Meeting Notes – Feb. 28, 2023

The LaFayette Rotary Club met on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, and Rotarian Merilyn Vines brought our speaker, Narfunda Gibson Ross. Mrs. Ross has been employed with the Fifth Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office for the past 16 years. She is newly appointed to the position of Victims' Services Officer. Mrs. Ross is also the owner of 1033 Photography and is co-founder and executive director of Team WHIP (Working to Help those In Pink), a local non-profit breast cancer organization. It is of her role in Team Whip to which she spoke to Club members.

Mrs. Ross is a breast cancer survivor. Her mother and sister were also diagnosed with breast cancer. Although breast cancer is more prevalent in Caucasian women, invasive breast cancer is more prevalent in African-American women. Often times, we associate colors with certain groups, for example, pink for women and blue for men. Many diseases are associated with a color. For breast cancer, the color is pink. Mrs. Ross urged us as Rotarians to See Beyond the Color". While October is breast cancer awareness month, our service and our focus should not be dependent on or restricted to just that month. One of the goals of Team WHIP is to be a support to those with a diagnosis of breast cancer and to connect them to resources. Team WHIP is in partnership with the Gene Machine, a project of Auburn University. Mrs. Ross also spoke to us of upcoming events, such as a prayer event in May.

Diane Sherriff