

Don Brown, CFA Named September Volunteer of the Month



Our September Volunteer of the Month, Don Brown, CFA, has been a dedicated volunteer with both CFA Society Los Angeles (CFALA) and CFA Institute since 1996. Brown has served in a variety of capacities as a volunteer and believes in the value of being an active member in the community.

“It’s an interesting way to meet people who share your interests,” he said. “If you’re a CFA charterholder, it’s a waste to not exploit the fact that CFALA is one of the largest societies in the world that offers valuable resources to its members and the community.”

Brown received his CFA charter in 1996, but joined CFALA as an Affiliate member in 1994. Between 1996 and 1999, he volunteered as a CFA Exam proctor for CFA Institute until the role was no longer offered. In 2000, he began to volunteer with CFA Institute as a CFA Exam grader, a role he continues to this day. In 2015, Brown was nominated and elected to the CFALA Board of Governors to a three-year term.

For the last three years, he has served as the Chair of the Book Club Community of Interest (COI), which has been extraordinarily successful. The Book Club COI has consistently hosted well-attended events that often feature a talk by the author. In the last year, the New York Times’ Steven Lee Myers has given a talk for his biography on Vladimir Putin, entitled *The New Tsar: The Rise and Reign of Vladimir Putin*, and Forbes’ John Tamny spoke on his book, entitled *Popular Economics: What the Rolling Stones, Downton Abbey, and LeBron James Can Teach You about Economics*. Brown has also been able to secure James Grant for a talk, *Close of the PhD Standard: CFALA Distinguished Speaker Series*, on September 20th, 2016.

“Being Chair of the Book Club COI has been a good opportunity to read books that I might not have read on my own and get together with people to discuss them,” he explained. “It’s a great way to introduce new ideas conveyed by significant authors.”

Brown received his BA at the University of Michigan and MBA at the Thunderbird School of Global Management. He is a US Navy Veteran who served as a Lieutenant and received an honorable discharge. Brown currently works at Chelsea Management Company and previously worked at Intesa Sanpaolo SpA.