

Member Spotlight

May 2020



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John Peters, CFA is a Senior Portfolio Manager at Northern Trust and has been a member of CFA Society San Diego since 2013.

How are you coping with the crisis?

I've been utilizing video chat to keep in close contact with friends, family and colleagues. I've been cycling through exercise routines that can be done from my living room and I've also started playing guitar again, which I've neglected to do the past few years.

Has the pandemic impacted your strategic business goals and if so, how?

I've spent most days calling my clients to provide updates, inquiring about how COVID has impacted them personally, and keeping them focused on their long-term goals and objectives. Being proactive in relationship building is more important now than ever.

Have you baked or cooked anything new since the beginning of the crisis?

My girlfriend banned me from the kitchen since a risotto experiment that went awry, so I'm currently riding the bench.

What has the work-from-home mandate looked like for you? And what is your favorite work-from-home app?

The pros have been the lack of a commute and the "flexible" dress code, but I do miss interacting in person with colleagues and clients. I've relied heavily on Skype for Business' instant messaging feature for quick internal communication and to ensure tasks get accomplished.

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CFA Society
San Diego

What website is your first go-to source for research/opinions/updates each morning and why?

Our internal Northern Trust research is my go-to source for economic updates, macro research, and tactical guidance.

We'd love to hear more about the culture and feel at your organization. What is the firm doing to ensure people still feel connected?

Our San Diego office holds a morning call to discuss best practices and get updates from each team member. We've all shared photos of our work spaces (including pets and family members) with each other and have planned a virtual happy hour.

What historical figure would you like to share your stay-at-home order with and why?

Mr. Clean. Constantly sterilizing the house is getting old.

What superhero power would you want during the crisis?

Immunity combined with the ability to cure the sick.

What is the most interesting book you've read recently?

Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman.

How are you adapting to isolation? Are you hosting a virtual game night? Visiting a virtual theatre? Or something else?

I've been using the Houseparty app to have video chat game nights with up to 12 friends at once. On weekends, I've been taking 5+ mile walks to explore new local neighborhoods and lately, I've been on a campy horror film binge too.