The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 21 Issue 4
February 2011

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting February 1

ACE Ski and Board Club, December 16, 2010

LOCATION: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **February 1st** at the Franco-American Club in Westford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: We will have two speakers: ***Cameron Thomas*** of www.snowforecast.com and ***Val Skillins*** of Pats Peak.

*For an extra door prize ticket, bring at least two non-perishable **food items** which together can provide a meal for a family - for example, pasta and sauce, or a can of tuna and pasta* sides.

*Bring a **friend** – if he/she joins you will be entered to win two tickets to Pats Peak!*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2010–11

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 14	September 2	January 8
October 27	October 13	January 29
December 16	December 2	February 12
February 1	January 25	March 5

Meeting Location

The general meeting on February 1 will be at the

Franco-American Club in Westford

55 West Prescott Street
Westford, MA 01886
(978) 692-7013 - Lounge

Directions from Westford Center:

Take Main Street to Forge Village Road, to Pine Street. Go 2.2 miles to a stop sign (it's a straight run from the center of town to the stop sign!).

Go right at the stop sign, and go down the hill to the railroad tracks. There is a stop light that might be flashing yellow (a couple hundred yards), then go left over the railroad tracks, and the Franco-American Club is 4-tenths of a mile on the left across from the baseball fields. If you pass the VFW, you have gone too far!

From Route 495/ Rt. 119:
Take exit 31 (Rte 119) toward Groton, MA. Turn right on Beaver Brook Road. Turn left onto Rte 225 West (Concord Rd). After the railroad tracks, turn left and continue on 225 (now West Prescott Street). The Franco-American Club will be on your left after the ball field sign.

ACE Club Officers

Jonathan Levy	President
Robin Temple Diamond	Vice-president
Betty Ann Tyson	Secretary
Dana Blanchard	Treasurer
Chris Gerber	Membership
Rob and Ilene Titus	Benefits Co-chairs
Dee McMaster	EICSL Rep
Gerry Welch	Racing Chair
Bill Tarkulich	Webmaster, Marketing Chair
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

Ullr has smiled upon us this year and granted us lots of the white stuff, including this most recent storm. Take advantage while we have it in abundance.

Exciting news on the trips front:
A change in the Club's By-Laws will provide a substantial incentive for a trip leader to plan and run a trip. Can you spell **F-R-E-E**? Contact Dana or myself for more info.

Have fun out there!

Jonathan Levy

Ullr– the Old Norse god of skiing and archery

Benefits Committee Update

The ACE Ski and Board Club, through its Benefits Committee, is offering an ***email sale*** for select New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont Ski Areas.

There are a limited number of tickets remaining and some mountains have sold out. Lift Tickets will be available for sale (on a first come/first serve basis) through the email sale, extending ***from January 14, 2011 through the end of the season*** or until all tickets are sold out. Subject to availability, there are no restrictions on the amount of tickets you may purchase.

All tickets will be distributed at club meetings or via U.S. Certified Mail. Ticket prices do not include mailing costs**.**

All orders MUST include a check for the total amount of your order, as well as your name, mailing address, email address, phone number, signature, and date. Make checks ***payable to the ACE Ski & Board Club***. Please fill out one order form per club member.

You must confirm by email that your choice and quantity of tickets are available prior to mailing the hard copy order form and check. Send email to ilenetitus@charter.net to confirm the availability of ACE Ski and Board club to fulfill your order.

Mailing Address:
Ilene Titus
Attn: ACE Tickets
P.O. Box 392
Southborough, MA 01772.

If you have any questions, please contact Ilene Titus, Benefits Co-Chair ilenetitus@charter.net

Tickets Available:

- Bolton Valley
- Bromley
- Burke
- Loon/Sunday River/Sugarloaf (1 of 3 pass)
- Mad River Glen
- Magic
- Pico
- Smugglers Notch

Ilene and Rob Titus
Benefits Co-Chairs
ACE Ski and Board Club
P.O. Box 392
Southborough, MA 01772
ilenetitus@charter.net

Bring Donation for the Food Pantry!

Once again, at the February 1st General Meeting, the Club will be collecting food to benefit the ***Worcester County Food Bank.*** All contributions will be accepted at the Club meeting, but to qualify for an extra door prize ticket, bring at least two items which together can provide a meal for a family - for example, pasta and sauce, or a can of tuna and pasta sides.

Thanks for the Food!

*"On behalf of the **Worcester County Food Bank**, I sincerely thank you and everyone that participated in your Food Drive last month. Many of our neighbors, including increasing numbers of working families, must choose between paying for housing, utilities, or medicine and putting food on the table. For the families and individuals we serve, these difficult choices are made easier by wonderful donors like you. Your Food Drive donations help us provide food to local pantries and other programs that are working to fill this gap. We appreciate the personal and collective contributions that you've given so generously. Thank you all for sharing in our efforts to make Worcester County hunger-free!"*

Recap of December's General Meeting

Bill Tarkulich, the club's Marketing chair, conducted the meeting. Different people gave committee reports.

Rob and Ilene Titus listed the tickets still available. People picked up their ticket orders and could buy tickets still available.

Gerry Welch talked about racing. First race was at Bretton Woods on Jan. 8.

Dee McMaster spoke about EICSL. She attends EICSL meetings in Newton and sends out a weekly newsletter about EICSL activities.

Bill described an opportunity for skiing the first weekend of January that included free vouchers for ACE members to ski at Cranmore, followed by a stay at the Ski Wheelers Lodge. Wayne Potter described the lodge and was the contact for reservations.

Bill Tarkulich and Ilene Titus

Bill is trying to arrange a weekend ski trip to Magic Mt. in February. He is planning on a day trip to Burke on Friday, Jan. 14. Bill talked about other good deals he has tracked down. Some mountains are listing discounted tickets on the website www.Groupon.com. Bill distributed some giveaways he picked up at the ski show in November.

Congratulations to Elaine Lussier for winning a Wachusett Bronze Century Pass worth $339! The drawing included those who had purchased passes through the club's GPS program with Wachusett.

I hope you like the group picture we had taken of everyone at the meeting!

Christopher and Jon from Berkshire East

The featured speaker was ***Jon Schaefer*** from **Berkshire East**. Jon helps run the family business which his father started 35 years ago. He described their operation; they have a wind turbine that supplies all their energy. They offer a Zipline tour, the biggest in North America.

Midweek price is $35; cost is $55 on weekends. Show your ski club membership card and get a discount. Their website www.berkshireeast.com lists additional ski and stay deals. The mountain donated two tickets, which were won by a person with a January birthday.

The presentation drew a good response and a few commendations from members present.

Dee McMaster and Gerry Welsh

Chris Cole won Bromley tickets

December 2010 Door Prize Winners

Artemis Agelaridou	Bolton Valley tickets and socks
Vince Mattock	Smugglers Notch tickets and Magic Mountain tickets
Stephanie Chase	Socks
Sue Rasmussen	Wax
Rob Titus	Gloves
Mary Mattock	Mad River Glen tickets
Chris Cole	Bromley Mountain tickets
Marcia Ruklic	Under Armour base layer and Helly Hansen jacket
Pam Beck	Gloves
Ken Kozik	Ski poles
Shelley Sage	Under Armour base layer
Marty Stark	Ski bag
Lee Arnold	Helly Hansen fleece jacket
Dee McMaster	Skis

Pam Beck shows off her new gloves

Bill, Jim Twohig and Marcia Ruklic with her new base layer

Marty Starr – this looks like a great ski bag!

Santa Claus with Vince Mattock and his Magic tickets

Shelley Sage loves her warm base layer

Lee Arnold with his Helly Hanson fleece jacket

Ken Kozik with his new poles and – who's that? ☺

Dee McMaster beams as Bill hands her the grand prize!

Lots of activity at the tickets table

Artemis Agelaridou with the food

Member Stories

Weekend at Cranmore and Bretton Woods, by Robin Temple Diamond

It was great to have the chance to ski at such a great price ($9)! For my first day out, I found myself riding the sliding as always. Love the shaped skis and the wide open runs at ***Cranmore.***

Friday night I stayed at the ***Wheelers'*** ski house for $27 which included breakfast made by Wayne Potter, past president at the Wheelers and long time ACE member.

The Ski Wheelers' Lodge

In the evening, I joined three members from the Wheelers and some fellow racers for appetizers over at the Wildcat Inn. It was nice to meet racers from other teams.

Sue Orsato from the Ski Wheelers, Cindy Westling, Robin Diamond and Michele Grenier at the Wildcat Inn

Bill T. (Ski discount guru) had arranged for a semi private dinner for 12 at the inn, 8 showed up and we enjoyed a spirited conversation and an excellent meal.

Ric West, Betty Ann Tyson, Wayne and Debbie Potter at the Wildcat Inn & Tavern

After dinner we all met back at the Wheelers for some socializing and a night cap before heading to bed - the race would get us all up early Saturday morning for the ride to ***Bretton Woods***.

Marge Kilgus with Marcia and Greg Ruklic

Bill Tarkulich with Linda and Les Dennis at the Wildcat Inn

The ACE EICSL Team – Robin Temple Diamond, Stephen Gauvin, Gerry Welch (Race Chair), Shawn McCormick and Jean O'Donnell

Saturday was cold but there was no wind, so standing at the start of the race waiting for our turn to take on the gates wasn't terrible. ACE and Polecats hosted the race and all went smoothly. Gerry Welch, ACE racing chair, did an excellent job. This was Gerry's first race as the new chair for ACE.

After the race I hooked up with Wayne Potter, Barbara and a few more and we went over to the west mountain and skied the wide open trails that had some soft packed powder.

This mini "trip" was a nice way to meet some new skiers and club members. Bill T thanks for your efforts in pulling this together!

Robin Temple Diamond

Trip to The Canyons and Park City, Utah
by Ilene Titus

In the first week of January, Rob and I flew from Arizona to Utah and skied five days at The Canyons and Park City.

At ***The Canyons***, we rode the new ***Orange Bubble Express*** chair lift which opened on December 10, 2010. The seats are heated to 56 degrees and riders can lower the crystal clear orange bubble canopy to keep out any rain or snow, while lovers can steal a brief private kiss. At one point, Rob and I were in the line to ride the Orange Bubble – it does access nice trails – but the lift had stopped and the operator was poking a broom up into the mechanism. Rob and I laughingly commented as to: why were we getting on a broken lift where someone is trying to fix it with a broom?!

Ilene and Rob Titus in Utah

Silver mines opened in Park City in the 1860; remnants of the mining operation are prominent on various parts of the mountain. Ski trails sport mining related names such as *Lost Prospector, Dynamite, Single Jack and Double Jack.* Several 2002 Olympic events were held at Park City and Olympic City is a few miles down the road.

Defunct mining operations at Park City

To our delight, on the second day at The Canyons, the new ***Iron Mountain*** terrain opened. On one trip up the lift, we rode with a local who told us ***Will Smith*** had a 30 million dollar house in the Colony which consists of large expensive houses interspersed in the middle of the several mountain peaks. He told us

Smith was learning to snowboard, but was bad at it. Oh well, we all started somewhere!

Longs jumps at Olympic City

The last day of the trip was reserved for sightseeing. We went to ***Olympic City*** where athletes still train on the long jumps and in summer flip off the aerials while landing into a pool. We then headed out to ***Homestead*** which features a 10,000 year old, 55-foot tall, beehive-shaped limestone rock crater that nature has hollowed out and filled with 90° to 96° water. Here one may enjoy swimming, snorkeling, and SCUBA diving even on the coldest day of a Utah winter. The best part of the trip was Rob and I being together.

Ilene Titus

X-Country Skiing at Great Brook State Park by Jim Twohig

Saturday January 15, a group of 7 set forth for a day of Nordic skiing upon a canvas of blue sky, yellow drenching sun, amidst the vibrant greens and a carpet of white at ***Great Brook State Park*** in Carlisle, MA.

The group included 4 members of the ACE Ski Club:

- Bea Chaney – gracious map guide and wilderness orienteer
- Jean O'Donnell – group conscience and emotional stabilizer
- Artemis Agelaridou Twohig (or is it Twohig Agelaridou?) – neophyte and/or newbie
- Jim Twohig – boisterous pest and/or catalyst, depending on one's mindset

Other people in the photo:

- To the far left in blue, Catherine ("Cat") Ftergiotis - and I thought Twohig was tough to pronounce…
- Heidi Coffin – up and coming back country guide for the Wedeln Ski Club
- Matt Butler – Heidi's calm, calculating, and sure-footed pack mule/boyfriend

Excursion incidents and noteworthy instances:

- The challenge for new skiers to correctly insert a boot into a ski binding – obviously there's a method and approach ~ keeping one's foot level and balance while keeping snow and ice off the sole of your boot …
- Admiring a beautiful hawk which swooped and settled directly overhead from us into a tree limb
- Experiencing welcomed "timberland" solitude and peacefulness of "being" in the forest, at peace with the harmonious natural surroundings

The Great Nordic Team at Great Brook

In parting, an important skiing trip tip:

- Droste Chocolate mix, imported from Holland. If you like dark hot chocolate, give this a sip!

Jim Twohig

Members, send us your stories and pictures!

Beatrice Chaney
newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org

Membership Update

ACE Membership cards for 2010-2011 will be available at the 2/1/11 meeting.

*If you are already a member, please make sure you are signed up with our **Yahoo group:*** http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/AceSkiandBoardClub/ *See detailed instructions on how to sign up on the next page, or send email to the membership chair at* membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.

***New members** will be signed up with the Yahoo group automatically unless the '... do not add me to the Yahoo Groups ...' box is checked.*

If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, please fill out the **2010 – 2011 Membership Form** on the ACE Ski and Board Club website www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership.html and return it along with your membership fee to the membership table at the next meeting or to the club mailbox:

ACE Ski and Board Club Membership
43 Ashcroft Rd
Medford, MA 02155

Brief History of the Club

- 25+ years old – the former Digital Ski Club
- Became the ACE Ski & Board Club, a Compaq employee club, in 1998
- Became a MA Chapter 180 non-profit corporation, and an IRS 501(c) 7 organization in 2003
- Members are adult fans of skiing and snow boarding in the greater New England area including some former Digital, Compaq, Intel, Cabletron, and Hewlett Packard employees
- An original EICSL club (Eastern Inter Club Ski League)

What ACE Ski & Board Club Does …

- Encourages camaraderie and enjoyment of skiing and riding
- Encourages and promotes an active recreational race program
- Provides availability of reasonably priced tickets
- Encourages participation in skiing in new and exotic places
- Promotes a greater knowledge of ski/board techniques, ski resorts, and technical knowledge of skiing and boarding

Benefits of Membership

- Bimonthly newsletter
- Free classified ads
- Discount lift tickets
- Social meetings with presentations on aspects of skiing and boarding
- Active race program at: the White Mountains
- Occasional ski trips to the west or Europe and to Northern New England or
- Member organized day trips to New Hampshire / Vermont
- Some shop discounts
- Cross-country skiing outings
- Summer activities: of cycling, hiking, and camping trips
- Yahoo!Groups distribution list: AceSkiandBoardClub@yahoogroups.com
- Optional EICSL membership
- Opportunities for family member racing
- Eligibility to win gear worth over 2,000 $ at general meetings

For details of our winter trips, tickets, EICSL, racing, meeting, and membership, look at the club website:

www.Aceskiandboardclub.org

Chris Gerber, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

YAHOO! GROUPS

The club uses a Yahoo list distribution as our means of communicating with members. It is necessary that you be on the list to hear about the benefits that the club offers, but you can also communicate with each other. You can ask if others want to organize a last-minute ski trip, find some extra ski tickets, or pass on tickets that you cannot use.

Signing up with the Yahoo Group

NOTE: New members will be signed up with the Yahoo group automatically unless they check the *'Please do not add me to the Yahoo Groups Email distribution'* box on their membership application form.

It's very easy; all you have to do is send email to:

ACESkiandBoardClub-Subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Or go to our website www.AceSkiandBoardClub.org . At the bottom of the home page, type in your email address.

Go one step further and create a YahooGroup UserProfile by going to www.YahooGroups.com and clicking on "click here to register". With a YahooGroups Profile you'll be able to post photographs of your latest ski trip and view other members' photographs and documents like the membership form (also available on the website). We are using the YahooGroups Calendar to send out reminders to members about upcoming meetings and trips.

Once you have a YahooGroups Profile, you can also choose how you receive the email sent out. You can choose to get each individual email as it is sent out or as a daily digest of all the email from that day.

Our club's General YahooGroups is Private and not listed in the YahooGroups directory. Membership is restricted—all members must be approved. Any member can send out a message, but all messages are approved before they are released. The club Archives are for members only; Email attachments are allowed but are not stored.

Yahoo Group Email Addresses

Yahoo Group Address:
http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/AceSkiandBoardClub/

Related link: http://www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Post message:
AceSkiandBoardClub@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: AceSkiandBoardClub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: AceSkiandBoardClub-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner: AceSkiandBoardClub-owner@yahoogroups.com

Updating your email address

Once you are a member, and signed up with the Yahoo group, please make sure that your email address is up-to-date, for you to receive the latest news and updates from the club.

If you need help …

If you need any help with signing up to the Yahoo Group or updating your email address, send mail to the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Links and Forms

The 2010-11 forms as well as the current and past newsletters are available on the club's website: www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Membership:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership.html

Vermont Ticket Order Form:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/tickets.htm

Racing:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/racing.html
Note: No new EICSL racers can sign up at this time unless they're already ACE/EICSL members.

Newsletter:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/newsletter.html

EICSL News

The Eastern Inter-Club Ski League (EICSL), which began in 1950 as a small group of ski clubs, is an organization comprised of clubs. EICSL binds all clubs together.

Realize that the lodging at any of the clubs is not designed with the glitzy Ritz-Carlton person in mind. Lodging varies greatly from club to club, but most are bunk-style rooms. The ***Ski Bees*** for example have segregated floors with seven women's bunk rooms on the second floor and seven men's bunk rooms on the third floor. Two bathrooms are shared by the women on the second floor, and two men's bathrooms are shared on the third floor. Club rules for smoking and quiet hours are instituted. The clubs vary and are all within 10 miles of each other.

We have a standing relationship with the ***Ski-Wheelers*** for lodging; they are located at Kearsarge Road, North Conway, NH 03847 (603) 356-9793. The Ski Wheelers make their home in a turn-of-the-century grand style lodge. It's one of the largest lodges in the Mt. Washington Valley. It was the site of the 1970's movie, "Return of the Secaucus Seven." The spacious 3-story lodge (also known as the Winwood Lodge) has 23 bedrooms with 88 beds. All bedrooms are semi-private with a sink and sleep from 2-6 people. Beds are available to accommodate guests almost every weekend. There are 9 bathrooms, a large dining room (also the party room!) with a fireplace, a cozy living room with a wood stove, a fully equipped industrial size kitchen, and plenty of room to store your gear.

Once an EICSL member, perks like 10% off purchases from certain merchants and restaurants in the North Conway area, plus--the important thing--discounted lift tickets, are organized by EICSL. This year's deals included discounted tickets at Mount Cranmore and Wildcat. Because the clubs are centrally located in the Mount Washington Valley, mountains like Wildcat, Attitash and Sunday River in Maine are all within an hour from the clubs.

Most clubs have a race team members can join. Team levels range from Snow Plow Division to AA and Open Divisions. Club teams race against one another about four times per year and some organizations have their own club race once a season. Don't think just because they're called ski clubs that's all they do. To be honest, some members have never skied a day in their lives. The night life après ski is an experience like no other.

IMPORTANT – Every Ace Ski & Board member that joins EICSL **MUST** sign the **EICSL Release Form** separately. It is has to be printed independently from any other document - in other words, **one sided**. If a couple joins there must be two (2) forms submitted.

The deadline to join EICSL through the ACE Ski & Board Club has passed.

If you cannot attend the meeting when the cards will be dispensed, you can mail a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to Dee McMaster, 25 Pierce Street, Pepperell MA 01463-1402 and your card(s) will be mailed to you in the SASE.

Visit www.EICSL.org for a listing of the discounts available to you in the North Conway area and more!!!

If you are not receiving EICSL e-mail from me, please ensure that I have your correct e-mail address.

Recreational Racing 2010–2011

Gerry Welch - Chairperson

EICSL Racing Update

The EICSL race season is in full swing and will be finishing up with the ***March 5th Championship Race at Wildcat, NH.***

Overall things are looking very good for our race team at this time. We will know our final standing at the ***April 2 Banquet***.

Please save this date for the ***Awards Ceremony*** at ***Wildcat Tavern, in Jackson NH.*** It's always a fun and great time to meet everyone minus their race suits! It's a free event for all EICSL racers; banquet food provided is always plentiful and good. In all, it's a fun atmosphere and a friendly way to meet the other clubs' racers.

2011 EICSL Race Dates and Events

EICSL Wildcat Training		**Feb. 11**
		March 4
3rd Qualifier	**Shawnee Peak, ME**	**Feb. 12**
Note: Last chance for ACE/EICSL members to try a free EICSL race		
Championship	**Wildcat**	**March 5**
Note: Qualified Racers only		
EICSL Awards Party		
Wildcat Tavern, Jackson NH		**April 2nd**

Mt Dew and NASTAR racing opportunities are still available for the rest of the season.
Please see their web pages for more details:

NASTAR: www.nastar.com
Mt Dew: www.snocountry.com

These races are open to all.

Finally, I'd like to thank our racers, club members, and everyone who has raced this year in some form or another. I say this because I believe this activity is one of the best ways to improve your skiing and it is one of the main attributes by which our club was formed. I'm hopeful we can continue to grow this core program today and well into the future.

Until the next fall club meeting and thanks again...

Gerry Welch - Race Chairperson
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Goffstown, NH 03045
978-387-2893
gjwelch@netzero.net