

## **The Inauguration of a Cabin [April, 1979 Newsletter]**

[An unsigned Newsletter article that appeared in April, 1979, covering a lot of the same ground, but with some additional bits of information about the cabin project; work on the cabin had begun just 3 months earlier]

Why a cabin? During the year 1975, a proposal was brought before the membership to build a cabin, the purpose being to provide a rustic shelter for club members and the public to share an opportunity such as the wilderness experience; also to build the membership. A Cabins Committee was formed to look into the situation of acquiring a cabin. There was even a savings account opened for the committee, by the Board of Directors. The account consisted of excess funds from the treasury.

Phelps Hobart, president of the Club in 1975, checked out the possibility of Wintergreen or Massanutten donating a cabin. Lance Lowenstein, Cabin Committee Chairman in 1976, approached the plan to restore Harpers Creek Cabin, along with four other alternatives. In 1977, Maxie Campbell, owner of the Maupin Field Cabin allowed the club to use it. But it was in such a state of disrepair, that the situation delayed the use of the cabin, thus the plan was abandoned.

In December [1977], Mrs. Phyllis Putman contacted us in reference to establishing a memorial for her son who died in an automobile accident. She offered the Club a considerable sum of money sufficient to build a cabin and purchase land. In view of this situation, Jacque Jenkins [TATC President] met with a realtor and was interested in a parcel of land 15 acres, located near the Blue Ridge Parkway.

In 1978, the Cabins Committee chairman, Ray Levesque met with Forest ranger Harry Fisher, and they visited the proposed site 18.5 miles south on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the head waters of White Rock Creek, where the water was sampled for feasible drinking water.

The next big event occurred in July, 1978 when the Cabins Committee made notice to the General membership to approve the concept of Mrs. Putman's proposal to provide a donation to the club.

On July 25, 1978 a large majority voted to accept Mrs. Putman's donation and the building of the cabin was authorized by TATC. The Board of Directors was to proceed with the selection of a site and purchase of some land and a cabin.

September 19, 1978 the agreement was signed. On February 2, 1979 the deed to the land was recorded at the clerk's office in Lovington, Virginia.

A cabin is for people to congregate because they are united to one ideal, that of visualizing the beauty of living. To be able to enjoy building a solid structure that will house people who enjoy the outdoors, enjoy the comforts of a shelter after a strenuous day and to be able to share a new way of existence with their friends; what a comfortable way to go!!