



Bardini

The Backside of Beyond

The Bardini Foundation Newsletter

Winter 2004-2005

Outfitter/Guide Permit Granted by Forest Service

After six years and two appeals of Forest Service decisions, the Bardini Foundation has finally been granted a commercial outfitter/guide permit to operate commercially in the Inyo National Forest.

In a decision made previously on June 14, 2004, the Forest Service had excluded the Bardini Foundation from consideration as a permit candidate because the Foundation did not hold current permit. Bardini appealed this decision claiming that permits were to be issued on a competitive basis, based on Bardini's response to a prospectus issued by the Forest Service in 2002. The prospectus was directed to all interested parties without reference to prior permit status.

On September 14, 2004, the Foundation agreed to withdraw its appeal when the Forest Service granted the Foundation a temporary one-year permit along with a prescribed number of service days. Additionally, the Forest Service agreed to provide these service days on an annual basis and to consider converting the one-year permit to a five-year permit after three years.

New Postal Address

All future written correspondence with the Foundation should be addressed to:

PO Box 1422
Bishop, CA 93515-1422

Bishop Youth Moving Up

As a part of the 2004 Owens Valley Tribal Environmental Youth Camp, Bardini Foundation guides, Tim Villanueva and Don Lauria, set up top ropes and provided safety and training for a kid's rock climbing activity on August 4th, 2004 at Iris Slab in Rock Creek Canyon.



The event was supervised by Inyo County Search and Rescue volunteers, Dave German, Bryan Kothman, and Candy Hower, and Environmental Youth Camp staff members, as well as the Bardini Foundation folks. Shoes for the event were provided by the Bishop Union High School Outdoor Club, compliments of Barbara and Steve Elia, and by various adult participants. Harnesses and helmets were provided by the Bishop Tribe's Environmental Office and the Bardini Foundation.

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DEW Foundation Grant

Early this year the Bardini Foundation received a check for \$5000 from the DEW Foundation "to be used _ in any way that would most benefit the organization". Again the foundation wishes to thank the **Dale and Edna Walsh Foundation** (DEW Foundation) located in Incline Village, Nevada for yet another generous grant.

These monies will be used to help finance the **liability insurance premiums** required for our 2005 outdoor activities in the Inyo National Forest.

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude again to **Walter and Shai Edberg** of the DEW Foundation for their continuing support.

Newsletter Goes Semi-Annual

As must be apparent, the foundation has failed to consistently publish this newsletter four times a year. So we have come up with a solution—don't try! From this issue on you may count on **two issues a year**, one in the winter and one in the summer. This eases our work load and cuts costs in half. Comments?

This issue sponsored by

Bob Nagy

Torrance, California

This is Bob's second sponsorship of a Backside of Beyond issue.

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2004 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+

Bob Nagy
Bruce Colman

Partner \$100+

David Huntsman
Peter Hackett
David Weston
Glenn Hirayawa
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Kathy Dreschler
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Contributor \$50+

Stan Sanderson
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Member \$5+

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Jerry Tinling
Jim Herrington
Steve Vaughn

ORGANIZATIONS

Patron \$5000+

The DEW Foundation
The Dale & Edna Walsh Foundation

The DEW Foundation deserves special recognition. It has contributed over \$20,000 in the last three years. Thank you, Shai Edberg!

Partner \$1000+

Contributor \$500+

Sustainer \$200+

Letters to the Editor

Allan Bard, with friends, taught my brother and me to climb. Maybe others could have done the same. He also taught us to love the mountains, and that part of that love involved being in them with a laughing, free spirit like the one he possessed. I don't know who else could have taught us that. We rarely saw him — we've never forgotten him.

Dick & Jim Duane, Berkeley, CA

I also want to take a minute to let you know how much I appreciate receiving my "almost quarterly" newsletter. I am often reminded of Allan and, as I guess we all do, still miss him terribly. Thanks so much for the almost quarterly reminders and, most of all, for keeping the spirit alive. I am sure Alan looks down on it all with a most amused twinkle in his eye. I cannot thank you folks enough for keeping Alan's spirit alive. I already have another mug and t-shirt and every time that I see them, I feel a little bit of Allan's presence. I miss him to this day, but I think those of us who were blessed with some quality time with Allan, carry a little bit of him around with us. Thanks again for keeping it alive.

Clay Greene, San Rafael, CA

Thanks for keeping alive the memories of the great Allan and all those things he stood for. I had the privilege of seeing him and his brothers grow into the fine people they are today. I would like you to accept this small token as part of my desire to see you continue with your program. I want to thank you for the great newsletter. It is really meaningful to me and, I'm sure, to many others that receive it.

Having said all this, I would appreciate the addition of Peg Caldwell to your mailing list. You can ask the brothers, she was Allan's "other mother" for more years than you can count. Allan's other Dad,

Chandler Caldwell, Reno, NV

I was sorry to hear about the Bardini House. I hope some new digs work out so that the Foundation can continue as it has in the past.

Brian Parks, Madison, WI

Letters - cont'd

Sorry to hear about the Bardini House. From reading log book entries, much of Allan's spirit was passed on through the visitors experiencing that place - the spirit that he exuded in his teaching, the passion he had outside, what his clients experienced being around him, and the ethics he passed along as he operated within the Wilderness System in the forests and parks.

Years ago, one morning as I opened the Whitney Ranger station to 100+ people, there was Allan. I offered to speed his permit up, but he smiled and stayed in line with the crowd. All that is what the House has passed on and the Foundation continues to pass on. I am sure Allan appreciates that you [guys] and others are trying to keep passing it on. Keep playing.

Clark Trowell, Bishop, CA

Great idea working with the Paiute rez - keep working' on 'em. My Dad was a teacher and many people told us how much he'd influenced their lives just by believing in them. You never know, maybe what you do with one of these kids today will strike a chord and I'll be able to hire an AMGA certified Paiute ski guide in another 10-15 years - when I'll really need help in the backcountry.

Robert Black, Liburn, GA

Regarding These Letters

I was scrounging through a file box I keep in my office at home and came across a pile of letters—some, three or four years old, some very recent. I reread all of them and decided some of them were really worthy of publication.

So without anyone's permission and with heavy handed editing, I have shared them in the item above. If any of the authors feel betrayed or misquoted, please lay it on me.

Thus, I have opened a new and, what I hope will be, an interesting new newsletter feature - **Letters to the Editor**. Jump in — get published.

The Berg Vagabunden by Allan Bard

"Nothing has changed, Allan. The good old mountain boys, the Berg Vagabunden, are still alive, still doing what we always did. We climbed in the summertime and skied in the winter."

I was a young mountain guide and ski instructor sitting in the presence of the Master himself, Adi Yeorg, doing what mountain boys did best when not skiing and climbing, drinking beer and swapping tales. "Ingie", Adi shouted to his devoted wife, "bring a couple more beers, we are climbin' alota mountains in the living room."

This was just one of many evenings after a day of skiing, just one of many memorable stories. To me these stories weren't just bullshitting in front of the fire, I was listening to chapters recited from a living history book. My time with my dear friend Adi were pure gold, priceless treasures, pearls of wisdom and education from someone who'd been there. By comparison I had just arrived.

That was just over twenty years ago. I had just started teaching skiing and I had been a mountain guide for only a few years. This was the beginning of the most important apprenticeship of my twenty-five year career. The things I would learn from the Master would stay with me forever. Even today I teach with many anecdotes and much jargon that is straight from Adi's mouth and I repeat them with much joy knowing that I keep the legends alive. I keep Adi alive in the stories.

Yesterday, one of my ski students said to me, "I notice that my left turn is easier to make than the right. How come?" I smiled remembering an Adi-ism. I began, "Like my old Bavarian friend, Adi Yeorg would say, Eva body has a chocolate side, one side a little sweeter than the other. Also, eva body has a vinegar side, but do not vorry, the chocolate side teaches the vinegar side to ski. You will see." Like Adi did, it always produces a chuckle and simple complete comprehension of the concept. With a wink and a smile we ski off down the hill, my students are no longer concerned that there is a right and wrong turn and confident that there is finally a right and left.

I could write a book of these stories. There is not a day that passes in the hills, not a ski lesson that I give, that my thoughts do not drift to my friend Adi Yeorg. My approach to teaching a ski lesson is straight from the man himself. One day Adi said to me, "Allan, you young guys don't have so many tricks in the bag, I have been doing this so long, I have a thousand tricks. Without loosing a beat he says with a wry smile and a wink, 'If they do not like what I say I just lie to them something else.'" When I met Adi he had been skiing for almost seventy years and teaching for fifty.

He had been teaching since before there were ski lifts anywhere in the world, since before there was downhill skiing and cross country skiing. There was just skiing. This simple relativity became the mainstay of my own skiing philosophy. The very first article I ever wrote, Free Skiing, which might be the only article I've ever written, (It seems I just rewrite this theory over and over) is a documentation of his whole life on skis and in the mountains. Adi was a master of all the techniques, a real skier and a veteran instructor. But he was more, he was also a climber and mountain guide.

When I met Adi and discovered that he was once a mountain guide I naturally assumed that he had been west to climb mountains that looked more like the mountains of his homeland. To my amazement he had not. Adi and Ingie immigrated to this country in '53 and Adi was a coach at a ski academy in Vermont. There was no mountain guiding in Vermont and besides, as Adi told me, "I had to find some other work right away, Ingie she was pregnant before the bags hit the ground." Ever faithful to his family responsibility he taught himself to play tennis and be a tennis pro and I'm sure against his instincts also became as he often explained "just a shop keeper" with the Edelweiss Store. This was not just a good man in the mountains this was a good man, period.

Even so I could see that the fire to be in the hills still burned hot inside him and it made me sad to think that he felt that this important journey to the real mountains of the west had past him by. I took it as a personal challenge to coax him out west and climb and relive a little of his youth. He was stubborn. It took years. At first he just thought I was trying to "show the old guy up". Then he didn't know if he could still do it. But I was just as single minded as he was stubborn and eventually he came to the Sierra for a visit. We here in Bishop are still talking about that month.

It was a joy to watch the passion of his youth be rekindled. We climbed nearly every day, both day climbs and more extensive trips deep into the mountains. He was totally awesome. I kept thinking, if this is what he is capable of now at seventy plus, he must have been unbelievable when he was a young man in his prime. On one occasion he soloed, on-sight and unroped, up the mighty East Face of Mt. Whitney during one of our guided ascents. The clients were struggling and Adi was cruising. One customer, Gerald Baron, was flailing at some difficult section as Adi was waltzing along nearby. Gerry in a panicked plea for help gasped, "Adi, Adi, where do I go, where are the holds?" Adi casually replied, "I don't know Cherry, der are so many choices!" Gerry found his humor settling and up he went. Disaster averted. On another occasion, also a guided trip, we had an extra load without a person to carry it. Adi to the rescue. He put one pack on his back and one back-

wards in the front and carried out two. It was hard to believe this man was over twice my age. I worried that he was going to hurt himself in his youthful exuberance, but watched the years escape from his face as the joy of climbing in the high peaks returned to his soul. This was good medicine, the elixir of youth.

There are so many stories. I don't mind telling you that in the same breath they give me joy in the telling and sadness at the tragic passing of the man. A friend just a few days ago was trying to console me and asked some questions about Adi. I said, "It's a piece of living history and tradition that has been lost. This man climbed with Andrei Heckmire, who did the first ascent of the North Face of the Eiger, also Herman Buhl, who was a bull and climbed so many things including an oxygenless ascent of an 8,000 meter peak and perished on Hidden Peak in the Himalaya, he skied with Wilo Welizenbach and Hannes Marker." Recalling his skiing youth he said, "I remember Marker and I putting together toe irons and cables and springs and hooks trying to invent the release binding. Then we go and ski and see if they will release. What did we know? There we were giving our young legs up for the invention of the release binding!"

Once Adi was showing me his old climbing gear. He still had a matched set of double 10 mm hemp ropes, old pitons and his old hammer, also felt soled climbing shoes, the original klettersshoes. He told me, "Allan the felt shoes were good on the Nord faces, where it is wet sometimes, but on the south face I am standing on the rest holds and pissing on the feet." He laughed, "Better than pissing in the pants!" I laughed too! I had been there too. I was also better than the "Hero-blood in the pants", another Adi-ism.

I could continue, I wish I was there to drink a few beers and tell all the stories I remember, which are many, but just writing this is difficult. It is hard to see the computer screen through my tears. Suffice to say he was a good man, they don't grow 'em like that any more, and I shall miss him. Good-bye my dear friend and my best wishes to Ingie, Helga, Sonya, and Rick.

It is storming in the mountains today and I will go with another of the Berg Vagabunden and say my final good-byes, skiing with Adi in my heart, up in the high mountains where he was the most alive.

Editor's Note:

Allan wrote this just days after receiving the news of Adi's passing and it was weeks before he could talk about Adi without a break in his voice and tears in his eyes.

I didn't meet Adi when he made his trip to California, but Allan's depiction here leaves me believing that I did and wishing that I had.

Support Foundation Efforts

Bardini BUMPER STICKERS



Bardini Lives!

**FREE with every \$5 donation
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Bardini 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

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

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**T's only \$15.00
Polo's only \$18.00**

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California residents add appropriate sales tax

Bishop Youth

Continued from Page-1

Tim and Don set up 5 top ropes for the activity. The group of 16 kids who signed up for the climbing activity were divided into two groups, and only one group was allowed at the base of the climbs at a time to minimize crowding and maximize safety. The event was a great success, with most of the kids thrilled with their exposure to a new sport. Many of the kids expressed their hope that they could participate in an climbing activity again in the future.

The Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Big Pine Paiute Tribe, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, and Fort Independence Tribe extend their thanks to the Bardini Foundation and all volunteers and staff that made the climbing activity such a success. **Cont'd** —>

Avalanche Course Graduates

Seven Mammoth Mountain Ski School personnel were awarded Bardini certificates for successfully completing a Level-I Avalanche Course at Mammoth Lakes on December 6, 2004.

The Level-I curriculum stressed a basic understanding of avalanche formation, snow metamorphism, and the use of avalanche beacons and probes.

The three levels of avalanche courses offered by the Bardini Foundation are designed to develop observational skills necessary for safe snow travel in backcountry terrain. Levels-II and -III require completion of Levels-I and II, respectively.

We thank **Darla Heil** for this article and her coordination of the event.

ED'S UNDERGROUND SKI SERVICES

760-B 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

Healing a Wounded Heart

A letter from Bruce Willey received in November 2004

I wrote Allan Bard to compliment him on his fantastic Shooting Star Guides, but the timing was bad, very bad. He died two weeks before my compliments could get to him personally. In his honor, I've finally finished all four [Editor's note: actually five] of his Uncommon climbs for the Common Man, and continue to feel Allan's spirit—much as I feel Muir's or Clyde's—when I'm above timberline.

This is all to say that Allan's climbing leaflets have brought me a lot of joy. From studying them at sea level to pulling them out of the pack

Continued —>

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. 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 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.**

Bardini Foundation, Inc
PO Box 1422
Bishop, CA 93515-1422

on route, they've provided a blueprint for pure bliss. Nevertheless, it was with some surprise that I found this picture of one of Allan's guides in action. In fact, it was some pretty heavy action with thunder and lightning while my brother and I were on the East Face of Whitney this past summer.

My brother's wife had just left him for an opera singer and he was fairly determined to bury his wedding ring under a rock on the summit. It started to snow just as we were pulling out of the Fresh Air Traverse and our situation quickly degenerated to the last will and testament stage of our brotherly relationship. We timed our climbing between the buildup of electricity and the release, some of which struck the buttress with such a force it tingled our legs and made our hair polish the bottom of our helmets. The storm finally stopped after three hours and about ten minutes after we were safely in the emergency hut at the top.

Not to condone littering, but there's a wedding ring that represents a marriage gone south on the top of Whitney. My brother doesn't want it back.

So you see, in unexpected ways, Allan inadvertently helped heal a wounded heart. And then some. My brother is completely better. He promises to turn around at the first sight of dark cloud. That includes the future women in his life.

Thanks too for sending the newsletters over the years. I must have gotten on the mailing list from my first correspondence. Enclosed is some money for all your good works and a little extra for a sticker or two to spread the Bardini on my travels.

Cheers,

Bruce Willey, Capitola, CA

Bardini Baseball Caps



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

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 plus tax (CA only)
 and shipping*

Bardini Coffee Mugs

10-oz. white porcelain mug
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Send your check to the
Bardini Foundation
PO Box 1422
Bishop CA 93515-1422

*combine with a shirt to save on postage

Bardini Foundation Activities Winter /Spring 2005

Sierra Backcountry Lodge Skiing

Any custom date can be arranged

California's premier backcountry 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, you will have some wide open views and endless ski opportunities!

Eastern Sierra Spring Ski Tours

Eastern Sierra spring skiing is arguably the best spring skiing in the U.S. Any custom ski trip or date can be arranged. Contact Tim Villanueva at (760) 872-4413 or tim@bardini.org

Avalanche Courses

Level-I, Level-II, Level-III

Level-I gives you a basic understanding of avalanche formation, snow metamorphism, and develops your observation skills and use of rescue tools. This course is a prerequisite for Level-II

Level-II continues with an introduction to data recording, snow stability tests, and continued discussion of snow metamorphism.

Level-III is for mountain professionals, experienced ski guides, and aspiring forecasters. The Level-II course is a prerequisite.

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

Call, write, or e-mail the Foundation at

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



Bardini Foundation

PO Box 1422

Bishop CA 93515-1422

The Backside of Beyond

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