

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

September 2010

# MEMBER *Spotlight*



### **Chris Minus**

Vice President, Business Development (Retired)  
SSA Marine

The Propeller Club is proud to salute Chris Minus in this quarter's member spotlight. After 22 years with SSA Marine, Chris retired on August 1, 2010. He and his lovely wife, Terri, moved to St. George, UT and as if retirement, a move and a daughter's wedding in Seattle in August weren't exciting enough, they are also embarking on a new humanitarian business venture that will take advantage of Chris's brilliant knowledge of the industry, extensive contacts, and a desire to contribute to the those less fortunate.

Born in Burma (now Myanmar), Chris spent his early years in Burma, India, Pakistan and England where his dad worked for the British Foreign Service. The family immigrated to Portland, Oregon when Chris was seven. He attended grade school and high school in Portland and graduated from Portland State University with a B.S. in Economics.

Chris entered the maritime industry in 1971 working for Williams Diamond and later joined Matson Agencies in marine operations in Portland and Los Angeles. He joined SSA Marine in 1988 in a business development position. He spent some time on the terminal/stevedoring side of SSA Marine and returned to business development in 1996. In 2000, Chris began working with the Federal Government to establish SSA Marine as a significant contractor to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and USAID.

The business partnership that Chris recognized for SSA to become a player in the global food and humanitarian aid effort is what led to his "post retirement" venture. Chris attended national conferences over the last ten years that continued to broaden his understanding of the humanitarian process and the continuing need for help on a worldwide basis. He also gained a clear perspective of the hurdles and intricacies of government regulations. With this understanding and his retirement looming, Chris saw a perfect opportunity to apply his skills, passion and experience on a personal level in the humanitarian arena. There are many NGO's (Non Government Organization) and PVO's (Private

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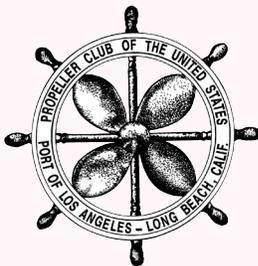
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Volunteer Organization) that do significant work to facilitate assistance in food education and crisis management for local and/or global needy communities. They are in continual need of donations and money to continue their work. His goal is to create a foundation which would be funded by his logistical contract work with the Federal Government that will provide some of the much needed funding to selected NGO/PVO's. Chris has developed a creative and innovative way to apply his 40 years of industry knowledge toward creating a business that will fund a foundation to assist organizations trying to alleviate some of the suffering worldwide.

Chris has been an energetic contributor of the Propeller Club of Los Angeles-Long Beach and has had a significant impact on the Club's activities locally, nationally and internationally. He served on the Los Angeles-Long Beach chapter board for many years and was President from 2000-2004 and chair from 2004 to 2008. Chris also serves as a member of the executive committee of the International Propeller Club of the U.S. Although he and Terri have

moved to Utah, Chris continues to be a member of our local chapter.

While Chris's kind, gentle demeanor and charming spark will be sorely missed at the monthly meetings and events, we are so proud of Chris and humbled by the work he and Terri are doing for a much greater good. We will encourage their frequent visits and periodic updates on their significant new humanitarian enterprise.



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

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