



Tom Derse, CFA, Named November Volunteer of the Month



CFALA members who enjoy the society's new email newsletter may want to give a shout-out to Tom Derse and Stuart Fujiyama, who work together to curate and edit the outstanding content. Derse is our volunteer of the month for November; Fujiyama will be profiled as December's volunteer of the month.

A portfolio manager and analyst with Bernzott Capital Advisors, a \$500 million asset manager in Camarillo, Derse joined the society in 2010 and received his charter in September 2012.

"I wanted to contribute to CFALA somehow, but being in Camarillo makes it tough to get downtown very often," Derse said. "I have some experience ghostwriting articles and in editing newsletters, so this seemed to be a good fit."

Derse edits and coordinates newsletter articles and other content contributed by society members, while Fujiyama curates outside content. A recent newsletter included articles on CFALA efforts to foster better relationships with public policymakers, CFALA winning an award for excellence from the CFA Institute, and a review on book on how people of different political or religious beliefs might find ways to share their opinions in a civil manner.

"We try to present material that will be useful and interesting to members," Derse said. "The overall focus is on investment and financial subjects, but we don't confine ourselves only to that because we know our readers have a wide range of interests."

Derse, who joined Bernzott Capital Advisors in 2004, previously was President of Channel Islands Capital Management, Inc. and a partner in an accounting firm. He holds a BS in accounting from California State University, Fresno and an MS in taxation from Golden Gate University.