



January 16, 2022

From Dr. Mary-Elizabeth Ellard
ACWRT President, Campaign Year 2021-2022

RE: Capital City Club Fee Increases

Dear Members,

We have some good news. Our February meeting will include a cash bar.

As you know, the Capital City Club increased its fees to us in January. The CCC initially proposed charging us \$58 per person for dinner and a cash bar. We then negotiated a charge of \$50 for dinner alone. This past week, Board Member and CCC Sponsor John Ottley and Treasurer Tim Whalen negotiated with the CCC to enable us to offer a cash bar and dinner at \$50 per person for our February meeting and afterwards. Though this is better, we realize the situation is still far from ideal.

Keeping services with the CCC exactly as they are, the cost to us and therefore to each member will be \$50 per person per meeting. While we have had excellent service and a lovely venue with the CCC, the board believes that we have a profound fiscal responsibility to the membership to keep our meetings affordable and we are now exploring options for meeting outside the CCC. Members have proposed other possible meeting locations and we continue to welcome ideas.

We have prepared a Survey Monkey survey to evaluate membership preferences. Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q6YMT23>

We hope you will respond. Also, at the February meeting, we will ask for a show of hands from members as to whether or not they are willing to pay the increased fee for our usual services (including the bar) through remainder of the campaign year. That poll will help the board to evaluate membership's stance on the CCC fee increase and the possibility of moving to another venue.

Many thanks to Tim and John Ottley, for their continuing negotiations and for enabling us to have an open bar included with the \$50 dinner fee and to all of you who have proposed possible new meeting places.

Sincerely,
Mary-Elizabeth
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