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## BOARDROOM



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WHO ARE
INFLUENCERS
AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

10 | PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE ONBOARDING YOUR STAFF

32-54 | DESIGN GUIDE
FEATURE TO BOARDROOM MAGAZINE

92-95 | INNOVATIVE IDEAS
FEATURE TO BOARDROOM MAGAZINE

98-103 | MEMBERSHIP MARKETING
FEATURE TO BOARDROOM MAGAZINE





by Brian D. Idle

## Tradition ... Redefined

reating an exciting environment for golf-serious members and their guests arose from the vision, purpose and main goal established by the leadership responsible for the clubhouse renovation project at Bear Lakes Country Club, West Palm Beach, FL.

The objective has been to encourage members and their guests to spend more time before and after golf, socializing and enjoying F&B, resulting in a membership waitlist and ultimately an increase in entry fees.

After evaluating several expansion and remodeling concepts, the leadership decided on a dramatic transformation of the existing clubhouse, on the same footprint with a new layout, special design features, and a new look.

The principal design objectives, all of which were achieved, included a comprehensive remodeling integrating a north-facing outdoor awning-covered patio (overlooking holes number 9 and 18) for casual dining and after golf camaraderie.

It also included reconfiguring the locker rooms to create gathering space for lounging and card playing; expanding and reconfiguring the kitchen for efficient production and delivery of cuisine to the reimagined F&B venues and creating a better member flow through and past the remodeled and expanded golf shop.

Pecky cypress ceilings were white-washed and indirect lighting added making interior spaces feel larger. Updated finishes, fixtures and furnishings in a transitional style breathe new life, throughout the club.

Raising an existing outdoor sunken awning-covered patio to the main level of the clubhouse, providing a permanent roof and a wall of folding glass panels creates a large gathering space with panoramic views of the golf course. This casual indoor/outdoor space is the perfect venue to grab lunch, have dinner with friends, or just gather around the bar for cocktails.

For additional information, please call Marius Ilie, general manager at Bear Lakes Country Club at (561)478-0001. BR

Brian is president at Peacock + Lewis Architects and Planners, located in North Palm Beach, FL. He can be reached at (561) 626-9704 or brian@peacockandlewis.com.

