THIS IS YOUR EXCLUSIVE INVITATION

OCTOBER 6 & 7 2026

...to a one-of-a-kind, don't miss event of the year!

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 150 PEOPLE

Use registration form to RSVP NOW!

2026 distinguished ideas summit

for a better member experience

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

CMAA Education Credits

EDUCATION

Over 20 speakers and panelists presenting the best Distinguished Ideas of 2026!

- Personal branding.
- The rise of AI in brand protection and member feedback systems.
- Making your club a luxury brand.
- Next level Wellness and Fitness facilities.
- Effective Board orientations designed to reduce micromanaging.
- "Wow!" ideas for demanding members.
- Creating memorable moments.
- Maximize member touch points.
- 21st-century Clubhouse amenities and facilities.
- Network with the top leaders.
- Inspire and energize your staff
- ***...and MUCH more!***

Lightning Round Presentations from fellow GMs!

Strap in and hold onto your brain cells!

As **fourteen GMs share their best, most invaluable ideas** that you can use to improve the Member Experience at *your* club!

Distinguished Clubs Lifetime Achievement Award Presentations

The Distinguished Clubs Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to **Kurt Kuebler**, Partner and Co-Founder of KKW, who will then be interviewed and celebrated by **Tom Wallace** and **Dick Kopplin**.

Then, later at the evening reception, **Dana Garmany**, Founder & Executive Chairman of Troon, will also be honored with this very special recognition, presented by **John Fornaro**.

How AI and MEI® are Transforming Member Feedback

Hear from **Jeff Briggs**, DC's CTO, about how AI is completely changing how member feedback data is analyzed and leveraged, and why the ***Member Experience Index (MEI®) is the go-to KPI for member satisfaction.***

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>

Keynote Speaker

Preston Lee

Restaurant Entrepreneur, Consultant, Author, & Creator of **The 30% Rule**

As a nationally recognized hospitality consultant, speaker, and author, Lee is best known for **The 30% Rule**, a training and operational framework designed to help venue operators worldwide elevate performance, build strong leaders, and create exceptional guest and Member Experiences. His sessions don't just inspire for a day, they create systems, mindsets, and momentum that transform your culture.

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of KKW and *BoardRoom* magazine

Dick Kopplin
Partner, Kopplin Kuebler & Wallace

John Fornaro
Publisher & Owner of BoardRoom magazine
CEO, Distinguished Clubs

Recognition presented by

Jeff Morgan, FASAE, CAEP
President & CEO of CMAA

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THE DISTINGUISHED CLUB BUS TOUR

VIP Club tours of five of Florida's Distinguished Clubs!

Featuring five top clubs in the world. Each club was selected because they are exceptional at a particular amenity or approach; Spas, Club House, Fitness Room, Dining Room, Casual Bar, Tennis Facility, Golf Practice Facility, Kitchen, and Environmental Practices. You'll want to take copious notes!

Along our club-to-club tour, guests will participate in a ***Chef's Gone Wild contest*** by tasting specially prepared appetizers at each club we visit -- with a chance to win a Louis Vuitton purse. ***Spouses are welcome to attend all events!***

Frenchman's Creek	**The Club at Admirals Cove**	**Loblolly**	**The Loxahatchee Club**	**The Club at Ibis**
Rob Oosterhuis	Brett Morris	Mike Reilly, CCM	Dan Myers	Sharon Meirav
CCM, CCE, PGA, CAM, GM/COO	ECM, CMAA Fellow, GM/COO	GM/CE	GM/COO	CCM, CAM, GM/COO

EVENING RECEPTION

Join us for an incredible evening! Our Ideas Summit celebrations never let down, and this year will be no exception! Sponsored by **Troon** and **BallenIsles Country Club.**

<< click here to watch highlight video of 2024's Ideas Summit.

See video and photos from previous Summit celebrations from past years at distinguishedclubs.com

MORE DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE >>

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TROON

BALLENISLES

2026 distinguished ideas summit

for a better member experience

EVENT AGENDA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026
BALLENISLES COUNTRY CLUB

7:45 AM	Buses leave hotels (Marriott PBG, PGA National)
8:00-8:15 AM	Arrive at Ballenisles Country Club/Registration/Breakfast Bites
8:45 AM	Introduction by Ron Banaszak, COO- Distinguished Clubs
9:05 AM	John Fornaro, CEO -Distinguished Clubs- "Intangibles and our why"
9:30 AM	Colin Cowie- Colin Cowie Lifestyle Sponsored by Strategic Club Solutions
10:00 AM	Preston Lee- Thirty Percent Sponsored by SCI FOOD TRAK
10:40 AM	Sean Johnson-We are Agentic Sponsored by Cobalt Software
11:10 AM	John McCranie, Previous Island Manager/COO-Cat Cay Yacht Club Bahamas Sponsored by Bloom Golf Partners
11:40 AM	Daniel Somogyi, Managing Partner- Edgewood Country Club/Orange Lawn Tennis Club Sponsored by Clubessential
12:00 PM	Lunch
12:50 PM	Kurt Kuebler- Kopplin Kuebler and Wallace {Lifetime Achievement}
1:30 PM	Mervin Ho - Spring City Golf Resort, China Sponsored by Astanza Design
2:00 PM	Mike Rideout, GM/COO- Toronto Cricket Skating & Curling Club Sponsored by McMahon Careers
2:25 PM	Joe Krenn, CEO/GM- Farmington Country Club Sponsored by Range and Bearings
2:50 PM	Jarrett Chirico, Dir. of Racquets- North Hills Club Sponsored by ClubSpot
3:15 PM	Jeff Briggs-ClubIQ/Joe Basso, GM-Naples Lakes Country Club Sponsored by TUUCI
3:45 PM	Ryan Walls, Host/CEO- Ballenisles Country Club Sponsored by RCS Hospitality Group
4:00 PM	Tour of Ballenisles Country Club
4:45 PM	Buses leave back to hotels
6:15 PM	Buses leave hotels back to Ballenisles Country Club for Dinner Event
10:00 PM	Buses leave back to hotels

Dress code for Education: Business Casual
Dress Code for Dinner Event: Cocktail Attire

If you wish to drive to this event that is an option:
Ballenisles Country Club, 100 Ballenisles Cir, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

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BALLENISLES

2026 distinguished ideas summit
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Club Tour

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026
Dress Code: Business Casual

Food and Beverages at all stops
Out of respect for the clubs and possible traffic ALL BUSES WILL LEAVE ON TIME
You are welcome to drive yourself to each destination.

8:30 AM	Buses leave hotels (Marriot PBG, PGA National)
9:15- 10:15 AM BUS LEAVES AT 10:15	Loblolly- 7407 SE Hill Terrace, Hobe Sound, Florida 33455 Hosted by CEO Mike Reilly
11:00-12:00 PM BUS LEAVES AT 12:00	The Loxahatchee Club- 1350 Echo Dr, Jupiter, FL 33458 Hosted by GM/COO Dan Myers
12:15-12:40 PM BUS LEAVES AT 12:40	Admirals Cove 1st stop- 200 Admirals Cove Blvd, Jupiter, Florida 33477 Hosted by GM/COO Brett Morris
12:50-1:20 PM BUS LEAVES AT 1:20	Admirals Cove 2nd stop- 49 Golf Village Blvd
1:30 – 3:00 PM BUS LEAVES AT 3:00	Frenchman's Creek Beach & Country Club- 13495 Tournament Dr Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 Hosted by GM/COO Rob Oosterhuis
3:15- 4:15 PM BUS LEAVES AT 4:15	Old Palm Golf Club- 11889 Old Palm Dr, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 Hosted by CEO/GM Paul Mroz

Buses return to hotels at 4:15 PM

Bus Guide for Marriot guests- Krystal Seidel: (801) 440-5127
Bus Guide for PGA guests- Tom Fitzgerald: (631) 774-5515
General Questions- John Fornaro: (949) 500-4154