

ACE Ski & Board News



*World's Largest SnowWoman, Bethel, Maine
She stands at 122 feet and is named "Olympia," for Maine Sen. Olympia Snowe*

No more club meetings this season.

After a great ski season in New England, now is the time to promote the club.

Read about the membership drive to recruit new members.

Newsletter Highlights

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Memories of the 2007–2008 Season

For the first time in years, we had a snowy December—a good omen for the season to come. My first ski day is usually the first Sunday in December—skiing with the costumed Santas at Sunday River. (Last year I didn't even take my skis up with me, since we were having balmy weather.)

I got another day in in December when Jean O'Donnell and I celebrated Mt. Cranmore's 70th anniversary. To commemorate the occasion, they sold ski tickets on December 21 for \$3.30. Not bad!

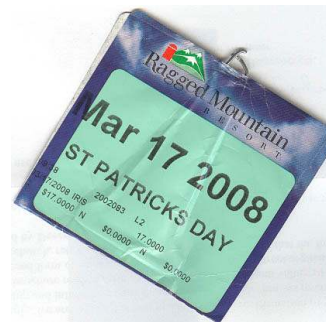


This price reflected what skiers would have paid for a lift ticket back when FDR was in the White House. (We thought they sought to maintain the quality of grooming from those days too.)

I like to visit new ski areas that I have never been to. With some friends from the club in February I skied Sugarbush for the first time. We had rented a large condo on the mountain for the weekend. Since I was to be in Vermont, I decided to get one of the club's tickets to Middlebury. This is the all-time bargain of skiing! The club sells Middlebury tickets for \$5. That's right, \$5. I drove directly there on Friday and had a great day of skiing. It's a scenic area—nice views of rolling hills. The area is run by Middlebury College. There's a nice lodge at the base where they serve reasonably priced food (\$2.50 for a cup of chili).

I hit some unusually warm days this year. Twice the temps were in the 50s: once at Sunday River and once at Bretton Woods on President's Day. After a night of rain we drove up to Bretton Woods, where we tried to stay cool by stripping off sweaters and unzipped zippers.

I celebrated St. Patrick's Day at Ragged Mountain, a lovely area that makes a nice day trip from the Boston area. It takes a little over two hours to get



there; it's in southern New Hampshire. They get plenty of snow in that corner, west of 93 and north of 89. Not bad for a \$17 ticket! I was surprised that more skiers had not turned out for this bargain. Of course, it was a Monday. The slopes were well-groomed corduroy that barely softened up. Nevertheless, it was nice skiing and a sunny day.

Ragged came under new management this year, but they seem to care about keeping skiing and eating affordable. Prices were not bad in the caf. And in the afternoon in the upstairs bar area they offered a corned beef and cabbage dinner, with salads and desserts, for the unbelievable price of \$6.

I'm delighted with any area that provides a bench in the ladies room for those who want to change into or out of their ski clothing. The fresh flowers in the restroom were also a nice touch!

Those cold, cold days of skiing came in spring this year. My coldest day was Easter Sunday at Sunday River. On Friday only one lift was operating, the others being shut down because of the high winds. Well, the winds continued through Saturday and Sunday. It was mighty cold at the top of Barker Mountain where several hundred people gathered for a sunrise service at 7 A.M.

— **Betty Ann Tyson**



Easter 2008

February Meeting

We were eagerly looking forward to our February 13th meeting and our guest speaker Matt Lillard of Magic Mountain, but the weather once again created problems. An overnight snowstorm followed by torrential rains and the threat of dropping temperatures kept our speaker in Vermont. Warmer temperatures in MA allowed us to gather in Westford, and 20 hardy members attended. Board members shared some of their experiences with the club, some going back 18 years. We listened to suggestions of how we can bring in new members so that we can offer even more to our members.

Members were encouraged to spread the word about the club and to hand out the club cards with the website so others can see what we have to offer. Bill Tarkulich has updated the website. Check it out: www.ACESkiandBoardClub.org

February Door Prize Winners

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Marcia Ruklic | Hat |
| Wayne Potter | Hot Chillys socks |
| Jon Levy | Gloves |
| Jim Twohig | Hot Chillys socks, calendar |
| Dana Blanchard | Neck warmer, calendar |
| Bea Chaney | Gloves, calendar |
| Marty Stark | Goggles, boot bag/pack |
| Annette Kennedy | Hat |

Ski Deals Found Online

Shawnee will stay open for the weekend of April 5-6, if 300 people buy tickets. Deadline is 8 p.m. March 28. Each \$15 ticket is valid for one person from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5 or Sunday, April 6. No additional discounts apply. Tickets are available online only, at shawneepark.com, and will be waiting for buyers at the ticket window.

Shawnee will void all sales, if enough tickets are not sold. Tickets bought at the window are \$29.

December Door Prize Winners

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Wayne Potter | 2 Cannon tickets 2 Cranmore tickets |
| Nate Bemis | 2 Black Mountain tickets |
| Cindy Westling | Gloves |
| Debbie Potter | 2 Bolton Valley tickets Boot bag |
| Ivo Meznik | 2 Cannon tickets Jacket |
| Dana Blanchard | Goggles 2 Smugglers Notch tickets |
| Michael Socaciu | Gloves |
| Mary Mattock | Boot heater |
| Vince Mattock | 2 Magic Mountain tickets |
| Marjorie Kilgus | 2 Sugarbush tickets |
| Kamila Meznik | Ski bag |
| Marcia Ruklic | Boot bag/heater bag |
| Ken Kozik | Skis and bindings |

ACE Club Membership

Looking for friends to ski with? Want to find out how to ski for less money? Check out our club benefits. As a member you can order discount ski tickets to Vermont and New Hampshire resorts, join EICSL, which also offers discount tickets, and benefit from hearing about deals at area resorts.

To join the club or to renew your membership, send in the membership form and your check to Jean O'Donnell, Membership Chair. For more information, contact Jean at Wienerin1900@yahoogroups.com or call (978) 692-4113.

As a member you are also entitled to join EICSL, an organization of ski clubs in the Mt. Washington area. See their website, <http://eicsl.org/> for more information. As an EICSL member you can join in their ski racing program.

See details about membership on page 5.

Why Join Yahoo! Groups?

For those of you new to the ACE Ski and Board Club, Yahoo!Groups is the club's official distribution list and share for its ski club members. Any news that misses the newsletter will come to you via Yahoo!Groups —such as any changes to meeting dates or locations.

List members have benefited from the postings of one of our members about special deals at our New England ski areas. Maybe you want someone to join you for a last-minute ski or board trip. Then send e-mail to ACEskiandboardclub@yahoo.com

Our club's Yahoo!Groups is *private* with a restricted membership and is not listed in the Yahoo!Group's directory. You will not receive a lot of unwanted mail, since the moderators approve all messages prior to their being sent out. All members may post e-mails.

—Jean O'Donnell and Dana Blanchard

New Postal Address

ACE Ski and Board Club
P.O. BOX 616
Westford, MA 01886

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Tuesday **August 19, 2008** at Kimball Farms
Westford, Mass. (time TBD)

Monday **September 15, 2008**

Thursday **October 23, 2008**

Wednesday **December 10, 2008**
Ticket Distribution

Tuesday **February 10, 2009**

The general meetings are held at the **New Tiki Restaurant and Lounge**, 355 Littleton Rd., Westford, MA Phone: 978-692-2355.

Directions to New Tiki Restaurant

From Rt. 495: Take Exit 31, then go east on Rt. 119 to the first set of lights. At the intersection take a left onto King Street/Rt. 110, which becomes Littleton Road. Approximately one mile from the intersection you will see Elliot Road on your left. Continue on Rt. 110 to the New Tiki Restaurant, 200 feet on your left.

New ACE Members

February 25, 2008 - In conjunction with our Membership Campaign, the ACE Executive Board voted today to extend the length of first-year new memberships (never-ever enrollees) to 20 months. This allows new members who join March 1st or later to take advantage of remaining late-season club benefits for the 2007–08 season (i.e., club appreciation days) and be full 2008–09 season members. Everyone wins with early enrollment. Members enroll now while skiing and sliding is still on the brain. Club committees can plan better and offer more benefits when demand can be anticipated. Joining today strengthens our club for 2008–09.

Membership Details

Members must be at least 21 years of age. Children are welcome to participate in our activities when accompanied by an adult. You do not have to attend our meetings to join.

- Annual Dues—Valid October 1 through September 30
- ACE Primary Member, \$20.00
- ACE Member associated with Primary (i.e., spouse), \$15.00
- Optional Additional EICSL Membership, \$8.00 (You must sign up for BOTH ACE and EICSL, \$28.00)

TO JOIN, Please complete the membership form and mail it (U.S. Postal) along with your payment or bring it to the next club meeting.

Special 2008-09 Season Offer for New ACE Members

As you read this, the majority of this year's club benefits have passed you by. Don't miss next year's offerings by signing up now. Sign up today and receive an additional eight months membership, for a total of 20 months for the price of a 12-month membership.

- You will receive our e-mail notice of the lift ticket "mail sale" in August (a current e-mail address must be on file) .
- New membership applications for next season are valid **March 1, 2008**, through Sept. 30, 2009.
- Please use the 2007–08 application and sign the ACE waiver only. In the fall you will need to complete the 08/09 application (new waivers must be signed each year), but no 08/09 membership payment is due.
- Send the completed application and payment via U.S. MAIL.
- If you want a membership card, include a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) for speedy response.

RACING NEWS

Sweeney/Revane Household Lead ACE's EISCL Team for 2008

This year the ACE ski racers seemed to dodge the snowstorms for the most part to get their races in for the year, until the Championships—then we paid. The early snowstorms made skiing fantastic up in snow country, and our racers enjoyed the fruits of mother nature.

The first race this year was at Wildcat. Easily avoiding cancellation (like last year), the racers had their longest race of the year. Gerry Welch charged out of the gate with a first in Vet A, second overall A. Robin Smith took first in Vet A, and Lucy Hamnet took first in SV D. Jarrod Revane got eaten up by the snowsnakes—the question remained had he improved since last year? John Sweeney, better tighten those bindings for Jarrod.

Tighten those bindings he did, and we were off to Black. Again, the skiing was fantastic. The race course was longer than last year thanks to Mother Nature. The highlight of the day was John Sweeney taking the entire A class for the day. Cate Ralph and Jean O'Donnell took their respective classes (Junior D and SV D) as well. And young Jarrod, almost finished unscathed—but the snowsnakes bit him again at the last gate—running across the finish line in only his boots (skis and poles all over the course). Jarrod has his 1st finish of the year. Again, had Jarrod improved? The jury was still out.

Off to Cranmore, and another awesome day of skiing—a foot of day-old powder on the backside—should we race or freeski?

It was a sparse crowd as everyone from ACE said they were busy—I suspect they were at the big mountains enjoying the powder. Only 5 racers, but 3 first places. Cate Ralph in Junior D, John Sweeney, another 1st place in Vet A, and Jarrod Revane tearing it up and promptly upgrading to C. I guess he had improved—but would we see more from him at Championships?

Off to Championships. This year the foot of snow came later (actually falling during the race) than last year. The course was still a mess, but boy was the free skiing awesome after the race. The Pow was deep and still virgin in spots. Can't beat it . . . Oh

yeah the race. After clearing the course the men started first. We had three surprises of the day, Matt Schnee took B for his first win in the class. Jean O'Donnell won an SV D race again (the only D woman to get down in one piece), and John Sweeney took the As . . . again (but not a surprise). And young Jarrod—well, not to be outdone by John—he roared down the course and got another upgrade to B for next season and taking his class.

Wow! So for the year, Jarrod had three wins and two class upgrades. John Sweeney had three wins. It seemed as if it was the Revane/Sweeney show this year.

For the season, ACE took home five 1st place trophies: Jarrod in Junior C, John Sweeney in Vet A, Lucy Hamnett in SV D, Robin Smith in Vet A, and Cate Ralph in Junior D. Other highlights were Jean O'Donnell 2nd in SV D, Matt Schnee 4th in B, and Gerry Welch in Vet A. All in all, a great showing with only 11 racers.

Now I'm off to catch this great snow before the season ends. Catch you on the slopes or in the gates next winter.

— **Bill Ralph**



ACE Ski & Board Club 2007 / 2008 Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT Membership type: New: _____ Renew: _____ Update: _____

Primary Member Name: _____ Age (Opt.): _____ Female or Male (circle one)

E-Mail: (Please print clearly): _____

Home Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City/State: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Work Phone: _____

Family Member Name: _____ Age (Opt.): _____ Female or Male (circle one)

Family Member E-Mail: (Please print clearly): _____

Please do not add me to the Yahoo Groups Email distribution [] (Please use back of this form for additional family members)

PRIMARY MEMBER

Optional** FAMILY - **Additional Adult Family Member(s)** _____ X \$ 15.00 ea. = \$ _____

Optional** EICSL* Membership for Primary Member **MUST SIGN BACK** \$ 8.00 \$ _____

Optional** EICSL - **Additional Adult Family Member(s)** MUST SIGN BACK _____ X \$ 8.00 ea. = \$ _____

EICSL Members must sign EICSL Release and Indemnification (see Back of this form)

TOTAL \$ _____

ALL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

** You **must** be a member of the ACE Ski & Board Club to participate in EICSL or ACE Ski & Board Club programs.

* Eastern Inter-Club Ski League (EICSL) membership is required to participate in the EICSL race programs along with EICSL social events. EICSL memberships need to be submitted by Oct 31.

Racers also must complete separate racing applications.

I am interested in helping the ACE Ski & Board Club committees checked below:

- Benefits EICSL Membership Racing Summer Activities
- X-Country Meetings Newsletter Social Winter Trips
- Day Trips Meetings worker General Volunteer Snowboarding

Complete this application and the Adult Participation/Release form (below) and attach a check (no cash), made payable to "ACE Ski & Board Club". Submit the application to the membership committee at a general meeting or mail it to:

ACE Ski & Board Club
22 Palermo Street
Westford, MA 01886
ATTN: Membership

www.AceSkiandBoardClub.org

Note: **Members must be at least 21 years old.** Only Primary members receive club mailings.
Membership is valid through September 30, 2008.

Accounting Purposes Only: Check #: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Pin: _____ Card: _____ Gift: _____ YahooGrps: _____

Adult Participation/Release Form

I, _____ and _____
(Primary Member Name) (Family Member Name, if applicable)

of _____
(Address of Residence)

hereby request to participate voluntarily in the ACE Ski and Board Club, Inc. and associated activities for the 2007/2008 membership year. In consideration of your granting my request, I do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and agents waive, release, and forever discharge ACE Ski and Board Club, Inc. from any and all actions, causes of actions, claims, and demands for, upon, or by any reason of damage, loss, or injury resulting from my participation in said activity. Further, I hereby consent to the free use of my name and/or picture in any form of publication, in association with my participation in said activity. A participation fee has been paid.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Signature of Primary Member)

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Signature of Family Member)

Please Note: Due to the increased cost of publication, the Newsletter will be emailed and made available on our Web Page. www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Eastern Inter-Club Ski League, Inc
RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

In consideration of being permitted to become a member of, or to continue my membership of, **Ace Ski and Board Club, Inc.**, I, individually and collectively on behalf of myself, my successors and assigns:

1. Hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue **ACE Ski and Board Club**, Incorporated and the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League, Inc. and each of its member clubs, and their affiliates, successors and predecessors, as well as the officers, directors, delegates, employees, shareholders, attorneys, agents, representatives, members and assigns of the foregoing (hereinafter collectively "Releasees"), of and from any and all liability to the undersigned for any and all loss or damage, and any claim or demand therefore, on account of any injury to the person or property of the undersigned, or to the person or property of any of my guests, whether caused by negligence of any one or more of the Releasees or otherwise;

2. Hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any loss, liability, damage or cost they may incur due to the actions of the undersigned or of my guests, while on property owned by one or more of the Releasees or while participating in activities sponsored by one or more of the Releasees;

3. Hereby assume full responsibility for and risk of bodily injury due to the negligence of the Releasees while on property owned by one or more of the Releasees or while participating in activities sponsored by one or more of the Releasees. This is a release of liability. By signing this, I am agreeing, among other things, not to bring any legal action of any kind against any of the Releasees, and to indemnify the Releasees for any legal action of any kind asserted by anyone else for damage caused by me or my guests, or for damage sustained by me or my guests. I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing and voluntarily agree to the terms thereof.

This is a release of liability. I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing and voluntarily agree to the terms thereof.

Signed under seal this ____ day of _____

Signature **Primary** EICSL Member _____
(Sign name here.)

Printed **Primary** EICSL Member _____
(Print name here.)

Secondary **EICSL** Member _____
(Sign name here.)

Printed Secondary **EICSL** Member _____
(Print name here.)

Note: This release and indemnification agreement need only be signed if you plan on becoming an EICSL member.