Let's face it, faces fascinate cartoonists.

Often it's the big-head, small-body—life bigger than life, parts stretched and contorted for humorous image—that sparks humorous exaggeration we call caricature.

And, if we cartoonists are lucky, there is enough of a likeness to spark a chuckle, or "Yep, that's him." Or her.

More, in this sense caricature—once a dastardly art form used as a rapier for broadaxing hypocrisy and pomposity—should not be to provoke or make fun or demean the person.

Cartoonists playing the big canvas on the national and world scene so embellish faces that, in time, George Bush, Bill Clinton, Ross Perot, Saddam Hussein and other celebrated figures look like their own caricatures.

But caricature is a tougher line to master when dealing with your Pensacola neighbors.

Their faces, while familiar, are not sudden recognizable images like national figures. Sometimes, caricature works when sketching interesting faces such as Sen. W.D. Childers, retired mayor Vince Whibbs, or Pensacola City Manager Rod Kendig; indeed,
Many Pensacolians and Floridians through the years have populated my local-emphasis editorial cartoons on the pages of the Pensacola News Journal.

And frequently I'm asked to capture a likeness for an anniversary, birthday, special recognition or simply a sketch to hang on a wall—as many do with a gallery of Bowden editorial cartoons on the walls of the Irish Politician's Club in McGuire's Irish Pub on Gregory Street.

Whether it's Mayor Jerry Maygarden or Escambia Commissioners Buck Lee and Steve Del Gallo, the task is to make newsmakers at least recognizable if not comically so in this enigmatic art form.

I've been drawing Pensacolians, politicians and community leaders since the 1950s. Some are newsmakers, animating public issues; other facial images I do for fun or as friendly gestures with no reward other than the pleasure of seeing the faces come alive in my sketchbooks.

While caricature has been romanticized as a powerful art form capable of effecting change, exposing corruption, or even toppling government, rarely does it accomplish such altruistic triumphs.

Too, caricature does not have to be an offensive weapon, even though the likenesses should be rife with aesthetic appeal.

The cartoonist—casting politicians and policy makers in strange, humorous and fantasy situations—tries for a morning chuckle.

The cartoon can be the cocktail or salad before the main meal—words we editors write.

It can be pure entertainment. And should be. Certainly these faces have been fun from this point of the pen of this insubordinate doodler.

This sampling of faces is from the hundreds I hope to include in a book of editorial cartoons—from the pages of the Pensacola News Journal and other pen-and-ink illustrations—titled "An Editor Drawing Fire."
Daughters Bestow Honors

Two of Pensacola’s outstanding citizens, who together have given 56 years of service to Sacred Heart Hospital, were given a special honor recently by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

In a simple and joyful ceremony, James H. Baroco and Patrick G. Emmanuel were declared affiliates of the Daughters of Charity—the community of sisters that operates Sacred Heart Hospital. The granting of affiliate status to Baroco and Emmanuel, members of the hospital’s advisory board, marked the first time the Daughters of Charity have given the honor to someone in the Pensacola area.

Affiliation was requested by the sisters at Sacred Heart Hospital and approved by the Daughters of Charity headquarters in Paris, France. With affiliation, Baroco and Emmanuel became participants in the merits of all the prayers and good works which are done or will be done in the company of the Daughters of Charity.

During a June 17 ceremony at Sacred Heart Hospital, the affiliation honor was awarded by Sister Virginia Ann Brooks, provincial superior for the Daughters of Charity in the southeastern United States. The recognition is given to someone who has served with the Daughters and collaborated with them in their mission of serving the sick and the poor. It is a testimony of gratitude.

Baroco and Emmanuel were praised by two past administrators and the present administrator of Sacred Heart for their valuable advice and their unceasing dedication to the hospital’s mission.

James Baroco, a Pensacola businessman and civic leader, has been a member of the hospital’s advisory board since 1972. He served both as advisory board chairman and, for many years, as the board’s finance committee chairman. He has given generously of his time and financial assets to the hospital, and he is the major benefactor of the new James H. Baroco Center for Cancer Care at Sacred Heart.

Patrick Emmanuel, a Pensacola attorney, has given his time and talents to Sacred Heart Hospital since joining its advisory board in 1956. He was advisory board chairman from 1971 through 1980, and he still serves on the board as hospital attorney.

At the affiliation ceremony, Sister Virginia Cotter—president of Sacred Heart Hospital—told the two men: “We are deeply indebted to you, Jim and Pat, for sharing so fully in our mission to the sick and the poor. You both are men of deep spirituality, great personal integrity and generosity. Our prayers are with you daily as you continue to beam out your light to others.”

Faces I Have Drawn

Personality pictures illustrated on pages 24 and 25

1. Mayor Jerry Maygarden
3. Dot Brown, columnist, folklorist, genealogist.
4. Jim Cronley, Committee of 100, inspiration for tourist center at Bay Bridge.
5. Dr. Grier Williams, champion of Pensacola’s musical heritage.
8. Mayor Vince Whibbs
9. Rod Kendig, city manager, city of Pensacola.
10. Congressman Bob Sikes, legendary “He-Coon” of West Florida.
11. Papa Don Schroeder, broadcaster, TV personality.
12. Frank Tamburino, chief economic developer for the Committee of 100, Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce.
13. Nathan Kahn, Palafox Place merchant, Downtown Improvement Board booster.
14. Joe Crona
15. Capt. C. Flack Logan, former skipper of USS Lexington, now with Pensacola law firm.
16. Sherlee Aronson
17. Gen. Daniel (Chappie) James, first black officer to attain the rank of full general in the U.S. military.