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EDITOR, BOARDROOM

# Congratulations To Our Top Presidents *And to Readers with Contrarian Opinions*

## **SOMETIMES MANAGING A PRIVATE CLUB IS LIKE TRYING TO STOP OR TURN AN OCEAN LINER...IT TAKES TIME AND HAS TO BE DONE SLOWLY, PRECISELY.**

That's part of the scenario for the Country Club Johannesburg and the task that's been facing Arthur Coy, chair of the club's main committee (board of directors).

Coy's accomplishments during the past year have brought a 'breath of fresh air' through the 7,000 member South African club, now embarked on a journey of rejuvenation.

Coy's achievements have earned him and the CCJ recognition as BoardRoom magazine's *Distinguished Private Club President for 2011*.

This marks the fourth year BoardRoom has recognized club presidents for their outstanding leadership and it's the first time the honor as BoardRoom's *Distinguished President* has been bestowed on the chair of a South African Club.

Twenty club presidents from around the world are also being recognized as BoardRoom's top private club presidents for 2011.

Coy receives his 'due' in this issue's cover story. The complete list of the top 20 is included and stories of these 20 will be published in BoardRoom throughout 2012.

Recognition of presidents for their volunteer club work has been long overdue, and BoardRoom's selection of top private club presidents gives clubs a path to honor their leaders for what they've done for their members.

A panel of industry experts, along with BoardRoom's publisher John Fornaro, made the selections from the 2011 nominations.

Read on, and then submit your president's name later this year as one of BoardRoom's top private club presidents for 2012.



And as *BoardRoom magazine enters its 16th year of publication*, the only thing constant about 'change is change.'

Everyone in this industry has faced trying years. At the same time we can't fail to take advantage of a recession. What we do during 'bad' times certainly impacts what we do and what happens in 'good' times.

Recessions do present us with opportunities. It's a matter of how and what we do to find opportunities and turn them to our advantage in 'good' times...food for thought we need to digest.

This is no less true for BoardRoom as we embark into 2012 with renewed vigor and a commitment to give our readers a substantive package aimed at educating and informing private club boards of directors.

It's going to be an exciting year and best of all for BoardRoom's readers with the introduction of several new writers and areas of specific interest to private club board and general managers.

Reader feedback also differs based on the impact and perceived importance of a story, but perhaps some of the most significant feedback has come from general managers and chief operating officers twiggged to respond by email to one or more BoardRoom articles.

They have responded especially in how they view and feel their relationship with their boards of directors, and what they feel can help improve those relationships for the betterment of their club and its members.

*Larry Harper, general manager/COO, Great Hills Country Club in Austin, Texas* offers an excellent example of this feedback in this our CMAA conference issue.

Harper responds to John Fornaro's Publisher Perspective: ... "*Where Are We Today? Experts Offer Their Opinions!*" with some poignant and contrarian opinions about why and where we are today in the private club industry.

That's just one of the general managers' contributions this issue, and fits neatly with one of our primary objectives...to stimulate thought about how and why we do business as a private club, to the benefit of boards of directors, general managers and club members.

Like I said, read on! **BR**

Got a comment? Drop us a note:  
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