



November 17, 2015

Ron Kimble and Dan Lebowitz Domestic Violence



Past President Mac McCarley with Parker, Poe, Adams and Bernstein introduced our talk on domestic violence presented by both our own Past President Ron Kimble and Dan Lebowitz. When Ron and Jan Kimble's daughter, Jamie, was killed by her ex-boyfriend on Labor Day, 2012, Jan and Ron's lives were changed forever. Long involved in civic activities, both professionally and personally, they have rededicated themselves to using Jamie's story to prevent domestic violence in the lives of young people. They founded the Jamie Kimble Foundation for Courage to support

programs that create a future free of domestic violence. Dan has served as the Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Sport in Society at Northeastern University since 2008. During his time there, the Center has done primary domestic violence prevention work with Major League Baseball, the military, the Boston Police Department, the New England Patriots and other community engagement entities.

Mac, who has been a close friend with Ron for 30 years, said we would hear information in this presentation that would be heartbreaking and information that would be uplifting. He said Ron and Dan's stories would be very personal, very painful yet very hopeful.

Ron started his presentation with some figures which tell about the extent of the problem of domestic violence. One in four women in the United States will be victims of domestic violence in their lifetimes. Four women a day in America die from a domestic violence act. This year in Charlotte, eight women have died due to domestic violence. Last year Charlotte police received over 35,000 domestic violence related calls. Safe Alliance in Charlotte received over 10,000 calls for domestic violence assistance last year. Their mission is to provide hope and healing for people in crisis. They do this through a variety of programs and services such as: a 24 hour sexual assault/rape and domestic violence crisis line and a shelter for survivors of domestic violence.

Ron said he and Dan must discuss their personal situations because it makes the problem real. Ron told the heart wrenching story of his daughter Jamie who was fun loving, fearless, talented and accomplished. She received awards and accolades in high school, college and in her work career. She made significant contributions first in pharmaceutical sales then with Coca Cola Consolidated covering the State of Florida. At 24, she began dating a young man who became verbally abusive and psychologically preyed on her. Jamie was strong and compassionate and she thought she could change him. Jamie was a rescuer. After six and half years in that relationship, she broke up with him for the last time in April, 2012. This time it was permanent. Over the Labor Day weekend of 2012 Jamie went to England to visit a friend, returning to Florida on September 3, 2012. Unbeknownst to Ron and Jan, her ex-boyfriend drove from Kansas

City to Florida where he retrieved his gun from his parents' home in Orlando, then drove to Tampa to pick her up at the airport. He then killed both Jamie and himself. As Ron said, no victim of domestic violence deserves that kind of fate. Now Ron and Jan focus their time on stopping domestic violence before it begins by focusing on prevention, education, awareness and research.

Dan then began to tell his own story. Growing up as a disabled child in braces, he witnessed domestic violence in his young life. He has never forgotten the day that his life changed. He was walking home and the team doctor of the Hartford Whalers stopped him on the side of the road telling Dan that he had seen him walking down the street the last seven days and knew he could help Dan get out of those braces. Dan got the leg braces off then took up the sport of boxing.

Based on his experience Dan has created primary prevention programs for Major League Baseball, the military, the Boston Police Department, the New England Patriots and other community engagement entities. Now the messages in his programs are strong and effective – don't approve of this kind of behavior when you see it; develop a different construct of manhood; start conversations; take interest in other's lives; recognize violence and intervene; educate bystanders; diffuse conflict not enhance it.

Ron came back to the podium to talk more about the Jamie Kimble Foundation for Courage. They have reached out with programs to Charlotte, Asheville, Greensboro, Raleigh, Chapel Hill and Greenville. They are working with faith based organizations, sports teams, Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools, UNC- Charlotte, the YMCA and work places. They received a grant to study the financial cost of domestic violence – last year, \$307 million in North Carolina. They have funded a scholarship at UNC Chapel Hill for a student in the Gillings School of Public Health program who focuses on domestic violence or health/mental health issues. The Charlotte Chamber has honored Jamie with the annual Jamie Kimble Spirit Award, given to the most enthusiastic volunteer team member in their annual fundraising campaign.

Following personal tragedies in both their lives, both Ron and Dan have worked tirelessly to change the lives of thousands so this kind of violence does not happen to others. Their lives were dramatically changed by acts of domestic violence and now they are dramatically changing the lives of others by preventing future acts of domestic violence.

Ron closed by speaking to a couple members of the club who have lost children in recent years and they have all become supporters of each other. He spoke of Meg McElwain who lost Mitchell and Marilyn Bowler who lost Vickie. He knows others in the club may also have lost children to early deaths. Ron then ended with a touching and beautiful story. Jamie died on Meg's birthday and Mitchell died on Jamie's birthday. Two families forever joined.

Speaker Write Up: Jim Kelley; Head Table: Alice Harrison, Carson Dean, Tom Bartholomy, Mac McCarley, Ron Kimble, Angela Broome; Invocation: Terri DeBoo; Guests & Visitors; Don Carmichael; Song: Ed Pickett; Health, Happiness & History: Luke Maybry; AV: Jessica Dupree; Photos: Meg McElwain

Club News

PRIORITY: If you are interested in serving as a host family for Radim, one of the club's exchange students (attends Myers Park High School) between March 1 to May 31, please talk to Ed Wadsworth (ed@wadsworthgroup.net). Ashley & **Mark Duncan**, Nanelle Napp & **Chuck Cocks**, Amy & **Mark Norman** are club members that have, or will be, hosting this year and would be a helpful resource.

Rotaract originally began as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 and has grown into a major Rotary-sponsored organization of over 9,030 clubs spread around the world and 207,690 members. It is a service, leadership and community service organization for young men and women between the ages 18–30 and the very first Rotaract Club was formed at UNC Charlotte in 1968. Top-of-the-Week Rotary Club sponsors the current Club and they are looking for new members. If you have a child/grandchild or know anyone attending UNC Charlotte that would be interested in joining this effort, please ask them to contact John Sharpe, jsharpe@uncc.edu for additional information.

100 Projects Update...13 Projects Completed/130 Rotarian Participation/40% of the Club/524 Hours

Salvation Army Bell Ringing 11/23-12/4 at the Square. Contact Mark Norman (mark.norman@iwu.edu) for signup. Help also needed to count cash from the kettles. 4PM-6PM 11/23 through 11/28 (not needed 11/26). Contact Sandy if you can help.

Clothing Drive to support Crisis Assistance Ministry **AND books, videos & games** to support Julia's Bookstore may be dropped off at Rotary during the month of November.

Charlotte Jingle Bell Run/Walk 12/12; volunteers needed 6AM-12PM. Contact Kristina Aquilone (kaquilone@arthritis.org, 704-705-1798)

Serve Christmas Morning Breakfast at Charlotte Rescue Mission, 12/25 from 5AM-9AM. Contact Joe Penner (jpenner@medic911.com, 704-943-6000)

Kim Popky Platelet Challenge is on-going. John zumBrunnen wants 100 platelet donations over the next year and will donate \$50 for every donation to the American Red Cross or Community Blood Center. If the goal is met, he will donate an additional \$5000.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS (11/24/15 – 11/30/15)

11/24 Jim Woodward
11/25 Mason Alexander
11/26 John Shell
11/28 Ellen McIntyre
11/30 Tony Marciano, Byron Bullard, Bob Freeman, Carolyn Carlburg

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES (11/24/15 – 11/30/15)

11/26 Debbie & Sadler Barnhardt

Visitors & Guests	16
Club Members	151
Total	167
Percentage	55.3%

MEMBERSHIP

06/30/2015	319
11/17/2015	321
Net Increase:	+2

New Members: Kay Peninger

Resignations:

Visitors: John Sharpe, Hayley Birmingham, Ross Sloan, Sandy Chambers, Ron Lamberth, Eleanor Norman, Wendy Fu, Gerard Littlejohn, Peg Bernhard, Jane Fastje, Pat Farmer, Lauri Mumford, Robert Norris, Stuart Hair, Sue Doran

SLATE OF OFFICERS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

A business meeting was called to order and the following Officers and Directors have been elected by the membership.

2017-2018 President-Nominee: Katie Tyler

2016-2017 Treasurer: Paul Schmidt

2016-2017 Secretary: Sandy Osborne

Directors 2016-2018: Angela Broome, Fred Brown, Denise Hallett, Angela Mauldin, John Nicolay, Lee Tabor, Paul Wyche

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS (www.charlotterotary.org and click on the events tab)

11/24 – Thanksgiving Program (*Steve Eanes, Jessica Graham, Luke Maybry, Mona Atta*)

12/01 – Centennial Celebration Kick Off

Photos from our luncheons and other events can be found on **Flickr** [Click here](#)



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