

MARY RUGGLES SCHOLARSHIP

Huxley College
Western Washington University
Bellingham, WA

The first Chuckanut District Scholarship, called the Mary Ruggles Scholarship, was awarded in 1969 to a deserving student at Huxley College at WWU in Bellingham. Many years ago, Mary Ruggles, a dedicated garden club member from Bellingham, introduced the idea to other clubs members. She suggested that a good project for the Chuckanut District of Garden Clubs would be to sponsor a scholarship at Huxley College, Western Washington University in Bellingham. The scholarship would be designated to go only to a student majoring in environmental studies.

The idea was accepted, and the Chuckanut District scholarship was established in 1969. It was named for Mary, who was very active in the Chuckanut District of Garden Clubs and also in the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs. Every year since 1969, the Mary Ruggles Scholarship has gone to a deserving student who is chosen by Huxley College personnel.

The amount given for the first few years was \$350.00, which was later raised to \$500.00. For several years, the amount given was \$750.00. The scholarship currently is not to be less than \$500.00. The amount is set by the Chuckanut District Budget Committee. Individual clubs in Chuckanut District help by sending their donations for the scholarship to the District Treasurer. The District pays the difference between the amount sent by the clubs and the total amount which the District has pledged. Should the clubs send more than the amount pledged, it will be added to the pledged amount and sent to the College for the benefit of a deserving student. As Chuckanut District prospers, the amount set aside for the Mary Ruggles

Scholarship can be adjusted accordingly.



Winner of the 2008 Mary Ruggles Scholarship,
Erin Langley, center,
with Gerry Douglas
(Chuckanut District Director)
left, and Iola Ratcliff,
(Chuckanut District
Treasurer) right.