



DAVE WHITE

Presidents and Awards Top Our Agenda

It's recognition time again and this year a tip of the hat to Cynthia White as BoardRoom magazine launches its 18th year of publication...and a new look!

Sometimes managing a private club is like trying to stop or turn an ocean liner...it takes time and has to be done slowly and precisely, and that's exactly what president *Cynthia White*, **BoardRoom's Distinguished President of the Year** has achieved at Bonita Bay Country Club in southwest Florida. Mrs. White is the first female president named BoardRoom's *distinguished president* since the program began six years ago. As a member of the club's turnover committee, then vice-president before becoming Bonita Bay's president, Cynthia White has engineered a remarkable turnaround for Bonita Bay from a developer-owner club to an equity club, now operating under general manager Dan Miles. It's taken time, money (about \$24 million), experience, diligence and smarts, and that's why it's working at Bonita Bay.

Volunteer boards of directors and club presidents must set the tone and tenor for what happens at their clubs and it's this vision and mission that BoardRoom recognizes with the top club president awards. It's the club boards and presidents who must have the vision and set policy for general managers, and it's the GMs who must make that policy (along with their own vision) work on a daily basis. Micromanagement be gone! Bonita Bay is an outstanding example.

Our congratulations go out to Cynthia White and the 22 other Club Presidents of the Year for their exceptional contributions to their home clubs. You can read more about it in our BoardRoom cover story this issue.



Recognition is important in the private club industry...and it's always been at the top of BoardRoom magazine's list because of our focus, commitment and mandate to educate and inform boards of directors and general managers. It's what we do every BoardRoom issue.

For many years now BoardRoom has acknowledged the private club vendors who are best in their field – those people and companies providing sterling services, products and goods to clubs – with our annual **BoardRoom Excellence in Achievement Awards** presentations. And we're doing so again this year. There's one clarification we need to make. *GSI Executive Search* with principles *Scott McNett* and *Charlie Hoare* receives the *Mid-Management Search Firm of the Year* excellence award. It was originally stated as the 'Department Head Search of the Year.'

As well, our sincere appreciation goes out to our BoardRoom contributors who just "get it." They wipe "bad" news from their minds and from ours, perpetuating BoardRoom's philosophy of "educating...informing and providing positive solutions."

This CMAA-conference issue is no less, jam-packed with philosophies, opinions, ideas and innovations all aimed at giving club boards and general managers more ammunition in their recruiting and retaining forays, so members more fully understand the value of their private club membership in the "new" neighborhood of today. **BR**

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