

LAS Volunteer of the Year Award

I am pleased to present this award today. This young lady and I joined LAS around the same time, in 2009. She was a very vibrant, positive individual and was there to help anyone she could help. During her time on the executive she held the positions of Member at Large and Vice President. During her term as Vice President, she served as president during a vacancy. Communications and helping others are her strengths. She played an important role in starting and developing our website. We had to work hard to convince her that we should hire Les Dickson to design our website rather than us doing it ourselves. She felt the cost seemed very high as we only had \$600 in our bank account in 2009. That was our 1st great investment. She has continued to work with Les in updating the website. She also felt a LAS Face Book Group would be advantageous and started one which has now grown to 233 members.

LAS decided to join forces with the Canadian Lymphedema Framework and their production of the Pathways magazine by including a regular LAS insert that again cost money. To help keep the costs of our insert affordable, LAS decided to sell advertising for our insert and this ambitious lady took on the task. Along with the advertising, she convinced her good friend, Lori Verishagen, a graphic designer to assist us with the insert for a very reasonable cost. Another great investment.

She not only played a vital role in communications, but also helped promote LAS by sitting at an LAS booth at public functions whenever possible. She also was a member of the Working Group in 2011 that was instrumental in having the government provide some coverage to lymphedema patients. In her spare time she chaired several fund raising events in Saskatoon such as steak nights and the Pink Cadillac hamburger night.

Helping others was always one of her main goals, and even as her health issues multiplied, it was very hard for her to give up her position as Vice President on the executive. Instead, she chose to let her name stand for Member at Large with hopefully less duties. Not only did we gain this hard working lady to our executive, but LAS also benefited greatly by the help of her husband Trevor at many events.

Our volunteer of the year, Angela Connell-Furi. A most deserving recipient!

Submitted by Verna Schneider