I've met with three potential candidates to date and have one additional phone screen for today at 4PM. Of the three that I have personally met, a summary follows.

Jay Caplan is currently a systems administrator at a small company. His position there is being eliminated and so he is looking for a new opportunity. Jay has limited OS X support and is currently using Juniper equipment where we are using Cisco. He has been with his current company for 19 years; he is certainly capable of learning what is required though there will be some time for him to ramp up. Jay was referred to us by a technical recruiter where a fee is required in purchasing out the duration of his contract.

Mark Patten was directed to us by a mutual acquaintance of Ike Groff. He is friendly and easy to talk to. Technically, I think that he has had limited experience as a singular support point. He has been promoted quickly in several of his positions so he appears to be a quick learner. He has experience supporting Mac OS X clients and Cisco equipment. His limited experience being the only IT guy may have him reaching out to resources regularly rather than having the knowledge to immediately solve issues. He has had a wide variety of professional experience and seems willing to get things done.

Daniel King is Microsoft Server certified as well as Cisco Certified. As I explained the environment and how things were set up, he seemed to keep right up asking questions indicative of his understanding. He is my preference to fill the position as I believe he will quickly be able to pick up where I am leaving off. Further, he asked questions about certain design choices that I have made and agreed with those choices upon explanation. I believe he will be the best choice. Daniel has little Mac OS X support experience, but I'm certain his foundation will make it an easy task. He was introduced to us through a technical recruiter and will require a 25% fee as is the case with Jay Caplan.