

NEW YORK

Bar Adults Only

There's no lake on Avenue B," said the tickled 411 operator when asked for the number of the **Lakeside Lounge** (62 Avenue B, between 10th and 11th Streets), a bar with a concrete floor, paintings of lakes, and an antique dark-wood bar that was ferreted out of an estate sale. The Lounge's co-owner Eric Ambel (pictured, right) named the place after a beloved gin mill in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, his hometown. Apparently, Ambel—a 38-year-old singer and guitarist for the local band Roscoe's Gang—and his partner, Jim Marshall, were missing some of that old small-town bonhomie. "We were sick of every other bar," says Marshall (left), a 37-year-old cult D.J. who's known as the Hound on his legendary radio show (Saturday afternoons on WFMU). "It's hard for an adult to get a drink in this neighborhood. I'm at the age where I feel like an idiot most places. They're full of kids, loud, uncomfortable. You just want to go out and have a drink. Where would you go in this neighborhood? No place." Although the owners will occasionally allow a band to play the bar's tiny stage (for exactly one hour), what most regulars prize about the Lakeside Lounge is its jukebox, which is filled with the same kind of old rock and roll and country that Marshall plays on his show—and which serves an important nonmusical role as well. "The jukebox has been a great self-cleaning oven," says Marshall. "The kids from New Jersey walk in the door and out again when they hear George Jones playing. Usually, the people you don't want in here never get to the bar." CHRISTINA KELLY

