

Outhouse Donations Needed

We're Talking \$\$ Folks

By Bob Adkisson

[This is an Oct. / Nov. 2003 Newsletter Article, written by Cabin Co-Chair Bob Adkisson. The cabin's original outhouse (dating from the winter of 1979) needed to be replaced, and monetary donations to finish a new outhouse were being solicited]

If you've ever stayed at the TATC cabin, you may have noticed the small metal plaques (with names inscribed on them) under each of the 9 windows, most of them dedicated to the memory of a Trail Club member, or the relative of a member. What is this all about?

Mrs. Putman initially gave the club \$15,000, to buy the land and build a cabin to memorialize and honor her son, Douglas. After a few years of construction by our hard working club members, we ran out of money and went back to her with a request for (if memory serves me right) \$500 more. The money was forthcoming but, within about a year, those funds ran out as well. This time, to purchase materials required for the windows, we instead asked for donations from club members. Again, if my memory is correct, a full sized window, and the dedication plaque that went with it, cost \$70; the smaller windows were \$45. In a short time club members came through and the needed materials were purchased.

The original cabin outhouse is (very) full and needs to be replaced. The new, larger pit is dug, the underground wooden cribbing is in place, and the concrete slab has been poured. But we still need to purchase the materials (some of them specialized, for the SST-type toilet we're installing) for everything that will sit on top of the slab—lumber, siding, roofing materials, a seat, a black plastic vent pipe, etc. We are short about \$900 (for materials) and are asking interested club members to make monetary donations, big or small, to help us defray these costs and keep the project on track. Make checks payable to TATC, and either send them to the club (TATC / P.O. Box 8246 / Norfolk, Va. 23503) or give them to Bob Giffin, Steve Babor, or Bob Adkisson at the Oct. or Nov. meeting. Note on the check that it is for the outhouse. All donations will be greatly appreciated and, unless you request anonymity, will be acknowledged (by name, not dollar amount) in an upcoming Newsletter.

Already we've heard from about half a dozen members who've pledged about ¼ of the amount needed!

The Maupin Field and Harpers Creek SST-type outhouses (both several years old now) came in at around \$1,200 apiece; the cabin outhouse will be in that range as well.

Thanks for your help.

[In the Feb. / Mar. 2004 Newsletter Bob Giffin wrote a follow-up article to the one above, thanking by name 41 people that worked to build the new cabin outhouse, as well as 31 people (including Mrs. Putman and her two daughters) who answered the call and donated money to finish up the project]