

## ***Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program***



**Islands Trust**

### **2007 Enduring Achievement Award Recipient Profile**

**Winner:** Pender Post

**Category:** Enduring Achievement

**Project:** Building Community

**Nominator(s):** The Pender Islands Trust Protection Society and  
Pender Islands Conservancy

**Project Description:** From inception, The Pender Post was instrumental in building the Pender Islands community. The first issue of The Pender Post was April 10, 1971 – a two-page publication printed on a ‘Ditto machine’. The first editor was Edmund Morrison. In the first paragraph it states “The Pender Post aims to bringing you towards the first necessary particulars of events about to take place on the Pender’s”. In the ensuing years The Pender Post has done just that - providing all residents and property owners with the dates and times of events and what’s going on for any given month on the Pender Islands, plus contact information for all these groups – currently 50 + organizations.

The Pender Post became a conduit to bring the community together – bringing into one community all island residents of North and South Pender Islands. With incorporation as a society, the constitution for this community publication came forth on March 7, 1972. The constitution established The Pender Post as a non-profit organization, depending upon free and voluntary contribution of labour and services. It also states that it shall not be used in anyway to promote any political interests or the private or commercial interest of any person or organizations.

Thirty-five years later much of the work of The Pender Post Society is still done by volunteers. Today’s editor is Doreen Ball and the longest standing editor was Maria Watson from 1977 to 1998. Helen Allison is the longest standing board member with decades of dedicated service; Helen Harper comes as a close second.

From the first days of printing on the Ditto machine, technology advanced and in February, 2007, for the first time The Pender Post copy was sent to the printer on Mayne Island electronically. Circulation has also increased as population increased to the present numbers of more than 1100.