

a GRAMP for all seasons



When Naval Aviation News reaches its readers, they regularly turn to Grampaw Pettibone's column, headed by a drawing appropriate to the season. Pettibone is not one to mourn the passing of the months, rather he celebrates them.

For a quarter of a century, Illustrator Robert Osborn has, month in and month out, portrayed the "longest livin' Naval Aviator." He drew him in 1943 in a recumbent position (see page 5), indicating retirement, leisure and the pleasures of living to an advanced age. Since then, Gramps only occasionally appears in so relaxed a posture. From the first, the old man jumped up and took on a life of his own. There is no single picture that serves to show this complicated character who shreds Dilbert with words and, from time to time, praises the smooth work of the "Pro's."

After leaving the Navy at the end of the WW II, LCdr. Osborn continued to serve the Naval Aviation Safety Program. With his extraordinary gift, he has not only created a legend, but given to naval aircraft distinct personalities and portrayed the Dilberts who manage to slip into flight uniform.

In 1959, Osborn received the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award, presented by Thomas S. Gates, Jr., then Secretary of the Navy. The citation honored him for his unflinching understanding of the problems of military flying and pointed out what still holds true: that Grampaw Pettibone is "the most widely read and best remembered feature of Naval Aviation publications." It is still the inimitable Osborn who produces "a Gramp for all seasons."



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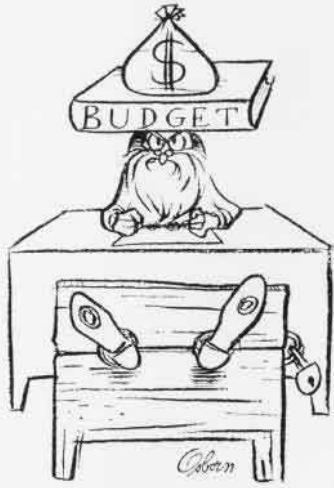


MAY





FEBRUARY



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APRIL



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JULY



AUGUST



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