THE TORCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLOW TORCH COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
Issue #62 June 2015

John S. Hull Soldering-Iron Heaters created by **Mike Gratz**, see page 8.

A Turner/White No. 31 one-gallon brass-tank "Combination" Furnace.
From the collection of **Graham Stubbs**, see details on page 15.

A Clayton & Lambert No. 197K Blow Torch.
From the collection of **Patrice Faye**.

NEW MEMBERS

Frank Bellovary of Waukesha, Wisconsin is a twenty-five year collector and has returned to BTCA thanks to the generosity of his son, Tony, who also purchased the reference book VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES for his dad.

Doug Berglund of Kalispell, Montana.

Trudy Dickerson of Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Dan Durickas of Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Tony Farrer of Bremen, Indiana.

Manuel Favignano of Foley, Missouri.

WELCOME ABOARD!

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Gary Fye sent in a few photos of some recent blow torch purchases that he secured from an estate in San Francisco. One in particular caught our attention…a Russian blow torch. From the photos, it does not appear to use the drip cup starting method. According to Gary, the fuel tank is made from a ferrous metal, the burner and other smaller parts are brass, and the handle is made of black plastic….or possibly Bakelite.

Don Weber uncovered a feature in one of his Clayton & Lambert No. 158 torches that he had never seen before. You can see in the photo at right the embossed information: MADE BY CLAYTON & LAMBERT MFG. CO. DETROIT MICH. U.S A. This is a feature in C&L torches that we never mentioned in either of our two reference books. According to Don, the C&L logo is also stamped into the front of the fuel tank, and is also marked with C&L Everedy Pat Nos. 1364194, 1569479, other Pats. Pend – Trade Mark. You should check your C&L torches for this feature and let us know if you find one. <u>Look at the photo closely; do you see the error in the embossed info?</u>

Then there is the amusing note that **Jim Minton** sent in after reading the last issue of THE TORCH. *"I really enjoy the newsletters and am always showing it to my friends. They usually say I am a little off on blow torches, but I enjoy the ribbing. We also like the other ads and/or stories about other subjects from the past eras. I especially liked the Thompson sub-machine gun article from a past issue and the recent "Crapper" toilet history. My grandkids were amazed at the toilet evolution."*

Lloyd Weber uncovered a Hydrocarbon Burner Co. kerosene stove, with the trade name; KHOTAL, in his polishing room that he misplaced. It has embossed patent dates of 1887, 1899, and 1901 on the fuel tank. It is very similar to the one shown in the advertisement on page 146 in MORE VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES. It is an advertisement from 1902 that depicts three different types of stoves with prices ranging from $3.75 to $9.00.

We were contacted by Adrian Mees through our BTCA website (he is not a BTCA member). He found a New Zealand made blow torch in the back of the garage when he purchased his home sixteen years ago. It measures 23.5 inches long and the wording around the outside of the oval plate is: "The McLeod Patent Fire Brand Co. Ltd." with "Wellington, New Zealand" in the center.

It appears to be mostly made from brass. The filler cap has a faint impression of a sheep or ram's head, with the word "patent", or "patented" under the head, and stamped below what looks like the number 2170. According to **Graham Stubbs**, our patent expert, many New Zealand blow torches were patented in Australia. McLeod shows up in two Australian patents dated 1904, although neither patent bear any resemblance to Adrian's blow torch, perhaps some of the patent features were utilized in the blow torch design. Does anyone have any information regarding this torch?

According to **Gene Denu**, *"once again the value of our BTCA organization is apparent. Even before I received my March 2015 issue of THE TORCH, I received a call from new member **Ed Franklin**, who identified the fuel tank of my homemade torch, shown on page six of issue No. 61 as a Coleman turbine shape model A307. It dates to circa 1915. He also advised of a valuable informative site filled with useful information on liquid-fueled pressure lanterns, lamps, stoves, heaters, and irons. Just Google **Terry Marsh Lanterns**."*

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

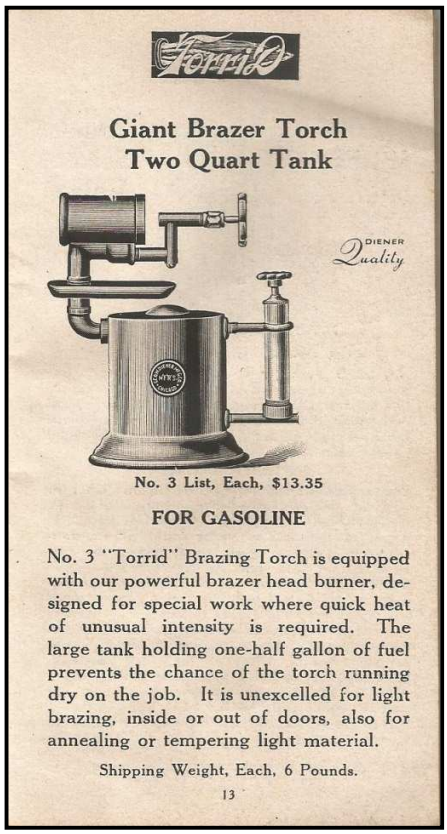
DIENER TORCHES – NEW INFORMATION, PART 2

By **Ted Maire**

This is the final part to the article that was printed in issue No. 61 regarding Diener torches.

I have been confused about Diener torches for years. Their model numbers seem to have no logic. There are less than thirty different known model numbers and they start at zero and go to 250. I have seen the same torch with different model numbers and the same model number on different torches. I have also found many models that have not been documented in the two BTCA reference publications.

Page 13 of the 1923 catalog, as seen on the right, lists a very large two-quart model 3 brazer. I am not aware of any other Diener torch that was designated either a model number 3 or 03. Interestingly enough, all the other model numbers from 1 to 9 were used for standard style torches and almost all had both a single digit version and a leading zero version. To me, this would seem to be a desirable torch. It is heavy duty and I would assume it is very well made. It would seem to be a lot of torch for the money. And yet, I have never seen one.



Giant Brazer Torch
Two Quart Tank

DIENER Quality

No. 3 List, Each, $13.35

FOR GASOLINE

No. 3 "Torrid" Brazing Torch is equipped with our powerful brazer head burner, designed for special work where quick heat of unusual intensity is required. The large tank holding one-half gallon of fuel prevents the chance of the torch running dry on the job. It is unexcelled for light brazing, inside or out of doors, also for annealing or tempering light material.

Shipping Weight, Each, 6 Pounds.

13

DIENER Quality

Pint

No. 014 List, Ea. $10.80 No. 14 List, Ea. $10.40

FOR GASOLINE

Flat Torches of exceptional quality, Nos. 014 and 14 can be carried in a small compact space.

SPECIFICATIONS

CONSTRUCTION—Bunsen tube and generator cast in one piece of "Torrid" metal. Heavily veined generator superheats the vaporized gasoline. Oversize drip cup holds enough fuel to generate the torch with one filling. Tank is made of heavy brass. Powerful automatic pump in handle. Tank is reinforced by heavy brass castings. Nickel plated wire wheel valve handle. Improved Diener needle valve.

ASSEMBLY—Extra heavy fittings. Perfectly balanced. Handsomely finished. Each torch tested. Fully guaranteed.

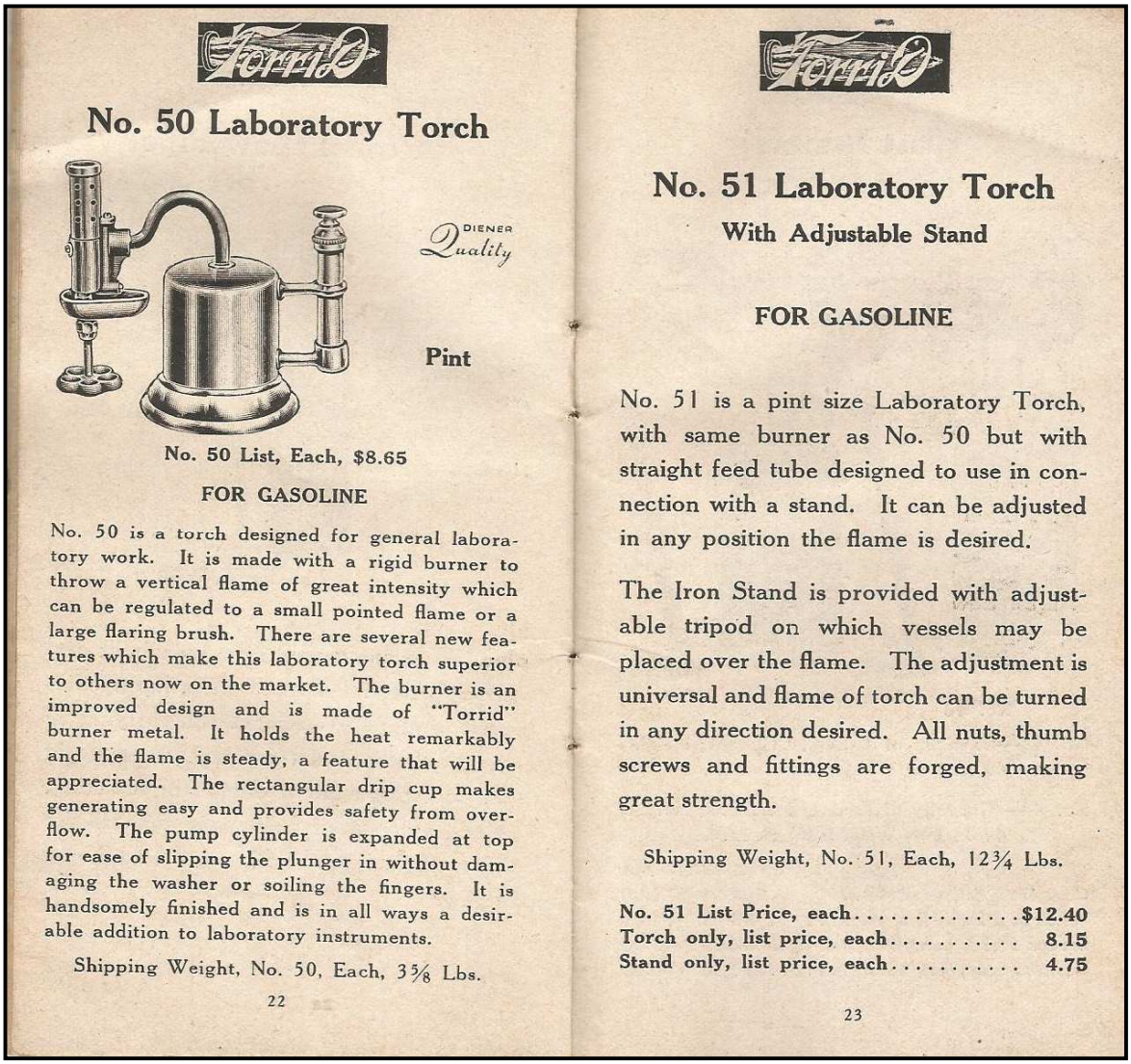
PERFORMANCE—Will operate perfectly in any weather, outdoors or inside. Gives a large and steady flame. Powerful blast.

Shipping Weight, Each, 3¾ Pounds.

19

On page 19, as seen on the left, I found some torches that are very near and dear to my heart. Since I now only collect auto torches, I was very happy to see the two versions of Diener's auto torch. The torch on the right has no soldering iron hook or front rest and is listed as a model 14. This torch is unlisted in the BTCA reference books and was unknown to me until I purchased this catalog. Since the torch on the left has a soldering iron hook and front rest, it is assigned a model number of 014. I have one of these torches and it can also be found on page 161 in *VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES*. Since the torch in VB is from the 1930 Diener catalog, it is assigned a model number 14. I don't know whether mine is a 14 or a 014 since I have no idea when it was manufactured. They don't make it easy!

Page 22 and 23, as seen below, list the model 50 Laboratory torch that can also be found in the 1930 catalog in *Vintage Blowtorches* on page 161. It also lists an unknown version with a straight feed tube and a stand with an adjustable tripod. This is assigned model number 51 and is a one-pint torch. It could be that I have seen this model 51 torch before but considered it just another one-pint torch. It's the accessories that make it different. For some strange reason, they did not show an illustration for the No. 51 model.



Torrid

No. 50 Laboratory Torch

DIENER Quality

Pint

No. 50 List, Each, $8.65

FOR GASOLINE

No. 50 is a torch designed for general laboratory work. It is made with a rigid burner to throw a vertical flame of great intensity which can be regulated to a small pointed flame or a large flaring brush. There are several new features which make this laboratory torch superior to others now on the market. The burner is an improved design and is made of "Torrid" burner metal. It holds the heat remarkably and the flame is steady, a feature that will be appreciated. The rectangular drip cup makes generating easy and provides safety from overflow. The pump cylinder is expanded at top for ease of slipping the plunger in without damaging the washer or soiling the fingers. It is handsomely finished and is in all ways a desirable addition to laboratory instruments.

Shipping Weight, No. 50, Each, 3⅝ Lbs.

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Torrid

No. 51 Laboratory Torch

With Adjustable Stand

FOR GASOLINE

No. 51 is a pint size Laboratory Torch, with same burner as No. 50 but with straight feed tube designed to use in connection with a stand. It can be adjusted in any position the flame is desired.

The Iron Stand is provided with adjustable tripod on which vessels may be placed over the flame. The adjustment is universal and flame of torch can be turned in any direction desired. All nuts, thumb screws and fittings are forged, making great strength.

Shipping Weight, No. 51, Each, 12¾ Lbs.

No. 51 List Price, each.....$12.40
Torch only, list price, each..... 8.15
Stand only, list price, each..... 4.75

23

Not all Diener torches have the model number stamped on the torch. The standard place that Diener marked the model number was on the pump knob. The unlisted model No. 033 pump knob to the right demonstrates this method. The pump assembly on my auto torch has an iron pump knob but I do have an earlier version with an unmarked flat brass knob.

The Diener one quart model number 033 on the left is another unlisted torch, and it was not included in the 1923 catalog. It has a typical burner with the reinforced muzzle, iron soldering iron hook, egg shaped drip cup, the Diener logo stamped on the front of the tank, and the five lobed control knob. It also has a brass pump cylinder and pump assembly which functions as the handle. I believe the Diener torches with the pump serving as a handle predate the torches with the more typical steel wire wrapped handles. It would make sense that by 1923 all torch handles on standard Diener torches were of the steel wire version as displayed in the 1923 catalog.

The one quart torch pictured to the right is a model No. 16. It is also an unlisted torch and not included in the 1923 catalog. This torch was manufactured sometime after 1923 since it has the soldering iron hook and front rest, and there is no leading zero in the model number. As in earlier torches, the model number is stamped on the pump knob. This torch has the pump assembly on the top of the tank and the handle is made of turned wood that is in the same style as the earlier steel wire handles.

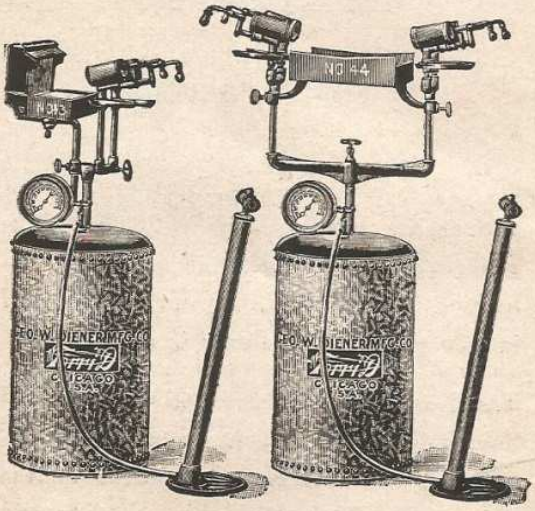
Along with newly discovered models there will always be newly found variations of known torches. The model zero (0) to the left is somewhat different from the version in *VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES.* On this torch, the burner and feed tube are all one piece. The feed tube leaves the tank at a forward angle and the burner is also angled upward from the feed tube. There are other subtle differences but this example makes the point. Diener torch models such as Nos. 2, 5, 6, 8, and 9 were probably manufactured over a long period time in either their single digit form or with the leading zero form. They were subject to variations caused by style and technical improvements. It would not be unusual to find variations in the same model number.

Also included in the catalog are the ten-gallon Blast Brazers as shown below. I've never seen anything like this but I would sure like to fire them up!

Torrid

Blast Brazers

FOR GASOLINE



No. 43 No. 44

No. 43—Capacity of Tank, 10 Gallons; Height, 40 Inches; Weight, 65 Pounds.

No. 44—Capacity of Tank, 10 Gallons; Height, 40 Inches; Weight, 80 Pounds.

	No. 43	No. 44
Complete, list, each	$62.00	$78.00
Without Pump, list, each	58.00	74.00
Brazer Head, complete, list, each	32.00	43.00
Burners only, list, each	10.50	10.50

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Torrid

Blast Brazers

FOR GASOLINE

The "Torrid" blast brazers are the **most powerful heaters** produced. They are made with heavy galvanized steel tanks tested to 150 pounds pressure.

They have **independent** 24-inch brass air **pumps,** pressure gauges and adjustable brick rests to suit any kind of work. They are equipped with No. 4B Torrid blast burners which have won a just reputation among brasiers as giving a most fierce concentrated flame and a perfect generation.

Torrid blast brazers are made in two styles as illustrated with two and four burners respectively. When mounted with four burners they are so adjusted that the flame of each burner is brought to a center point, thereby giving a fierce "torrid" flame for heavy work, for steel forgings, brazing, rivet heating, etc. Burners can be adjusted for any class of work; can be operated independently and be controlled to give any desired flame. Works with 5 to 10 lbs. pressure. Parts easily adjusted and repaired.

25

The 1923 Diener catalog has cleared up many questions that I have had in the past. My mind has a need to organize information and I just could not figure out what was going on with Diener torches. The model numbers seemed disorganized and it was difficult to determine what time period torches came from. The 1923 catalog not only told me what was available in 1923, it also told me what was not available. It enabled me to draw a line where there was none before. I could then determine what came before and what came after. It also, once again, proved that there are many more unlisted and undiscovered torches out there than we would think possible. The catalog gave me insight into the method of creating model numbers even though there are some exceptions. Best of all, for me, is that I discovered yet another unlisted auto torch. I will be looking for that Diener auto torch without a soldering iron hook and front rest everywhere I go. If I see one, I will surely pounce on it like a puma. If one pops up on EBay, I hope it shows up after I have won the lottery!

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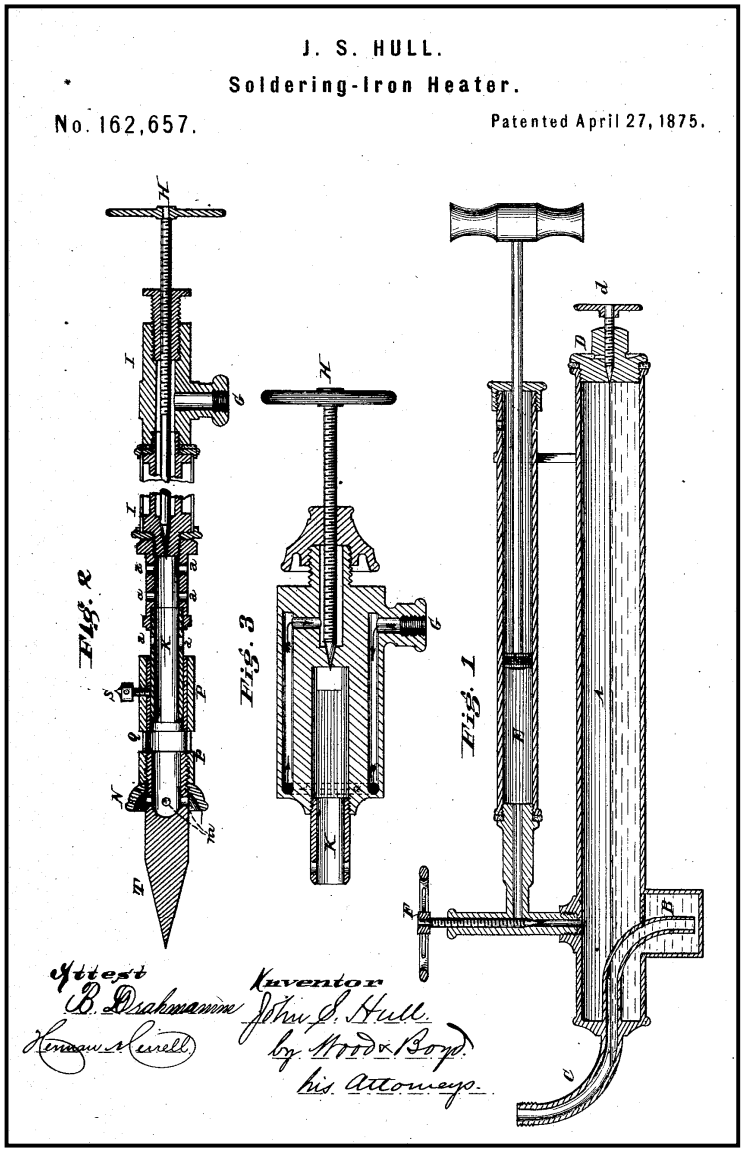
A MAN AND HIS SCULPTURES, PART V

By **Mike Gratz**

Editor Comments: This is the fifth torch "sculpture" that **Mike Gratz** has created. They are a replica of the John S. Hull, April 27, 1875 patent No. 162,657, SOLDERING-IRON HEATER. Mike produced the Hull soldering-iron heaters from raw materials and modified purchased items.

Since Mike selected a John Hull patent, it is only fitting that we provide some background information on the inventor.

John S. Hull was born in Connecticut in 1823, and in 1849, he moved to Cincinnati, OH. In 1875, he relocated to Baltimore MD, where he died in 1900. Working in Cincinnati, Hull was awarded several patents for blowpipes and soldering iron heaters. Although his early inventions reveal the principles used in most blowtorches from the 1880s onwards, no direct connection has yet been made with specific manufacturers. In Baltimore, he was head of the Hull Mfg. Co., making, principally, equipment for packinghouses. His work in Baltimore resulted in another twenty-six patents, many of them related to soldering methods used in the canning industry.


J. S. HULL.

Soldering-Iron Heater.

No. 162,657. Patented April 27, 1875.

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 1

Attest B. Drahmann Kenaw A Lurell

Inventor John S. Hull. by Wood & Boyd his Attorneys.

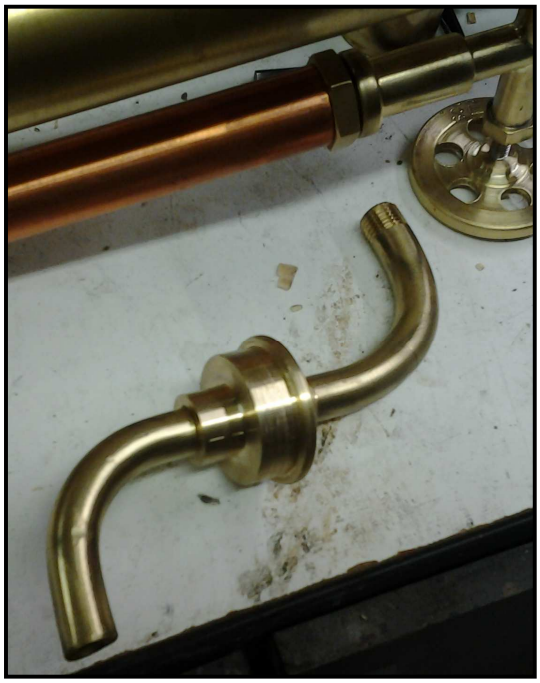
The title, "**Father of the American Blow Torch"** surely belongs to John Summerfield Hull. His eighteen blow torch related inventions from 1863 through 1878 demonstrate a progression of principles, which combine to make a single, hand held tool with all the features, including a pump, which we attribute to a self-contained blowtorch. The American blowtorch, as it existed at the end of the nineteenth century, is a direct successor to Hull's inventions. (See page 229 of VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES for the complete history of John S. Hull.)

The following are Mike's comments on design and construction details of the Hull Soldering-Iron Heater:

The intent of Hull's 1875 patent was to create a self-contained soldering iron heater to preclude the use of charcoal stoves or other separate means to heat soldering irons. Hull proposed a fuel reservoir pressurized by an attached air pump. The fuel was metered from the fuel tank to a gas generator and then to the burner. The flame from the burner impinged on the rear of the copper soldering iron heating it to a proper soldering temperature.

I fabricated **two** tank and pump assemblies so I could display both versions of the generator/burner assemblies. Hull's patent description states that the figure No. 3 generator would be best utilized in more severe weather conditions (figure No. 3 is the center illustration in the patent on the right.).

The soldering iron in the figure No. 2 generator contains a removable copper sleeve so that it will also fit the figure No. 3 generator (figure No. 2 is the far left illustration in the patent.). The photo at right shows the copper sleeve installed in one of the irons….it is the one on the left.



The “S” tube shown in the figure No. 1 patent illustration was fabricated in a tubing bender built for this specific part. Two ninety degree tubes, after being bent, were brazed into the fuel tank head piece to form the “S” tube as shown on the left.

I had great difficulty pointing the soldering coppers as shown on the right. I fabricated the first one by hand and it came up ¾” too short. I built a faceting tool to use with a belt sander and successfully made two copper soldering points to the proper dimensions.

Both air pumps are functional and are fitted with Coleman lantern pump leathers that were purchased on eBay. One of the air pump plungers is shown below complete with the pump leather.

The following are some general comments on construction and function:

I added a rear leg on to each of the fuel tanks so that the tanks could stand. Propane fittings were made to fit the end of the fuel tanks when the fuel fill stoppers and the air release valves are removed.

The figure No. 2 generator in the patent illustration uses simple heat conduction from the burner back to the fuel entry area. The figure No. 2 burner also shows a “break” that is not mentioned in the patent letter. For modeling purposes, I made all of the parts continuous, thus ignoring the “break”.

The figure No. 3 generator in the patent illustration passes the fuel to the front of the combustion area and then is returned heated to the needle valve. The model has five screw heads visible which were the access holes for drilling the passages shown on the patent drawing. No plugs are shown on the patent drawing.

I had to manipulate the air and control valve stems and wheel diameters to make the assembled heaters function. Major interference of these parts would have occurred if the dimensions of the patent drawings were used.

Both of the burner/generators were very difficult to operate. Many orifice sizes were tried in each burner before achieving the flame shown on the front page. I could not get either burner to run well with the soldering copper removed. Hull mentioned using these torches for brazing with the coppers removed, but I did not find that was possible.

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TED'S CORNER

BTCA member **Ted Maire** is an avid torch collector, but also an experienced restoration expert. Ted's restoration tips provide helpful suggestions to those many members that do restoration work on blow torches and other similar items. We always welcome feedback and would like to hear from members regarding these restoration tips….please let us know what you think. Have a restoration problem, contact us and let Ted provide a solution.

In a previous article Ted mentioned the supplies he used in his polishing process. These supplies are readily available online but almost impossible to find in retail stores. For those of you without a computer, they can be acquired using the information below:

Simichrome polish:

PremiumStore (An independent retailer of consumer products) 866 537-7083

Catalog No.	Type	Size	Cost
44605	Tube	50 grams	$10.90
44609	Can	250 grams	$31.90

The tube is about the size of a toothpaste tube and will last a long time. The can is the size of a car polish can, like the old Simonize wax cans. You don't need to use a lot. It's very soft and goes on very smooth. Just keep rubbing until you get the look you desire, then wipe clean.

Dico Buffing compounds:

These compounds can be found at Ace Hardware, Sears, and Wal-Mart. They are usually not stocked at the store, but can be special ordered and delivered to the store for your pick-up.

Below is the Dico information for Ace Hardware. You can go to the store or place your phone order at: 866-290-5334.

Item	Item No.	Price
Dico 531 TC6	21066| 082123531029	$5.99 Tripoli
Dico 531 WR1	2007003 | 082123531142	$4.99 White Rouge

I usually order a bunch, however, two tubes of each should last you a long time.

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BAKELITE

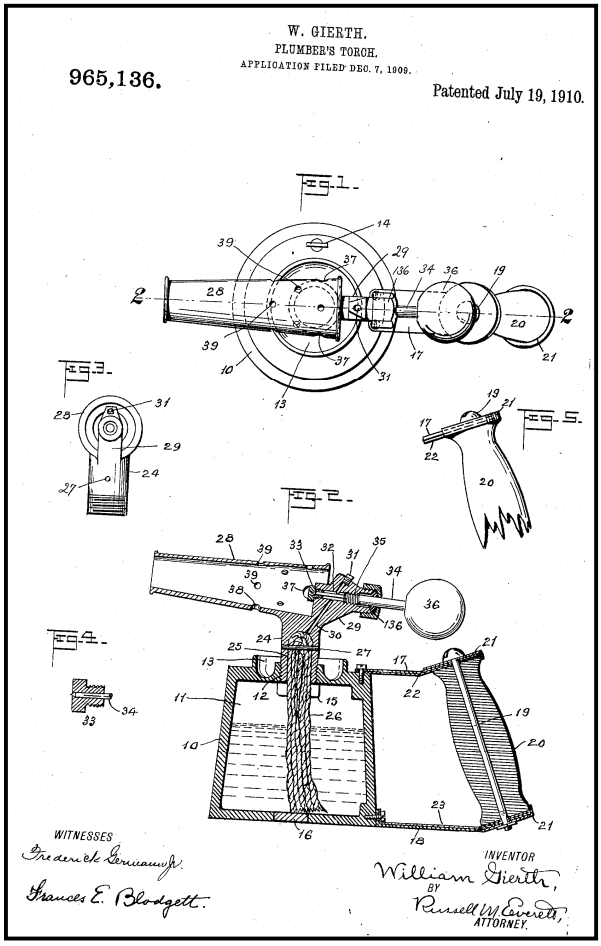
Blow torch hunters are occasionally duped into purchasing a blow torch with Bakelite parts that is advertised as originating from the 1800s. As a reminder to all blow torch hunters and especially those bidding on eBay, BEWARE OF FALSE STATEMENTS!

The inventor, Hendrick Baekeland, created the substance, Bakelite, in his Yonkers, New York laboratory in 1907, and the material was not mass-produced into useful products until early 1909.

Blow torch manufacturers found the material useful due to its durability and low heat transfer properties.

INVENTOR DIES ON TRAIN

That was the title of an article in the New York Times newspaper dated March 15, 1922. What has that got to do with blow torches? It seems that the inventor was William Gierth, who was issued US patent 965,136 on July 19, 1910 for a Plumber's Torch. Gierth assigned one-half of his patent to Edward E. Decker and the other half to Harry Gries.


W. GIERTH.
PLUMBER'S TORCH.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 7, 1909.
965,136.
Patented July 19, 1910.
WITNESSES
Frederick Gemmill
Frances E. Blodgett
INVENTOR
William Gierth,
BY
Russell W. Everett,
ATTORNEY.

Decker & Gries were in business together and manufactured a series of blow torches nearly identical to the Gierth torch patent between June 4, 1910 and February 15, 1912. We also know that Decker & Gries were manufacturing the Gierth torch prior to the July 1910 patent date because some of our members have Decker & Gries blow torches marked: PAT. PENDING.

Decker & Gries separated company and Decker continued manufacturing torches under the DECKER name starting in June 1, 1912. Our records indicate that his manufacturing may have ended in December 1913. Gries never surfaced again.

The mystery is how W.M Gierth ended up with torches marked with his name. There are very few known to exist, so it is our best guess that Decker & Gries manufactured some of their earlier torches marked with Gierth since he was the inventor. We do not believe that Gierth ever manufactured blow torches since, during our extensive research, we never uncovered a single piece of adverting or literature under his name.

What is so important about an inventor dying on a train that would warrant a New York Times article? Here is the rest of the story from that newspaper article:

William Gierth, an aged inventor, who had $25,000 on deposit with the Fidelity Trust Co. for many years without knowing it, was seized with convulsions yesterday on an Erie train and died as the train reached Montclair.

Gierth was the central figure in a legal tangle over the ownership of his forgotten fortune, and his death had made the controversy even more involved. In early life Gierth perfected his many inventions in the field of machinery and electricity, which netted him thousands. He placed this money in the Fidelity Trust Bank, making his last deposit in December, 1912. Suffering from amnesia, he forgot about the money until December, 1920.

About this time, Ralph Kutz, a clerk in the bank, discovered the "dead" account. He found Gierth a few blocks from the bank where he had been living in poverty for nine years in a furnished dingy room. By arrangement, it is said, Kutz was to receive $10,000 from Gierth if he gave him a like amount. Later the matter was brought to court when William A. Brook, counsel for Gierth, said his client did not know he was dickering with his own money.

Proceedings were started in Chancery Court by Gierth to obtain his money. The court upheld Gierth, but counsel for Kutz appealed. The case is still pending. Further complications arose when Inglis Uppercut, a sports promoter, brought legal action alleging that Gierth sold land in Newark for him several years ago and failed to make an accounting. The money is being held in the bank under court order.

BTCA WEBSITE STATUS

The Blow Torch Collectors Association was formed in early 1995 as a small group of torch collectors with a common interest. Because there was so much communicating between those few members, it was decided to launch a newsletter in March 1995, THE TORCH, so that all members could enjoy the information. Information poured in at an incredible rate and we were nearly overwhelmed with data for the publication. Over the years that information and participation from our members has slowed substantially, to the point that it has become difficult to produce a meaningful newsletter on a regular basis. This is the reason that we are concentrating our efforts on the BTCA website where we can publish information as and when it becomes available, without the limitations of the printed format.

The BTCA website (www.vintageblowtorches.com) is up and running and will, over time, be expanded to surpass the benefits we have all enjoyed with THE TORCH. Our website will boast the following features:

- There is no charge for access to the BTCA website. Much of the site is accessible to the general public. A Members Only section is reserved for features that include current articles, a chat room, and information about members.
- For entry into the Members Section, your email address will serve as your user name and a password will be provided. (For members who do not have an email address, an individual user name and password will be provided.)
- We have a photo gallery that will allow members to post photos of their torches.
- There will be available ALL past newsletters….most in color.
- We will continue with Ted's Corner with restoration articles, including those that have already appeared in THE TORCH.
- The IN THE TORCH LIGHT interviews will continue with willing members.
- There will be a CLASSIFIED ADS section.
- We will include articles submitted by members.
- There will be a chat room for members to ask questions, talk about their collections, or seek out other members that share similar interests.
- There are links to other blowtorch collector organizations, and other related organizations.
- We will include a section listing new torches not included in the two reference books.
- The Members Section will also feature a membership roster with contact information.
- An index to all past issues of THE TORCH will appear on the website.

From our records, we know that a vast majority of our members have email addresses, and those that do not have a computer may have access to the Internet through friends or family.

Those members that do not fall into those two categories have other options. Public libraries all provide free computer access to the Internet. There are Senior Centers that not only provide free computer access, but also will provide instructions or help accessing the Internet. Ask your grandkids for help….they all know more about computers and the Internet than all of us put together!

Based on the information above, we will print our final newsletter in December. You should check your membership roster that you received in last December's newsletter, No. 60, to verify your email address on file. This is the email address we will use to allow you access to the Member's Only section on the BTCA website. If you have changed your email address from what is listed in the membership roster, please send us your current email address to BTCA@COX.NET.

Graham Stubbs is working very hard to make this transition to our website as easy as possible. Please help us by supporting the site, and providing your comments and suggestions. Organizations like ours cannot exist without the participation and inputs from members like you.

DISAPPOINTING WORDS TO A BLOW TORCH COLLECTOR:

- I had a rare beauty last week, sold it for $5.
- I have some I will sell to you real cheap; I'll dig them out someday and call you. (If they do find them, they'll lose your phone number)
- I drilled those extra holes to make it into a lamp, but never got around to making it.
- I threw the torch air pump out and soldered in a tire valve…real handy.
- This one is really old, (1965), so I want $495 for it.

Words-A-Torch-Collector-Never-Wants-To-Hear offered by **Mark Pedersen**.

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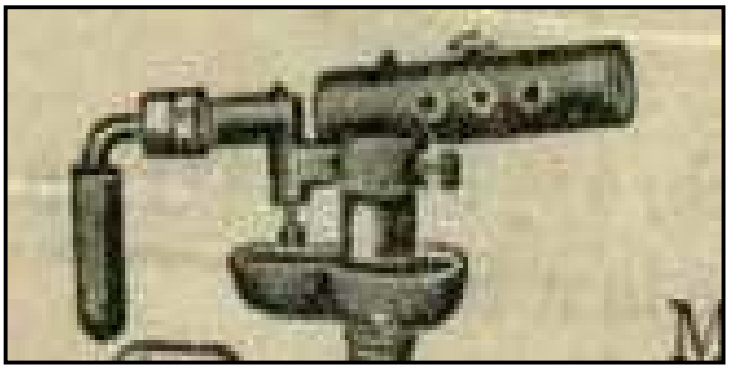
CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED: Ted Maire is interested in purchasing any American Stove Vesuvius torch with the burner below:

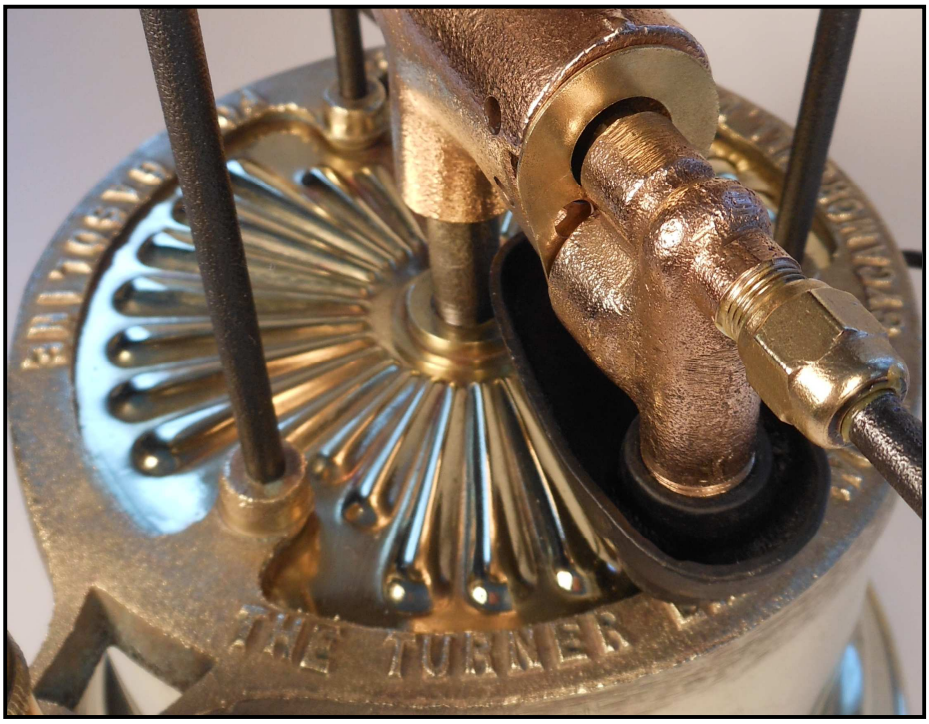


The burner must have three holes on both sides and the barrel portion of the burner should measure approximately 3 inches long and ¾" in diameter. It must be in good condition. Ted will pay $100.00 for the torch and he will also pay for shipping. If the burner has the original rubber knob in excellent condition, he will pay $125.00 for the torch. Please contact Ted at (201) 652-6718 or tedamaire@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Jerry Godin is in the process of moving to Florida and cannot take the majority of his torch collection with him due to limited space at his new location. He has 230 pieces for sale, individually or as a lot. Please contact him at 860-878-8605.

FOR SALE: One of our members **Harold Pope**, passed away earlier this year, and his widow is anxious to liquidate his entire collection of approximately one hundred torches. Interested individuals can contact Mary Lou Pope at 623-933-9882.

Regarding the Turner/White No. 31 one-gallon brass-tank "Combination" Furnace shown on the front page.



According to **Graham Stubbs**, firepots and furnaces with brass fuel tanks are very rare, probably for a couple of reasons; by WWI, brass and copper were being conserved, and the large top and bottom sections of brass fuel tanks were apt to distort outwards under pressure. Perhaps this inspired the petal pattern pressed into the brass of the flat top. This piece is one of my all-time favorites! The photos were taken by **Ted Maire** who did the restoration and polishing.

The following is taken from an Otto Bernz blow torch operating instruction card, circa 1942:

During war when these torch directions went to press, Copper Conservation Order M-9-c required tank, fittings, filler plug, and other parts to be made of ferrous metals. Each time the torch is filled, be sure to put oil, red lead, or common laundry soap on threads of the steed filler plug to make a tight fit and prevent loss of pressure. Steel tank torches are not guaranteed because of corrosive elements that cannot be avoided. Many gasoline companies do not now have clear white gasoline available, so that the user must be careful in his purchase of fuel or else the user will experience clogging difficulties, which should not be the cause of complaint to the manufacturer.

THE TORCH

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Editor **Ronald M. Carr**
Contributing Editor **Graham Stubbs**

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: Blow Torch Collectors Association, 6908 April Wind Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89131-0119, email to: BTCA@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 BTCA at the above address.

A Clayton & Lambert No. 48D Auto Torch
From the collection of **Ted Maire**
Before restoration.

A Clayton & Lambert No. 48D Auto Torch
From the collection of **Ted Maire**
After restoration.

Wayne Poapst displaying part of his collection at the Richmond Fair in 2014.