



CFALA Names Carol Poundstone Olson, CFA and Alejandra Folguera, Ph.D. as May Volunteers of the Month



Santa Barbara is known for high-priced celebrity homes, beautiful beaches, and drawing visitors from around the world. But you may not know it has a CFA chapter as well. The co-founders, Ale Folguera and Carol Poundstone Olson, CFA, are CFALA's volunteers of the month for May.

CFA Santa Barbara, a CFALA Community of Interest, has a mailing list of more than 100 individuals in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties and a growing roster of speakers and events.

“We started a local CFA group under the umbrella of CFALA, primarily because we’re 90 miles away and it’s difficult to attend the society’s events in Los Angeles,” Folguera explained.

“We received seed funding from CFALA, and last year we set up a videoconferencing system so we can participate remotely in the Los Angeles events. We’ve done three CFALA videoconferencing events so far, and that’s worked out really well.”

Olson noted that Santa Barbara has a growing number of investment firms.

“There are quite a few small shops here and they are thirsty for events,” she said. “It’s very important for people here to have a professional group for networking and education. In addition to the videoconferencing events, we have two social mixers every year and live speakers.”

Folguera is a Credit Analyst at Pacificor LLC, a Santa Barbara hedge fund. She holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Illinois and a Certificate of Accounting from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Olson, who has more than 25 years of industry experience, is Treasurer and Compliance Manager at Santa Barbara Asset Management, which manages individual and institutional portfolios. She has a BS in Finance and Economics from the University of Arizona.

Olson and Folguera stressed that several other people have been instrumental in forming and running CFA Santa Barbara. They include Tricia Mills, Ricardo Calderon, Tory Milazzo, and Steve Harwell in Santa Barbara; and Linda Cahill, Diana Ravel, Rama Malladi and Mark Harbor in Los Angeles. CFALA-Santa Barbara would like to encourage colleagues in the Santa

Barbara/Ventura/Santa Maria area to contact Ale or Carol to be added to the mailing list or to volunteer.