The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 22 Issue 1
September 2011

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting September 15

ACE Ski Club Board: Bill T, Robin D, Jon L, Dee M, Betty Ann, Ilene T, Dana B, Gerry W, Chris G

NEW LOCATION: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **September 15** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: Kris Noel, manager of the Burlington, MA and Salem, NH **SkiHaus** Shops (http://skihaus.com) will be on hand to review the latest trends in equipment. He will also discuss why and when equipment should be replaced or maintained, and give an overview of trends in equipment for novices.

*To get an **extra door prize ticket**, bring **school supplies**! Backpacks, especially girls', pocket dictionaries, graphing calculators, three-ring binders, filler paper…*
*Or bring **a friend** … Or bring the ACE **postcard** announcing the meeting …*

Newsletter Highlights

Club News/Club Officers 2
Benefits Committee Update 3
Recap of February Meeting 4
Ice Cream Social 5
New, tips, trips, … 6
Trip to Quebec City 7
Membership Information 8
Sign Up for Yahoo Group 9
Links and Forms 9
EICSL News 10
Recreational Racing 11

Important ACE Club Dates 2011–12

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 15	September 1	TBD
October 25	October 11	TBD
December 8	December 1	TBD
January 19	January 5	TBD

New Meeting Location

The general meeting on September 15 will be at the

Chelmsford Elks Lodge in Chelmsford

300 Littleton Rd
Chelmsford, MA 01824
www.elks.org - Lodge #2310

Directions from the North:

Take 495 South to exit 34, and then merge onto Rte 110 West/Chelmsford St toward Rte 4. Turn right onto 110 West/ 4 North/Central Square. Continue to follow 110 West. The Elks Lodge will be on your left in about 4 minutes.

From the South:
Take 495 North to exit 32 for Boston Rd. Turn right onto Boston Rd. After a few lights, turn left onto Rte110/Littleton Rd (signs for Chelmsford/Lowell) The Elks Lodge will be on your right after about 5 minutes.

From the East or West:
Get to 495 and then follow the above directions, or use your GPS ☺

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

Welcome back for another year of skiing and riding! We're offering our usual benefits of interesting meeting speakers, discounted lift tickets, racing, trips, and the opportunity to win great raffle prizes at the General Meetings.

The club is completely run by volunteers. We have no paid staff. We have evolved from a company-based club to a non-profit corporation, recognized by both the Commonwealth and the IRS.

The club can offer more trips, more activities, a greater variety of speakers at the General Meetings, and more prizes at the General Meetings. But it takes more volunteers to do it. *Think about volunteering for **OUR** ski club.*

We have critical openings for a ***Meetings chair***, a ***Snowboard chair***, and ***2nd VP***. Speak to me at a meeting or send an email if interested.

Here's hoping for a winter like last year, with lots of snow!

Jonathan Levy

Benefits Committee Update

In July and August 2011, the Club through Benefits conducted a ***mail sale*** of Vermont and New Hampshire/Maine Tickets. A deposit of at least 50% of the total price was due at the time of the sale. ***The balance is due by November 1, 2011*** by check or money order, made out to Ace Ski and Board Club, or it may be brought to the General Meeting on September 15th or mailed to Ilene Titus, P.O. Box 392, Southborough, MA 01772. If you do not remember your balance due or what you ordered, email IleneTitus@charter.net and you will be emailed a PDF of your order form.

You may purchase ***additional tickets*** at the General Meeting on ***September 15, 2011***. Order forms for Vermont and New Hampshire/Maine Tickets will be available at that time. There are limited quantities of some Vermont Mountains, so come to the General Meeting for the best opportunity to get the tickets you want.

Restrictions for Vermont are currently 16 ticket maximum with no more than 2 tickets from any one mountain. Please note there are no restrictions on New Hampshire/Maine Mountains through the month of September, but limitations and restrictions will apply after October 2nd when the club must finalize our orders with participating mountains. After the September 15th meeting, there will be an email ticket sale on a first come, first serve basis with confirmation by return email. Restrictions on the purchase of Vermont Mountains will apply and remaining tickets will go on sale at the October 25th and December 8th meetings.

Ace Ski and Board Club has gone Green. In the past few years, members have been notified of the mail sale by email with sales on a first come, first serve basis by postmark. Other than those sales at General Meetings, all tickets sales will be noticed by email with instructions as to how to place an order; there will be no notices sent by regular mail, so keep your email current with the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

In addition to Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine tickets, Benefits is participating in the **Wachusett Mountain GPS** "Greatest Possible Savings!" club. To sign up for a Wachusett Mountain GPS Club – Century Pass:

Go to www.wachusett.com Click on Group Sales - In the drop down menu - click on GPS Club - Move your cursor to right to click on GPS Order on Line - Click on the pass you want to purchase - Enter your information. The Group Name is *Ace Ski and Board Club* and the Group Coordinator is *Ilene Titus*. The group early season rates are valid through November 16, 2011.

Robert and Ilene Titus
Benefits Co-Chairs
P.O. Box 392
Southborough., MA 01772
ilenetitus@charter.net

Bring School Supplies!

For an extra chance door prize ticket, please bring **new,** not used, school supplies to the September 15th meeting. Your contribution should reflect the desire to assist needy children.

Backpacks, especially girls' backpacks, and items for older children such as pocket dictionaries, graphing calculators, three-ring binders and filler paper are needed.

The supplies will be contributed to the ***Set for the Success School Supply Drive*** which will benefit approximately 2,400 Worcester school system students classified as homeless, including those in shelters, many of whom are in foster care.

Ilene Titus

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.*

Recap of February's General Meeting

Featured speakers were ***Cameron Thomas*** of www.snowforecast.com and ***Val Skillins*** of Pats Peak.

Deb and Wayne Potter

Gerry W presents the racing trophy to Jean O

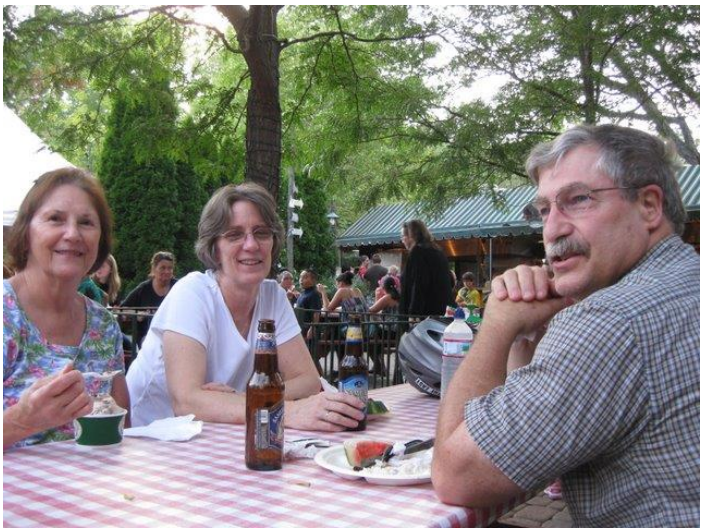
February 2011 Door Prize Winners

Jean O'Donnell	2 Burke tickets
Vince Mattock	2 Bolton Valley tickets
Alphonse Vautour	2 Bromley tickets
Pam Beck	2 Magic tickets
Artemis Twohig	2 Smugglers tickets
Mary Mattock	Ski Jacket

Mary M wins the grand prize jacket, presented by Jon!

Ice Cream Social

Nine people attended the club's Ice Cream Social at Kimball's in Westford in August.



Member Stories

Members, send us your stories and pictures!

Beatrice Chaney
newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org

News, tips, trips, social media, …

by Bill Tarkulich
Webmaster and Marketing Chair

Meetings

In addition to our regular items of committee reports, news, ticket sales and raffle, we are looking forward to **presentations and book signings** by widely recognized authors of ski history, such as:
Meghan McCarthy McPhaul: "History of Cannon"
Jeremy Davis: "New England Lost Ski Area Project"

We will also offer presentations on **resorts** such as *Gunstock, NH*.

For details and schedule, see the club's website: www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Social Media

ACE is taking big steps into the social media space for communications to a wider demographic. We now have a presence on **Facebook** and **Twitter.** This is in addition to our website, email distribution, Yahoo group and newsletter. Not everyone watches the same channel on TV, and the same is true for the 'net.
Links to the above can be found on our web site's front page: www.aceskiandboardclub.org

If you have an inkling to help us pave these new paths, please give Bill a holler!

Regular updates will need posting as the committees add news throughout the year. It's pretty easy now that they are setup.

Help Wanted: Meeting Techie

Looking for someone to setup and operate our ***audio-visual equipment.*** Bill is running out of hands to do so much. **Contact Bill**.

Web site

We are in the process of doing updates to the club's website at: www.aceskiandboardclub.org

The site has been refreshed with new photos from last year. As events are firmed up, the associated info will be updated.

Trips

Trips for this year will include the ***Quebec Ski/Carnaval, Jay Peak, Sugarbush-Mad River*** and an ***EICSL out west trip***.

Again, see details on www.aceskiandboardclub.org.

Club Posters

Find club posters on the website:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/posters.html

Members-Only Benefits

There is now a secure, members-only area:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/members/indexm.html
Id: "acerocks!"
Password: leave blank

- Remember, **all** memberships expire on September 30th. Only renewed or new members can participate in meeting raffles, so the September meeting will be your last chance.
- The password on the members-only section of the web will be changed on October 1st and distributed only to members.
- Newsletters are now stored on the members-only section of the web.
- The mailings will be limited to members-only.
- Discount info will be available to members only beginning on October 1st.

Trip to Quebec City

by Jon Levy

How can you go to Europe without crossing the Atlantic Ocean? Visit **Quebec City**! They speak French, the food is fabulous, and during **Carnaval**, the spectacles are tremendous!

The ACE club is going to Quebec City for the first weekend of Carnaval, January 26th – 29th, 2012. We are staying right in the Old Town at the four-star **Hotel Manoir Victoria**. The hotel offers complimentary Wi-Fi, and complimentary access to an indoor pool, sauna, and health club. Spa services are also available. The trip includes 3 days of skiing (at Mont-St-Anne, Le Massif, and Stoneham), 3 nights of accommodation, and a Carnaval All-Access Pass.

The price is $499, double occupancy, and does not include any meals. A huge buffet breakfast is available for about $20, or over 50 eateries are steps from the hotel's door.

Transportation to/from Quebec City is on your own. Flights out of Logan can be had for as little as $500, or it's a 400 mile drive from Boston. Plan on 7 hours, without stops or border-crossing formalities. The hotel offers indoor parking for about $22/day. For those flying, airport-hotel transfers are on your own. Mont-St-Anne can be reached via shuttle bus, but the other resorts will require a rental car.

Any questions, contact Jon at trips@aceskiandboardclub.org

Membership Update

Membership is looking forward to the **2011-2012** ski year. To keep current with all the great deals that ACE membership offers **members should renew before 9/30/11.**

Membership forms are available via the club's website: www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership.html

Please bring the completed form and your dues (checks no cash) to the ACE meeting on 9/15/11 at the Chelmsford Elks or to the club mailbox:

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

*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.*

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 2011-12 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

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.

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!!!

Recreational Racing 2011–2012

Gerry Welch – Chairperson

Over the past 30 ski racing seasons our club racers have recorded an impressive collection of awards and trophies for the ACE Ski and Board Club. At its peak in the 1990's our club had 200+ racers actively competing in many race programs throughout the greater New England area.

Our racing program continues to offer most of these opportunities, as well as some new programs for individual ACE team racers and their families, and events with a training atmosphere. Even though the economic climate has changed, our club's goal is still to provide our members with opportunities to improve their skiing abilities through recreational racing programs supported either directly or indirectly by us.

We are proud of our many successful years of accomplishments in these programs. Our objective is to foster the friendly environment that will help you develop and improve your skiing abilities. These programs are designed to be fun and an educational experience, while keeping the commitment and cost low. Whether you are an entry level first time racer or a highly skilled competitor, our racing program is available to you as part of your membership and the options you select.

We are again trying to grow our EICSL racing program and will add or update racing events as the ski season nears.

More racing information and details will be ready to share at our October general meeting and newsletter.

Gerry Welch - Race Chairperson
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gjwelch@netzero.net