

# **The Lumberjack Saloon, also known as “The Jack”**

## ***7000 Graves Creek Road, Lolo Montana***

### **History:**

Construction on The Jack Saloon, aka The Lumberjack, was begun in 1972 by Don and Mary Ellen Babcock with help from many of their logger friends. Comprised completely of cedar trees logged just over the border in Idaho, the structure was completed and opened in 1974. The Lumberjack was truly a bar built by lumberjacks, for lumberjacks so they would have a place in the woods to drink and relax.

The large, beautiful bar is custom-made from one massive log that was carved out to make room for sinks and bar service. It was set in place first and the log walls were built around it. The massive fireplace was not part of the original construction.

The Larkin family acquired The Lumberjack in 1994. Julie, Stuart, and Mary Jo operated the bar off and on from then until 2021. Stuart’s wife, Patty, joined Stuart and Mary Jo from 2013-2021 when they sold it to the current owners. At some point the name was changed from The Lumberjack to The Jack Saloon for legal reasons.

The iconic bar was featured in the 2013 film “The Best Bar in America.” It was one stop in the main characters’ search for the best bar, but the only bar in the film in which the words, “See, isn’t this the best bar in America?” were spoken.

Greg and Kathy Alexander purchased The Jack Saloon in June 2021. Their goal is to bring back the glory of the historic saloon with live music, events, and to continue the good times that have been had for the past 50 years.

The Jack Saloon has become an iconic destination in Western Montana. Our guests include both locals and tourists. Many visitors have stories to tell of their experiences of “The Jack.” Memories can still be seen on the walls, timber beams and posts, as well as in the guest books located by the back door.

### **Owners’ ideas for growth/additional revenue:**

1. Bluegrass festival or other music festival.
2. Local craft vendor fair.
3. Bottle BBQ and Chipotle sauces for sale in bar and local grocery stores under The Jack Saloon name.
4. Run electric and water to some of the campsites to increase camping price.
5. Attend Missoula bridal show as a vendor to increase the number of weddings.
6. Sell The Jack Saloon merchandise on our website.
7. Property Management Software (PMS) to manage cabin rentals, add online reservation capability, and improve marketing of cabins to increase occupancy rate.
8. Hold concerts on stage in yard. 2,000-3,000 people can easily be accommodated.
9. Remodel remaining cabins to increase rental rates.
10. Build additional cabins – 2 more can be added near existing cabins. Cabins can be built at north end and connected to new well, septic, and electric, or an owner/manager home can be built.
11. Use food truck behind kitchen to increase food preparation capabilities.

## List of all improvements made since 2020:

1. Added a dishwasher
2. Upgraded electric in the bar. Added lighting and many outlets inside and outside the bar.
3. Added full hook-up RV site behind cabins -50 AMP electric, water, sewer, and propane.
4. New chairs inside bar
5. New table near fireplace
6. New upright freezer for additional food storage
7. New hot water heater
8. New, larger fryer in kitchen
9. Built stage in yard
10. Well, septic tank, electric, and propane installed for new building site at north end of property.
11. Remodeled cabin 1
12. Refinished back deck
13. Replaced benches in wedding area
14. Refinished gazebo and bridge
15. Cleaned pond
16. Built new woodshed for additional storage space
17. Remodeled Aspen cabin (dry cabin) for store-front and storage
18. Refinished and preserved bar top
19. Added new storage shed by cabins for UTV/ATV and other storage
20. New clothes washer for cabin laundry
21. Repair and refinish fences (refinishing is in process)
22. New picnic tables and refurbished octagon tables for patio

## POS System:

1. TouchBistro

## Fun Articles:

<https://www.406families.org/blog/Explore-the-Jack>

[https://missoulain.com/lifestyles/hometowns/lumberjack-saloon-along-graves-creek-finds-its-roots-and-lore-in-logging/article\\_cc22d6b8-5df4-11e2-a116-001a4bcf887a.html](https://missoulain.com/lifestyles/hometowns/lumberjack-saloon-along-graves-creek-finds-its-roots-and-lore-in-logging/article_cc22d6b8-5df4-11e2-a116-001a4bcf887a.html)

## Social Media Links:

<https://www.facebook.com/thejacksaloon/>

<https://www.thejacksaloon.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/thejacksaloon2/>