



Bardini

The Backside of Beyond

The Bardini Foundation Newsletter

Winter 2009/2010 Issue

Our Plea for E-Mail Bears Repeating

Despite the previous plea for e-mail addresses the response was relatively small. We have 497 people who receive printed copies of this newsletter. We expected to cut that number by more than half. Alas, we signed on a mere ten new e-mail addresses.

So bear with me and please reread what follows AND THEN please act - act while you're thinking about it.

If you have an **e-mail address** and you received this newsletter via the United States Postal Service (USPS), you should reconsider your subscription.

Even though we have finally acquired a non-profit mailing permit with the USPS, the cost of printing 500 copies of this newsletter, 6 pages in color, is the second largest Bardini Foundation expense next to liability and workmen's comp insurance.

Those of you with **e-mail addresses** that we have on file receive the newsletter via e-mail as an attachment in .pdf format. This involves no expense to the foundation and means that you get the newsletter the same day we finish writing it.

People who receive this through the USPS have their delivery delayed due to the necessity of printing, sorting, folding, securing, and labeling each of the 500 letters we send out. Some of you may not even receive the newsletter if you move.

We strongly advise you to help reduce our costs and speed your reception by sending us, via e-mail, your e-mail address.

All the issues, past and present, of **Backside of Beyond** are available on our website. The Newsletter tab will take you to the archived issues which can be printed from the site or read directly on the screen using the Adobe Reader program available from **Adobe.com** at no cost.

Winter/Spring Season Very Active for Bardini Foundation

Your donor dollars were hard at work this past winter and spring. We started the 2009 year in January by sponsoring **Peter Croft's** slide show on **Climbing in the Sierra** (photo below) at Mill Creek Station. The entire proceeds from the show went to the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center (ESAC).



Peter Croft and Don Lauria at Croft's slide show
Photo by Ron Gomez

During the same month Tim Villanueva, chief Bardini ski guide, gave a snow safety talk to the **Inyo County Search and Rescue (SAR)** team. In February, Tim presented two public snow safety lectures at the **White Mountain Research Station** for ESAC.

Later in February, a fund raiser for the Back Country Boys was hosted by **Rock Creek Lodge** and talks were provided by **Sue Burak** of ESAC and Tim Villanueva.

Tim also supervised Bardini Foundation avalanche courses for both the **Inyo County** and **Mono County SARs**.

E-mail your e-mail address to:
don@bardini.org

Annual Fund Raiser Starts December 15th

Considering the national economic situation, last year's fund raiser exceeded our expectations. We hope our donors will make this year as successful as last..

Support for the Bardini Foundation is an annual need - contributions make up 50% of our gross income.

The **Dale & Edna Walsh (DEW) Foundation** will again be matching each dollar received through **March 15, 2009**.

The DEW Foundation director, **Shai Edberg**, has made this very generous annual commitment of matching funds. Each of your donated dollars will be doubled.

The monies generated by our annual fund raiser finance our **liability insurance expenses** and also enable us to maintain and renew the **mountaineering equipment** that is used in our youth activities and guide services - tents, ropes, hardware, sleeping bags, etc.

For tax purposes your **donation is 100% tax deductible**. If you require confirmation Bardini will snail mail or email you a letter confirming the date and amount of your donation.

Easy Way to Donate at No Cost to You!

Turn your everyday spending into meaningful donations. With our personalized credit card, **1% of every purchase—plus a \$25 first-purchase bonus—will be donated to Bardini**. This card has no annual fee and a 0% introductory rate. More detailed product terms can be found by clicking Apply Now on our **Web page**, or by contacting Capital One at 1-888-717-2271.

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2009 Contributions

Individuals

Benefactor \$1000+

Yvon & Malinda Chouinard
Jean & Brian Parks
Paul Rudder
Chris Smith

Angel \$500+

Gary & Chris Bard
Wayne Griffin

Patron \$200+

Lyman Johnson
Bruce Russell

Partner \$100+

Molly Attell
Kenneth Blanchard
Carol Broberg
Andy Carson
Michael & Valerie Cohen
Michael Graber
Clay Greene
Charles Grobe
Glenn Hirayama
Tom & Norma Limp
Kenny Lloyd
Thomas Rossi
Paul Trester
Clark Trowell
Jeanne Walter
David Weaver
David Weston
Ed Willis

Contributor \$50+

Eric Cross
John Ellsworth
Tom Frost
Clay Greene
Charles Grobe
Lawrence Nelson
Thomas Rossi
Terry Walker

Sustainer \$25+

Ralph Alcocer
Kathryn Anderson
Virginia Anderson
Darla Heil
Jerome Kaminski
Joe Kelsey
Darren Malloy
Lawrence Stowell
Jerome Tinling
Deborah Tomczic
Arlene Ustin
Steve Vaughn
Denise Waterbury

Member \$10+

Gail Wilts

Organizations

Angel \$5000+

DEW Foundation

Sustainer \$100+

TEAM Engineering & Management Inc.

Bardini's Youth Group Work

by Bob Behrendt

I work with at-risk boys in the Owens Valley. We call ourselves the **Back Country Boys**.

Over the last six years the Bardini Foundation has been instrumental in getting these boys into the backcountry to learn wilderness skills and how to climb in the mountains safely. They have always been there with qualified personnel, appropriate equipment, and anything else needed to make these trips successful for the boys.



Over these years several of the boys have exhibited leadership qualities learned, in part, from their affiliation with guides Tim Villanueva and Don Lauria.

Our outings with the Bardini Foundation have ranged from backcountry pack trips to bicycle trips down the upper Owens River. With each excursion the boys received individual mountaineering sessions varying from rock climbing to snow travel. Each session increased their self-esteem and confidence. Several of the boys are now seriously involved in the sport of climbing.

I have witnessed great improvement in the attitude and capabilities of these at-risk boys. The Bardini Foundation has definitely had its effect in this respect. It is truly an organization worth your support.

Incoming

I am not abandoning the mountains, however, we are currently moving my mother's possessions ... I am overwhelmed. Stay healthy so we can go mountain hopping—it will be next year most likely.

Jeanne Walter, Bishop, CA



You make me feel like such a mooch. ... Here's a few bucks to pay for a few more mailings. Beautiful Bachar quote. Thanks for that. Your courage to climb with Kor is off the scale ... I get it that it was scary, but did you say whether it was cold or not?

Tom Frost, Oakdale, CA



I'm looking forward to more tales on Supertopo. Largo is right, you have a book to write. Use this where it will do the most good.

Bonnie Kamps, La Tuna Canyon, CA



My problem is that I never remember to send this stupid check until I read the newsletter and discover that I forgot to do so.

Michael Cohen, Reno, NV



Guess I messed up and didn't contribute last year ... Anyway, here's a little support. [It was a BIG support—Editor]

Wayne Griffin, Ketcham, ID



Here is my yearly help to do what you do ... thanks for all you do in the spirit of Allan Bard.

Clark Trowell, Green, Valley, CA



If your lucky enough to be in the mountains, you're lucky enough!

A Few Anecdotes from the Editor

Some climbing stories from the
Yosemite Climbing Association
web site www.yosemiteclimbing.org

How Peaks Get Named – Don't Ask

An excerpt from the 1972 American Alpine Journal

If you know where to look, and if you really care, what was to be named BHOS Dome is visible from what used to be the Mirror Lake parking area in Yosemite Valley. In the spring of 1971, Dennis Hennek, TM Herbert, Doug Scott, and I did the first ascent of the south face – the Mugump Wall as Scott labeled it.

It took us 1½ days to scale the very distinct dihedral for three pitches and then some easier climbing after veering left to a wide crack system. We rated it Grade III, 5.7, A3. Not a difficult climb, but it had a crux – that of trying to sleep though a Herbert tirade on the bivouac.

TM Herbert did not own a down jacket. He was nurtured in Chouinard's school of wool, but I was determined to wean him from his adamant stance - I loaned him a down sweater for the climb.

It began about midnight during some snow flurries. "Wake up, hey you guys, wake up. Hennek, kick that damn limey. Is everybody awake? I've actually been sleeping. This is the first time I've ever slept on a bivouac. Damn it, wake up and listen to me. I've been sleeping. This is incredible. Hennek, is Lauria still sleeping? Wake him up. Scott, wake up. I've actually been sleeping. Hennek, kick that rotten limey. Damn it, Scott, you don't seem to realize ..."

So it went. The next day we were back in Camp 4 and Chuck Pratt ambled up. "What did you guys do?" I described the dome and the route. He responded, "Oh, you mean that **Big Hunk Of Sxxt!**" Steve Roper, the Yosemite climbing guide author, loved it. Thus BHOS Dome was christened.

Ah Tahquitz

A tale from the climbing mecca - Tahquitz Rock

Weeks ago while sitting at this computer, my doorbell rang. I think it rang – my hearing ain't so good anymore - but I answered it anyway. I opened the front door and there stood an old man. It took almost ten seconds for me to recognize the form as none other than TM Herbert. Just driving through Bishop on his annual bird watching pilgrimage to the depths of Arizona. He insisted that I come outside in the sunshine.

We stood out on my lawn for over an hour while he went through all the details of why he still hadn't taken delivery of his new car – car not truck. No more trucks for Herbert! As he droned on, his arms flailing, I was taking notice of his new tinted prescription glasses, the two new hearing aids partially hidden behind his ears, and the thinness and whiteness of what hair remained on his balding pate. I worried about what my neighbors were thinking watching these two old men, standing on the lawn – one throwing his arms wildly this way and that – occasionally kneeling to draw finger diagrams on the grass - all the while the other very old man stood intently staring as if in awe of the spectacle.

You may wonder what all this has to do with Tahquitz Rock. Very little actually. It's just that I associate Tahquitz with all the good times we used to have at Tahquitz and TM Herbert came to mind. Hennek, Boche, McLean, Herbert – God we spent a lot of time there.

It's not like it was a short drive from LA. You had to really love Tahquitz to drive the 130 miles out to Idyllwild after work on a Friday evening, hike up to the base of the Green Arch, lay out your sleeping bag, sleep through the night, get up early so that you could climb the Arch, get back in your car and be home in time to watch the UCLA-USC football game.



Or take the Sunday morning that McLean and I, having spent the previous sunny day climbing at Tahquitz with Michael and Valerie Cohen, crawled out of our sleeping bags to Cohen's berating of the weather gods. It looked like it would snow any minute – no climbing that day for Cohen! Russ and I, however, decided, "a little snow, a little ize, it eez nussing" (McLean's favorite Hermann Buhl imitation).

Continued on next page

Ah Tahquitz - continued

So up we went to do the Trough - the easiest climb on the rock - in a blizzard. Half way up the route, with Russ belaying me from Pine Tree Ledge where he was anchored to a huge pillar of granite, Russ yelled up, "Are you in a good place?" I wasn't. In fact, I was trying to figure out how to get across a ten foot section of verglas in my Kronhofers (the "in" climbing shoe of the era). I answered back that I was not in a good place. The wind was picking up and communication was difficult. Russ yelled back that I had better find a "good place" quickly, the block to which he was anchored was moving. I wasn't sure what that meant, but I cautiously backed down to a sheltered gap between the face and a huge boulder. Just as I fell into the gap I heard the horrible sound of an immense rockfall. It took a full 30 seconds for the noise to subside. Then nothing but total silence except for the wind.

"Russ are you okay?" No answer.

Again, "Russ are you okay?" No reply.

Finally a weak voice from below in the gloom, "I'm okay. -

"What happened, Russ?" I had not felt a thing on my end of the rope.

"Can't explain now. Got to get back on the rock. Can you belay me?"

"Yeah, come on up."--

Several minutes later Russ emerged through the gloom. He was a mess. Blood all over his face, his clothes in shreds, his right arm limply dangling at his side. He had been dragged off the ledge by the huge rock pillar he was tied to and had fallen, accompanied by the pillar and tons of rock debris, to the end of the rope. He was temporarily unconscious and when he came to he was dangling in space staring at his belay rope. The rope's sheath in front of his face had parted, and exposed the rope's core. Two of the three internal braids were severed and he was suspended by the one remaining braid. When he was able to get his feet back on the rock, he tied off the exposed portion of the rope and climbed to my perch.

Russ was on the verge of going into shock. He had lost some teeth, he had a badly cut arm, and a broken nose. I managed to belay him up the remaining pitches and down the icy slabs, around the Rock, and back to Lunch Rock and a beer. We descended the trail to Humber Park and I took him straight to the fire station in Idyllwild for first aid. I can still hear the crack when they straightened his nose.

After all the necessary repairs, we headed back to UC Riverside where the Cohen's were living at the University.

Russ could probably tell the story more accurately, but that's the way I remember it. We had lived through another epic—he survived the epic, but not the expensive dental work.

Ah, Tahquitz stories – I have lots of them.



Russ McLean - after & before

Bardini Baseball Caps

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



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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, mountaineering skills, and wilderness appreciation
3. Continued publication and distribution of Allan's Shooting Star Guides
4. A newsletter to promote mountain ethics, protocol, and safety
5. Publication of Allan's writings and photographs
6. Funds for search and rescue groups, for training and equipment
7. Slide shows and seminars on mountain sports, safety, and photography
8. Funds to train and accredit, in cooperation with the American Mountain Guides Association, mountain guides of Allan's quality
9. Support for environmental and cultural projects of community interest in



ABOVE: Bob Behrendt (in the white hat) and some of the Back Country Boys at basecamp near Lake Ediza in the Sierra Nevada.

RIGHT: Tim Villanueva teaching snow travel techniques to a pair of Back Country Boys at the base of Banner Peak in the Inyo National Forest, Sierra Nevada, California.

Bardini & the Environment

If one is wondering how the Bardini Foundation "fits" into the category of environmental activist, one can go to Patagonia's website grant application guidelines where it is stated that "the battle to save our environment will never be won unless the public is informed."

The Bardini Foundation has three approaches to reach the goal of an informed public:

Recreational through guided treks, ski tours, and peak climbs

Educational through rock climbing and avalanche courses

Conservationist through leave-no-trace classes.

All of our youth activities are conducted gratis. Our guiding and educational service fees are minimal--priced well below the market because we seek no profit and require no growth. We need only meet the immediate expense of the service. Our general operating expenses are covered through donations.

Muir wrote that the Sierra should be explored by everyone with "the right manners of the wilderness". In that vein, we strive to enlist the support and cooperation of our clientele, the common man, in preserving the forests and other natural features of the Sierra Nevada by allowing them to explore and enjoy the Sierra Nevada with specific attention to minimum impact use. Excursions of this sort, properly conducted, do an infinite amount of good toward awakening proper interest in the forests and the other natural features of the Sierra.

Ansel Adams said "the mountains are more to us than a mere proving ground of strength and alert skill. Rock climbing should be considered a thrilling means to a more important end." After all, rock climbing has spawned many environmental activists, Yvon Chouinard and David Brower being among the more prominent.

Brower implied that mountain outings are "the best source of the conservation warrior." Muir argued that travelers come back from the wilderness ready to fight for its preservation. The Bardini Foundation is dedicated to creating future warriors for the wilderness.





Bardini Foundation

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Bardini Foundation Activities - Winter 2009/2010

Avalanche Courses

This year we are co-hosting the avalanche courses with **Sierra Mountain Center**.

Refer to their website for more information: **www.sierramountaincenter.com**

Join us for your avalanche education courses.

Level - I Courses

Dates: December 18-20, 2009

January 1-3, 16-18, 2010

March 5-7, 26-28, 2010

Avalanche Beacon & Rescue Clinics

Hosted by Mammoth Mountaineering Supply

Come to refresh your skills and learn some new skills as well. Make sure you bring your ski partner too!

Meeting Place: Mammoth Mountaineering Supply.

Dates: December 23 Mammoth store

January 12 Mammoth store

February 16 Mammoth store

February 17 Bishop store

The Bardini Foundation offers guide services year-round.

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

The Bardini Foundation is in partnership with the Inyo National Forest