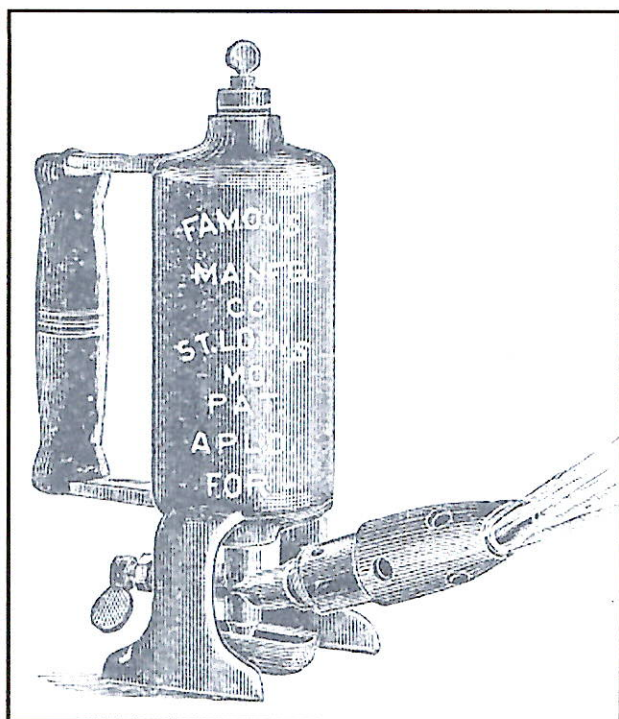


# THE TORCH

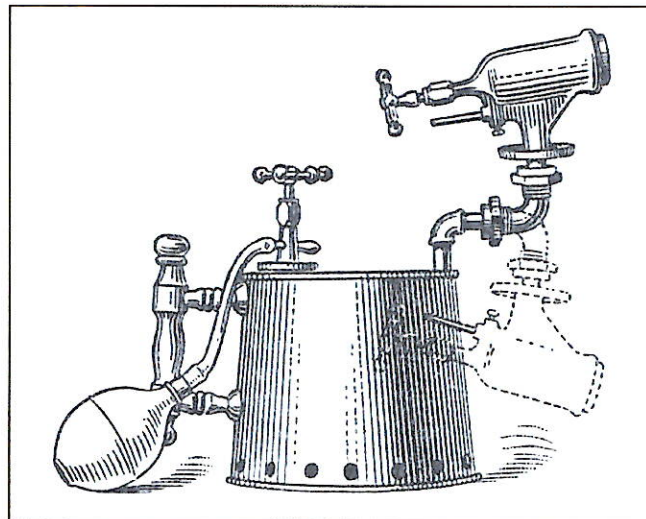
Newsletter of The Blow Torch Collectors Association

- Issue #29 -

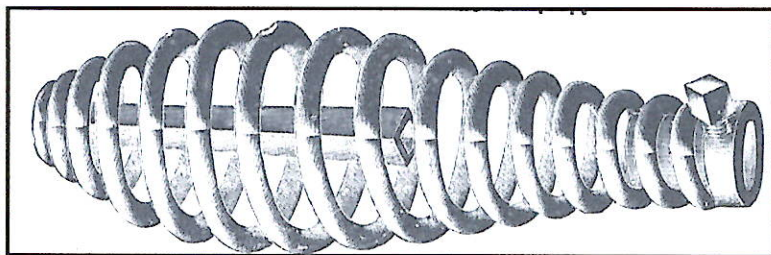
- June 2004 -



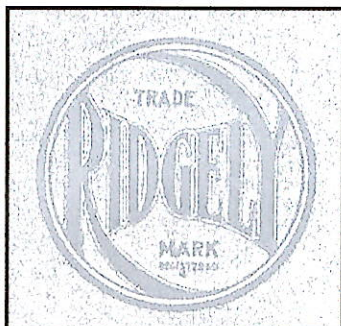
The Famous Mfg. Co., St. Louis, MO  
Self-Heating Plumbers' Torch, see page 5



The GEM Paint Burner and Blow Pipe  
Torch, produced by the Burgess  
Soldering Iron Furnace Co.,  
see page 9



THE ALASKA HANDLE, see page 4



The Ridgely Trimmer  
Company logo from a  
1920's products  
catalog, see page 8

BLACKWELL,  
see page 3

The European  
Connection, see page 3

Enterprise Revisited,  
see page 10

Keen & Hagerty,  
see page 7

Henrie Mfg Co.,  
see page 7



## NEW MEMBERS

**Jean Claude Demarteleire**, Villeneuve D' Ascq, France has been collecting blowlamps for 20 years and got started when his daughter, returning from vacation, brought him a two-burner FJ Regulateur lamp. One week later Jean Claude found a three-burner FJ Regulateur, and was "hooked" on blowlamps. He has approximately 850 lamps, all polished and displayed in his sitting room on shelves. His wife Noëlle has a collection of 800 clothing sad, charcoal, and electrical irons.... displayed in the same room! You won't believe it until you see their incredible display! If you have a computer and email, you can contact Jean Claude at [Demarteleire@aol.com](mailto:Demarteleire@aol.com) and he'll email you a link to his photos.

**Mal Francis**, Rustington, W Sussex, England, has been a collector for 14 years with approximately 360 lamps in his collection.

**Leslie Lee**, Devizes, Wiltshire, England, started collecting lamps in 2001 as a retirement hobby, and has amassed close to 350 lamps.

### WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS!



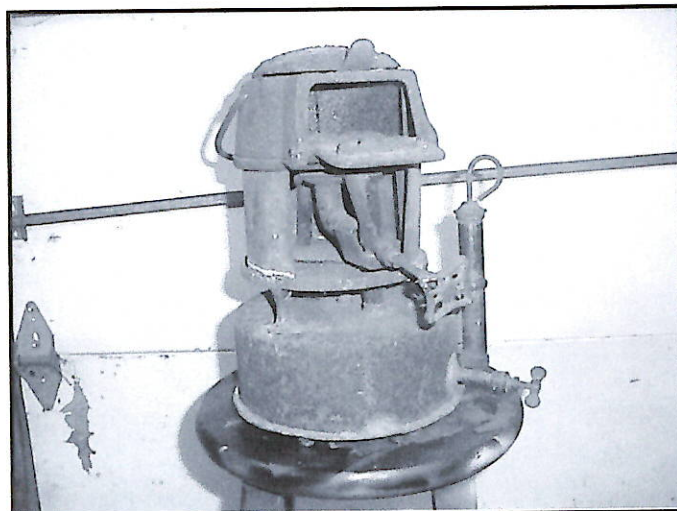
## NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Our deepest sympathy goes out to **Mark Petersen** for the loss of Arlene, his lovely wife and companion. Arlene was a very caring person and always had a smile for you. She and Mark were very involved in BTCA and contributed much to many of our past BTCA conventions. She will be missed by many.

Our condolences to **Louis Klein** for the recent loss of his wife Josephine.

**Mel Olson** sent in photos of two nicely restored Lenk torches, both with steel tanks and brass bottoms. From the photos he submitted, we'd say that he did a great job on the restoration!

**Dave Schulte** recently purchased a Schneider & Trenkamp firepot at a steal price of \$5. There is some damage to the cast top, however Dave plans to have it repaired and will restore the firepot to near original condition.



Schneider & Trenkamp firepot  
Photo by Dave Schulte

Up until now we've listed the Charles H. Besly & Co. as a torch manufacturer, but according to **Ashley Kennedy**, the Besly Company was an old time Chicago distributor. They distributed a wide variety of industrial supplies, and were not a manufacturer, so we'll move the Besly Company to the Brand Label/Distributor list.

According to **Don Steininger**, if you're ever in Florida, you must make time to stop and shop at Rennigers Antique Fair in Mount Dora. Rennigers is located in central Florida and is rated in the top 10 for antique markets in the US. Don recently found three bargains at Rennigers; a Hunter military torch, a Clayton & Lambert #28 alcohol torch, and a #411 Optimus lamp.

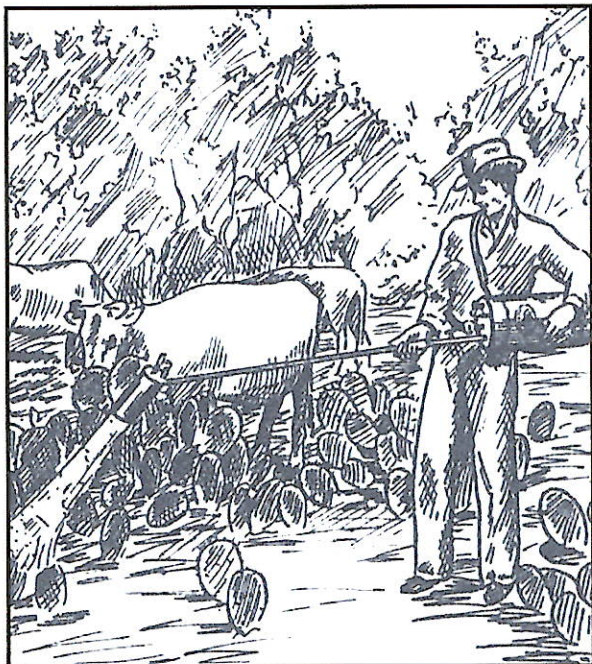
Based on information received from **Graham Stubbs**, we have reason to believe that the William Dixon Company of New York did not manufacture alcohol or blow torches. We believe they merely had related items manufactured with their name and logo, and distributed to the various trades. As a result, we have relocated the Dixon Co. to the Brand Label/Distributor list.





# BLACKWELL BURNERS

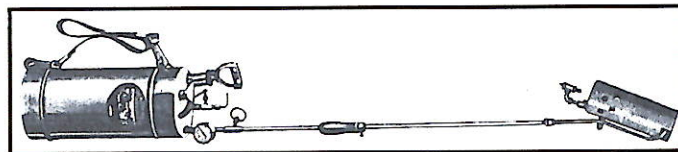
Thanks to the resourcefulness of **Graham Stubbs** in obtaining a catalog for the **Blackwell Burner Co.** of San Antonio, Texas, we have a new name to add to our manufacturers listing. Blackwell produced a large line of burners used in a wide variety of applications, mostly agricultural and including a line of industrial burners.



An illustration from a circa 1940's  
Blackwell Burner Company catalog.  
The illustration depicts a farmhand burning off the  
thorns from prickly pear cactus.  
Processed cacti were then used for cattle feed.

One of the most unusual agricultural applications was burning off the thorns of the prickly pear cactus and other types of cacti. Many farmers and ranchers in the Southwest would burn off the thorns from prickly pear, tosaquilla, elkhorn, and other cacti and then processed the cacti to supplement the food for range and dairy cattle. This was especially useful during drought conditions or in the winter months when the grazing food supply was limited. Farm hands would be loaded up with Blackwell burners and set out on the

range to burn off cacti thorns. The burned cacti was then harvested and fed to the cattle.



Blackwell Burner with a Model A style burner, cactus burner  
3-gallon fuel capacity  
Burner heads interchangeable for different applications

Blackwell burners were manufactured in a range of sizes and were designed so that the user could carry the fuel tank under one arm supported by a strap or sling, which left the hands free to maneuver the burner head that was connected to a rigid fuel line. The burners varied in size from 2-5 gallons in fuel capacity, and depending on the burner size could burn one gallon of gasoline in as few as 7 minutes. One farmhand could, in one day, burn enough cacti to feed 100-225 cattle, and the burner would consume approximately 16-25 gallons of fuel.

Two patents were issued to John B. Blackwell for the Blackwell Burner Company, no. 1,625,702 in April 19, 1927 and no. 2,473,192 in June 14, 1949. Note that there's a 22-year span between patents...a long dry spell between inventions.

We would like to hear from any of our members that may have any of the Blackwell Burners in their collection.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

## THE EUROPEAN CONNECTION

**Graham Stubbs**, our Contributing Editor, authored this article on European torch manufacturers in the US.

### Barthel

Barthel is one of three European torch companies, that I know of, which set up operations in the USA, the others being Primus and Sievert. Barthel offered its European line of torches in the USA through two entities, at different times:



1. The Barthel Blow Lamp Company of Boston Mass. had its own catalog, with an over-stamp of The Globe Gas Light Co., of Boston. I have a torch with an applied ovate shaped brass label "Barthel Blow Lamp Company, Sole Agents, Boston Mass." Its fuel cap is marked in English "Made in Germany". Another, otherwise identical, torch has a fuel cap marked in German "Nur fur Spiritus."

2. Globe Gas Light Company also had its own catalog showing the Barthel line of torches. I have two torches, each with an applied ovate (what a great word) brass label "The Globe Gas Light Co. Boston Mass."

### Primus

Primus had a USA subsidiary named Primus Cooking & Heating Apparatus Co., at 197 Fulton Street in New York. The torches appear to have model numbers unique to the USA market. The examples which I've seen have the US company name marked on the filler cap. I have a catalog for Primus Cooking & Heating Apparatus Co.

Primus torch products also appeared in a Globe Gas Light Company, of Boston, catalog (which I have) in 1897.

Primus appear to have licensed A.E. Lovett Co., at 63 Park Place, New York, to make torches, fire pots and lamps to Primus' designs. (I have a Lovett catalog.) I've seen examples of torches sold by Lovett, which were variously marked Lovett and Primus.

### Sievert

Max Sievert had an operation at 15 Beacon Street, in Boston, named Sievert Torch Company. (I have a 12-page catalog.) The torches appear to be identical to the European product line.

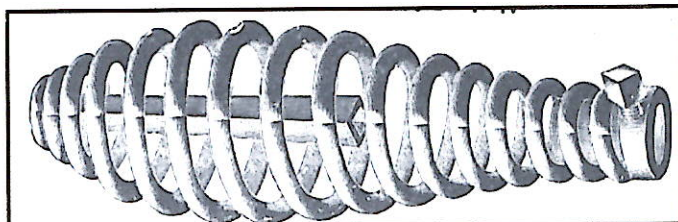
### Optimus

Additionally, an American distributor, REMCO, at 35 Pearl Street, New York, advertised Optimus European-style torches. In a European catalog, Optimus also offered a line of American-style torches, including an auto torch...these occasionally show up in the US.

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## ALASKA HANDLE

In late 1897, **Troy Nickel Works** of Albany, New York introduced the Alaska Soldering Iron Handle, and by 1898 they were experiencing a heavy demand for the "cold" handle.



The ALASKA Handle, manufactured by  
Troy Nickel Works, Albany, New York

The Alaska handle would fit any size soldering iron, and was also adapted to furnace doors, stove utensils, and blow torch valve handles. We're not aware of any patents issued for the Alaska handle, and according to Troy Nickel Works advertisements, they were the only manufacturer. The handle sold for 25 cents in 1898.

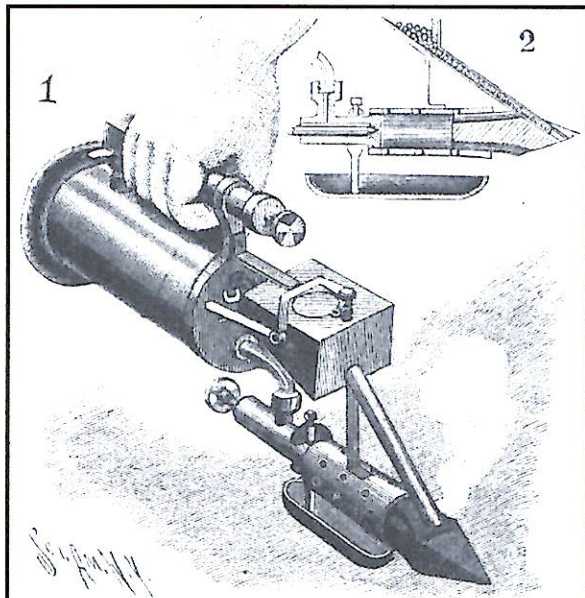
The Alaska handle exists today, and is utilized in many applications. Anyone that owns and operates a wood-burning stove can attest to the efficiency of the handle, and appreciate the simplistic but effective design.

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**BARBER'S  
SOLDERING  
IRON**

While researching through a December 4, 1897 issue of *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, **Charles Smith** noticed an article on a patented Soldering Iron invented by John Barber. Barber's patent, no. 593,918 dated November 16, 1897, is described in great detail in the article, but provides no indication that the soldering iron was ever manufactured. We suspect that *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN* was intrigued by the device and took the time to have an illustrator draw a sketch of what the soldering iron would look like in operation.





Barber's Soldering Iron  
An artist's rendition of the tool in operation.  
It's doubtful that the iron was ever manufactured.

You'll note from the illustration that the iron had a receptacle that fed shot-like solder pellets to the soldering tip, and the operator could control the pellet feed by a lever near the handle. The iron was somewhat versatile and could also double as a blow torch by removing the soldering copper and pellet receptacle.

We won't be adding this one to our manufacturer listing until we can substantiate that the soldering iron was actually produced.

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## BLOWLAMP SOCIETY MEETING

Graham Stubbs attended a business meeting in England that coincided with the Blowlamp Society May meeting, and the following are Graham's comments:

"Stephanie and I were once again fortunate to attend the May meeting of the UK Blowlamp Society, held in Lingfield, a village in Southern England. There were 21 attendees from France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany...plus we two from the USA, and 46 from England and

Wales. The UK group has about 120 members, so that's a pretty good turn out."

"Once again, a principal activity was the trading and exchange of blow lamps. This year I noticed an even greater interest in American blow torches, and some of the European collectors have become very knowledgeable about them. Several of the collectors are also members of our BTCA group."

"I was given the opportunity to speak about BTCA, and I encouraged the European collectors to consider a trip to Las Vegas to attend our annual convention later this year. In the process, three new members joined BTCA."

"Andy Feast had done a terrific job of setting up the event, with special tables and stands made in his engineering shop. One again, Andy's wife, Vera, provided an excellent and continuous lunch. Asked if he had any special message for the American group, Andy said "Tell the guys to come and see us in 2005."

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## SAD & FAMOUS

It's amazing how, with a bit of research, details start to come together and make sense. Over a relatively short period of time **Charles Smith** has been able to put together enough information from the late 1800's periodical publication *THE METAL WORKER* to recognize another unknown torch manufacturer.



The National Sad Iron Company, St. Louis MO  
Patented Paint Burner, circa 1889

In 1889 the **National Sad Iron Company**, St. Louis, Missouri, started manufacturing a new paint burner. The inventor, Gustavos Heidel, filed an application with the US Patent & Trademark Office on May 22, 1888, and was issued a patent



# FAMOUS CONT.

for the paint burner on April 2, 1889. The patent, number 400,455, was issued as a Self Heating Soldering Iron, however, the patent included a flaring point piece that could be substituted for the soldering tip, and would provide the type of flame required to burn off paint. The final design also added a drip cup, and the fuel entry was relocated from the rear wood handle to a wing nut on the cylindrical fuel tank.

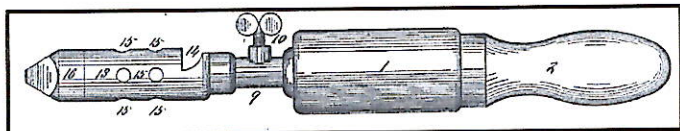


Illustration from patent no. 400,455, issued April 2, 1889 to  
The National Sad Iron Co., St. Louis, MO  
(Note absence of drip cup.)

The article printed in the May 25, 1889 issue of *THE METAL WORKER* states that the paint burner produced a hotter fire than other burners of the same type, was less trouble to handle, could not explode, and would burn 3 hours with one filling. From the patent information and appearance, the design appears quite simple and the construction looks to be heavy duty with fairly thick material throughout.

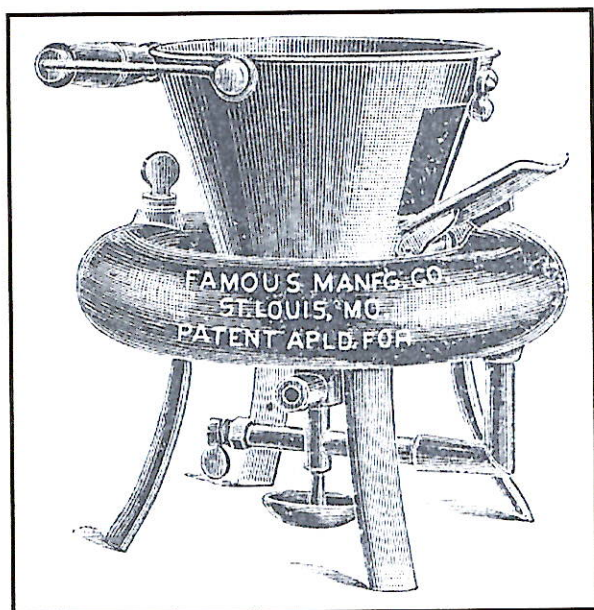
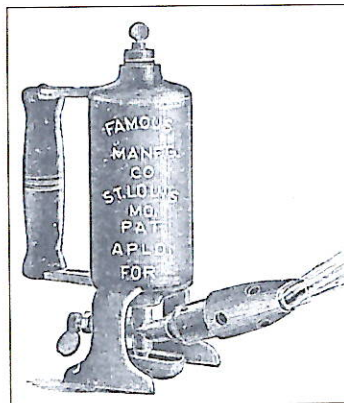


Illustration for the Famous Manufacturing Company  
Patented Plumbers' Stove  
Circa 1890

Some time between 1889 and 1890 the National Sad Iron Company changed its name to The Famous Mfg. Company and continued on in St. Louis. And in late 1890 they introduced an unusual looking plumbers stove, and named it the Famous Self Heating Plumbers' Stove.

From the illustration taken from *THE METAL WORKER* article, you can see the unusual donut-shaped fuel tank surrounding the heating vessel, and the burner assembly feeding up into the vessel from below.

While other competing plumbers stoves were made of thin sheet metal with soldered or brazed joints, the Famous Plumbers Stove was made of heavy cast brass throughout. And since the fuel was gravity fed into the burner assembly, there was no air pump to deal with or repair. While the wording on the stove in the illustration indicates that a patent was applied for, we have not yet located the patent.



The Famous Mfg. Co. Self-Heating  
Plumbers' Torch, circa 1891  
(Nearly identical to patent illustration.)

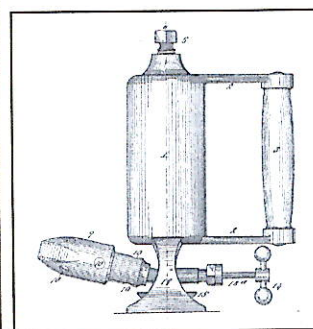


Illustration from patent no.  
459,288, Sept. 8, 1891  
Assigned to  
The Famous Mfg. Co.

Early in 1891, Gustavos Heidel made a second application to the US Patent & Trademark Office for a paint burner, and in September 8, 1891, he was awarded patent no. 459,288. What's so unusual is that in early 1891 The Famous Mfg. Co. introduced Gustavos' patented device.... And instead of naming it a Paint Burner, it was marketed as The Famous Self-Heating Plumbers' Torch.

The plumbers' torch or paint burner was made of heavy cast brass throughout without brazed or soldered joints. It's stated in the article that every torch was subjected to a test of 250 pounds per square inch of hydraulic pressure before leaving the factory.



## FAMOUS CONT.

This device also did not have an air pump and the gasoline was gravity fed to the burner located at the bottom of the fuel tank.

In late 1891, Gustavos made application to the patent office for a Gasoline Torch, and on November 8, 1892 he was awarded patent no. 486,039. From the patent illustration, the Gasoline Torch patent has many similarities with the April 2, 1889 patent and included a drip cup, separate fuel entry cap, and an offset burner. The construction appears to be heavy cast brass and the design did not include an air pump.

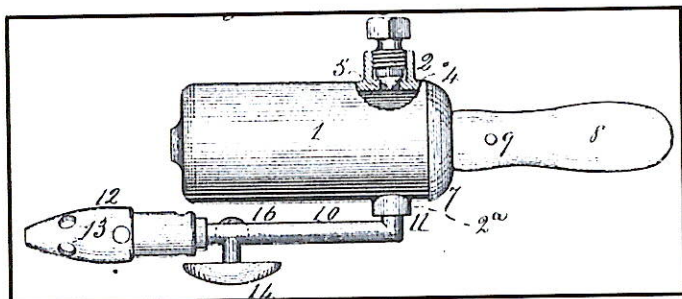


Illustration from patent no. 486,039, issued November 8, 1892  
Assigned to The Famous Mfg. Co., St. Louis, MO  
(No indication of production.)

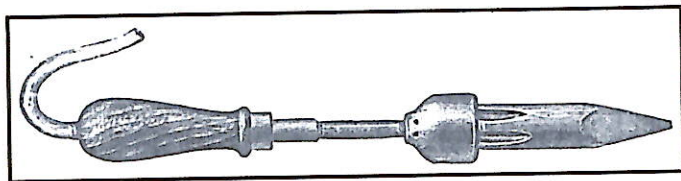
There's no indication that the 1892 patent was ever produced as a torch, and there were no subsequent advertisements or articles on The Famous Mfg. Co., which leads us to believe that the company either ceased operating or was bought out by a competing company.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

## KEEN & HAGERTY

On August 13, 1889, Charles L. Wagandt was issued patent no. 408,772 for a Soldering Iron that burned a mixture of city gas and air (we're not sure why they called it city gas). The patent was assigned to Keen & Hagerty, and in July of 1892 the **Keen & Hagerty Co.** of Baltimore, Maryland introduced the gas and air soldering system to the market.

It's interesting to note that the soldering system is identical to the patent illustration, right down to the shape of the soldering copper.



Keen & Hagerty Soldering System  
Patented August 13, 1889  
Manufactured in 1892

The gas/air mixture was fed to the iron through a rubber tube, then up through the hollow handle where it exited just behind the soldering copper head. The soldering copper had flared sides that allowed the flame to heat the copper from the side and rear and did not interfere with soldering. The soldering system was used extensively throughout the Keen & Hagerty manufacturing facility, and was sold to numerous types of manufacturers including toy companies and can factories. Because the copper was heated from the back and sides, the copper would last longer than conventional coppers, and when it finally did wear out from excessive use, only the copper piece had to be replaced.

Blow torch collectors should revisit their soldering irons to verify if they own a Keen & Hagerty iron. Look for the hollow wood handle and the flared sides on the soldering copper.... and please let us know if you find one.

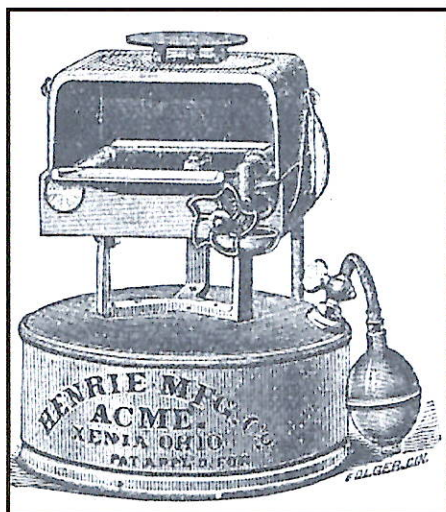
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## HENRIE MFG CO.

Thanks to the research efforts of **Charles Smith**, another unknown manufacturer has been uncovered in *THE METAL WORKER*, a trade publication from the late 1800's.

The **Henrie Mfg. Co.**, Xenia, Ohio produced an ACME line of gasoline soldering furnaces, circa 1894, and in 1895 introduced the ACME JR. The company boasted of having a non-clogging burner design, and during operation all of their models would only consume ½ the fuel compared to other soldering furnaces on the market.

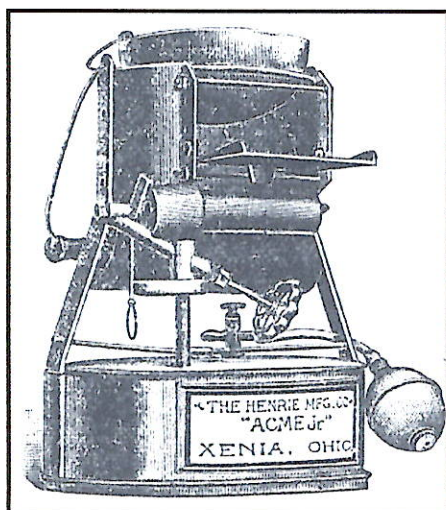




Henri Mfg. Co.  
Xenia, Ohio

ACME  
Soldering  
Furnace  
Circa 1894

The ACME line was designed for indoor or outdoor operation...even in high winds, and could heat 3 large irons at the same time while also melting solder in a pot located at the top of the furnace. The burner was designed with a unique arrangement that provided even heat throughout the oven area.



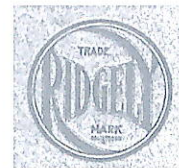
Henri Mfg. Co.  
Xenia, Ohio

ACME JR.  
Soldering Furnace  
And Blow Torch  
Circa 1895

The ACME JR had the same characteristics as the ACME, but the burner assembly could also double as a blow torch. The burner was designed so that it could be positioned in any direction for burning paint, melting a joint, or heating objects. From the illustration, you'll note the simplicity of construction, and the rubber squeeze bulb for air pressure.

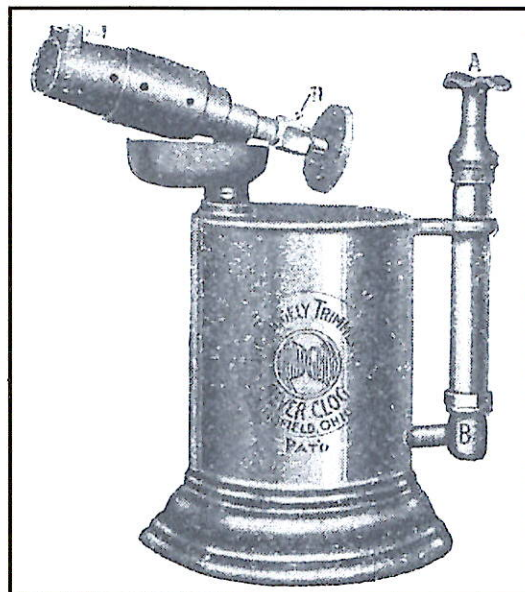


## RIDGELY TRIMMER



Graham Stubbs obtained extracts from a 1920's catalog of Ridgely Trimmer products. The Ridgely Company of Springfield, Ohio was dedicated to the service of painters and paperhangers, and had at least 2 patented wall paper cutters, or trimmers.

The Ridgely Trimmer blow torch has many exclusive features that distinguished it from other torches. One in particular is the soldering iron holder that was a low profile piece cast into the burner head, and a corresponding notch on top of the pump handle where the soldering iron handle would rest. Another feature included the location of the fuel control valve that was perpendicular to the burner assembly on earlier models, and was later relocated to an axial location. Ridgely produced two known models; the No. 365 quart size and the No. 366 pint size.



Ridgely Trimmer Co. Blow Torch  
Model No. 365

According to Graham, the Ridgely Trimmer Company name is still in use in the UK. We also know that a Ridgely lamp was marketed in the UK in 1912 thanks to an advertisement that **Walter McKibbin** sent in to us in 1998.

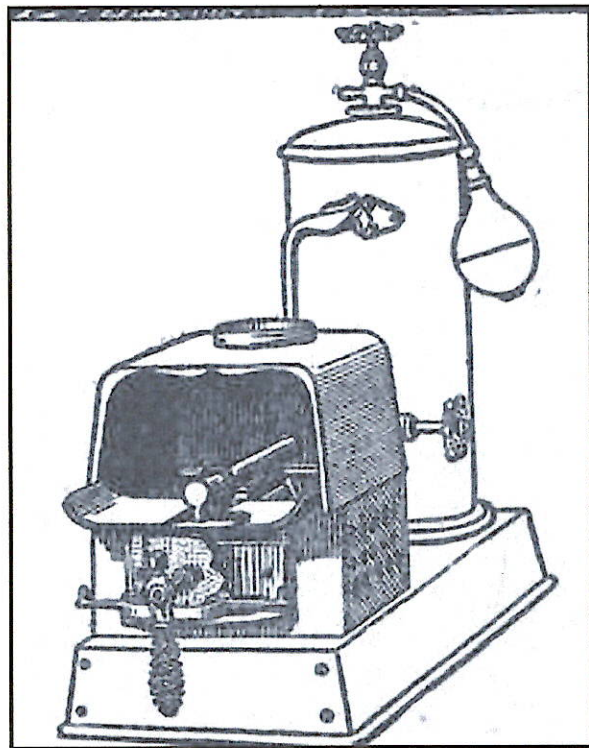




# BURGESS SOLDERING FURNACE COMPANY

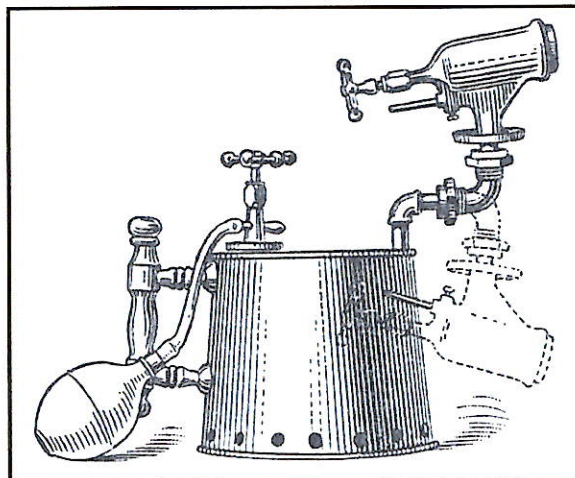
Contributing Editor **Charles Smith** has uncovered another name to add to our manufacturer listing, the **Burgess Soldering Furnace Co.**, Columbus, Ohio. According to an article in *THE METAL WORKER*, May 13, 1899, Burgess was one of the earliest manufacturers to produce a portable gasoline furnace, and Josiah Burgess patented it on June 1, 1869.

From 1869 to 1909 the Burgess Co. applied for and were awarded nine US patents, all relating to soldering furnaces. And of the nine patents, there were only two inventors, Josiah & Edward T. Burgess. Burgess started manufacturing furnaces, circa 1869, and continued the manufacturing business into the early 1900's. The company produced the GEM line of furnaces that included several styles with varying degrees of heating power adapted for the various tradesmen.



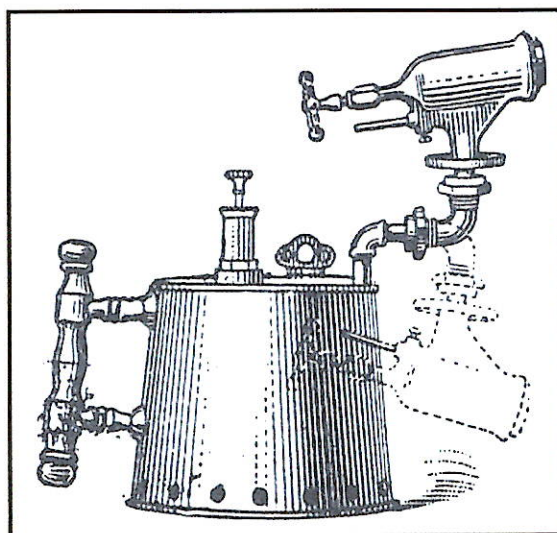
The Burgess Soldering Furnace Company  
GEM Soldering Furnace, circa 1898  
(Note the Alaska handle in the front)

Of greater interest is the Burgess GEM Paint Burner and Blow Pipe Torch. The company introduced the blow torch circa 1895, and by 1898 had introduced an improved version that included a double swivel elbow, allowing the burner assembly to be positioned in any direction.



The Burgess Soldering Furnace Company  
GEM Paint Burner & Blow Pipe Torch  
Circa 1898

The 1898 version boasted a rubber bulb for an air pump with a valve to control the air pressure. The fuel vessel was protected by a steel case, so we assume that there was an interior fuel tank of some configuration. The burner head was described as being encased in cast iron, and it's uncertain if there was a brass core.



The Burgess Soldering Furnace Company  
GEM No. 2 Improved Paint Burner  
Circa 1899



The company introduced the No. 2 Improved GEM Paint Burner in 1899 that included all of the features of the 1898 model, but was redesigned to include an air pump. The air pump was mounted into the top of the fuel tank and replaced the older style rubber squeeze bulb. There also appears to be a fuel stopper added to the top of the fuel tank, whereas the 1898 model used the air shutoff valve opening as the fuel stopper.

Either model would be a valuable addition to any blow torch collection!

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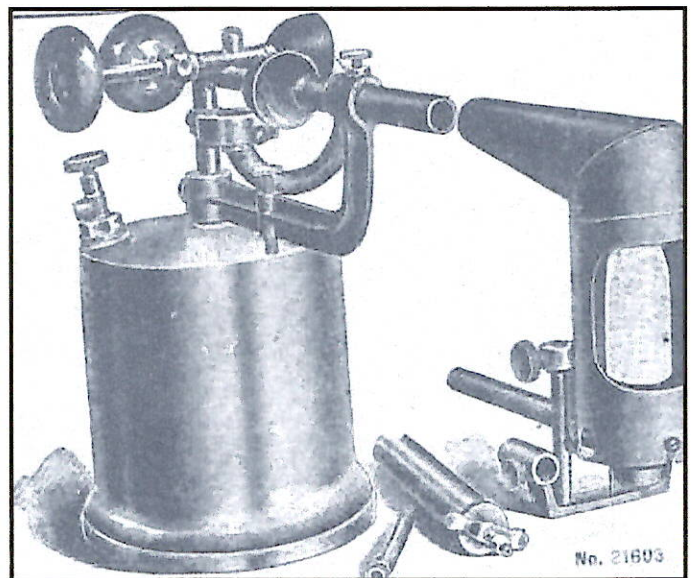
## ENTERPRISE REVISITED

Thanks to a note that **Chris Jensen** sent in to us late last year regarding the Enterprise Optical Torch, we have expanded our knowledge of this strange looking torch. Chris found an article from a 1900 Sears catalog that shows how the torch was utilized in a Stereopticon System. Since our Contributing Editor, **Charles Smith**, has available to him past Sears catalogs, we asked him to look into the subject.

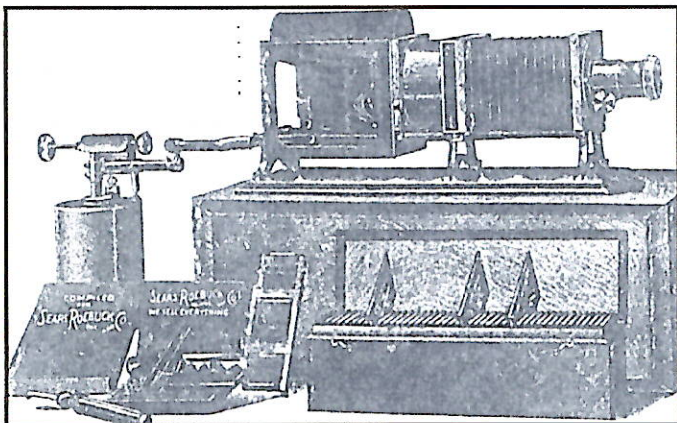
Charles located the referenced article, a full-page advertisement for a Complete Professional Stereopticon Lecture Exhibition Outfit...the entire package sold for only \$54.50. This was the precursor to what we know as a 35mm slide projector.

It appears that the Enterprise torch was positioned to the rear of the Stereopticon device, and when fired up, the flame was directed down a tube and ignited a mantle, similar in operation as today's camping lanterns that also utilize mantles. The bright light was magnified by a quarter-size lens and displayed a clear bright image on a 120 square foot white screen.

Included in the outfit were 52 transparent photographic views encased in glass, similar to a 35mm slide, but much larger. Also included in the outfit was the screen, wood carrying case, and complete instructions.



An Enterprise-style Incandescent Vapor Light  
The "blow torch" ignites or illuminates a mantle  
located in the front cylinder.  
Photo from Fall 1900 Sears, Roebuck & Co.



Stereopticon Lecture Exhibition Outfit  
Photo from Fall 1900 Sears, Roebuck & Co. catalog  
(Note Enterprise Optical Torch on left side.)

The Enterprise torch was referred to as the incandescent vapor lamp, and was also sold separately for \$14.50...somewhat expensive for 1900. The torch or vapor lamp was made from heavy-duty brass, included the air pump, and was as easy to use as an ordinary gas stove.

To date we are aware that two members own Enterprise torches; **Chris Jensen** and **Mel Olson**.

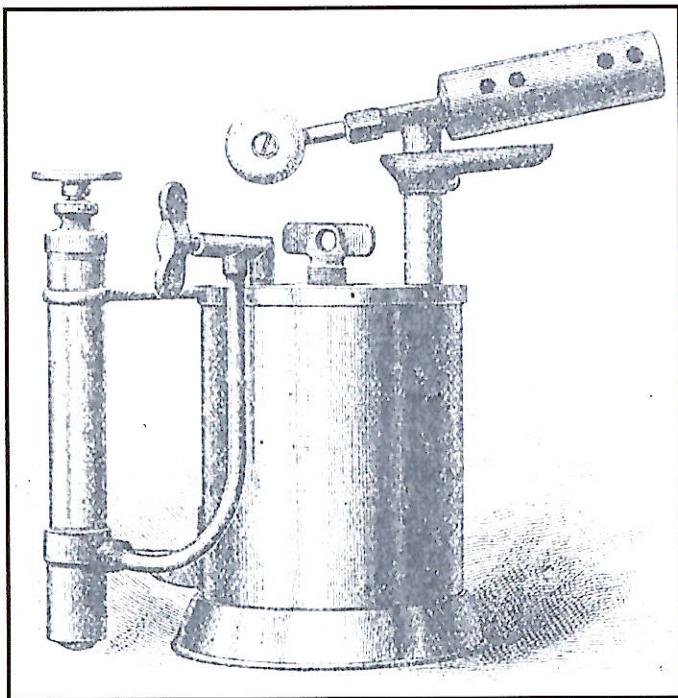
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# EMPIRE BLOW PIPE AND PAINT BURNER

The **Tinner's Machinery & Supply Company** of New York, NY, in a July 8, 1893 article in **THE METAL WORKER**, introduced an improved blowpipe and paint burner. The blow pipe/paint burner was named the **EMPIRE**, and looks suspiciously like Turner's **OLD RELIABLE** and the **Globe Heat & Light Co.** torch.

The **EMPIRE** had a heavy rolled brass fuel tank with a cast top piece that had a top extension for the pump handle. There was a fuel butterfly plug located in the top cast piece as well as the air valve control. The drip cup was cast iron and the fuel valve handle was fashioned from two pieces of wood.



Tinner's Machinery & Supply Company  
EMPIRE Blow Torch,  
Circa 1893

From Tinner's name as a supply company, we can assume that they were a distributor of parts, materials, and tools and procured the **EMPIRE** from either **Turner** or **Globe**. There's no indication in the illustration that the **EMPIRE** carried the **Tinner's** name, but the manufacturer could have cast **EMPIRE** or **Tinner's** into the top of the pump plunger. We have added **Tinner's** to our list of Brand labels, Distributors. Please let us know if anyone has any **EMPIRE** or **Tinner's** markings on a similar looking torch.

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## JOSHUA LAMBERT

Some interesting articles that **Charles Smith** uncovered included a story about the death of **Joshua Lambert** on March 1, 1902 of heart failure. **Joshua**, along with **Milton J. Clayton**, formed the **Clayton & Lambert Company** in 1889 in **Ypsilanti, Michigan**. **Joshua** was born on February 14, 1834 in **Livonia, Michigan**, had three sons and one daughter, and worked tirelessly at the **C&L** factory until the day of his death.

The 1880 US Census has the following information on the **Joshua Lambert** family:

**Joshua Lambert**, butcher, age 44  
**Maria Lambert**, housekeeper, age 45  
**John E. Lambert**, store clerk, age 21  
**Charles R. Lambert**, store clerk, age 20  
**Bert Lambert**, in school, age 14  
**May Lambert**, in school, age 17

(Eight years later **Joshua** is "promoted" from a butcher to the Vice President of the **Clayton & Lambert Company**, and his three sons all landed prominent positions at early ages.)

When the **Clayton & Lambert Company** was organized and incorporated in 1889, **Milton J. Clayton** was President, **Joshua Lambert** was Vice President, and of **Joshua's** three sons; **John E. Lambert** was Secretary/Treasurer, and **Charles R. Lambert** & **Bert Lambert** were Board Directors.

It's also interesting to note that **John Lambert** and **Charles Lambert** were the only two **Lamberts** that had patents issued, **John** with one and **Charles** with six. **Charles** son, **Charles F. Lambert** also had one patent in 1930. Only one



patent was issued to Milton J. Clayton...on January 15, 1889...the year that the Clayton & Lambert Company was incorporated. Milton assigned that patent to the four Lamberts, Joshua, Charles R., John E., and Bert.

And the Clayton & Lambert name lives on with the Clayton & Lambert Company, located in Buckner, Kentucky. They manufacture stainless steel swimming pools for commercial and residential use and large industrial storage structures. You can visit their website at [www.claytonlambert.com](http://www.claytonlambert.com).

Of the three sons of Joshua Lambert, Charles R. Lambert's family was to carry the Lambert name forward. Charles R. Lambert died in 1921, and in 1925 his son Charles F. Lambert became President of the C&L Co. In 1967 Charles F. relinquished his office to Laurie Rautio, and in 1980 Mr. Rautio unexpectedly passed away. At that time Charles F. Lambert Jr. was appointed President and is presently Chairman of the Board and Treasurer.

Charles F. Lambert Jr. also has four sons and all are officers of the company; John Lambert, President, Todd Lambert, Vice President, Charles Lambert III, Board Secretary, and David Lambert, Director.

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## BTCA 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

We are betting (like most visitors do in Las Vegas) that the excitement, allure, and available entertainment of Las Vegas, Nevada will bring many attendees to this year's event. Please see the attached packet of information for details, directions, and contact numbers. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ron Carr at 702-395-3114, or email to [RMCarr1@cox.net](mailto:RMCarr1@cox.net). Mailing address is: 6908 April Wind Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89131-0119

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## THE TORCH

Official publication of the Blow Torch  
Collectors Association is published  
three times per year,  
March, June, & December.

Editor  
Contributing Editor  
Contributing Editor

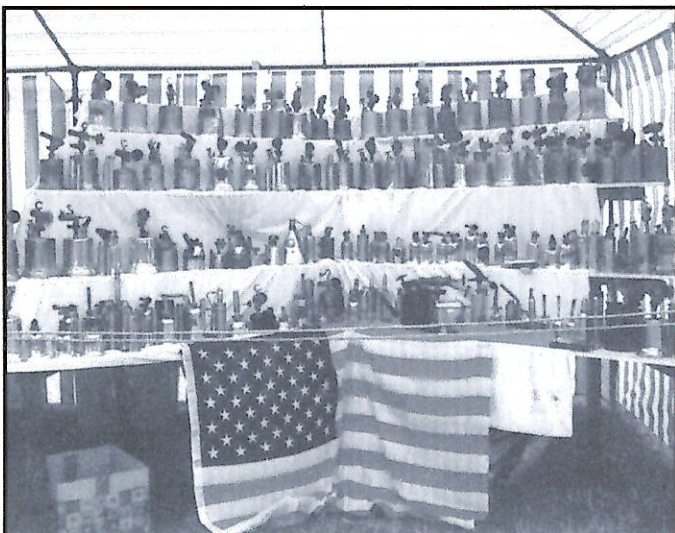
Ronald M. Carr  
Graham Stubbs  
Dr. Charles Smith

**THE PURPOSE** of BTCA is to preserve the history of blow torches and related equipment, to encourage the identification, classification, and exhibiting of such equipment, also to promote the study and better understanding of operation, purpose, and application.

Membership in BTCA is open to any person sharing its interests and purposes. For membership information, write to: Ron Carr, 6908 April Wind Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89131-0119, email to: [RMCarr1@cox.net](mailto:RMCarr1@cox.net), or by phone: (702) 395-3114.

*THE TORCH* encourages contributions from anyone interested in our purpose. Articles can be submitted in any format and should include supportive literature whenever possible. All submittals should be sent to Ron Carr at the above address.

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Andy Feast's US Manufactured Blow Torch Display  
At the Blowlamp Society Meeting, Lingfield, England  
Over 130 US Torches on Display  
Photo by Graham Stubbs