Introduction of John D. Boice Jr
The 2009 Taylor Lecturer

By Robert L. Brent

NCRP 1929 2009

Forty-Fifth
Annual Meeting Program
March 2–3, 2009

Professor of Medicine, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Scientific Director, International Epidemiology Institute

Early Days

Born in **Brooklyn** in a 1945 December snowstorm

Father (John Sr) served in the US Army Aircorps and with General Douglas MacArthur in Tokyo during the Japanese occupation (and during Korean War)

Mother (Irene) was the daughter of a Pennsylvania coal miner who had immigrated from Czechoslovakia

Lived in France for 3 years & in 12 other locations, before settling in El Paso, Texas when 14 years old.

John, mother, brother Doug and Aunt Marge and cousins

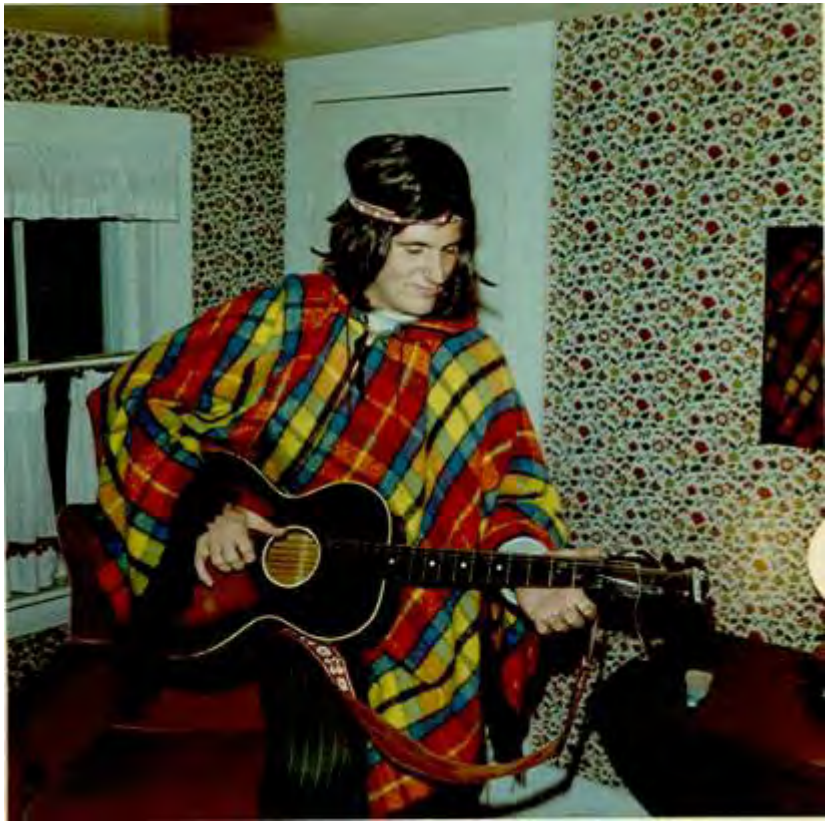
1960s – 1970s

Canoed Yukon River

Broke bones skiing in Aspen

Married his guitar teacher

Honeymooned in Afghanistan

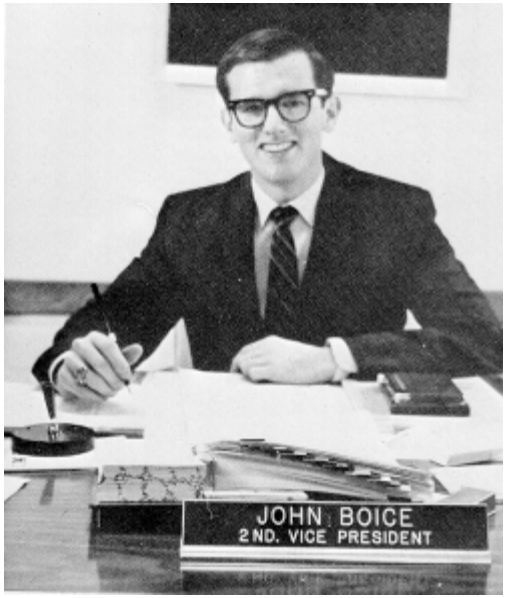


Family – Jennifer and 4 Sons 2009

Justin, Jack, Shannon, John, Jennifer, Jason, Brittin

Education – TWC (UTEP) & RPI

Texas Western College (now UTEP) with degree in **Physics and Mathematics**; outstanding Physics graduate, 1967



Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – Masters Degree in **Nuclear Engineering** and Science

The Gaerttner Linear Accelerator

Co-authored articles on Pu 240 neutron capture measurments made on the RPI LINAC

John Boice, the Basic Scientist

The outstanding graduate in physics at TWC

With an undergraduate degree in physics and mathematics

A masters degree in Nuclear Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

John Boice, the Basic Scientist & Epidemiologist

Epidemiological training alone is appropriate for performing population studies; changes in birth weight, the incidence of Cancer, birth rates, death rates---counting marbles.

However, if you are interested in the etiology of diseases, the causes of diseases from toxicological exposures—You must know the basic science of that field, or have co-investigators who have that expertise, i.e.

1) Mechanisms of Action (MOA)
2) The different mechanisms involved in stochastic and deterministic effects
3) Proper interpretation of animal studies
4) Proper and improper use of in vitro studies
5) The basic science of the field that is being studied; cancer, birth defects, genetic effects, etc.

John Boice, the Epidemiologist

Harvard School of Public Health – Masters in Medical Radiological Physics and Doctorate in **Epidemiology**

Shields Warren was mentor on his Doctoral Thesis on *Breast Cancer Following TB Chest Fluoroscopies* Richard Monson, **Brian MacMahon** and George Hutchison his teachers

28 years USPHS, CAPT (ret)
Developed and was first head of the **Radiation Epidemiology Branch**, National Cancer Institute
Worked with Joe Fraumeni, Gil Beebe, Charles Land, Bob Miller, Seymour Jablon, Dale Preston, Jay Lubin, Elaine Ron and many others

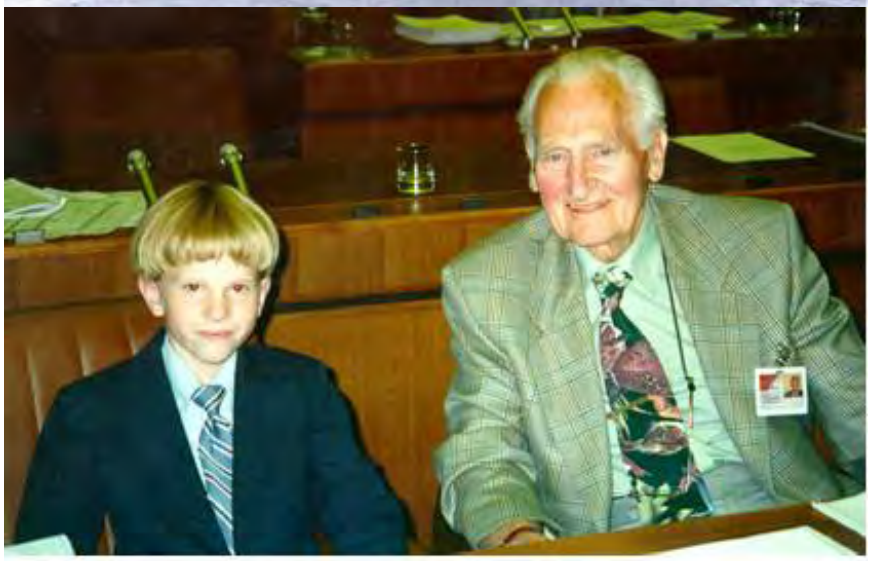
1990s – 2000s Career

Professor of Medicine, **Vanderbilt University** School of Medicine

Scientific Director at the **International Epidemiology Institute**

Son Jason, Sir Richard Doll, Vienna, 1996

GCCT Meeting – Lahti, Finland



Committees & AWARDS

NCRP, Council Member since 1979
UNSCEAR, delegation since 1994
ICRP, Main Commissioner since 1997, contributing to the 2007 New Recommendations
VBDR, Presidential appointment, Veterans Advisory Board on Dose Reconsruction since 2005

- **Distinguished Service Medal**, USPHS 1991
- **Gorgus Medal**, AMSUS (American Military Surgeons of the United States) 1994
- **E.O. Lawarence award**, DOE 1995
- **Distinguished Alumnus**, UTEP 1999
- **R.S. Landauer Memorial Lecture**, HPS, 2002
- **Failla Memorial Lecture**, NY HPS and Radiological Physics Society, 2007
- **Distinguished Scientific Achievement** award, HPS, 2007
- **Alumni Award of Merit**, **Harvard** School of Public Health, 2008
- **Lauriston S. Taylor Lecture**, **NCRP**, 2009

HPS Portland Maine, 2007

VBDR 2005-2009

Trained by famous and productive scientists to be a famous and productive scientist

While Dr. Boice is the first to praise and express appreciation for the mentoring he has received, he is the last to claim that he also has excelled as an epidemiologist, administrator, mentor and scientist.

His calm demeanor and unwillingness to confront bad science until he has performed the good science to disprove findings that he is certain are incorrect on the basis of biological plausibility, MOA or simply poorly designed epidemiological studies..

Honoring John Boice

Today we are honoring the 2009 Taylor lecturer who contributed immensely to the fields of radiation oncogenesis and preconception effects.

Who has been a tireless contributor to the work of the NCRP

Who has dramatized the contribution, importance and impact of multinational and multi facility cooperative epidemiological research

Who has consistently maintained the highest level of personal and scientific integrity in his professional and personal life.