

MIKE THOMPSON to recognize Roger Thomas, Captain of the Salty Lady, member of the California Outdoor Hall of Fame, and lifelong advocate to keep west coast salmon fisheries alive and sustainable. Many in this chamber, the California Legislature and multiple agencies have worked with Roger for decades and are proud to call this honorable and remarkable man a friend, mentor and colleague. He is one of the most decent and hard-working human beings one can know.

Roger's passion for fishing started as a child. Born in Gilroy, California, he started fishing at an early age for striped bass from the beaches along Monterey Bay and later for salmon from a small boat launched at the Monterey Pier. He was hooked on salmon fishing and became a regular customer on charter boats out of San Francisco. Before too long, one of the captains offered Roger a job as a deck hand and, as they say, the rest is history. Roger received his captain's license in 1968.

While working full-time for the County of Santa Clara on housing issues, he ran charter boats on weekends. At one point he had acquired a fleet of five boats that were run by several captains. In 1981, he retired from his government job and dedicated all of his time and energy to fisheries and ocean conservation. There hasn't been a salmon related association or council that Roger hasn't served on.

Since 1973, he has been the President of the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association which represents charter boats from Fort Bragg to Monterey and carries some 200,000 anglers each year. He is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Golden Gate Salmon Association which represents commercial and recreational fishermen and works on protecting salmon habitat. For 14 years, he has served on the Pacific Fisheries Management Council which, among other duties, sets the ocean salmon seasons. Roger is a member of the Bay Delta Advisory board, the Winter Run-Captive Broodstock Committee, the Central Valley Fisheries Coalition, the Marine Advisory Committee to the Secretary of Commerce, the Coastal Resources Foundation, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, the National Sea Grant Review Panel and the Marine Resources Committee.

Roger runs his charters on the Salty Lady out of Sausalito and Half Moon Bay. He proudly calls himself a salmon charter operation, but additionally runs whale watching and nature trips and has introduced thousands of children and adults to the magic of marine life. He has spent more than 10,000 days on the ocean and you will be hard-pressed to find someone with deeper knowledge and appreciation for that ecosystem. He also has the gift of storytelling and a mind that remembers every detail, including one of his most vivid ones from his childhood. He saw the last of the San Joaquin Spring run chinook salmon before they went extinct. His uncle took him to Friant Dam right after it was constructed. The salmon were stuck at the end of the line imposed to divert water to fields in the San Joaquin valley. They were "big fish," Roger says stretching out his arms, "just big fish."

Roger is a familiar face in Congress where he has represented the interests of the charter boat fleet and the health of west coast salmon stocks for decades. In the 1980s, he was appointed by then Vice President George Bush to the National Sea Grant Review Panel. In

this role he traveled to ports around the country and helped decide which projects were worthy and would be funded.

Roger was instrumental in former Representative George Miller's 1992 Central Valley Improvement Act and its eventual passage. The CVP is a key law to stop environmental harm to salmon and the Bay Delta. When salmon populations collapsed in 2008 and 2009, Roger worked closely with Representative MIKE THOMPSON to provide disaster relief to salmon fishermen.

Roger Thomas' tireless work has earned him the respect and adoration of countless people. With his recent tragic diagnosis of late stage cancer, it is our intention to express our appreciation for his outstanding work and lasting contributions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the House of Representatives to join us in celebrating the life of Roger Thomas who loves fish, loves the ocean, and above all loves people. He has touched many hearts, protected many livelihoods and has earned the admiration of coastal communities up and down the western seaboard.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 100 OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2017*

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Boy Scouts of America Troop 100 of the District of Columbia on its 100th anniversary, and for its long history of heritage and service. As a co-chair of the Scouting Caucus and a life-long eagle scout, I am proud to recognize the oldest Troop in Washington, D.C.

The Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910, here in Washington, D.C., when Chicago Publisher Mr. William D. Boyce and Washington, D.C. Railroad Tycoon Mr. Colin H. Livingstone filed the papers of incorporation. Less than a month later, in March 1910, the first Troop in Washington, D.C., Troop I, was formed at the G Street branch of the Y.M.C.A. On June 15, 1916, the Federal Charter of the Boy Scouts of America was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

In the summer of 1917, due to size limitations, Troop I split, with the majority of its membership forming a new Troop. Subsequently, this newly formed Troop was ceremoniously given the Troop number of "100" by the District of Columbia Boy Scout Council, now known as the National Capital Area Council.

Over the years, Troop 100 has become the preeminent Troop in the Council by virtue of winning almost every special Scout Award available, including the Service Awards, Drill Awards, Signaling & Orienteering Awards, the Evening Star Inspection Trophy, and the coveted Washington Post Advancement Trophy. Additionally, Troop 100 has a history of demonstrating patriotism and heroism. Members have earned the War Service Awards for selling War Bonds, rescued individuals from burning buildings, and answered the call of duty by serving in one of the branches of the United States military.

Today, the Boy Scouts of America has more than 2.4 million active members, and 1 million adult volunteers. The Boy Scouts of America and Troop 100 continues to prepare young people to exercise ethical and moral judgments by teaching them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and remains faithful to its mission of "patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred values," and its goal of providing "citizenship, service, and leadership."

Again, I would like to congratulate Washington, D.C.'s Boy Scouts of America Troop 100 on the occasion of their 100th anniversary, and its over 100 years of service, character and leadership development, and for instilling the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law in America's youth.

HONORING THE 154TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

### HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2017*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today we remember the Battle of Gettysburg, a clear turning point in our American history. I'm privileged and humbled to represent these hallowed grounds. This weekend, we commemorate the 154th Anniversary of the Battle—one that pit brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor, for three days of horrific and abject combat—not for hatred, but rather unbridled passion and loyalty to their respective causes; a loyalty that drove these Soldiers to give, in President Lincoln's words, "the last full measure of devotion."

Everything our Nation has achieved since that time—the expansion of freedom and liberty, civil rights, and centuries of human achievements—was borne of the sacrifice and struggle of the Soldiers who valiantly fought this Battle.

Beginning in 1888, Veterans from both sides of the conflict held reunions in Gettysburg to celebrate our unity and hopes for the future. The reunions would culminate with the lighting of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial in July 1938, the 75th Anniversary of the Battle, and the final Veteran's reunion. In the years since, millions of people from all over the world annually travel to Gettysburg to learn about our Nation's "new birth of freedom," and the National Park Service and an array of dedicated citizens and partners perform the critical work of inspiring us to learn and appreciate the significance of the Gettysburg Campaign, the Gettysburg Address and the Civil War.

On this 154th Anniversary, may God continue to bless the brave men and women who served and sacrificed at the Battle of Gettysburg. And may He rededicate us to "...the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."