



Ryan Buckmaster, CFA, Named Volunteer of the Month for July



Some CFALA members get into volunteering over time. Ryan Buckmaster jumped right in and has increased his involvement every year.

Buckmaster started off at ground level, judging the putting contest at the first Annual CFA Society Los Angeles Golf Tournament in July 2011, about a month after taking his Level II tests. He became a full CFALA member in December 2011 and got his charter in September 2012. He's now co-chair of both the Private Wealth Management and Fixed Income communities of interest, and also a very active member of the Career Development Committee, helping to plan and conduct the last three career expos. He also has been nominated for the CFA Society Los Angeles board and is on the slate that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on July 9.

"I was told at an early age that networking is very important, so that definitely is a component in why I volunteer," Buckmaster said.

"Also, the more I got involved in leadership roles, the more I found I enjoyed it and that it helped me to be better at my job," he said. "For example, it's helped me hone my public speaking skills. I often present to up to 10 partners at my firm, and that used to scare me. Now, after talking to 100 CFALA members at an event, talking to the partners doesn't scare me like it once did."

A portfolio manager and analyst at Gamble Jones Investment Counsel, Buckmaster was drawn to business and investing from an early age.

"I've always been into math and numbers and also into business," he said. "My uncle was a successful businessman and I decided at an early age that I wanted to go into business. Investing seemed like a natural – I like the complexities of it and the dynamic nature of investing. It seems like there's never a dull moment."

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