

# *Nib Noise*



Volume 21 • Number 2 • May 2022

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 *Nib Noise* 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 website.  
Don't send email directly to me; the list is handled by a remote server.**



If a tree falls in the forest but nobody hears it, does it make a sound? I don't know. Well, then, let's try an easier question. If a Moore's Non-Leakable Safety Pen falls out of your pocket in the forest, does it leak? Of course not! Moore's pens were so reliable and safe that they were shipped from the factory ready to write, with a full load of ink in them. Now, the next question is a little harder. Who made Moore's Non-Leakable Safety Pen? Hint: it wasn't Morris W. Moore, the music teacher who invented it. It wasn't even a company with Moore in its name, at least not until 1917.



The Moore's Non-Leakable Safety Pen is one of the most delightful pens to come out of the late 19th century. It was well engineered, reliable, easy to

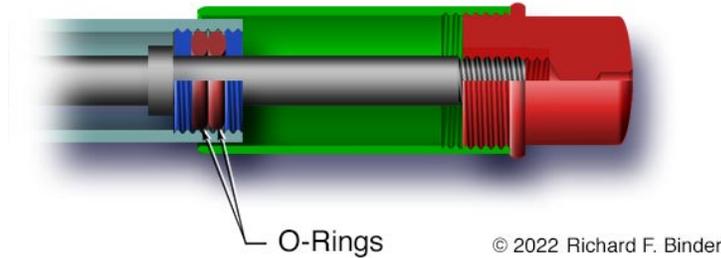
maintain, and a great writer. (Most examples today will be found to have sweet flexible nibs.) But why, for petesake, did they call the pen *Non-Leakable*? You have to admit that that's not a word that just rolls off the tongue. Well, there's a good reason for it. It just might have something to do with the fact that the word *leakproof* hadn't been invented yet!

Read all about these great pens in my [profile of Moore's Non-Leakable Safety Pen](#).

---

## BROAD STROKES

I recently received a query from the owner of a newly purchased Moore's Non-Leakable. The query had to do with the fact that this particular Non-Leakable was leaking. (Yes, even a "leakproof" pen can leak if its seals are all dried up and shrunken.) It turns out that replacing the seal in a Non-Leakable is a good repair for a beginner to attempt; it's just about as easy as replacing a sac in a lever-filler. To learn how, check out my new article, titled [How to Repair the Seal in a Moore's Non-Leakable Safety Pen](#).



---

## My Books

Hey there, Parker collector! Got your copy of my latest ebook?



If you don't, or even if you do, I invite you to visit my website's Books page. It has a complete listing of all my books, with direct links to the web pages where you can buy them for your own library. To better show you what each book looks like, I've updated all the cover images on the page to the larger size you see above.

As an Amazon, Apple, and Barnes & Noble Associate, I earn a commission when you purchase one of my books by following a link from my Books page.



By Don Fluckinger

## July 2006: The Joy Of Junk III

Flea markets, antique shops, and even pen-show dealer cigar boxes are loaded with combo pens — fountain pens with pencils built into one end, many of them with cheap or non-existent marques but a few with some familiar names like Waterman's or Sheaffer's.

Collectors abhor them, which means they're sold for pennies on the dollar of their more collectible counterparts.



---

### From the *Glossopedia*

With more than 1,575 entries comprising (with subentries) more than 1,750 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.

**Coin** A type of filling system; operates by mechanical ink-sac squeeze. A metal pressure bar, located beneath a slotted hole in the side of the barrel, squeezes the sac laterally when depressed by insertion of a coin or similar object into the hole. Some makers of coin fillers included their own "coin" discs with their pens. View filling instructions here.



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. And if you don't think you can wait more than 132 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:** I bought a beauty of a Vac Major at last year's Chicago show. My problem is in filling, and it may be my inexperience with Vacs, although I don't have a similar problem with my other Vac pens.

The pen has a good diaphragm, it really hooovers the ink up — however, when I go to lock down the plunger, it ejects the ink again. The only solution I have come up with is to invert the pen when locking down.

Is there something amiss with the pen's filler set-up, or is it me?

**Rx:** It's you. The Vacuumatic system — indeed, any filling system with a breather tube — relies on differential pressure; that is, the small volume of ink in the breather tube puts up less resistance to a change in pressure than the ink in the barrel. When you press the plunger slowly, the pressure has time to equalize, and the pen ejects ink from the barrel and breather tube simultaneously. (This behavior is more noticeable with a bigger pen because the larger barrel can eject more ink on each stroke.) But when you press the plunger quickly, the ink in the breather tube goes first, and when it's gone there's only air in the tube. Air is much easier to push than ink, so the pen just continues to eject air through the breather tube.

That said, there's still some ink that is ejected on that last stroke, but with a quick press you'll put much less of it back into the bottle.

Another option, of course, would be to trade the pen in for one with a Speedline filler so that you would not need to make that last downstroke.



### Follow RichardsPens on Facebook

RichardsPens would like to be liked on Facebook.

---

You have received this newsletter from nibnoise@richardspens.com because you opted in on my website. If it came from somewhere else, I invite you to subscribe.

**To subscribe or unsubscribe, please visit the Free Email Newsletter page on my website. Don't send email directly to me; the list is handled by a remote server.**

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>