

Douglas Lee Putman Cabin Progress Report

[This is a TATC Newsletter Article from June, 1981, written by Jacque Jenkins of the Cabin Committee. Jacque was the head cook for most of the work trips, the cabin's foremost cheerleader and champion, and the person who spent hours on the phone, trying to recruit volunteers for the long running construction effort. Here Jacque briefly describes the May work trip to the cabin, and talks up the trips to come, later that summer. Not for lack of workers or effort, but we didn't even come close to closing in the cabin that fall, though on the 9 day trip in October we did finish the stone work and begin to put into place the roof rafters.]

Last weekend (May 8—9, 1981) the dogwood was in bloom and everyone was excited and pleased about what a nice selection it was for the cabin site: right smack-dab in the middle of a grove of dogwood.

The walls of the cabin are beautiful—greens, grays, and earth tones—and they are 7/8's finished. Those who have worked on them under Otey's watchful eye have done a beautiful job. The timbers that were cut two years ago and stacked to dry are being squared and hoisted into place and fitted and bolted.

It has been an exciting and gratifying three years. During that time we have had a total of 120 people working on building the cabin. It has been all done by hand. We have sweated, laughed, cried, bled a little, fussed and cussed, agreed and disagreed, but it has been worth it. We can all be proud of what has been accomplished.

But wait—WE ARE NOT THRU! We must get it closed in by Fall. That means getting the roof on and the window and doors in. It sounds easy but it takes time, more sweat and hard work.

Phyllis Putman and her family gave us \$15,000 to buy the land and build the cabin, with no strings attached except that it be a memorial to her son who loved the trail, hiking, and the woods as we do. It has been our goal to have the best cabin that we could build—being a credit to a young man who shared our love of the outdoors as well as a credit to the TATC.

Some of us have worked one weekend a month for the last three years and have enjoyed every minute of it-- others have been as generous with their time as circumstances have permitted. This summer we are asking for that extra effort, even sacrifice, of your time and energy, to get the cabin closed in. We need strong, willing workers who have a skill—a skill that will put up the roof, put in the windows and doors. Then, next winter we can work inside and **NEXT SPRING HAVE A DEDICATION!**

Please— All it takes is a commitment of one weekend a month. We are planning one week in October. If you can come, let us know the dates you are available when we can count on you to work. Sign up now and give the cabin as much time as you possibly can. You will be glad you did for you will have shared in building a place that we will all enjoy for years to come. Remember, it is your cabin.

Work weekends are: June 5, 6, 7; July 2, 3, 4, 5; Aug. 7, 8, 9; Sept. 4, 5, 6, 7; and Oct. 9 thru 18.

Get together with others who are coming up to work and share a ride. Bring your breakfasts and lunches. Supper will be cooked for you at the cost of \$2.00 each. Enjoy a community meal and the fellowship of the campfire at night.

We are truly blessed to have this opportunity. Don't miss out on it.

*Thank you,
The Cabin Committee*