

Shawn Tsai, CFA, Named September Volunteer of the Month



Although Shawn Tsai makes her living working with technology, her volunteer efforts for CFALA are all about people.

Tsai, who joined CFALA after receiving her charter in 2001, is a Product Manager for ITG TCA, an ITG Trading Analytics product, and an active member of the society's Social Committee, which plans and coordinates CFALA events.

"Our mandate is to create events that bring members together so they can get to know each other better," Tsai said. "There are a lot of fantastic people in CFALA and the events provide a way to connect on a personal as well as a professional level."

Recent events that Tsai has helped coordinate include last December's Holiday Social at the Westside Tavern and the whiskey pairing at Tom Bergin's, which featured different types of whiskey and foods that went well with them. Upcoming events include the 2015 Holiday Social at a TBD location.

Tsai chose the Social Committee from a list of volunteer opportunities.

"The word 'social' just jumped out at me," she said. "Of course, the whole social media thing has exploded in recent years and the committee offered me a way to be involved and be a part of a very smart group of people. It's been very rewarding, which is what other volunteers say as well."

Tsai, who describes herself as an "applied technologist rather than a pure technologist," studied computer science but wanted to use her knowledge in an interesting field, a desire that led her to ITG TCA in 2006. She holds a B.S. in Computer Science and Statistics from the University of Michigan.