

## The Propeller Club of the United States Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach

October 2013

# MEMBER *Spotlight*



### Gary L. Gregory

Anyone who has attended a Propeller Club Luncheon in the last 6 years would know Gary L. Gregory. It would be difficult to find someone who is more enthusiastic about, and more dedicated to, the Los Angeles/Long Beach Chapter of the Propeller Club.

Gary worked his way through college, starting at the College of San Mateo, where he earned his AA Degree, and then transferring to U.C. Davis where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Later, Gary earned his MBA in Information Systems Management, with an emphasis on Organizational Behavior and Group Dynamics, at George Washington University in Washington DC.

Some of you may also know that Gary has an identical twin brother, Chris. How confusing that must have been when both brothers not only joined the U.S. Coast Guard, but they attended Officer Candidate School at the same time! Even adding their initials to their nametags.... "G.L. Gregory" and "C. L. Gregory"..... didn't clear things up for most people. While in the Coast Guard, Gary did tours at sea onboard both the USCGC CHASE, (as a Lt JG/Communications Officer and Deck Officer), and the USCGC BIBB where he was the Operations Officer and the ship's Navigator. On 17 December, 1976, Gary reported to the USCG Captain of the Port Los Angeles/Long Beach. That was the day that the infamous SANSINENA exploded at Berth 46 in Los Angeles Harbor. Gary was immediately called back to the base where he remained for several days dealing with the aftermath of the explosion.

Gary's career took an interesting turn while he was assigned to the Marine Safety Office Los Angeles/Long Beach in February of 1990. As the Federal On Scene Coordinator for the AMERICAN TRADER spill off of Huntington Beach, he became the liaison to the California State Lands Commission (CSLC). On September 24th, 1990, the Lempert-Keene Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act passed which established the Marine Facilities Division of the CSLC. On November 1st, 1990, Gary retired from the USCG as a full Commander and became a consultant to CSLC, later becoming the first Chief of the Marine Facilities Division (MFD). During his 20 years as Division Chief, Gary also acted as the Assistant Executive Officer of CSLC (3 years) and interim Administrator of OSPR (15 months).

*continued on page two...*

...continued from page one

During both Deepwater Horizon and the Embridge Pipeline Spill (in Marshall, Michigan), Gary was asked to be a member of the response teams. He spent several weeks at each of these spills lending his expertise to the Incident Command.

Gary retired from State service in December of 2010 and worked (with his twin brother) at O'Brien's Response Management for a short while before starting his own consulting firm, Gregory Maritime Consulting. When his predecessor, the 2nd Division Chief (Don Hermanson), retired in December of 2012, Gary returned to the MFD to once again "take the reins" as Division Chief.

Two highlights of Gary's Coast Guard career are writing the Shipboard Fire Fighting Policy (which is still in force today) and meeting his lovely wife, Kathryn. At the time, Kathryn was Lt JG USCG Kathryn Miller.



Gary and Kathy have raised 6 children (including Gary's triplet sons) and they now have 10 grandchildren. Gary has enjoyed race car driving his whole life. Between the years 2000 and 2009, he became more serious about track racing and won several Championships.

Gary's dream car is a Porsche 911.

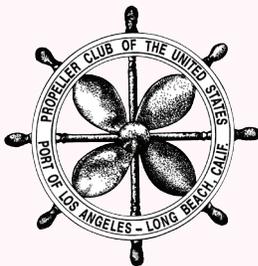


Gary has a long history of supporting equal rights, both civil rights and women's rights. You may hear



Gary saying his favorite quote from time to time, "Honesty, Integrity, and Loyalty". These are words that he lives by.

If you don't already know him, please make a point to introduce yourself to Gary at the next Propeller Club event!



## The Propeller Club of the United States Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach

P.O. Box 4250, Sunland, CA 91041  
Phone: (818) 951-2842 • Fax: (818) 353-5976  
[propellerclub.lalb@verizon.net](mailto:propellerclub.lalb@verizon.net)