



THE OFFICIAL NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

AAP News

Volume 35 • Number 2
February 2014
www.aapnews.org

**Did you
know?**



Pediatrician's AAP leadership history is one for the books

In the history of the Academy, there have been 84 presidents and seven executive directors. Only one person, however, has filled both of these roles: James E. Strain, M.D., FAAP, of Greenwood Village, Colo.

Dr. Strain was AAP president from 1982-'83 and executive director from 1986-'93. He also served on many committees and was a former chair of the AAP Colorado Chapter.

He has been a member for nearly 56 years.

Among AAP honors bestowed on Dr. Strain are the Clifford Grulee Award (1985), the Abraham Jacobi Award (1994) and the Job Lewis Smith Award (1997). He also received the Excellence in Public Service Award from the U.S. surgeon general (1988).

A longtime practitioner in Denver, Dr. Strain was clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Medical Center and director of genetic services at The Children's Hospital of Denver (now Children's Hospital Colorado). He also was a consultant to Head Start.

Dr. Strain helped launch the AAP Growth for the Future Campaign to construct the AAP headquarters in Elk Grove Village, Ill. He served as co-chair (1982-'84) of the project that raised \$7.2 million for the new building. In addition, he succeeded in helping to advocate for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment program rules requiring states to have periodic schedules of visits for children in consultation with recognized medical and dental organizations.

Though retired, Dr. Strain has been a familiar face at AAP meetings, and he is a member of the Historical Archives Advisory Committee, the Council on Communications and Media, the Section on Seniors, and the Canadian Paediatric Society.

Some might say Dr. Strain's efforts live up to the name of the bronze statue in the AAP Commemorative Garden that was dedicated to him at his 1993 AAP retirement: "The Sky's the Limit."

— *Alyson Sulaski Wyckoff*



James E. Strain, M.D., FAAP, the only pediatrician to serve as both AAP president and executive director, assists young volunteers in a tree planting event at AAP headquarters in Elk Grove Village, Ill.