

TRIBUTE TO ESTEBAN TORRES

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 1998

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor to serve in the House of Representatives with ESTEBAN TORRES, who is retiring as a Member of Congress after sixteen years.

ESTEBAN's legislative achievements stand out because they address the concerns of average Americans who don't have the clout in Washington to make themselves heard. When concerns were raised that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) would degrade the quality of life on the Mexican/American border and take jobs from lower-income working Americans, ESTEBAN worked hard to find a solution. He sponsored an innovative proposal that led to the creation of the North American Development Bank (NADBank), a binational institution that provides loans to improve the environment along the border and to create jobs for Americans adversely affected by NAFTA.

ESTEBAN has long devoted himself to measures that would strengthen environmental protections. He led the fight to address the problem of groundwater pollution in the San Gabriel Basin and worked to craft a widely supported agreement to clean it up. He worked to close to toxic chemical dump in West Covina. And, he has been the champion of legislation to recycle used oil, tires, and batteries.

When he led the effort for the World Cup commemorative coin, ESTEBAN obtained an additional public benefit by ensuring that ten percent of the proceeds be set aside for scholarships for Latino students. And, when he was a member of the Banking Committee, he sponsored the Truth-In-Savings legislation that give consumers the right to information in readable language about banks' interest rates, yields, and fees.

ESTEBAN also has a strong record on international human rights. He sponsored the Cuban Humanitarian Trade Act, which recognizes the failure of U.S. policy toward Cuba and would exempt food, medicine, and medical supplies from the Cuban trade embargo.

ESTEBAN's efforts in Congress have been guided by firm principles and compassion. It has been a privilege to serve with him and I wish him and his family all the best as he begins this new phase in his life.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY,
LEONARD AND MARY KRYGIER**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, we have all heard of the golden rule. It has a special application in marriages. Couples who reach that very special 50th anniversary are golden. They have a sheen that surrounds them, and they have earned the admiration of everyone who has the privilege to know them. On October 23, another special couple, Leonard and Mary Krygier, will be celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Leonard and Mary Krygier came from large families that appreciated one another. Leonard

has five brothers and four sisters. Mary has three brothers. They were married at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Bay City's South End. Their reception, an event I am told was one of the most memorable ever, was held at Michalski Hall. They have one son, Kenneth, and one grandson, Shawn.

Throughout their lives together, they worked hard, appreciating the opportunities that life offered to them. Leonard worked at General Motors for many years. He and Mary operated Krygier Flowers, a quality neighborhood florist shop, on Columbus Avenue. The friends and admirers they developed through this business grew into a bouquet of happiness that any of us would be lucky to have.

Their anniversary party will be held at the Olde Tyme Broadway Restaurant in Bay City, where just as they have so many times during their years together, they will be joined by family and friends to celebrate the love they have for one another, and the model they have created for so many of us to follow.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting for us to pause to recognize important events worth celebrating. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Leonard and Mary Krygier a most joyous 50th anniversary, with many, many more to come.

TENNESSEE'S DALE CALHOUN RECEIVES NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS '1998 NATIONAL HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP'

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 1998

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, Dale Calhoun is a fourth generation builder. What he builds has brought him richly deserved recognition. Mr. Calhoun builds boats. They are special boats with a unique history forever tied to the legend of Reelfoot Lake. He builds them by himself and he builds them by hand.

And this week, his talents, nurtured with four generations of family experience, were recognized at the White House. Mr. Calhoun was one of 15 recipients of the National Endowment for the Arts' prestigious 1998 National Heritage Fellowship, which recognizes outstanding contributions to America's folk and traditional arts.

Along with the National Heritage Fellowship, Mr. Calhoun received \$10,000.

For 52 years, Mr. Calhoun became a master builder of the famed Reelfoot Lake "Stump Jumper" after honing his craft with skills learned from his father, William Calhoun. His father learned the craft from Dale's grandfather, Boone Calhoun, and his great-grandfather, Joe Calhoun.

The boats are made of cypress and covered with fiberglass. Each one is nearly 16 feet long. And they are typically powered by anything from a three horse-power engine to an eight horse-power engine. The boats have become known as "Stump Jumpers" because they can go in 12 inches of water, or even less as long as the boat is able to float.

People as far away as California call to order these boats that are built to last for decades.

What's more, they have become part of the legend of Reelfoot Lake, the largest natural

lake in Tennessee. Reelfoot Lake was created during the earthquakes of 1811 and 1812 when for a time during each of the earthquakes the Mississippi River flowed backwards and filled in what is now Reelfoot Lake.

Dale Calhoun is carrying on the tradition with his fourth-generation mastery of the craft, and he is being correctly honored with the 1998 National Heritage Fellowship.

I want to congratulate Mr. Calhoun for the skills he has honed over more than 50 years of boatmaking, his wife, and his father, grandfather and great-grandfather for all of the stories they have made possible with the thousands of "Stump Jumpers" they have built by hand.

Printed below is a story published in the Union City Daily Messenger with the headline: "Reelfoot Lake boatmaker reels in \$10,000 award."

REELFOOT LAKE BOATMAKER REELS IN \$10,000
AWARD

(By John Brannon)

At Calhoun Boat Works at Blue Bank, the phone sometimes rings and rings. That's because Dale Calhoun has to stop whatever it is he's doing to walk over and answer it.

Phones ring every day everywhere. No need to get in a hurry.

But this call got his attention, took him by surprise, even stunned him. It was from Washington.

"It was unreal. Unbelievable. It's something that happens to somebody else, not you," Calhoun said. "It's like the lottery. You have a ticket but somebody else always wins."

Not this time, though.

The caller was an official from the National Endowment for the Arts. The occasion was good news: NEA had selected Calhoun to receive one of its 1998 National Heritage Fellowships.

The award, one of the nation's most prestigious honors in folk and traditional arts, includes a \$10,000 cash prize for each of 15 artists in 11 states.

Calhoun, a well-known builder of the Reelfoot Lake "stump jumper" boat, still finds it hard to believe.

"They told me I'd won but not to tell anybody about it until their press release came out," he said. "Well, the press release is out and I'm telling everybody."

Other honorees include a jazz fiddler from Kansas City, a silversmith from Oklahoma, a beadworker from Oregon, and a trio of Jewish musicians from Florida.

"These performers and crafts-people, who together represent a rich cross-section of America's many cultures, are honored for their achievements as artists, teachers, innovators, and keepers of traditional art forms," said Cherie Simon of NEA.

"They join the ranks of previous National Heritage Fellows who include bluesman B.B. King, Irish stepdancer Michael Flatley, cowboy poet Wally McRae, and acclaimed musicians Bessie Jones, Doc Watson and Bill Monroe."

Calhoun and other honorees will attend a special presentations program Oct. 5 at Washington. Calhoun said he will be accompanied by his wife, Joanne. He's already kidding about it.

"She's going to be there to get the check. I told her I'd bring it back, but that didn't work," he said with a grin.

Calhoun, who in July 1997 retired from 25 years service with the Tennessee Department of Corrections, is anything but retired from building Reelfoot Lake boats. In fact, he is a fourth-generation boat builder, in direct lineage from previous masters of the