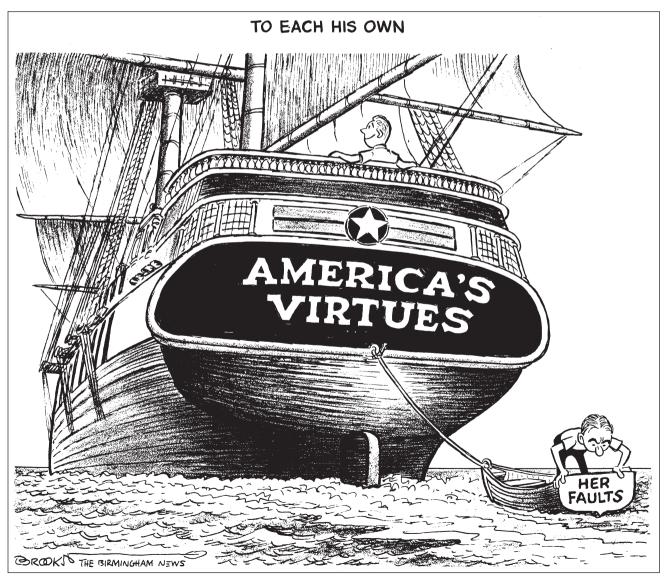
Charles G. Brooks, Sr. 1920–2011

For 40 years, in 40 volumes, Charles Brooks compiled and edited the annual you hold in your hands. On September 29, 2011, as this 2012 edition of *Best Editorial Cartoons of the Year* was in the final stages of preparation, he passed away.

He was our colleague, our friend, and a tireless advocate of the cartooning art. A past president of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists, he was an award-winner in his own right. He was the proud recipient of thirteen Freedom Foundation awards, a national



A typical Brooks cartoon, celebrating the greatness of the United States of America.

Veterans of Foreign Wars award, two Vigilant Patriot awards, and the National Sigma Delta Chi Award for editorial cartooning presented by the Society of Professional Journalists.

Throughout his career he emphasized the positive about his United States of America. To him, the United States was, and remains, a bastion of freedom, a shining light of leadership for the rest of the world. He championed individual rights, personal liberty, and one's responsibility to his fellow man. His cartoons regularly reflected those principles.

Chuck was born with a love for drawing. While other youngsters dreamed of being cowboys, or baseball players, or firemen, Chuck wanted to be a cartoonist—specifically, an editorial cartoonist for his home-state Alabama newspaper the *Birmingham News*.

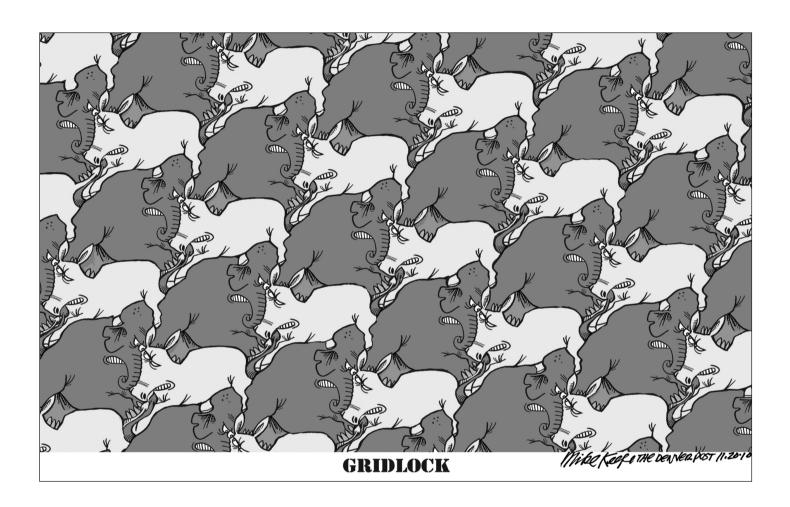
After service in World War II (which included a D-Day landing on Utah Beach in Normandy), he achieved that dream, and for 38 years his work graced the pages of the Birmingham newspaper.

He knew what he believed, and believed in, but he was also tolerant of dissenting views, a quality often in short supply in contemporary society.

Thus ends a remarkable career—38 years of practicing his art and 40 years as an editor and chronicler of the best works his fellow cartoonists. That combination of achievements as artist and editor is not likely to be surpassed.

Award-Winning Cartoons

2011 PULITZER PRIZE



MIKE KEEFE

Editorial Cartoonist

The Denver Post

Born in Santa Rosa, California; grew up in St. Louis, Missouri; graduate in mathematics from the University of Missouri at Kansas City; cartoonist for the *The Denver Post*, 1975-present; named John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University; past president of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists; three-time winner of the John Fischetti Competition, including the 2011 honor; previous winner of the National Headliner Award, the Sigma Delta Chi Award, and the Berryman Award; author of three books.

2011 JOHN FISCHETTI COMPETITION



MIKE KEEFE

Editorial Cartoonist

The Denver Post

2010 SIGMA DELTA CHI AWARD

(Awarded in 2011)



STEPHANIE MCMILLAN

Editorial Cartoonist

Code Green

A political cartoonist since 1992; self-syndicates *Code Green*, a weekly editorial cartoon focusing on the environmental emergency; draws the comic strip "Minimum Security" for Universal Uclick; author or coauthor of three books; work has appeared in various textbooks and anthologies and in several volumes of the Opposing Viewpoints series; founding member of Cartoonists with Attitude, 2006.

2011 NATIONAL HEADLINER AWARD



MIKE PETERS

Editorial Cartoonist Dayton Daily News

Born in St. Louis, Missouri; received Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Washington University, 1965; joined art staff of *Chicago Daily News*, 1965; served in the U.S. Army, 1966-67; editorial cartoonist for the *Dayton Daily News*, 1969-present; cartoons syndicated nationally since 1972; his award-winning "Mother Goose & Grimm" comic strip, created in 1984, is syndicated in more than 500 newspapers throughout the world; has 28 titles of the Mother Goose & Grimm series in print; winner of the Sigma Delta Chi Award, 1975, and the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning, 1981; previous winner of the National Headliner Award, 1983, 1988, and 1993; awarded Doctor of Humane Letters by the University of Dayton, 1998; cartoons syndicated by King Features Syndicate.

2011 THOMAS NAST AWARD



MIKE PETERS

Editorial Cartoonist Dayton Daily News

2011 HERBLOCK AWARD



TOM TOLES

Editorial Cartoonist The Washington Post

Graduate of State University of New York at Buffalo; started career as cartoonist for the *Buffalo Courier-Express*, later working for the *Buffalo News*, the *New York Daily News*, *New Republic* magazine, and *U.S. News and World Report*; editorial cartoonist for the *Washington Post*, 2002-present; winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning, 1990; among other honors, he has been the recipient of the National Headliner Award, the John Fischetti Competition, the H.L. Mencken Award, and the Thomas Nast Award; author of a book for children, *My School Is Worse Than Yours*.