

DIAMOND  RANCH

WIDE OPEN ADVENTURE
Montana Style

DIAMOND J RANCH
ENNIS, MONTANA



WELCOME

There's something about Montana that you can't quite explain, but you sure can feel. It's a feeling that wakes you up in the morning like a good cup of coffee and puts you to bed at night with a smile big as a mountain sunset. We at the Diamond J Ranch understand this feeling, and want to make sure that your stay here captures the essence of what this special part of the world is all about. From the rustic charm of the Main Lodge, to our more modern amenities, we can enhance your visit to Montana in two ways. One is our magnificent location, situated in a mountain valley surrounded by the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. The other is our guest services, designed to provide each visitor with a level of comfort worthy of the word "premium". Taken together, they add up to a quality Montana vacation.



Julia Bennett, circa 1934

OUR STORY

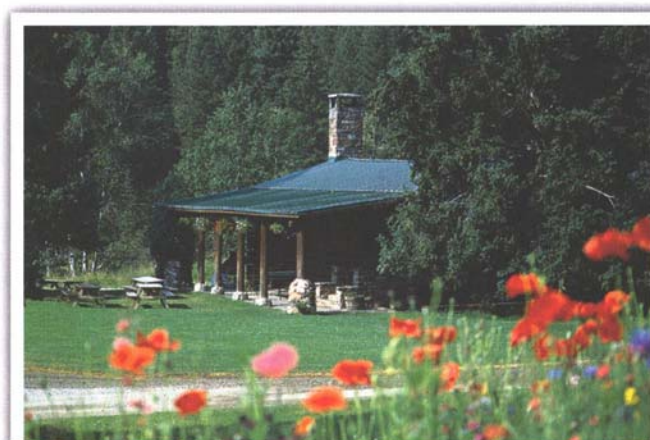
Julia Bennett, a Montana born woman of character and resolve, founded the Diamond J Ranch in 1932 with little more than grit and vision. The wilderness setting that we treasure today was gained through her initiative and foresight at a time when "dude ranching" was a pretty high risk enterprise. Julia worked hard and built a loyal clientele that came to appreciate her Montana way of serving up hospitality. Her legacy is continued to the present day through Jinny Combs, the current long-term owner, who purchased the ranch in 1959.



Main Lodge Interior, circa 1934

ACCOMMODATIONS

Not many guest ranches can match the authentic qualities of the Diamond J. The ambiance is expressed with grand fashion in the rustic cabins that house our guests. Several are original structures that highlight the skills of craftsmen from days gone by who specialized in log construction. Whether it's the morning sunshine coming through your window, or the blaze of the fire in the cool of the evening, you will feel the warmth of cozy association with wood and hearth as you begin, and end, the day.





MAIN LODGE

This rustic example of wilderness architecture is one of the original Diamond J buildings. Constructed out of logs and anchored with a massive stone fireplace, the Main Lodge is the primary gathering place for guests.



GUEST CABINS

Each log cabin features a stone fireplace, individual bathroom and a cozy atmosphere to compliment your experience.





Pack Trip, circa 1933



Mountain Lake, circa 1936

ACTIVITIES

You round one more bend in the trail and yet another incredible piece of mountain scenery unfolds before your eyes. High in the wilderness, it's hard to imagine that you might need anything else to make your stay at the Diamond J more enjoyable. Just in case though, we do offer other options to further satisfy your appetite for sport and adventure. You can fly fish our private lake, or we can arrange a float trip on the nearby Madison River. Try your shotgun skills on our own trap shooting range, or play tennis on our spacious indoor court. In the evening we might even rustle up a fiddle or two for an old fashioned barn dance. We'll let you relax when you want to, but there's always something to do at the Diamond J when the spirit gets a little restless.





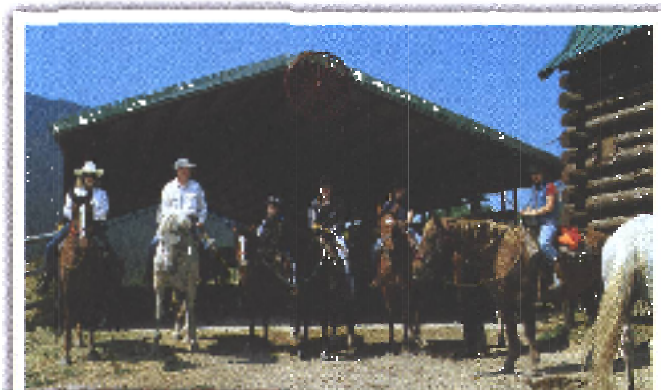
FLY FISHING

The Diamond J is located on Jack Creek, a tributary of the famous Blue Ribbon trout stream the Madison River. While the Madison is our premier angling attraction, we provide many other options for the fly fishing enthusiast and will take great interest in tailoring a fishing adventure to fit your needs.



HORSEBACK RIDING

At the Diamond J, western-style horseback riding is our specialty. We can handle most levels of skill, but if you desire, riding lessons are available. Rides are usually broken into adult and children's rides, but arrangements can be made to make family trips together.





Camp Fire, circa 1933

PROVISIONS

Food and fellowship – key ingredients for worthwhile time spent together. The Diamond accommodates both with savory dining experiences at breakfast, lunch and dinner served "country style" to all guests at the same time. You will come to appreciate the sound of the cook's bell as signals to enjoy not only a great meal, but equally good company.

Meals are served three times a day in the Main Lodge and are announced by ringing our famous bell. We take pride in our home cooked meals, so plan to enjoy them hot off the stove by being the first in line .





OTHER GUEST SERVICES

The Diamond J accommodates guests in a number of ways.

Noteworthy examples include our:

GIFT SHOP,

Where you can purchase souvenirs, apparel, fly fishing equipment and other gear for outdoor adventure.

TELEPHONE & MESSAGE CENTER,

To stay in touch with friends and family while still enjoying your wilderness retreat.

PERSONAL LAUNDRY SERVICE,

That picks up and delivers garments back to you within 2 - 3 days.



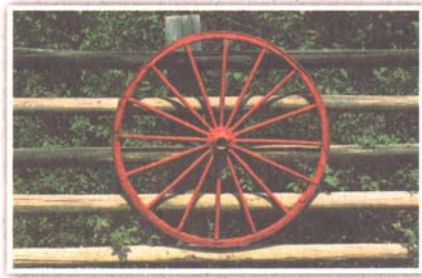
Laundry Service, circa 1932



LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT

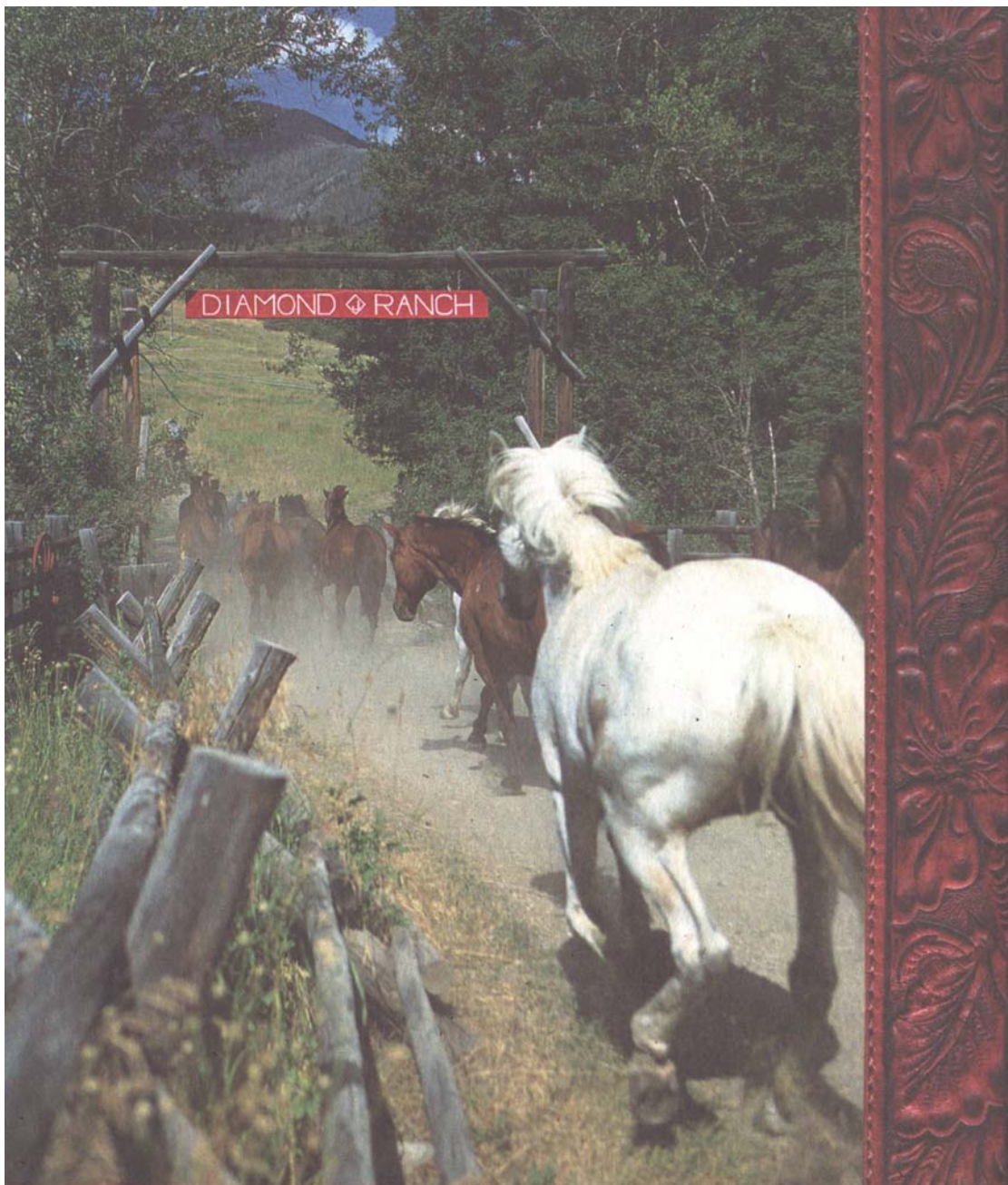
Your hosts, Jinny and Peter Combs are true examples of the Montana pride and energy that makes things go in the West. Their standards and example lends to the Diamond J it's unique character and feel. Beyond that however, they are just friendly people who sincerely value an opportunity to share their attachment to this special place. So... what are you waiting for? Consider yourself invited.





Color Photos: Saunders Photographic, Bozeman, Montana

Black & White Photos: courtesy of the Julia A. Bennett Collection



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