



The Backside of Beyond

Bardini

The Bardini Foundation Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2003 Issue

Spring/Summer Came and Went

an editorial

This is the second time the Backside of Beyond has been forced to postpone an issue ... thus the current "Spring/Summer" issue.

This time it was the editor being too busy guiding to get to writing. A guided trek on the floor of Death Valley in late March, a side trip to Honolulu in April, two guided treks in the Sierra - one in June and one in September - an interim August river trip on the main fork of the Salmon River, and most of the spring/summer was gone.

Then along came Tony Rowell, Galen Rowell's son. Many years ago, when Tony was a teenager, his father took him up the north fork of Lone Pine Creek with the intent to do a winter ascent of Mount Whitney. The snow proved too much for Tony back then and they were forced to retreat. Since that trip Tony had always wanted to get up Whitney and he decided to climb it this year in memory of his father.

In early October, just as I was about to begin my editorial duties, Tony asked me to show him the way up Mt. Whitney's Mountaineers Route. On October 8th we summited. Tony fulfilled his wish and finally I was free to start on this newsletter.

Hey, the Bardini Foundation is going strong and is continuing what it started back in 1997. Are you listed among this year's donors? If not, why not?

See Page-2

Bardini Avalanche School Update 2003

Six years ago, Tim Villanueva, the foundation's Chief Guide, came up with the idea of a Bardini avalanche awareness program and the establishment of a Bardini Foundation Avalanche Education Center. At that time he outlined the nine program goals that follow. With each goal listed he has added what has been accomplished in their pursuit:

• **Create a nationally recognized avalanche education center.**

National recognition will come with time, but the Bardini Foundation is recognized as the go-to source for avalanche education in California.

• **Use North America's top avalanche experts as guest instructors.**

The foundation has always hired top U.S. and Canadian instructors to teach our Level III courses.



• **Provide local community avalanche awareness clinics.**

We provide one-day beacon clinics the Eastern Sierra public for very modest donations to the foundation. Mammoth Mountaineering Supply has been a big supporter of these clinics. We participated in an evening symposium held in Mammoth organized by the local search and rescue (SAR) team. In the last few years, we have taken the local Paiute Tribe kids out for snow safety field days. This winter we have planned snow safety days for the local Boy Scouts.

• **Furnish search and rescue teams with annual clinics and snow survival equipment.**

In November of 1999, the Bardini Foundation donated four brand new avalanche beacons to the Inyo County SAR team. The Mono County SAR team participated in a Foundation level-II avalanche course last winter at a very reasonable team cost. Members from the Inyo County SAR have taken both our Level-II and Level-III courses at rates considerably below the rates charged by local guides services. This goal of providing training to SAR teams is part of the Foundation's mission statement. This winter we have planned an evening session and field day at no cost to the SAR teams. Three equipment manufacturers are providing

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 |

2003 Contributions

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.

Any donation over \$5 will, of course, include "membership" and also if \$25 or more will earn special mention.

INDIVIDUALS

Patron \$200+

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Wayne Griffin | Chris Smith |
| Bob Nagy | Paul Rudder |
| David Weston | Chris Van Horsen |

Partner \$100+

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Bill Carr | Rick Saez |
| Bruce Coleman | Oriol Sole-Costa |
| John Gibson | Paul Trester |
| Glenn Hirayama | Russell Tucker |
| David Huntsman | Mike Zanger |
| Brian Parks | |

Contributor \$50+

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Virgina Anderson | Don Sharaf |
| Robert Black | Mal Swanson |
| Ian Frias | Tom Volken |
| Clay Greene | Terry Walker |
| Charles Grobe | James Wilson |
| Jim Herrington | |

Sustainer \$25+

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Walt Pachucki | Tom Frost |
| Bill Stall | Bob Trousdale |
| Chan Caldwell | Lyn Lauria |
| Molly Attell | Roy Tovani |

Member \$5

All the rest of you

ORGANIZATIONS

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 ... coming soon.

Bardini Avalanche School Update 2003

Continued from Page - 1

beacons for the clinic. Our public service reputation in avalanche education has created a close relationship with related equipment companies and will allow us to continue to offer the local SAR teams the best training.

• Provide funds or scholarships to aspiring guides for participation in Bardini courses.

We have deviated from this a bit. Instead of providing funds or offering a single scholarship, we have chosen to keep our avalanche courses priced well below other providers. This approach has worked quite well. In addition we have partially funded our level-III courses to further reduce the costs to participants. To further reduce costs, Tim Villanueva has donated all of his time in scheduling and coordinating these courses. John Moynier and the Mammoth Water District have provided much appreciated support.

• Funding staff participation in avalanche symposiums and courses.

It is important to keep the Bardini staff informed of new avalanche equipment and techniques. Networking with other educators and equipment companies at symposiums provide this information. Staff members have attended such symposiums as the International Snow Science Workshop.

• Contributions to worthy avalanche-related organizations or studies.

This fall we have agreed to sponsor an avalanche instructors course taught by the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE), an organization we support.

• Provide support to the Eastern Sierra avalanche bulletin.

John Moynier volunteers his time to this project. This bulletin is the Eastern Sierra's only avalanche bulletin. Tim Villanueva provides John with field information for posting in the bulletin.

• Funding for acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment for classes.

We are currently considering the purchase of a video projector for Powerpoint presentations to be used in our avalanche courses.

In assessing the progress of the program, Villanueva reports, "It's surprising how much we have accomplished with so little money! How long we can keep it up, I don't know. It would be nice to have more funding. I would like to put more emphasis on some of the neglected goals to fill them out some or maybe even revise some of them."

Bardini Hosts Avalanche Instructors Course

On October 30th nine aspiring avalanche instructors from across the nation arrived in Bishop to attend a 4-day, 2-level, avalanche instructor's course sponsored by the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE) and hosted by the Bardini Foundation. The course instructors were Tom Carter, Howie Schwartz, and Tim Villanueva.

AIARE is a nationally recognized avalanche education association that the Bardini Foundation has been affiliated with since the association's inception. Two of the Foundation's directors are AIARE instructors - Tim Villanueva attended the very first instructor's course seven years ago and Gary Bard became an AIARE instructor two years ago.

Level-I course had four participants and Level-II course had five participants. Upon completion the participants became AIARE qualified instructors. Bardini plans to offer other events for AIARE in the future. The Foundation thanks Rodger Derryberry and Mary Lou Long for their help and the use of their facility at Mill Creek Station.

Technique Worship, The Religion of Turning by Allan Bard

A modern twist on an old mark Twain quote about businessmen would read, "Behold the backcountry skier, turns are his God and how to get them his religion". The growing number of earn-your-turn zealots swells with every snow storm and every lift ticket price hike. Conquering all through a liberal use of *correct technique* is the order of the day. In order to tear up the snow patch, one must master the all-powerful telemark.

The problem is, of course, that the telemark is not one turn but many. There are multiple derivations and subtle manipulations that can be performed in search of the perfect backcountry turn, with either telemark or parallel technique. There is no *right way to ski* contrary to the technique gurus. Sometimes telemarking isn't even the right answer. There is always a more efficient way to ski based on the snow conditions, but of course the conditions always change. It follows then that our telemark technique must be as protean as the snow is changeable. So, is there a common thread to weave the fabric of perfect turns? Yes, and the answer to most of the questions raised by the tech weenies can be answered by something as simple as stance. Even though the stance answer is seemingly straightforward, don't get caught up in any One True Way approaches. Let the snow help you learn about the subtle differences in weight distribution and balance necessary for each condition.

First of all, although the concept of stance sounds static, we must think of this posture in dynamic terms. It is a traveling posture that allows us to move in constant equilibrium. A good functional stance is one of constant equilibrium. Every snow condition requires a different sense of balance. Traversing and straight schussing on low angle slopes to feel the snow will help tell what combination of weighting and pressure is required from the stance. Note that I have not said equal weight but instead we are looking to improve motions made in "equilibrium". The short course in this new stance is to shorten the distance between the front and rear feet and then attempt to stand on the skis in such a way as to feel similar pressure up through your feet and skis. This feeling will be different in every snow condition so experiment

until you can comfortably traverse or straight run without diving the front or rear ski.

This will no doubt feel different if you have been turning with a predominately front weighted ski. It may even require a little experimenting with putting too much weight on the back ski to feel the relativity. Ideally, there should be an equilibrium of pressure as you edge and steer both skis through the turn. Even the lead change towards the next turn needs that constant steady pressure that helps to shape one turn into the next. Experiment with trying to press off



"As you drive into Mammoth Lakes, the Sherwin bowls are ... off to the left."

the snow and then sink down absorbing the snow to get a feel for all the movements both up and down as well as right and left.

The concept here is a simple albeit irregular one. There is no one answer. There is no one way to worship the ultimate ski turn. Whether you telemark or parallel or mix it up, the best technique is the one that turns the corner. Experiment with feeling an equilibrium of weight and pressure on the skis as you attempt to guide them into each turn and as you make each lead and edge change. Only by embracing the multitude of possible ski sensations can we start to feel the one true turn - the turn that works.

Editor's Note:

Allan always said, "There are only two turns in skiing ... left and right."



Powder for Free by Allan Bard

In the Eastern Sierra or the "Eastside", the two best easy hits for guaranteed good skiing are the Sherwin bowls and the Tioga Pass area. The "Sherwins" are a favorite winter powder spot, and Tioga Pass is the corn-ucopia of excellent spring skiing.

As you drive into Mammoth Lakes, the Sherwin bowls are below the obvious broad-forested ridge with multiple avalanche chutes off to the left. This is a car shuttle tour with 1,200 feet of climbing for 2,300 feet of skiing. The approach begins in the vicinity of Tamarack Lodge on the shores of Twin Lakes, the winter roadhead on Lake Mary Road. Ski up the road, eventually working your way up the west end of the Sherwin ridge. Sometimes the ridge is blown pretty clean of snow, making it accessible even for snowboarders and alpine skiers. Once you get to the top of the ridge, it's an easy enough task to ski or walk along until you see something that looks interesting. There's a lot to choose from ...bon appetite.

Tioga Pass is the gateway to Yosemite from the Eastside. Although the pass is often not open through the park until Memorial Day, the road is usually clear to the pass from the Eastside by May Day. This means it's possible to drive to almost 10,000 feet about the same time that the corn snow starts really happening. The number of peaks that are available to day ski is incredible. You are surrounded by a skyline of twelve and thirteen thousand foot peaks ... Mt. Dana and the Dana Plateau, Mt. Gibbs, Gaylor Peak, White Mountain, Mount Conness, North Peak, Excelsior Peak, and Warren Peak. There is certainly plenty to choose from. All the tours here are up-and-down tours. You pretty much get what you pay for in terms of vertical, but you can drive to the base. Not too bad! The favorite ski tours locally are the Ellery bowl, above Ellery Lake, Mt. Dana, the west slopes and the couloir on the north, both skied from Tioga Pass, and last but not least, White Mountain bowl, actually southeast of White Mountain. This is the huge bowl that is so obvious looking west from the road near Ellery Lake. This whole region has easy approaches and great ski terrain ... all in a reasonably compact area. What's not to like?

From the Bardini House Log

"Escaped from the smoke in Joshua Tree and saved from the cold nights at the pit! Thanks for making it possible for a climbing Austrian family with 6 month old Liam to stay at the Bardini House for 9 wonderful warm days."

Biffi, Ingrid, & Liam Strauch, Innsbruck, Austria

"Thanks, Allan, for the hospitality! Gotta love the feeling of 9 days ON [in the Gorge] with NO SKIN."

- Katie Flohr, Sacramento, CA

"Always a welcome return to the Bardini House. Climbing in Tuolumne ...Thanks Bardini for the casa once again. P.S. Don smiled at me for the first time (Yes!!!)"

- Brian Kelleher, Lori, Zeoli, & Eric Meudt, CA

"A quick and wonderful stay. The best part is the lesson I learn[t] from Mr. Bardini[s] approach to life"

- Kaweena & Hari Reddy , Old Bridge, NJ

"We're here for the second week of our honeymoon ... we're sad to leave such a beautiful place ..."

- Justin & Sara Morejohn

Great place to "decompress" ... back to the Valley."

- Peter Mayfield & Heather Sullivan, CA

"...we've had a memorable and wonderful time here!."

- Jeffery Schoen, Berkeley, CA

"My daughter skied Patrolman's for the first time [she's 5 years old]. It reminded me of when I skied it with Allan. I love the new collage ... a celebration of a joyous life"

- Larry & Sydney Conn, San Diego, CA

"Spent the last 4 days cruising com ... Spring skiing at its best! The only question is, Why are we leaving?"

- Don Sharaf & Rich Rinaldi, Driggs, ID

"Wow! This is great. ... What a great feeling to see how Allan's spirit has mushroomed into the Bardini Foundation ... I can see that one of Allan's biggest problems was keeping that smile from swallowing his head ... Thank you Bardini Foundation."

-Ron Cason & Janine Rubinfier, CA

"[The Bardini House] serves the needs of ... climbers and fellow travelers like no other facility ... Thanks for the use of such a charismatic and historic site."

Harrison Hood, Sebastapol, CA

"Allan always said, Bud, you always got a spot around my 'campfire' ... We are all sustained by his spirit, thoughts, and vibes."

Jim Valensi, San Pedro, 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) | \$12 |
| 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.

Electronic Newsletter A New Approach

Those of you with **internet access** please **NOTIFY us of your email address** so that we can take you off the snail mail list and put you on the email list. Your issue will be sent as an attachment in Adobe .pdf format. You can open Adobe .pdf documents if you have the free Adobe Reader installed on your computer. Go to www.adobe.com for your free download. Then open the attached file containing your issue of The Backside of Beyond. You can read it on your screen and/or print out a hardcopy.

A Postcard from the Cook Islands

Anonymously mailed November 11, 2002 from the Cook Islands

"Nothing to report, no traffic, no SUVs, no cell phones, no road rage, no rush hour, no 40-hr workweek, no Osama, no nukes, no military, no smog, no propaganda, no Enron, no IRS, no phoney energy crisis, no phoney war on drugs, no lying media, no Bush family crime syndicate. No worry, no hurry on Rarotonga. The only thing the "stock market" sells here is goats & chickens."

signed **Noah Scape**

Spring/Summer 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.

Individuals:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Virginia Anderson | Joseph Ortega |
| Daniel Blackburn | Hari Reddy |
| James Garvey | Tony Rowell |
| Hilary Goldstine | Richard Sykes |
| Charles Grobe | David Weston |
| Scott Hall | Nyri Wheeler |
| Ken Kerner | Andrew Zdon |
| Joy Mueller | |

Special Mention:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| The DEW Foundation | Couloir Magazine |
| Jim & Patti Valensi | |

Bardini Baseball Caps



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

only a \$15 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

Sierra Guides Alliance Activities Winter 2003-2004

provided by the Bardini Foundation

"Telebrations"

Dec 14 & Jan 15

Come to Mammoth, CA and tryout the latest telemark equipment. The Bardini Foundation will be giving a beacon clinic. Sponsored by Mammoth Mountaineering Supply - contact at 760-934-4191

Level-III Avalanche Course

Feb 6-10

We offer the Eastern Sierra's premier Level-III avalanche course featuring America's top avalanche instructors.

Teton Ski Adventures

January 23-26

A Teton hut trip with some of the best powder skiing in the US. We will tour each day with fresh with fresh tracks for all.

Sierra Backcountry Lodge Skiing

February 21-24 & March 26-29

Tioga Pass Resort has all the amenities a skier could want, excellent atmosphere, and of course some of the most sensational ski terrain the Eastern Sierra has to offer. Set at almost 10,000 feet, we will have some wide-open views and endless ski opportunities!

Blackcomb/Whistler Ski Adventure

March 12-15

The Blackcomb/Whistler area - the Chamonix of North America. Condos within walking distance of lifts that take you up 5000 feet giving access to extraordinary backcountry skiing.

The Bardini Foundation sponsors guide services year-round in the Inyo National Forest under the permit held by Sierra Guides Alliance

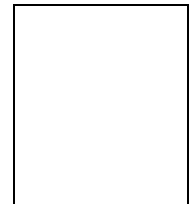
Treks, climbs, and ski tours can be contracted throughout the year. Call, write, or e-mail the Foundation at

(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

Spring/Summer 2003

Number 3

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

