Pat Brinkley, Past President of WNC Communities, passed away on October 11, 2008. Pat faithfully served our communities and agriculture for over 25 years. Her belief that rural communities are the backbone of our mountain region was present everyday and her work. In addition, Pat was passionate about supporting area youth on their journey to higher education.

The WNC Communities’ Board of Directors has established the Pat Brinkley Shulimson Memorial Scholarship to award to one of our Journey Scholars that presents exceptional leadership skills, just like Pat. To be a part of this scholarship, you can mail your tax-deductible contribution to: WNC Communities, 594 Brevard Road, Asheville, NC 28806.

For a fascinating oral history about community development in the mountains of North Carolina and the great work of Pat Brinkley go to: http://toto.lib.unca.edu/findingsaids/oralhistory/VOA/A_C/Brinkley.P.html