



**By Jan Schultz**

***The Imperial Republican***

After two and a half months since ceasing operation, an Imperial downtown restaurant reopened last week.

Owners Jack and Christy Stinnette, who originally opened Jack's Place restaurant at 415 Broadway in 1977, are back at the restaurant that features a new name.

Jack's Steak House & Sandwich Shop had a "soft" opening last Friday, opening the doors without any advertising. They've had a good four days, Stinnette said Tuesday.

He wanted it to be a bit slow the first couple of days to get the staff and himself familiar with the day-to-day operation of the restaurant again.

"It's a big change for me, for the old staff and new staff," Stinnette said.

It's not that the Stinnettes haven't been busy since first selling the business. They have operated a successful catering business since 2005, known as Jack's Country Cookin'.

For the most part, the Stinnettes will continue their catering business as it's been operating the past four years.

Stinnette said he's continuing to upgrade his restaurant menu, but for now, it features some of the favorites from the original Jack's Place menu, such as his chicken fried steak and hot roast beef sandwich.

He's also incorporated some other best sellers from the previous two owners' menus.

"Steak House" is as part of the restaurant's new name, so Stinnette said patrons will have a wide selection of steaks on the daily menu, including choice aged, certified Angus and sterling silver beef, with regular weekend specials, too.

One popular returning feature at the restaurant will be the Monday pancake nights, when the full service menu will also be available.

The Stinnettes sold the business to Dale Bonner in June, 2005. In June, 2006, the restaurant reopened under the ownership of On Broadway, LLC, which continued operating until June 29 this year.

Jack's Steak House & Sandwich Shop is open Monday through Friday for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

**'Fast and Fresh' lunch bar**

A new addition people will notice just inside the restaurant's front door is the "Fast and Fresh" self-service lunch bar.

High school students, those on a short lunch hour or on the run can make a quick stop and serve their lunchtime needs.

Stinnette said each day the lunch bar will offer a \$2.95 quarter-pound hamburger and another warm sandwich selection, wrapped and ready to go.

Patrons can also purchase warm homemade pie to go and a cold beverage from the cooler.

A large selection of sandwiches and sandwich platters are included on the regular menu.

**Lueth continuing as manager;**

**new cook joins staff**

Patty Lueth of Imperial, who has been at the restaurant since August, 2007, as manager, will

continue in that capacity at Jack's Steak House & Sandwich Shop.

Cory Shogren, an Iowa native, is the chief cook. He has several years of experience as a cook in steak houses and with full service menus, Stinnette said. He worked in several states including Colorado, Texas, Louisiana and Alaska.

Christy Stinnette will be at the restaurant on a limited basis since she plans to continue her full-time job at the Chase County Assessor's Office.

Stinnette noted some of the former staff who worked for them before have returned. Others who worked for the previous owners have also stayed on, he said.

Stinnette has applied for a new liquor license, and expects that to be finalized in 30 to 45 days.