

fishing, who reluctantly took the reins and brought a voice to the recreational fishing community. Whether it was conservation, access to our shorelines, education, or simply the friendship of bringing people together from different ages and economic background, with the sole mantra of fishing. I will forever remember his friendship and love of the sport.” **Bradly Waugh, RISAA life member and entrepreneur.**

“When our team at URI and the Coastal Resources Management Council began the Ocean SAMP process, one of our first calls was to Steve. Virginia Lee and Grover Fugate assured me that Steve would help to ensure effective and quality communication with the RI recreational fishermen. Steve played a leadership role with the Ocean SAMP and introduced us to many of the key RISAA members so that we clearly understood the concerns of this important stakeholder group as well as opportunities to connect. When I think of Steve I think of a kind and thoughtful leader – who loved to fish! We will miss him.” **Jennifer McCann, director of U.S. Coastal Programs at CRC, director RI Sea Grant Extension Programs.**



Girl Power: This Girl Scout Troop enjoyed a great day of fishing on the Bay

“I feel fortunate to have worked closely with Steve Medeiros and so bereft now that he is gone. In my various roles, a decade of them at RIDEM -- and truly through thick and thin -- Steve was always steady, supportive, and focused on RISAA’s mission. Whether weighty subjects like climate change or ecosystem-based fisheries management, or lighter topics like building a new boat ramp, fishing pier or creating a youth fishing camp, Steve was always ready and willing to roll up his sleeves to move an initiative forward. Steve built RISAA into a force to be reckoned with -- one that made Rhode Island a better place. He did that by building a team with a shared vision that included his wife Lynn. If ever there were a person whose legacy will live on, it is Steve Medeiros.” **Janet Coit, Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy NOAA Administrator.**

“Steve Medeiros, the leader who founded and built RI-SAA, created one of the largest recreational fishing clubs in New England, reaching out to and including so many club representatives on the legislative committee. In my tenure as president of the Cape Cod Salties Sport-fishing Club, Steve was a great friend and mentor. He shared many articles and speaker suggestions on various topics he was passionate about, including the striped bass fishery and public access. The Salties are a better organization as a result of our connection to RISAA. I will certainly miss my brother in blue.” **Jack Creighton, president Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club and retired Chief of Police, Uxbridge, MA.**

“Steve was a steady presence for recreational fisheries for my entire career. I owe so much of my knowledge about the dynamics of recreational fisheries and fishermen to having the honor to have worked with Steve for so many years. I will miss Steve and am saddened that I will now not be able to seek his counsel when I am working through a fisheries problem, but will always cherish the lessons that I learned from him for the rest of my career and beyond. Steve’s guidance and partnership will be deeply missed by me and many at DEM.”- **Jason McNamee, Deputy Director Bureau of Natural Resources, RI DEM.**

“Steve’s guidance and advice in the establishment and operation of the Kayak and Fly Fishing committees were remarkable and invaluable. He was available to us 24 hours a day, seven days a week, notwithstanding all his other work and obligations at RISAA. I thought of Steve as an exemplar for the CEOs of major institutions, and am one of the many who will remember and miss his friendship and guidance.” **David Pollack, RISAA founding member Kayak and Fly Fishing Committees, Chair of Fly Fishing.**



Traditionally Fishing Camp starts with an official Cast-Off with youth, volunteers as well as City and State leaders all casting at the same time.