



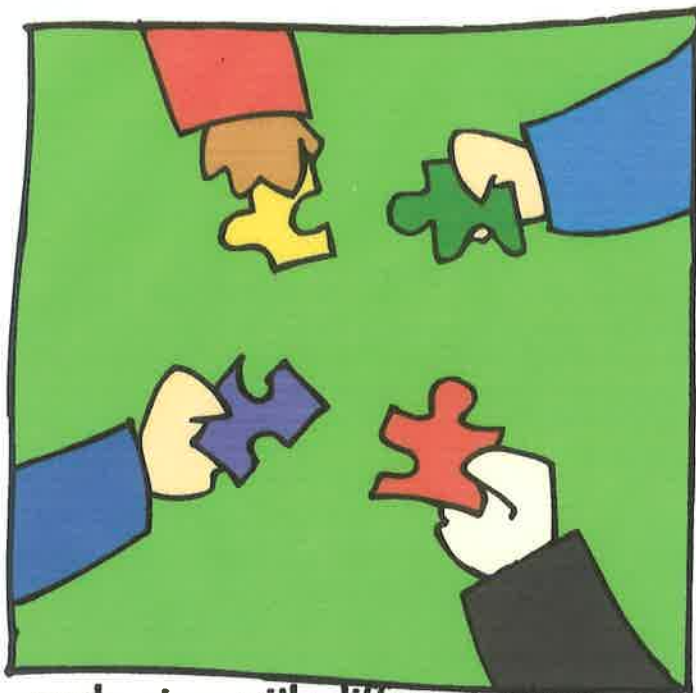
"Everyone
has fun at
Tassel Top!"

2008

Tassel Top Park / Beach
End of Season Report



THANK YOU ALL FOR
WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT
YOU DO, YOU ARE SO
APPRECIATED!



puzzle piece with different talents and perspectives, which together make the puzzle whole.

We have been blessed these past three years with a wonderful staff of people whose care, creativity and vision have brought the park to the place we now find ourselves.

We owe an especially great debt of gratitude to Barry Alden who makes vision a reality. His passion for the park can be seen everywhere you look.

We also thank Nathan, Scott, Jason, Kevin, and Shep, The Public Works crew, for all they do to help out when needed. Their cheer and concern are always appreciated.

Nancy Yates, the finance director, is always available to offer guidance and is an extremely valuable piece of the Tassel Top puzzle as is Rita Theriault, who does our payroll. We also appreciate the help we receive from Louise Lester and Don Willard as well.

We have many vendors and businesses who offer us help but none as much as the Red Mill Lumber Yard in Casco. They are always ready to help us any way they can and are quick to deliver what we need to keep projects rolling.

We especially want to thank the members of the Tassel Top Board who continue to show confidence in our judgement and abilities. We are very appreciative of your on going support and concern for the welfare of this gem of Raymond and for the opportunity that you give each of us to be a part of this unfolding adventure.

Very Sincerely,

Ranger Sue

Tassel Top End Of Season Report 2008

This season has zoomed by once again and with the exception of one or two minor issues, was a peaceful and productive season. We were fortunate to have most of the crew from the 2007 season return for another year so a lot of the "new kid" information could be run through quickly and not repeated. The couple of new employees we had caught on to things quickly and were real assets.

STAFF: Barry Alden is my right hand man, being able to do nearly everything that anyone could ever come up with. This man is extremely humble and extremely talented. He has given so much of himself to this park and is always cheerful, cooperative and a joy to be around each day. He hopes to return next year...Charlie Scribner is an older gentleman who returned this year and worked in the gatehouse. Charlie is a thinker who is always coming up with ideas and is a very reliable worker...Corey Leslie was new this year. He did yard work and started in the gatehouse. Elliot LaMarre helped with the renovations the middle cabin and the bath house in the spring and then went to work for Thirsty Turf, an irrigation company but did keep Sundays open to work the gatehouse for us...Emily LaMarre was invaluable in the Snack Shack this year as she was able to reprogram the cash registers as we upgraded our stock. She also worked in the gatehouse...Jeff Larocque began the year with us and then left to take a job with his uncle who does reupholstering....Lauren Weeks returned to work in the Snack Shack a couple of days a week. She was very reliable...Lucas Cole came to us mid season and worked weekends as beach patrol/security. We came to the conclusion that there are two distinct groups of people who frequent the beach. Monday through Thursday we tend to have more families with children, mom's with little kids etc. Friday through Sunday, while we still have the families, we also have many foreigners, college kids, singles, and couples who think that the beach should be used for other things from smoking to sex and many things in between. Lucas, who has done pier security at Old Orchard Beach was great at spotting these things and dealing with them in the appropriate way. I got lots of positive feedback, especially from the regulars, regarding his presence on the beach. He worked the same hours as the Snack Shack. He also was able to fill in on the weekends, when Barry does not work, to do carpentry repairs and painting which is his profession. I and many others found his service to be a large plus for the park...Meg LaMarre worked where ever and when ever we needed her, helping with the cottage cleaning, raking, mowing, Snack Shack and gatehouse...Last but not least was Sally Gorrill who returned for her fourth year. Sally is wonderful.

She is always cheerful and cooperative and does whatever she is asked to do. She was awesome at helping to keep all the gardens weeded and her Zen raking cannot be beat!

BUILDINGS:

SNACK SHACK: We removed the last wall to the back area to offer more ventilation to the whole building. It also opened up the back area so stock could be more easily viewed and stored by vendor, to avoid mix ups. The wheelchair door was cut in half, and turned into a Dutch door, also for ventilation. A small window, which had originally been purchased for the new bathhouse and not needed, was cut into the wall across from the Dutch door to aid cross ventilation. The old damaged cedar shingles around the window were replaced and stained to match the building. The deck stairs were falling apart and were rebuilt. The deck floor was stained. Barry donated some old outdoor carpeting which was installed on the deck to protect the kid's feet from burning and a painter's canvas was purchased and put up on top of the overhang for more shade which also protected the candy from the heat of the sun. Bob Yates donated a fridge so we could have hot dogs, pizza and such foods. These additions did serve the purposes imagined and we noticed that the freezers and coolers were able to function with less effort and stayed cooler.

FUTURE: This building will need to be stained and trim touched up next season.

BOY'S CHANGING ROOM: The board that runs across the front of the benches was removed for easier cleaning.

GIRL'S CHANGING ROOM: We redid the entire building beginning with the removal of all benches. People were using this convenient hiding spot for tampons, diapers and other trash. We did add 1 bench, built differently, in 1 stall upon the request of one of our handicapped patrons. The stalls were rebuilt in a line on one wall with the baby changing table pushed to the far end corner and no benches on the walls which opened the place up and made it much easier to keep clean. We also added hooks to the walls for hanging clothes etc.

PORT-A-POTTIES : FUTURE: Need facia boards put on and stained

GATEHOUSE: Was fine this year no real maintenance needed. A new sign holding framework was built and stained for the rules, hours and rates.

FUTURE: Screen on window repaired and on door. Building should be stained and porch floor restained. Vents in front peak area.

SHED/GARAGE: Nothing major was done. We reorganized shelving to give more room in the garage for the mule and mower, tools, gas etc. The shed was reorganized as a work area for Barry and storage for non poisonous, easily replaceable items (Signs, cones, gardening items)

FUTURE: Someday it may be a good idea to build an actual garage perhaps over in the employee parking lot, to house the mule, tools and a workshop for Barry, to serve at least two purposes 1.cut down the noise near renters thus allowing us to get on with projects sooner and not disturb people...2.We could allow the renters to use the garage part of the shed for their larger items (bikes, blow up floats etc)to get them out of the rain and keep the yard looking neater when other prospective renters pass by.

MAIN CABIN: The fireplace slate was turned into a great coffee/game table with four by four legs and a heavy two by six frame to support all the weight. We bought new curtains for the entire building to freshen up things including one across the fireplace to hide it. The boat motor that came with the boat/trailer did not work and was traded for a larger microwave of greater value. The smaller one was put in the Snack Shack so we now have two to speed up microwave services. Painted apple crates made some new shelving in the kitchen for large pots, etc. The TV died early in the season but one was found beside the road in perfect condition and working so we have a TV again. Outside a new deck and fence garden were installed. People who brought their own gas grills loved the deck for this.

BATHROOM: New vanity sink, toilet and mirror were installed and hooked into the septic system by Dennis Cole. The drain plug being plastic, failed and was replaced by Dennis. A marble topped cherub table was donated by Kevin LaMarre. All was hooked up to the septic system which was located, dug up, and pumped out in May. The walls and light had been done in fall '07 by Barry.

4 Main Cabin
FUTURE: We would like to remove all walls and replace with tongue and groove pine. Also would like to take ceiling out of kitchen and raise it to let the heat from cooking escape. Esthetically this would put all the cabins on the same visual par when showing. Counter tops and floor should be replaced. New screen doors are needed. We are planning to put shelves in the fireplace so games can be

stored there, behind a curtain, or possibly doors to keep them out of sight and not all over the floor. SOMEDAY: Steel roofing

CABIN 2: This cabin was completely gutted out, all walls and ceiling removed. All wiring for this cabin was replaced by Dana Desjardin and old wiring disconnected and or removed. New tongue and groove pine was used for the walls and ceiling. New molding everywhere inside. Barry made new screens for all windows and put new hardware on all windows to make them all the same for opening/closing. New curtains/rods were purchased. A half wall was installed between the two rooms. Kevin LaMarre donated 2 marble topped cherub tables for bedside tables. The floor was painted as was the trim around windows

FUTURE: New screen door with solid bottom. SOMEDAY: Steel roofing

CABIN 3: This cabin was completely gutted out, head to toe and was found to be disgusting. Every single flat surface and all spaces between the walls, except three, were packed, at least knee high, with squirrel nests, nuts, urine, etc and some walls were insulated with Country Gentlemen, Colliers, and Saturday Evening Post magazines from 1946. These had made excellent nesting material for the critters over the years. The buildings were found to be basically pushed up to each other and held together by about three nails. The two upright supports that were imagined to be holding the buildings together, were reduced to corrugated cardboard status by the carpenter ants which had magically moved all their sawdust into the two adjacent spaces to the left of those supports, nicely packed about three feet high. The chimney was dangerous in that the bottom had been undermined and the stovepipe sleeve that came into the cabin was letting water in between the walls so we knocked it down, repaired that wall, resingled outside, and boarded the hole in the roof where the chimney had been and resingled it. The building was crooked as it had settled so we jacked up the side and blocked it. We will do the front in the spring. The buildings were beamed and bolted to one another. Roof lines were made sturdier up with extra supports. All walls were done with tongue and groove pine. The front room ceiling was raised and the same tongue and groove was used on it. The entire building was rewired by Jeremy Wilson, who was fantastic, and a combination ceiling fan with a light was installed as well as switches and a couple of outlets. New molding all around. We did not build a half wall but rather left it open. We left the back room ceiling unsheathed because of the neat design of the hip roof. We will stain the ceiling to match the molding in the spring and will also paint the floor then as well. Also shingled outside where front room roof line rises above the back room roof. Steve Crockett

donated a new double bed frame to replace the one we had that was missing a leg. Barry donated a barely used set of pine bunk beds

FUTURE: Curtains, bureau, chair, new screen door with solid bottom.
SOMEDAY: Steel roofing.

BATH HOUSE: This building was a mess with lots of rot and mold. It was completely gutted out to the studs and all plumbing except the toilet which was fine was removed as was the wiring. The roof over the shower had to be removed, raised 10", rebuilt and resingled. Tongue and groove pine was put on all walls and the raised ceiling. New molding all around. A new shower stall and vanity sink, (ultimately had same issue with drain plug as the other bath room so it was replaced) and plumbing were installed and hooked into the septic system by Dennis Cole. A light, switch and outlet and new wiring were installed by Dana Desjardin. A new outside door was built by Elliot LaMarre and stained. Floor painted.

FUTURE: New screen door with solid bottom.

BEACH: The water this year was ridiculously high for a good portion of the season. We had, for the most part, a happy bunch who were happy to share space and any who complained were sent to Old Orchard !! We were told by Amy, our water tester, that we have the biggest beach in Raymond, with the most amount of people on a regular basis and our beach consistently has the lowest bacteria count which initially baffled her. She came to the conclusion that it is because we carefully monitor this beach and keep the trash picked up...I have discussed our use of Lucas on the weekends which kept the smokers, drinkers and other odd behaviors under control....Our erosion control was really well received by all and with a little training we were able to keep most offenders out of the woods and on the beaten trails. Four by six timbers were installed where the sand and trees meet and then back filled with soil to help the trees that are there. Small platforms were attached to the timbers in each path to the beach also to keep sand and dirt in the own spots. Fencing was also put up to encourage people to stay on the paths. This all serves a dual purpose of erosion control which we must get a handle on or lose the trees that are the buffer between the beach and the swamp and they add to the visual esthetics of an already beautiful beach....We had one incident where the rescue was called for a boy scout from Connecticut who had a seizure due to the stress of being away from home for the first time and a recent heart surgery. He