



Bardini

The Backside of Beyond

The Bardini Foundation Newsletter

Winter 2002-2003 Issue

Annual Fund Raising Campaign

KUNR, the public radio station serving the Bishop area from the University of Nevada at Reno, has just finished their semi-annual fund raising drive. Many people are bothered by the interruption of their normal broadcasting schedule by pleas for pledges. As annoying as these drives may seem, one must remember that non-profit corporations need funding. Fund-raising is part of what they "do" and it's the funds that allow them to "do" the rest.

In the last issue of The Backside of Beyond we mentioned that a complete stranger, Bob Black from Lilburn, Georgia, emailed us. He wanted to know how much a subscription to this newsletter would cost? He ran across our website and decided that the archived issues of the newsletter looked like a great way to stay in touch with a part of the world that he really missed. We informed him that there are no subscriptions and thus no charges. But then, why not?

Despite the fact that anyone can read the archived issues on the Net for free, why shouldn't we suggest a minimum donation of \$5.00 annually for all readers regardless of their means of reception? If every reader did this, the annual publication costs would be met by your donations.

The Bardini Foundation has never actively engaged in a fund raising drive, but many people have suggested that we must. Most non-profit organizations have at least two fund raisers a year. **See Page-2 for our ideas on fund raising.**

So You Want To Be A Ski Guide?

by Tom Daniels

This past February, I attended a five-day ski guide course hosted by the Bardini Foundation. The course was designed to prepare participants for the American Mountain Guide Association (AMGA) ski guide certification course and exam. With guest instructor Freddy Grossniklaus at the helm and our own Tim Villanueva's close observation nearby, we were put through the paces of what to expect in an AMGA certification exam - at a fraction of the cost of an AMGA ski guide course.

Freddy is an UIAMGA certified mountain guide and an AMGA alpine, rock and ski mountaineering certified guide, as well as an AMGA instructor and examiner. He has roots here in the Eastern Sierra where he used to ski instruct for Mammoth Mountain



The three graduates of the Bardini ski guides course and their instructor. L to R: Richard Meyer, Tom Daniels, Fred Grossniklaus, and Chris Carr.

10 years ago and his legend still lives within Slope Side Center at the Main Lodge. He now resides in Park City and runs Swiss RockIceSnow Guides there. Freddy truly brought a sense of realism of what the AMGA certification program is all about and what type of skill level is necessary to become AMGA certified.

The course covered many areas of an AMGA course and exam including navigation, group management and client care, equipment use, search and rescue techniques, and skiing skills. An extensive amount of time was spent on navigation techniques

Continued on Page-2

In this Issue

Contributions Graciously Accepted -----	2	Bardini House Log/Information Revised -----	4
Liability Insurance -----	2	Purpose Statement, Translation, Winter Donors -----	5
Skiing the Far Horizon by Allan Bard -----	3	Bardini Ski Safari/Camps/Summer Treks/Climbs -----	6

Contributions Graciously Accepted

Here's the first attempt at establishing a hierarchy of annual donors to the Bardini Foundation, Inc.

The Bardini Foundation is not a club and thus does not require dues, however, an annual subscription to the newsletter at \$5.00 a year could be thought of as dues or as membership in a commendable cause.

There are several individuals and organizations that deserve special recognition and they are categorized below.

Beyond the standard "membership fee", **individuals** may contribute at different levels as follows:

Patron \$200+

Wayne Griffin
Bob Nagy
David Weston

Chris Smith
Paul Rudder
Chris Van Horsen

Partner \$100+

Glenn Hirayama
David Huntsman
John Gibson
Paul Trester
Russell Tucker

Brian Parks
Rick Saez
Bruce Coleman
Bill Carr
Mike Zanger

Contributor \$50+

Terry Walker
Don Sharaf
Ian Frias
Mal Swanson
Clay Greene

Tom Volken
James Wilson
Jim Herrington
Robert Black
Virgina Anderson

Sustainer \$25+

Walt Pachucki
Bill Stall
Chan Caldwell
Molly Attell

Tom Frost
Bob Trousdale
Lyn Lauria
Roy Tovani

Member \$5

All the rest of you

Corporate organization members will be categorized as follows:

Patron \$5000+

The **DEW Foundation**
(The Dale & Edna Walsh Foundation)

The DEW Foundation deserves special recognition. It has contributed over \$10,000 in the last two years. Thank you, Shai Edberg!

Partner \$1000+

Contributor \$500+

Sustainer \$200+

The members in each category will be recognized in each issue of the newsletter and on the website on the "Members" page.

Liability Insurance Coverage ...

There are two major problems in obtaining liability insurance for outdoor adventure programs. The first problem is high insurance rates. Liability rates, like all insurance rates, are continually rising.

Secondly, coverage for the outdoor industry has become more difficult to obtain due to an expanding differences in "risk tolerance" between insurance companies and guide services like ours. Adventure activities are coming under closer scrutiny and are being questioned as to how they will be conducted safely. The Bardini Foundation having no history as a permit holder, must draw upon the experience and expertise of its guides, as employees of other permit holders, to impress both the U.S. Forest Service and the insurance companies of our impeccable qualifications and dedicated goals in this field.

Assistance from anyone out there with knowledge and expertise in this area would be sincerely appreciated.

We currently operate in the Inyo National Forest under the permit held by the Sierra Guides Alliance, however, if and when the Bardini Foundation obtains its own permit to operate independently as an outfitter guide in the Inyo National Forest, it will be necessary for our services to be covered by a liability policy written for the Bardini Foundation.

Anyone able to advise us

contact via e-mail or U.S. Postal Service

don@bardini.org

or

Bardini Foundation
515 Sierra Street
Bishop, CA 93514

Special Thanks

to

Toni Richards

For her suggestions and assistance in formulating a fund raising plan

So You Want to be a Ski Guide?

Continued from Page - 1

including uphill and downhill techniques and route finding, trip planning, time management, and map and compass use and application. We used a combination of classroom and field instruction, as well as "learn as you go". Each participant had ample opportunity to lead the group in varying tasks allowing hands on experience and constructive feedback. By the end of the week, everyone knew where he or she stood relative to certifying in the AMGA program and what skill areas they needed to concentrate on in the future.

Oh, and we skied. Punte Bardini, the Sherwins, and Devil's Slide were toured and skied taking on some of the best snow the Sierra had to offer. Out of towners went away from the East Side with a different picture of "Sierra Cement" and it was one of the few things Tim and Freddy didn't give feedback on except - "please don't sneeze".



Electronic Newsletter

Now that you know it costs the foundation almost \$300 in stamps and materials alone to publish one issue of the newsletter, maybe those of you with **internet access** will use the website to obtain your copy of the Backside. Please **NOTIFY us of your email address** and your intent so that we can take you off the snail mail list and put you on the email list.

Address your response to:
don@bardini.org

Skiing the Far Horizon by Allan Bard

When I stop to think about exotic spectacular places, fabulous wilderness skiing, wild technical jags, and user friendly adventure, in short, uncommon skiing for the common man, one trip always comes to mind - the delightfully rambling tour across the high country between Piute Pass and Bear Creek Spire in California's high Sierra.

It's not a ski tour as well trodden as the European Haute Route, nor as well furnished as the estimable Tenth Mountain Trail in Colorado. It's definitely not as wild or difficult as the Sierra High Route. But this is a real wilderness tour with all the amenities. You will find scenic accommodations at days end, in the form of that very portable hut, the tent. This tour features not only glorious skiing and comfortable lodging in the company of friends, but hot and cold water courtesy of a camp stove and most importantly a night of peaceful slumber, snuggled quietly in the cozy confines of a high country down comforter, the sleeping bag. It's five star travel if you bring your own truffle for the pillow. This style of backcountry travel is convenient and comfortable if not completely perfect. Certainly the scenery is worth the ski, and the ski is worthy on it's own.

It's not well known that this section of the Sierra behind Mount Humphreys and the spectacular Bishop skyline is a part of the once famous, never repeated, Redline Ski Traverse, the highest, most exciting ski line in North America. So where is this fabulous ski tour hand built for regular folks? Normally when showing off this fine tour, I blindfold folks, spin them around a few times before I take them to the roadhead, but it's the season of giving and I'm feeling charitable. This, after all, is a real prize.

The ski from the north fork of Bishop Creek to Rock Creek is a true classic. The terrain one is obliged to ski is almost sophomoric, but the landscape is world class, and the available down skiing, fabulous. Let me say this another way. I've taken a four year old child and a seventy year old man on this tour. I've escorted champion nordic racers, world class telemarkers, ex-alpine racer-rats, and also regular folks from the 'burbs who couldn't buy a turn much less make one. The verdict is in and everybody agrees, this is an incredible ski tour.

To find the gates into the Enchanted Ski Land drive from the sleepy hamlet of Bishop, California west up Bishop Creek towards the impressive Sierra crest. Normally in the spring one must park at the turn off for North Lake

and begin the tour from there. Hike and ski up the road to North Lake and then continue on to the end of the road at the North Lake Campground. From here the ski begins in earnest. Begin traversing up the south facing slope paralleling the trail that leads to Loch Leven and ultimately to Piute pass. The Pass is over 11,000 feet so a night somewhat below that elevation is a good acclimatization practice. In short, give yourself plenty of time in the first couple of days to adjust to the altitude and you'll thank yourself later in the trip. There's plenty of great camping in the vicinity of Piute Lake.

From Piute pass the best route is to wind through the Humphreys Basin going north toward the ridge that divides French Canyon and the Piute drainage. The expansive terrain of the basin is contrasted abruptly with the towering extent of Mt. Humphreys. At nearly 14,000 feet Humphreys takes on the Matterhornesque stature of a commanding citadel. After skiing the rolling terrain through this high lake basin a moderate thousand foot climb to Steelhead Pass connects the route to the fine timberline country of upper French Canyon.



Bri Boche fantasizing on the far horizon of the Sierra from the shores of the Big Island

Steelhead Pass is the first of any real technical difficulties and the steep north facing section can be traversed across in a westerly direction to more moderate slopes. The view once again changes from the broad vistas of the Glacier Divide and the Humphreys Basin to the more complicated terrain of French Canyon, the Royce Lakes bench and the fine rocky summits of Meriam, Royce and Feather peaks. In the distance the magnificent silhouette of Bear Creek Spire looms large on the horizon. The total panorama from Steelhead Pass is a symphonic crescendo of spacious highlands sweeping up into giant granite peaks.

On the many times I have skied this tour I usually spend a night at timberline in upper French Canyon, before traveling up onto the Royce Lakes bench and on to Granite Park. Granite Park is worth skiing a day or two to enjoy the scenery, the snow, and the terrain that

so typifies the High Sierra. There are many fine places to camp at the treeline and often open water nearby. Take the old guide's advice on this one, and linger in this section of the tour.

There are many ways to exit Granite Park and cross over into Rock Creek canyon, but there are no easy routes out. This is the crux, far and away the most difficult passage of the route. The most direct line to Rock Creek Canyon is via Birchim Creek under the impressive south face of Bear Creek and Spire and over the spectacular and technically difficult Spire Pass. Spire Pass is not for the average ski tourist. It is most assuredly the domain of those skiers that have mountaineering skills. A climbing rope is required equipment for all but the most skilled and bold ski mountaineers. When I guide this trip it is the one day when not only do I really earn my money, but people finally realize the value of a trained experienced professional mountain guide. The southwest side of Spire Pass is an exposed but relatively easy traverse out on ledges that lead to the pass. Good climbers would consider this passage a "walk", but most skiers find this to be challenging climbing. The actual degree of difficulty is Class 3, basically climbing that is secure enough to do without a safety rope.

The northeast side of the pass is not so easy. The vertical drop below the pass gives most skiers pause to consider what on earth they've gotten themselves into. The reality is that gravity and a stout rope make short work of this problem. An exciting 150 lowering down the cliff to a snow ledge and a long ski traverse to the north, lead to Peppermint Pass and the head of Rock Creek Canyon.

The bowl below Bear Creek Spire is great ski terrain. Fifteen hundred feet of scenic downskiing deliver skiers to the highest lakes of the Little Lakes Valley, the final camp near the end of terrific tour. On the last day one skis about eight joyous miles, mostly downhill, to finish the tour at the winter road head just below the Rock Creek Pack Station.

Skiers could spend a week doing this tour exploring and sampling the spring corn snow crop, or they could blast through in just a few days. The time to do this tour is traditionally in May. At that time the snow is travelable, the avalanche conditions more predictable, the days longer and the temperatures far milder.

So if you're looking for a real ski adventure this year, but your energy or pocketbook leave Europe, Alaska and New Zealand out, try the gentle wilderness of the high Sierra. It will be the tour of a lifetime.

I guarantee it!

-Ciao for now, AB

From the Bardini House Log

"It's impossible to relax and refresh in any other place like Bishop! Allan has left us with the perfect getaway, a chance to keep cozy and enjoy the #1 climbing spot in CA. You can feel his spirit, that drive to push it to the limit and enjoy every minute. Thank you for keeping that alive! An amazing trip, each one to Bishop gets only better. Until next time, never let go!"

- Katie Flohr, Sacramento, CA

"The Bardini House and Bishop are truly magical places. Can't wait to come back."

- Anonymous, Sacramento, CA

"Our third time at Bardini this year. Another fabulous weekend of skiing. Great weather, great snow, and the Right Reverend Bardini's house to stay in. It just can't get any better."

- Tom Brogan & Pat Orris, San Diego, CA

"Painted the kitchen. Somewhere in Texas, a village has lost its idiot. Nice 'Hall of Shame' photos. Great snow out of Tamarack."

- Jim & Patti Valensi, San Pedro, CA

"Here I am in the company of some of Bardini's oldest and closest friends ... we are about to start one of the adventures of my lifetime ... Mammoth to Yosemite. The weather is beautiful. There's a foot of new snow. I am definitely the weak link (and the only female), but with the talent going along ... no problem. Thanks Bard for your hospitality ... you will be with us."

- Roberta Acheson

"Bouldered, sledded, ate alot, slept little ... nice stay."

- Matt McCormick,
Rebekah Donaldson & Max

"No more skin, climbed a lot ... no more power now ... but very happy."

- Roby Bocchi, Chris & Stella, Italy

"Once again the Bardini House pulls through with its country ambiance. Many good times were had! Special thanks to Don for his efforts with the Bardini Foundation. Bishop is the best!"

- Paul Patterson, San Diego, CA

"I was here! Guide on!"

- Jerry Kominski, Romeo, MI
(alpha of the wolfpack)

"Great place. Really enjoyed the book and video collection."

-Helen Qien, CA

Bardini House Information (Revised)

Use Donations

Stays are limited to 10 days except by special arrangement. We hope that our "overnight" guests consider a **donation of \$20 per night for one person or \$15 per person per night for two or more people** to be an appropriate contribution to the maintenance of the house. If you invite some "day-use" friends in to **shower, cook, or watch a video**, they should consider making an appropriate donation or **you** may be asked on their behalf to donate an extra **\$5 per person per use**.

General

Guests may use the kitchen, and bathroom facilities; the stereo, VCR, and TV system; the outside deck, and BBQ; the laundry washer may be used, but the freezer in the laundry is for Foundation use **ONLY**. If you need a freezer use the refrigerator's freezer in the kitchen. Heat is by wood fire or body heat conservation ... firewood is available at the local market... body heat is the guest's responsibility.

TV/Stereo/VCR

Guests are free to use the TV, stereo, and VCR. Videos of current and classic movies are on the bookshelves. Anyone wishing to donate videos or mountaineering/skiing books to our library should contact the hosts.

Monday Nights & Other Significant Occasions

Guests must be prepared to share the premises and the TV for Monday night football (in season) with the regular locals that wander in (usually about 4 to 5, but sometimes as many as 10). It's generally a painless experience and usually adds to the ambiance. Meals are prepared and guests are welcome to partake. Superbowl Sunday and New Year's Day sometimes require the same tolerance.

Ed's Underground SKI SERVICES

760-A W Pine St, Bishop, CA 93514

(760) 872-1348

Mounting/Tuning

CrossCountry and Telemark Binding Mounting

3-Pin, NNN, SNS Profile, SNS-BC, & Pilot Bindings	\$20
Cable Bindings (All Except Rainey Designs Hammerhead)	25
Rainey Designs Hammerhead Bindings	30
Releasable Telemark Bindings (All)	40

Related Charges

Climbing Heels, Tele Vates, Heel Locaters, Etc.	\$10
Binding Riser Plates (in addition to binding mount)	10
Remove old bindings & plug holes (in addition to mount)	8
Additional Charge for Mounting Volant Skis	10

Randonnee Binding Mounts

Fritschi Diamir, Lite Tech, & Silvretta Bindings	\$40
All others	\$45/hr

Tunes, Repairs, Etc.

Hot Wax (Hand Ironed & Brushed)	\$10
Race Prep (Rilling, Brushing, Temp Specific Wax)	25
Metal Edge Tune (Edges, Minor Base Repair & Wax)	30
Non-metal Edge Tune (Minor Base Repair)	20
Removal of Grip Wax (In Addition to Ski Tuning)	20
Pine Tar (For Wood Ski Bases)	40
Custom Repair Work (Major Base Repair, etc.)	\$45/hr

Statement of Purpose

The Bardini Foundation is a group of friends and relatives who wish to honor and commemorate their friend and brother, the late Allan Bard, fondly known as "The Great Bardini". The Foundation was formed to continue Allan's work and carry out his plans and dreams of exposing people to the total mountain experience. In Allan's memory, the Foundation will strive to provide the common man with Muir's inspiration to "Climb the mountains and get their good tidings".

The Bardini Foundation is providing:

1. Year-round backcountry guide services
2. Sponsorship of courses in avalanche safety, mountain emergency medical practices, rockclimbing/mountaineering skills, and wilderness appreciation
3. A guest house for itinerant climbers and skiers (Allan's residence)
4. Continued publication and distribution of Allan's Shooting Star Guides
5. A newsletter to promote mountain ethics, protocol, and safety
6. Publication of Allan's writings and photographs
7. Funds for search and rescue groups, for training and equipment
8. Slide shows and seminars on mountain sports, safety, and photography
9. Funds to train and accredit, in cooperation with the American Mountain Guides Association, mountain guides of Allan's quality
10. Support for environmental and cultural projects of community interest in Bishop, California

We are accepting donations from anyone interested in supporting our efforts. **Checks should be made out to the Bardini Foundation and mailed to the Foundation in Bishop.**

Lest We Forget

An Editor's Note

Every other issue or so of the Backside of Beyond should probably use some space to remind readers, especially new readers, of why the Bardini Foundation exists. Our Statement of Purpose, accurate as it may be, does hide the Foundation's simple reason for being:

A few of us would not accept Allan's passing as "the end" - "the end" of all the good times that we enjoyed in his company - "the end" of what he had determined to be his mission in life - "the end" of his enthusiasm for introducing people to the backside of beyond. This was "the beginning" of the Bardini Foundation.

Translation of an Italian Comment

In the last issue, we published a comment made in Italian by an anonymous visitor to the Bardini House - an Italian. Here is our best effort at translating it:

"Once again here, enchanted by the atmosphere, I spend a wonderful day in this house, time is immobile, and I dive in, with the most beautiful eyes in the world.

If only I could come back - soon! On a holiday or someday or someday in a daydream."

Winter 2003 Donors

The following people have made generous donations of money, time, or talents to the Foundation's cause. The list is incomplete ... for this we apologize. Our thanks to you all.

Robert Black
 Roby Bocchi
 Tom Brogan
 Katie Flohr
 Jerry Kaminski
 Mark Herndon
 Matt McCormick
 Barbara Schantin

Dennis Miller
 Justin Morejohn
 Gaye Mueller
 Patricia Orris
 Frank Pierson
 Helen Qien
 Linda Wu
 Tom Rossi

Special Mention:

The DEW Foundation
 Glenn Hirayama
 Jim & Patti Valensi

Couloir Magazine
 David Van Horsen

Bardini Baseball Caps



These caps are brushed cotton, fully adjustable, in a variety of colors with embroidered logo

only a \$12 donation

plus tax (CA only) and shipping*

Bardini Coffee Mugs

10-oz. white porcelain mug with the Bardini logo

only a \$5 donation
 plus tax (CA only) and shipping*



Send your check to the Bardini Foundation
 515 Sierra Street
 Bishop CA 93514

*combine with a shirt to save

Bardini Baseball Caps

These caps are brushed cotton, fully adjustable, in either navy or denim with gold embroidered logo

only a **\$12** donation

plus tax (CA only) and shipping*



Bardini Coffee Mugs

10-oz. white porcelain mug with the Bardini logo

only a **\$5** donation

plus tax (CA only) and shipping*



Send your check to the
Bardini Foundation
515 Sierra Street
Bishop CA 93514

*combine with a shirt to save

Foundation Activities

Spring/Summer

Spring Ski Safari

May 30-June 2

Guided Sierra ski descents and back to the car each evening..

Locations vary depending on conditions.

Bardini Ski Camps

May 9-13 * May 19-23 * June 6-9

Rock Creek * Palisades * Shasta

Ski in and take guided day tours from our camps.

Sierra Summer Trek & Climbs

Mid June through September

The Bardini Foundation offers guide services year-round.

Treks, climbs, and ski tours can be contracted throughout the year.

Call, write, or e-mail the Foundation at

(760) 873-8036 or (760) 872-4413 or don@bardini.org



Bardini Foundation

515 Sierra Street
Bishop CA 93514

The Backside of Beyond

Volume V

Winter 2002 -2003

Number 2

The almost quarterly newsletter of the

Bardini Foundation, Inc.

515 Sierra Street

Bishop CA 93514-2330

(760) 873-8036 www.bardini.org

(760) 872-4413 don@bardini.org

Publisher/Editor

Don Lauria

Board of Directors

Gary Bard - Dale Bard - Ed Cereda - Don Lauria

John Moynier - Tim Villanueva

Advisory Board

Robert Dery, MD - Jane Dulaney - John Ellsworth - David King

Steven Marlowe, MD - Walter Pachucki - Rick Saez

J. Kent Steele, LLD

