuses to learn to read. If you have comments or questions, send email to:

[richard@richardspens.com](mailto:richard@richardspens.com)

To subscribe or unsubscribe, please visit the Free Email Newsletter page on my site.



The photo above shows a pen that I once owned. It's a Sheaffer Targa 1019

(“Vintage”). It’s of interest because it is the only known extant specimen of this lovely Targa with its acanthus-style ornamentation. Why, then, do I no longer own it? As wonderful as it is, I’m not really a Targahead. I traded this pen to a friend in exchange for a double-jewel “51” in Nassau Green, with a beautiful gold-filled cap. My friend loved the Targa for a while, and then he did something truly wonderful. He passed the pen on to Gary Ellison, whom I consider to be the world’s leading expert on the Targa. And so this pen has come to rest in what is probably the best possible place. That makes me happy.

You will find a little more about the Targa later in this issue.

---

## **Pen Shows and COVID-19**

The midst of the COVID-19 pandemic probably isn’t the best time to be talking about pen shows, given that Atlanta and St Louis have been cancelled and Chicago has been postponed (with a chance of cancellation). What happens now? When will we be able to go to our favorite pen shows again? Nobody really knows, but the best we can do is to take this thing very, *very* seriously. A study just reported found that social distancing definitely reduces the number of people who suddenly come down with the fever that is the first symptom of the disease. The longer people ignore or defy the social-distancing and staying-home orders, the longer we will have to live with them, and the more people who will die. So hang in there, be safe, and let’s hope that this thing clears up before summer is gone.

---

## **Our Next Pen Show**

As I said above, we don’t know with any certainty when our next show will be, but we’re staking our hopes on the Commonwealth Pen Show, which is scheduled for September 13. We’ll know in plenty of time if it’s not going to happen, but I prefer to think we’ll be in better shape by then.

---

# BROAD STROKES

The Pen Doctor dropped by the Nashua Pen Spa this past week, wearing his mask and practicing social distancing, and he left three new prescriptions on the back porch. If you like restoring the Parker 61, you will find a real goodie in this batch of ideas.

## **Pen Doctor XXXIII: Repairing a Crack in a Parker 61; Reattaching the Feed and Collector in a Parker Falcon 50; Identifying Eversharp Skylines**

And of course there's a bonus in the regular monthly Pen Doctor article below.

---

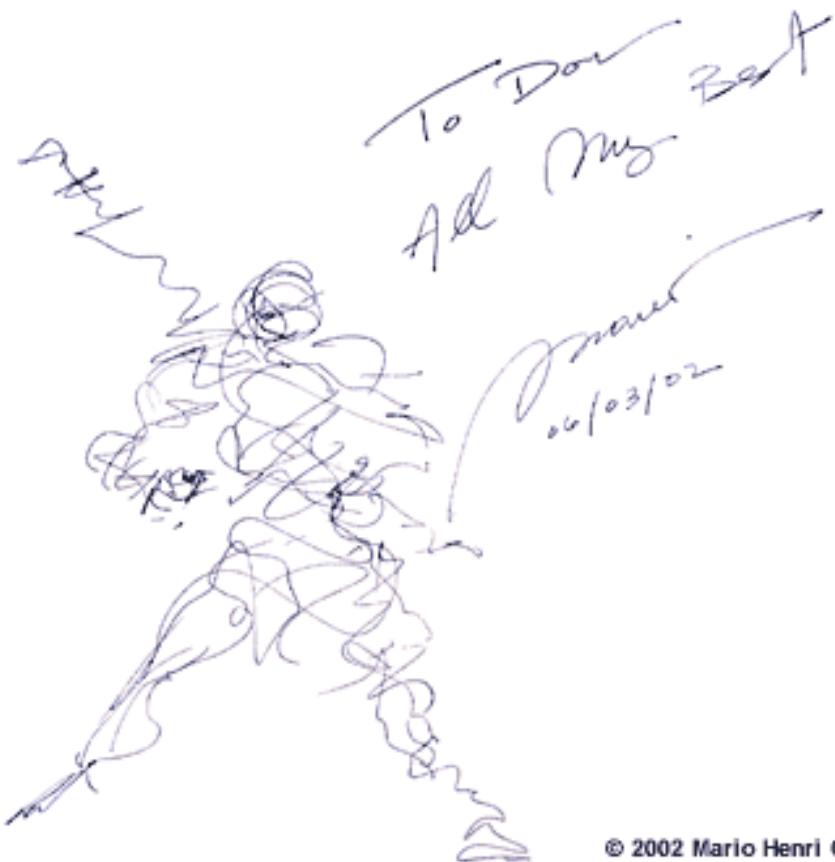
## **My Book on Japanese Pocket Pens Is Officially Published!**

After a year in the making and a month in getting the rough edges sanded off, the world's first publication devoted to Japanese pocket pens has arrived. It's available now for Amazon Kindle, Apple Books, and Barnes & Noble NOOK. My Richard's Books page shows all my books, with links to the pages where you can buy them on all three sites. There's even a special link for Japanese buyers that goes direct to the page on the Amazon Japan website.



*By Don Fluckinger*

What happens when you give a lifelong painter a Sheaffer Balance, 30 seconds, and a blank page? Find out here.



---

## From the Glossopedia

With more than 1,475 entries comprising (with subentries) more than 1,625 individual terms, more than 950 illustrations, more than 190 patent citations linked to their respective patent documents at various archives, and extensive cross-references, the RichardsPens Glossopedia is the most comprehensive resource of its kind anywhere. Each month, *Nib Noise* includes a randomly chosen Glossopedia entry.

### X-Pen

**I.** A capillary-filling pen with a hooded nib, sold by Waterman in the late 1950s; supposedly, it was Waterman's attempt to compete with the Parker 61. Produced in a variety of models at various trim levels by Jif-Waterman of France, the X-Pen (first model illustrated below) was the last pen sold by the U.S.

Waterman company. Read a profile of the X-Pen here. See also filler, JiF. **2.** (*X-Pen International Ltd*) A pen manufacturing company located in Tel Aviv, Israel; founded in 2003. The company's ballpoints, fountain pens, and rollerballs are mostly all metal, with relatively few resin models. Internal components are sourced from well-known manufacturers worldwide to ensure quality. Styling is distinctly modern; even the company logo features a bird in flight as the letter X..



If you would like to suggest an entry for the Glossopedia, I invite you to send an email to me at [richard@richardspens.com](mailto:richard@richardspens.com) with your proposed entry. If you don't have a definition for your entry, I'll do my best to find one.

---

To help you find reference articles on my site that have been edited recently, there is a handy heading right at the top of the reference index, listing the five most recently added or edited reference pages. For edited pages, there are brief descriptions of what was changed.

---

## The Pen Doctor

The Pen Doctor is a regular visitor to the Nashua Pen Spa, and every so often he puts a few prescriptions up on my site. Each month (except when I forget), I'll be reprinting one of his prescriptions here.

**Q:** I have two Sheaffer Targa (slimline) pens. Both have developed mysterious leaks that appear to originate around the outside edge of the inlay portion of the nibs. Is there a way to eliminate this leak? Ink

**appears to build up around the underside of the nib more quickly when the pen is capped.**

**Rx:** This is an unfortunate failing of Sheaffer's otherwise wonderful Inlaid Nib. Until Sheaffer closed its repair center, the first line of defense was Sheaffer's own service department. With that option no longer available, the remedy is to disassemble the pen and flow Capt. Tolley's Penetrating Sealant (formerly called Tolley's Creeping Crack Cure) between the nib and section shell. (You can find Capt. Tolley's at many boat shops; in the U.S.A. and Canada, West Marine has it.) Capillary action will draw the fluid into the space. Following the instructions on the bottle, you let it dry for 30 minutes and then reapply. After no more seeps in, let it dry 24 hours and reassemble the nib unit. You can clean off any excess on the outside by rubbing gently with a pure cotton flannel rag and a little Simichrome.





## Follow RichardsPens on Facebook

RichardsPens would like to be liked on Facebook.

---

If you received this newsletter from Richard Binder, you are a *Nib Noise* subscriber. If it came from someone else, I invite you to subscribe.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, please visit the Free Email Newsletter page on my site.

Privacy Policy: I will never sell your name or email address. Your privacy is as important to me as it is to you.

--  
Richard Binder • Fountain Pens  
Pens That Write Right! -- [www.richardspens.com](http://www.richardspens.com)  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NashuaPenSpa>