In January, 2018, the Woman of the Year Committee selected Dr. Pamela Edington, President of Dutchess Community College, as our 2018 Woman of the Year due to her significant contributions to the college and community at large. We originally contracted with Le Chambord to host our event on October 21, 2018, providing a $500 non-refundable deposit. Shortly after, it came to our attention that Le Chambord was listed for sale. Since our event was three months away, the WOY committee felt that it was not advisable to continue with that venue due to the risks inherent with a potential sale.

Dutchess Manor was selected as the replacement venue. However, we had to change the date to October 14th since the 21st was not available at the time. The AAUW board was approached and approved the loss of the $500 deposit to Le Chambord. We were assured that if Le Chambord was able to rebook the date, we would get a partial refund of our deposit. In August, we were informed by Dr. Edington that she and the college had been selected to receive the Eleanor Roosevelt Valkill Award, a most prestigious honor. Unfortunately, the award ceremony was on October 14th, in conflict with our event. Luckily, we were able to reschedule our event at Dutchess Manor to the following Sunday, October 21st since that date had now become available due to a cancellation.

Despite all the changes, the event at Dutchess Manor was well-attended. We sold 67 tickets and received a donation of $10. Expenses totaled $3,917.63 including the $500 lost deposit. The total registrations received totaled $3571.22, resulting in a net loss of $346.41. If the $500 extraordinary expense is deducted, there was a net profit of $153.59. We do think that attendance suffered due to date changes and Dr. Edington’s award ceremony the week before our event. Also, initial quoted prices for the venue increased from $40.71 pp to $42.48 pp due to a lower attendance than anticipated.

The WOY committee was comprised of the following people with their contributions to the event:

MargieM Ouart: co-chair
Gail Sisti: co-chair
Betty Harrel: reservations and greeting table
Judy Linville: pre-event luncheon
Beth Devine: flowers/gift
Joanne Long: greeting table
Carol Barmann: name tags and greeting table
Maria De Wald: representative from the AAUW board
Mary Lou Davis: flowers and program pickup
Chris Romano:
WOY Meeting Dates:

1/23/18- initial meeting to select honoree
2/6/18- co-chairs met with Dr. Edington
5/23-WOY progress meeting
8/7/18-co-chair meeting
8/24/18-DCC meeting with Dr. Edington
9/17/18-WOY progress meeting and honoree luncheon
9/28/18-co-chair meeting
10/11/18-co-chair meeting with Dean Coris, Dutchess Manor
10/21/18-WOY event
1/24/19-wrap-up WOY meeting

Submitted by: Gail Sisti & Margie Ouart