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

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richard@richardspens.com

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The Patriot



In many countries other than the U.S., November 11 is celebrated as Armistice Day, to commemorate the signing of the armistice ending World War I. In the U.S., we now call the holiday Veterans' day to pay tribute to all the men and women who have defended our freedom as members of America's armed services. One of my favorite pens, the Morrison Patriot, was made in the years immediately before, during, and after World War II as a tribute to those who went off to fight in that war. I've had a **profile of the Patriot** on my website for several years, and this past summer has seen some enhancements to it, most recently the addition of two Patriot variants that I had never seen before this past July:



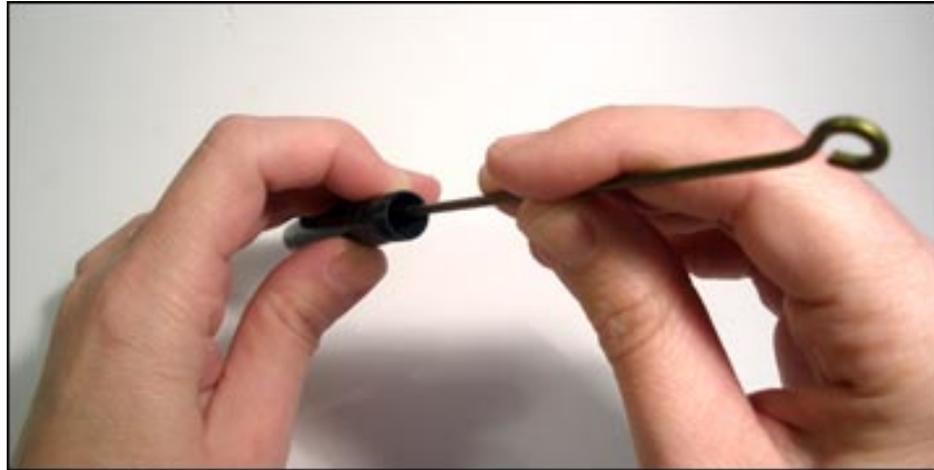
In case you missed it about a week ago, I've also made a few edits to my profile of **Sheaffer's wartime "TRIUMPH" pens**, including a discussion of when production came to an end.



BROAD STROKES

Last month I presented the first in what I've planned as an occasional series titled *Adventures in Pen Restoration*. That article is titled *More than You Bargained For*, and it is of course still available for you to reread.

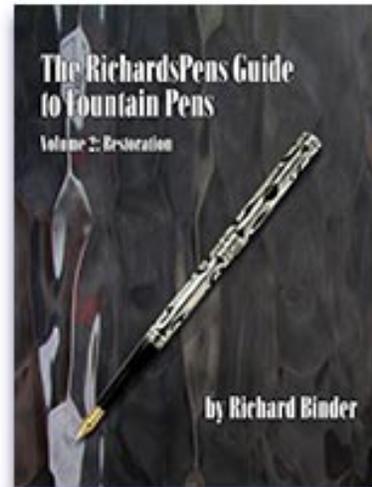
This month, for those who might have been bitten by the repair and restoration bug after reading that piece, the Repairer's Corner offers some advice on things not to do, and things to do, when you begin to learn how to repair pens. This month's article, **Basic Pen Repair: Don'ts and Dos**, came about as a collaborative effort, with the able collusion of first-class pen technicians Mike and Linda Kennedy.



My Books

This month, **Broad Strokes** features restoration work, and how better to hone your restoration skills than with a good book on the subject? *The RichardsPens Guide to Fountain Pens, Volume 2: Restoration* is a book that beginners, especially, will find useful. It deals with specific pens, treating each one step by step, with detailed instructions and clear illustrations. It's available three ways:

- Ebook for Amazon's Kindle and Kindle apps, Barnes & Noble's NOOK and NOOK apps, and Apple's Books on macOS, iOS, and iPodOS
- Deluxe full-color trade paperback with extra-wide gutter suitable for 3-hole punching to put into a binder
- Oversize full-color paperback with lie-flat coil binding



There's a complete listing of my books on my site, with direct links to the web pages where you can buy them for your own library.



*By Don Fluckinger
October 2005*

Set Collector Genetically, Type Collector by Necessity

You can't be both a set collector and a type collector at the same time. We're genetically predisposed to being one or the other.

New collectors frequently bounce all over the map trying to figure out what to collect and, conversely, what not to collect. Don has something to say about how he managed that phase of his pen hobby.



From the *Glossopedia*

With more than 1,550 entries comprising (with subentries) more than 1,700 individual terms, more than 1,000 illustrations, more than 200 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.

nickel silver (also *Alpaca*, *Argentan*, *German silver*, *New Silver*, *paktong*) A silvery tarnish-resistant alloy, one of the Monel metals; contains no actual silver. Used for making furniture on some pens (e.g., the lever and the very attractive accommodation clip on the 1910s no-name pen shown below), nickel silver was first produced in 1770 to duplicate a Chinese alloy called *paktong* that was used to mimic real silver at much lower cost. One common formulation (ASTM B122, alloy 75200) contains 65% copper, 18% nickel, and 17% zinc. Do not confuse nickel silver with Nikargenta. See also [Monel metal](#), [nickel](#), [Nikargenta](#), [paktong](#).



In case you haven't noticed, the "See also" links in the above *Glossopedia* entry are live. And they actually work! I added this feature to the random *Glossopedia* entry that appears on my website's home page, and I really couldn't leave it not working in *Nib Noise*, too. I hope you'll enjoy it.

If you would like to suggest an entry for the *Glossopedia*, I invite you to send an email to me at 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.

And if you don't think you can wait more than 129 years (note how this number keeps growing as new entries are added) to see the whole *Glossopedia* here, one entry at a time (if I don't slip up and repeat an entry or three), you can easily jump the gun by purchasing your own copy in ebook form. When I release the next edition, your ebook vendor will notify you (or make the update silently).

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 past prescriptions here.

Q: **The piston in my Pelikan is tight, and I'm afraid I'll break something if I keep using it. Can I lubricate it? How?**

R: If the pen has a plastic piston seal (not a cork), you can lubricate it. You must first find some 100% silicone grease. In the U.S.A., this grease is sold for use by divers (to lubricate scuba gear) and by restaurateurs (to lubricate food processing equipment). Some online pen dealers also carry it. Do not use any silicone grease that contains even the tiniest amount of petroleum distillates!

To lubricate the piston, empty the pen completely and flush it with water until the ejecta are clear. Draw the piston back up, as if filling the pen, and remove the nib unit. Twist the corner of a paper towel into a point (often called a “twizzle”), insert it into the open end of the pen barrel, and use it to absorb any remaining droplets of water from the inside of the barrel. Put a tiny amount of grease on the end of a wooden toothpick or match. Do not use a metal instrument such as a dental pick! Insert the toothpick or match into the open end of the barrel, and apply the grease around the inside of the barrel as close to the piston as you can get it. Now run the piston down and back up a few times. It should move very easily after the first stroke. Reinstall the nib, fill the pen, and write!



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