

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

January 22, 2014

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman
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In This Issue (click underlined topics for web link when connected to the Internet)

- Kelly Sagona talks about "Recycling Peoples Lives" and more
- Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting January 29 Susana Brisk "More Malibu Mom Finding Humor in Life" at noon (with Fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) in LC152 at Pepperdine Drescher Campus.
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website MalibuRotary.org
- Malibu Rotary Club Website: www.MalibuRotary.org
- Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org
- Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
- RI President (2013-2014) Ron D Burton
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2013-2014): Doug Baker
- Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Alice Muntean (2013-14)

Kelly Sagona talks "Recycling Peoples Lives" and more

by **John W Elman**



Most new Rotary Club member craft talks, while interesting autobiographical sketches, don't seem like they would become the subject of an expose piece of a Sunday night *CBS 60 Minutes*. You know those shows where, after terribly wronged victims of some large company or

government agency tells an interviewer of a history of mistreatment and dishonesty and when the reporter knocks on the door of the perpetrator, usually some corporate president or government agency head, the door is slammed shut, or if the person is found going to their car where they shield their face from cameras and either they or their attorney says “no comment.” Or maybe they talk and deny all allegations against them, but you know they are lying.

Those who take the time to read what I write know that I don't just report what the speakers at our meeting say, I research subjects brought by the speaker to clarify points for both myself and to my readers, especially if they are controversial. Will what someone says stand the 4 Way Test? Is it the TRUTH? Is it even plausible?

We knew Kelly Ann Segona, who became a Malibu Rotarian during the large induction ceremony on October 23 along with 4 others, has been working on multiple service projects both locally and in other cities. Also we knew she was often commuting to Nevada to help her sister and her parents who were ill, and that she was deeply religious. We knew she was formerly a member of the Las Vegas Rotary Club. We also knew she was formerly a building contractor, but wasn't doing that currently. We didn't know why she stopped. This was our chance to find out.

Kelly went to a Catholic elementary school in Brooklyn, NY, until she was 8 years old, when her family moved to Florida. She went to college at UNLV and ultimately started her own company, Blue Lagoon Pools, which became successful constructing swimming pools and home remodels in the cities around Las Vegas. She had 50 people working for her, had 60 vehicles, a big house, and although she hired subcontractors, she made sure she could do all the work herself, from framing to plastering.

She also became interested in and spoke out against abuses of civil rights. Her positions didn't sit well with certain people in governmental agencies, especially people in the Nevada State Contractors Board, which had more control over her than she knew. They made charges against the way she ran her business, a gross misdemeanor. In the end they froze all her assets, her bank accounts, and she was unable to pay her subcontractors, complete jobs she started. She lost her reputation, her home, her business.

But how and why can a government agency do that? That's when there was mention of an entity I never realized existed. We are all familiar with the Italian Mafia, but in certain parts of Nevada there is another Mafia--the Mormon Mafia.

To know more about this group we researched and found the story below:.

KLAS TV 8 CBS affiliate in Las Vegas filed this story April 11, 2013 By George Knapp, Chief Investigative Reporter <http://www.8newsnow.com/story/21948751/i-team-embattled-chief-mormons-control-boulder-city>

BOULDER CITY, Nev. -- Clean, serene Boulder City is embroiled in a political civil war.

The city's chief of police, Tom Finn, has filed numerous ethics complaints against the city council, city manager and city attorney, alleging all sorts of unethical behavior.

Finn, who has been on extended medical leave, expects to be fired when he returns to work.

He said he has been forced out, in part, because he's a Catholic.

It isn't often a police chief goes to war with his city bosses and accuses them of religious persecution, but Chief Finn said this is a situation like the emperor's new clothes-- something everyone knows, but no one admits.

About 16 percent of Boulder City residents are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-days Saints, but the Mormons control just about every position of political power.

The mayor and all but one of the city council members are Mormon.

The city manager they hired is Mormon.

So is the city attorney.

The state assemblywomen for the area is Mormon.

So is the state senator. So is the county commissioner. The new interim police chief isn't Mormon, but he's married to a relative of a Mormon councilwoman.

In fact, many of these officials are related by marriage or blood and Finn said one reason they wanted him out is because he doesn't worship at the same church as the rest of them.

"They are trying to blame everything on me," Finn said. "I'm surprised they haven't blamed the Lindbergh kidnapping on me, but I'm sure that's coming."

Are we suggesting that the Nevada State Contractors Board has been infiltrated by the Mormon Mafia? And are we suggesting that NSCB had it in for one Catholic female pool contractor who said things they didn't like? One day Kelly hopes to a high profile attorney, Mark Garegos or

Gloria Allred, both of whom she has spoken to, will accept her case and vindicate her of the charges made by the Nevada State Contractors Board.

In the meantime Kelly has never lost faith--even when everything around her seemed to be falling apart. And things are turning around. She prays for the health of her sister and parents. She didn't know how college would be affordable to her niece Alex (whom we met at the Rotary meeting). Alex, who is only 17, was able to get a scholarship to Pepperdine University, and is now a freshman. Kelly is now living in Malibu with her son, sister and niece, and with new ideas and new business which has something for everyone. She began her presentation at the Malibu Rotary Club by reading the following testimony:

"I was born a Catholic, and attended Catholic School until I was 8 years old. I was lost, meaning missing out, wasting my life and potential, eternal destruction. Unfortunately I did not realize I was living a life that is offensive to God. I didn't understand Gods way. I remember crying and praying to God why you are so mean to me. What did I do so wrong? As I grew older I was full of questions. I was never introduced to a bible. My mother told me the bible is not the book of God. It was another religion. As I graduated school I went to college to become a business owner. I planned out my future. God was not part of my plan. I did however spend lots of time ministering. Somewhere in my heart I felt God. In my later years, I had a son. I did not want him to attend public school so I sent him to private Christian School. When he started kindergarten, I started to volunteer, and someone gave me a bible. The bible sat in my house for couple of years. My career started to sour. I finally have reached my goals after 30 years in business. I use to pick up the bible just to glance at it. I started to attend the Christian Church and many Sundays I came home crying. I then started to read the

bible.

“My son now was in fourth grade. He has won all the Christian awards and has made me so proud. We started to pray together, and he helped me understand Jesus. I became excited and wanted to learn more. My son and I were rebaptized and I truly became a disciple of Christ, following in the great commission. (Matthew 28: Go there fourth and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father Son and the Holy Spirit.) (Mark 16:16 whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.) My company now was going through so many hoops. I found myself in trouble waters. I directed myself to the bible and prayer. My company went under, but even worse, I found myself fighting with government agencies. My faith had to be real strong now, if I was going to make it. I lost everything. My true faith carried me and I would not trade it in for anything. God knows the outcome of every adventure. The last four years were extremely hard. Miracles are on the way, God has changed my life, for example I had no money to pay for my niece’s college, she applied to five colleges, and she was accepted in all with a scholarship. She chose Pepperdine because of its Christianity. My sister has been very sick and she needs to be in California for her health and to see her doctors. Clyne is her son that attends school in Malibu. I have been helping my sister’s family for some time. As for my son, David he led me to God and he has showed me how to be grateful for what we have even if it’s a smile. Recycle your life has come into my world. We recycle to help the planet and help

organizations raise money for Gods people. It brings so many smiles and hugs. We donate a portion to different charities. I still have to be in Nevada for reasons and for the rest of my family God sent them to Malibu. How do you live in Malibu with nothing? I will tell you, FAITH, HOPE, THANKFULNESS, and JESUS.”

Recycle Your Life (<http://www.recycleyourlife.org/>) is the new enterprise that Kelly and her family are involved with. She said she uses her background as a contractor getting subcontractors with large recycling bins to collect recyclable materials from large local businesses. After paying her expenses 20% of the profit are donated to charities of the businesses' choice. It's a win-win-win situation by helping the businesses get rid of their recyclables, raise money for charities and help the environment.

“Recycle Your Life is a for profit Christian Mission Organization that recycles, sells products, and performs delivery services to help ministries, charities, people, and social enterprises that serve God, community, and planet. We believe we can take away the old and make it new again. We are not just talking bottles and used cans! We believe all people can recycle their lives as well ! We know we can be new in Christ every day! Join us in our missions to help transform people and the world!”

Other News and Guests at the last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Happy Dollars: Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard made “Happy Dollars” contribution because he was proud that the Malibu Rotary Club, with its paid attendance of 17 people, had the largest attendance of any club at the Rotary District Breakfast on January 14. There are 73 clubs in the district, and that is quite a feat for the small Malibu club that has only 19 members!

Malibu Rotarian **Griselda Espinosa** had called President Bill before the meeting with the news that her son David had to be taken to the hospital again that morning with complications of his ruptured appendix. This is the third time he had to go back to the hospital for this condition. Last word he is OK now. We wish Griselda and David the best--and the latest treatment cures his ailment permanently.

There was only one guest at the Malibu Rotary Club, **Kelly Sagona's** niece Pepperdine freshman **Alex Sagona**.

Please see Malibu Rotary Club Website www.maliburotary.org for latest Calendar and future speakers and facebook pages for other news.

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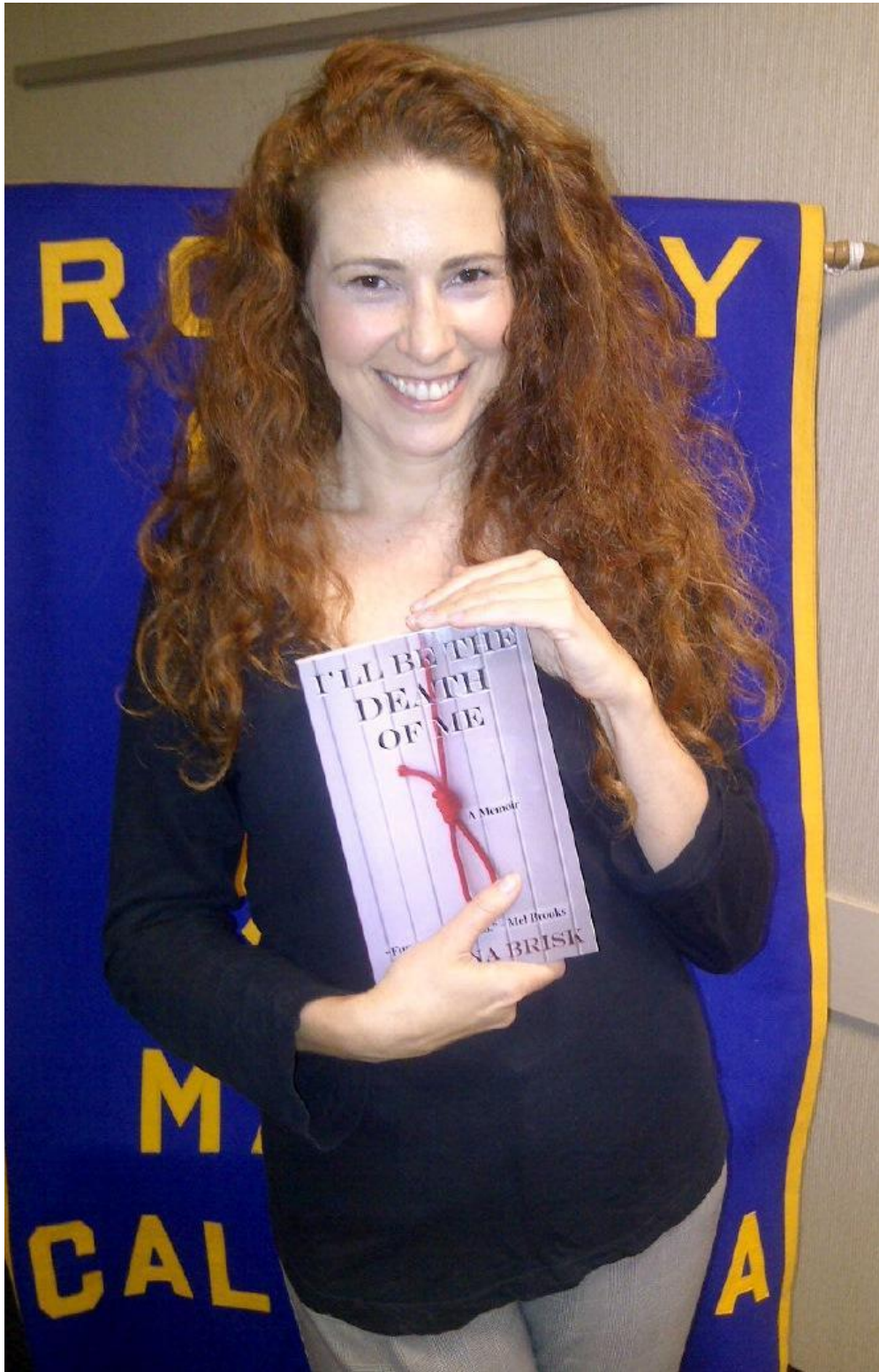
Calendar

(All Malibu Rotary Club meetings are at 12:00 Noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center unless otherwise noted)

Next Meeting Jan 29, 2014 at 12:00 Noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center

Susanna Brisk, author of *I'll Be the Death of Me*

"More Malibu Mom Finding Humor in Life"



She is an author, actor, blogger, and stand up comic who will read more from her

book "I'll Be The Death of Me." A funny, raw and searingly honest memoir, Susanna will address topics including parenting with a mental illness, surviving your family of origin and finding your creative self, even while there are small people in your midst who require lunch.

For more information about Susanna and her book visit www.malibumom.com and <http://amzn.to/13y1tjq>.

Feb 05, 2014

[Irene Bettler](#)

"My Life and Learning "