



Bardini

The Backside of Beyond

The Bardini Foundation Newsletter

Winter 1998-1999 Issue

Level III Avalanche Course Completed

The Bardini Foundation contracted **Karl Klassen** to instruct a Ski Guides Level III Avalanche Training Course in Bishop, February 12th through February 15th. Six guides, including two members of the **local mountain rescue teams**, attended and were presented certificates of completion by the Foundation. After the final session, dinner was served at the Foundation hostel for all participants.

Additional courses, Level I and Level II, are being offered in March and April. Interested persons should contact the Foundation or Tim Villanueva for more information: tgvillanueva@hotmail.com or 760-872-4413.



PSIA Nordic Symposium Banquet in Mammoth

Urmaz **Franosch** and Scott **Christiansen** of **PSIA-WEST** deserve our sincerest thanks for their part in making the December 18th symposium banquet at Skadi's restaurant a complete success. Not only was the food and company great, but the proceeds from the ensuing raffle were donated to the Foundation. Most coveted amongst the raffled prizes were Bardini/Sierra Designs fleece vests and "Bardini Lives" cotton tee shirts.

Gary Bard and your editor were notified by PSIA of their intentions to hold the raffle in Allan's memory and were invited to represent the Foundation at the banquet. The outpouring of love and respect from Allan's colleagues was evident throughout the event and we continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of those that knew him. Thanks.

The Foundation's Hostel Gets a Sign Thanks, Brett

The Bardini hostel on Sierra Street in Bishop is now easily recognized due to the dedicated effort of **Brett Bigelow**. About a year ago Brett indicated his intention to create and donate a sign for the Foundation's hostel. In December it arrived and was immediately installed under the eaves of the Bardini porch.



Brett's interest in the Foundation grew out of his association with Allan Bard at Rock Creek Winter Lodge in 1988-1989. Brett grew up in Southern California and climbed avidly in the Eastern Sierra, worked for A-16 Outfitters while attending college, eventually working and living at Rock Creek Winter Lodge.

Cont'd next page

Second Annual Allan Bard Memorial Bunbuster 20K

Poor conditions forced postponement of the **Second Annual Allan Bard Memorial Bunbuster 20K Freestyle X-Country Race** from the originally scheduled February 7th date to February 21st when fourteen hardy racers competed on the 20K course. Again, weather was a factor and deterred many possible participants from making the trip to Mammoth's Tamarack X-Country Center. Early arrivals had to wait for the snowplow to open the road to the lodge. The Foundation was invited to the event to sell tee shirts and coffee mugs, and to distribute Bardini newsletters to participants and interested parties.

The race was sponsored by the **Tamarack X-Country Center, Brian's Bicycles & X-Country Skis, Rossignol, Karhu**, the Bardini Foundation, and a host of others who contributed awards and raffle prizes.

The highlight of the awards presentation was the raffling off of a pair of Rossignol and a pair of Karhu Bardini skis.

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The Results Are In On the Bardini Ski by Ed Cereda



Karhu introduced an all mountain ski this year in honor of Allan Bard, the Bardini ski, made in Italy. The ski is produced in lengths of 170, 180, 190, and 200 cm. It is a light, versatile ski with a generous sidecut of 94-72-84 mm. The wide tip gives good flotation in powder and crud, and the sidecut and dampening allow the ski to hold well on hard snow even at high speeds. If any of you have seen me ski, you know how important that is to me. Tim Villanueva, our head guide and fellow Foundation member, was recently guiding clients in the Tetons with freshies every day. Tim said the ski's performance was excellent! So if you feel there is a hole in your quiver or you just need skis, the Bardini is the one that will do it all.

Again, we would like to express our deepest appreciation to **Steve Gladstone and all those at Karhu** who were a part of the project for their sincere and unsolicited efforts in making the Bardini ski a reality. Karhu has generously offered a portion of the Bardini's sales proceeds to the Bardini Foundation.

Outdoor Industry Spring Ski Camp May 19-23

The Bardini Foundation will be hosting a ski camp for outdoor industry people this spring in the Palisades of the Sierra Nevada. Various industry executives, reps, and journalists from companies such as **Karhu**, **Eagle Creek**, and **Back Country Magazine** have shown an interest in this camp. The ski camp is scheduled for May 19-23 when the corn snow should be great. All the amenities described on our back cover for the summer and spring camps will be afforded those attending the industry camp.

We have descriptive flyers and topo maps available to interested parties. There is a 10 person limit on this camp so please contact us soon. We look forward to your participation in this annual event.

Bigelow's Sign *Cont'd from page 1*

Currently, Brett and his wife, **Gretchen**, and 8-month old daughter, **Sierra Deann**, live in Mesa, Arizona, where Brett is employed as a firefighter and paramedic. He also volunteers in mountain rescue and is a member of Mesa's FD Technical Rescue Team. Brett has recently begun **Mountain Fire Woodworks** out of his home workshop where he creates mountaineering theme artwork out of wood using a style called "intarsia" ... like stained glass, except with wood. The Bardini sign, though not intarsia, was Mountain Fire's first project.

Thanks, Brett, for an inspiring piece of art that is sincerely appreciated. Anyone interested in Brett's artwork or who wishes more information may contact him by e-mail at: **MtnFireAZ@aol.com**.

Bunbuster *Cont'd from page 1*

The Bardini Foundation thanks all the sponsors for their generosity and, in particular, **Mike and Courtney McGrate** at Tamarack for the idea of a memorial race and for making it all happen.

Nordic Ski Patrol Honors Allan Bard

Last fall we were contacted by **Larry Accord**, the Patrol Director of the **Southern California Nordic Ski Patrol**. He informed us that on October 18th, in cooperation with the Forest Service, the patrol room at 8330 feet on Mt. Pinos would be dedicated with the installation of a bronze plaque with the names of Allan Bard, Dave Tollakson, Gerry Brown, and Vern Edlin inscribed. The plaque reads:

"It is said that we have known and learned from these men, who have gone before us, have given unselfishly of their time, knowledge, and humor to all of us. As our memories of them live ... so shall they."

"There is no greater high in the world than to stand on top of a mountain." -
Dave Tollakson

Hostel Notes

The hostel has been a surprising success since its inception. Until our record keeping becomes more sophisticated (or perhaps "extant" is more accurate) we can only estimate that we've had about **50% occupancy since last November**. Backcountry skiers, downhill skiers, and rock climbers have been using the facility and the word is spreading fast. We must remind everyone that advance notice is a requirement if you wish to use the house. A copy of the **House Rules**, which include requested fees, may be found on Page-4.

With the arrival of spring, we will install **new carpeting** acquired by **Dave King**, **fireproof tile** behind the wood stove, and **Ed Cereda** will apply his **landscaping** talents to the yard. The bald spot in the front lawn, which fills with water when it rains (referred to as "Lake Bardini" by Kurt Stolzenburg), will be resodded and the flower beds totally renovated. Expect a "new look" by May!

3 The Backside of Beyond

We intend that each issue of The Backside of Beyond will present something by Allan ... either his writing or his photography.

THE PROMISED LAND by Allan Bard

I was a city kid. I didn't grow up in the mountains or out in the countryside. I didn't even ski in those days. But I have always been connected to wild places. On days in the big city that the wind blew and the rain fell, days that were filled with dreary clouds my instinctual thoughts turned to higher elevations and more precipitous terrain. In the wilds inclement weather wasn't a problem that city folk dreaded, it instead gave the mountain experience a more exotic texture. "Full conditions" are as much a part of the mountains as shear granite peaks, tall trees, high alpine lakes and grand timberline vistas. What some might call bad weather is the most rudimentary tool that sculpts mountains into their cathedral shapes and smoothes canyon walls into slick monolithic forms. Watching mother nature in all her meteorological fury somehow connected me to a life I could not have foreseen. I knew in my heart, even then, that I would somehow make my pilgrimage and that I would come home to the promised land.

There is a lure to the mountains and the backcountry that is like the magnetic draw of the promised land to a wandering pilgrim. I feel like one of the chosen few because I have found the promised land and I live there.

The other day on our way home from work at Mammoth Mountain my partner Kurt Stolzenburg and I were talking about just what lucky lads we were to live in the incredible place that we do. I argued that luck had nothing to do with it. This was a homesteading maneuver made by design and considerable fortitude, not luck. He agreed and just at that moment we crested the top of the Sherwin Grade and began our descent down into the sleepy hamlet of Bishop. The view of Bishop and the Owens Valley from Sherwin Summit is grand on the grandest of scales. It is a vista that I shall never tire of winter or summer. There below us was the verdant basin where we made our home nestled between the mighty Sierra and the lofty White Mountains, two gigantic snow cloaked craggy bookends that stretched a hundred miles south. This place is such a land of contrasts the mild weather perfumed with the scent of high desert sage lying in stark relief to a vast array of mountains that are Alaskan in scale. It is the deepest valley in North America, made so, not so much by the lowness of the valley floor, but by the

10,000 feet of towering summits that line either side of this majestic landscape. We just stared out at the view, in awe that we actually resided in this wonderland. Almost in unison we chanted, "Behold the Promised Land".

An old high school chum of mine once asked me, "If money was no object and you could live anywhere in the world you wanted, where would you live?" I answered promptly, "I already live there!" What more could a man like me want? In summer the climbing on firm Sierra granite is the best there is in the world. The lakes and streams and peaks and meadows blanketed in wildflowers are breathtaking. Few mountains, if any, compare. This is John Muir country. In winter and spring a deep Sierra snowpack turns this summer playground into an even larger and more incredible playing field. The joys of walking through the Range of Light become mundane when skis are attached to feet and plodding magically transforms into that whimsical flying feeling of sliding on snow. Life becomes a dance in dry Great Basin



powder, keeping time until spring when the Sierra corn snow turns this incredible terrain into the best skiing in the known universe. The Almighty seems to smile continuously on this part of the world.

I make no excuse for my great love and devotion for this range. I am a man smitten and like being in love with a beautiful woman I see no other beauty that equals it. But in all matters of the heart there are many perfect matches. I know that the promised land comes in many shapes and sizes. I have friends in the Adirondaks and the Green Mountains, in the Colorado Rockies, the Tetons, the Sawtooths, and the Cascades, who are all completely devoted to the object of their affection. May these marriages of skiers and mountain ranges, of skis and snow, be as long and fruitful and passionate as my own. Mine is a mating for life.

A friend and fellow ski instructor, Andrew Crane always sends me a card at Christmas with the same message - keep the dream alive. What he means is don't give up Bardini. Don't succumb and follow the path of chasing a buck at the expense of giving up the dream. I am poor by many standards. But in matters of the heart and soul, in a life enriched by true friends and fantastic mountain experiences I am to be counted among the wealthiest people in the world.

The indigenous Great Basin people are the Paiute Indians. I have only a few Paiute friends. They are incredible people. Like many aboriginal cultures they have an intuition that speaks to being one with the land for a long time. Paiutes never ask where you live, instead they ask where you stay. The difference is subtle but noteworthy. We live in the great wide wonderful world, but we stay in our houses. I live in the promised land, but I stay on Sierra Street in Bishop, California. We would all do well to keep this important distinction in the forefront of our thinking. I say that to go skiing in the backcountry is one of the unique joys of living, no matter where you stay. Skiing in the great snowy outback to me is life. Don't just stay somewhere, go my friends and live, live the joys of skiing in the Promised Land.

Support the Foundation



Help the Foundation
reach its goals
and
help yourself to
a

Bardini coffee mug

a 10-oz. white porcelain mug
with the Bardini logo
only \$5.00

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

Shooting Star Guides

Shooting Star Guides are a unique set of five climbing guidebooks ... perhaps better described as route cards... printed on waterproof, tear-resistant ASCOT paper. Allan wrote these guides in 1991 and because of his intimate knowledge of the area, these guides give you the inside scoop on all the information needed to approach, scale, and descend these fine peaks:

Mt. Whitney, East Face
 Mt. Whitney, East Buttress
 Mt. Sill, The Swiss Arete
 Cathedral Peak, Southeast Buttress
 Matterhorn Peak, North Buttress

The ASCOT paper is bombproof allowing you to fold and stuff the guides into your pocket making them accessible while climbing. Each route card contains quality photos of the peak, clearly mapping the climbing route and descent. In addition, each guide contains a brief history of the area and a sketch of a Sierra wildflower.

These guides are a valuable addition to any mountaineering library. The Bardini Foundation is continuing to distribute these on a wholesale basis to climbing shops and book stores throughout the western states and offers them to the public directly by mail.



Retail Price:

\$25.00 for a full set of 5
 (includes shipping)

Calif. residents add applicable tax

House Rules

Use Fees

Stays are limited to 10 days except by special arrangement. Guests are expected to pay \$10.00/night decreasing by \$1.00/night every 2 days up to the 10 day limit. If you prefer, you may make a donation in excess of and in lieu of the fee.

Donations

Regular: All donations, large or small, by check (made out to the Bardini Foundation) or cash, may be deposited in donation bottles in kitchen and front room.

Tax-deductible: Those who wish to donate \$250 or more and **REQUIRE** a tax-deductible receipt should make the check to the American Alpine Club. We will forward the check to a special Bardini Fund being administered by the American Alpine Club and the donor will receive a tax-exempt contribution receipt from the American Alpine Club.

General

Guests may use the kitchen, and bathroom facilities; the stereo, VCR, and TV system; the outside deck, BBQ, and lawn (tents on back lawn ONLY); 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 in the kitchen.

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. Questions on the operation of the equipment should be directed to either Kurt or Don.

Kitchen

Please read the SPECIAL KITCHEN RULES on the kitchen wall.

Bathroom

Toilet paper and bath soap are provided. If you have your own bath towels ... use them. The ones hanging in the bathroom are for the needy. The light switch is on the wall separating the toilet from the shower. It's hard to find in the dark.

Swamp Cooler and Wood Stove

Cooling or heating may be necessary. The swamp cooler is in the bathroom. The on/off switch is just to the left of the cooler. It may be necessary to turn on the cooler water. Ask Kurt or Don. Firewood is provided during the cold months for the wood stove in the front room. Please use discretion ... keep your fires SMALL!

Parking

Park your cars in the driveway (4 car limit). Overflow parking is relegated to the street. Please stay off the front lawn and try not to block anyone without making arrangements. Be thoughtful ... don't take more space than you need. We MUST always have access to the pasture gate. If your car is to remain while you're gone, make arrangements for access to your keys!

Telephone/Computer/Fax

Telephone calls are credit card only except by special arrangement. Access to the computer and fax machine must be arranged thru Don.

Visitors Log Book

Please sign the Visitor's Log and feel free to input any comments or advice regarding your stay.

Tents

Please move tents daily to prevent grass damage.

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".

Mountain knowledge passed on by Allan during his lifetime emphasized education, safety, and awareness. He said, "When people have been touched by the wild lands, they are forever more aware. They will never again see snow and mountain peaks and wind-sculpted tree trunks without being affected inside, differently than before they knew of such things, and they will return time and again to get in touch, to be touched."

The Bardini Foundation is providing:

1. **A mountaineer's hostel for climbers and skiers at Allan's Bishop, California residence**
2. **Continued publication and distribution of Allan's Shooting Star Guides**
3. **A newsletter to promote mountain ethics, protocol, and safety**
4. **Year-round backcountry guide services**
5. **Publication of Allan's writings and photographs**
6. **Funds for search and rescue groups, for training and equipment**
7. **Creation of a portable, zero-impact Sierra ski hut system to be operated by local guides for winter and spring ski touring**
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**

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.** Those who wish to donate \$250 or more and **REQUIRE** a tax-deductible receipt should make the check payable to the American Alpine Club. We will forward the check to a special Bardini Fund being administered by the American Alpine Club and the donor will receive a tax-exempt contribution receipt directly from the American Alpine Club.

We hope that the contents of this newsletter confirm that the Bardini Foundation is, in fact, accomplishing its goals as stipulated above.

Bardini Foundation Donors

Because in our infancy we still have much to learn about fund raising and the vagaries of running a foundation, we are just beginning an attempt to track down the many people that have donated their money, time, or talents to the Foundation's cause.

The following list is incomplete ... for this we apologize. Many of you purchased shirts and mugs. Others made anonymous cash contributions. Our thanks to you all.

Individuals:

Glenn Barker	Rich Rinaldi
Steve & Nona Barker	Doug Robinson
John & Jules Barklow	John Rosendahl
Erika Berglund	Bruce Russell
Brett Bigelow	Bill Russell
F Thomas Biglione	Jo Sanders
Dan Blackburn	Ann & Stan Sanderson
Scott Boughton	Casey Sheahan
Mike Brandt	Charley Shimanski
Andy Carson	Anna Siebelink
Bruce Coleman	Chris Smith
John Dostal	Marcia Smith
Craig Dostie	Joan Sodergren
Grey Durham	William Stall
Gilbert D'Urso	Mal Swanson
Steve Gladstone	Richard & Lois Thomas
David Goodman	Carolyn Tieman
C Clay Greene	Jim Valensi
Wayne Griffin	Steve Vaughn
Louie Gross	Tom Volken
Bob Grosse	Deborak Waldear
Tom Harper	Carolyn Walker
Elizabeth Haun	Kimberlee Walker
Bruce Hawkins	Jeanne Walter
James Herrington	Paul & Beverly Weir
John Higgins	Dave Weston
Glenn Hirayama	Michael & Maryellen Wilson
Jay Jensen	Gordon & Meredith Wiltsie
Lyman Johnson	
Jackie & Moose Kennedy	Businesses & Organizations:
Mark Lane	America Alpine Club
Lyn Lauria	Back Country Magazine
Peter Mayfield	Black Diamond
Robert McElroy	Couloir Magazine
Joe & Nancy McKeown	Cross Country Skier
John Moynier	Eagle Creek
Kathy Brockman Meyers	Karhu
Gary Nickel	Powder Magazine
Bill & Lauren Nickell	PSIA-WEST
Nancy Overholtz	Rock Creek Lodge
Paul Parker	Sierra Designs
Allan & Diane Pietrasanta	Ski Magazine
H Kent Reed	So. Calif. Nordic Ski Patrol
Shelley Reis	Tamarack X-Country Center

*** Foundation Activities ***
Update



Annual Bardini Ski Camp
May 12-16

This year the Bardini Foundation is offering our ski camp in the Palisades, one of our and Allan's favorite spots. We will be based near Third Lake and take guided day tours from our fully stocked camp. Tents, a cook tent, stove, solar showers, and fresh food are just a few of the amenities provided. You travel to camp with only your personal gear. We are offering two 5-day camps in the month of May. Come to the Palisades ... an area of fantastic alpine views and fabulous ski terrain.

Annual Bardini Climbing Camp
July 25-29, August 1-5

In the summer of '99, the Foundation will resume where Allan left off in '97, putting together a climbing camp in the Palisades. Guiding has a long tradition in the Palisades of the eastern Sierra and Allan was part of that distinguished history. We plan to continue the tradition. His luxurious Fifth Lake camp and glacier highcamp will be fully operational from July 25th through August 5th. In addition to great homecooked food from our high country kitchen, your own personal tentage, climbing equipment, showers, and a real comode, we are providing sleeping pads and sleeping bags. This means you can walk in with a day pack and climb for many days in comfort and style. You may also come self-guided or join us for a guided excursion as you wish. The self-guided trips include all the amenities including food and highcamp facilities. Guided climbs and instruction at all levels of rock, snow, and ice technique will be offered. It's a short time window afforded by the Forest Service, so don't delay, sign up early!

Support Foundation Efforts

read our Statement of Purpose -Page 5!

T-SHIRTS POLO SHIRTS

get top quality preshrunk cotton t-shirts and polo shirts ash gray with burgundy lettering polo shirts have knit collar and cuffs with Bardini Foundation over pocket



Bardini Lives!

Tee shirts have **Bardini Lives!** across back with **Bardini** Foundation on left chest



Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL

T's only \$12.00

Polo's only \$15.00

plus \$3.20 US Priority Mail
California residents add appropriate sales tax



Bardini

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Bishop CA 93514

The Backside of Beyond

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