The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 24 Issue 4
February 2014

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting February 11

Sunrise at Alta, UT, by Mary Mattock

Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **February 11** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: **Peter Nelson** will be here to tell us about the ***Friends of Tuckerman Ravine***, a private, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization incorporated to preserve and protect the unique alpine and sub-alpine eastern slopes of Mount Washington, NH.

*For an **extra door prize ticket**, bring a food donation for a meal, for example a box of pasta and a jar of marinara sauce. Limit of one extra ticket per member.*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2013–14

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 12	August 29	January 4
October 30	October 16	January 25
December 10	December 3	February 8
February 11	January 29	March 1

Meeting Location

The general meeting on February 11 will be at the

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
Michèle Grenier	Membership
Rob and Ilene Titus	Benefits Co-chairs
Chuck Riley	EICSL Rep
Gerry Welch	Racing Chair
Bill Tarkulich	Marketing Chair
Ryan Conway	Webmaster
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

By the time you read this, Stowe has had their December and January Club days; your ACE Membership card saved you 50% or more off the window price. ($46 vs. $98; multiple days were even a better deal.) $52 off the window price - more than enough to pay for your membership!

The periodic Deals Update offers enough savings to justify buying some new gear - or at least it's a good rationalization ☺

We're midway through the season; there's only been some snow, but at least it's been cold enough to blow lots of the man-made stuff. Get out there and enjoy.

Benefits Committee Update

Ticket Sales Ticket sales for the 2013-2014 season are winding down. Bolton Valley tickets are now only $10 each. There is no limit on the amount of Bolton Valley you may purchase, subject to availability. Bretton Woods vouchers are $2 each with payment of only $50 at the Window.

Notices from Benefits Other than those sales at General Meetings, all tickets sales will be announced 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

2014-2015 Season Watch your email!
Tickets for the 2014-2015 season will go on sale in July/August 2014!

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

Winter Trips

The trip to the ***Eastern Townships of Canada*** was canceled this year, but will be offered again next year.

The ***Mt. Snow*** trip was cancelled as well, as there were not enough participants.

The trip to ***Sun Valley, Idaho*** is on for March 4-11; six people have signed up and will be part of a larger group put together by the travel agent.

Stay tuned for dates and details on an upcoming trip to ***Burke Mountain, VT***, organized by **Bill Tarkulich.**

Bring Food!

At the February 11 meeting, the club will again be collecting food to benefit the ***Loaves and Fishes Pantry in Devens, MA.***

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

Thanks to all the members who brought food donations to the last meeting. Your donations went to ***Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in Devens, MA.***

Recap of December's General Meeting

The December meeting was well attended; members picked up the tickets they had ordered and enjoyed **Ed Berry's** presentation about ***Stowe Mountain,VT.***

Santa Claus made a surprise visit! Many attendees got to have their picture taken with him.

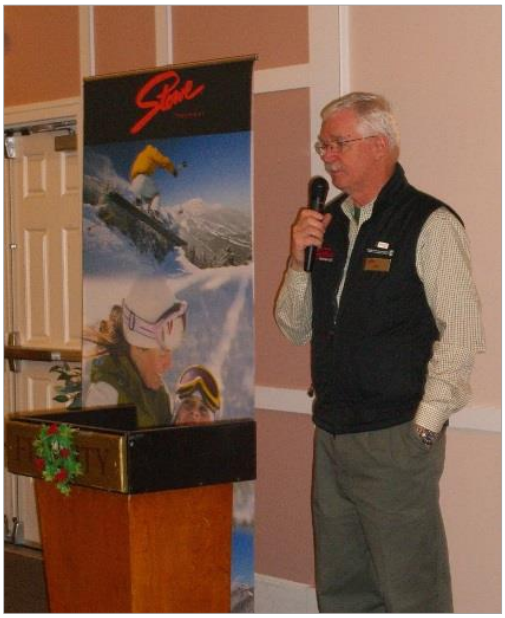
After an introduction by **Jon Levy**, various ACE Club officers gave updates on their respective chairs.

Ed Berry gave an exciting update on what's been happening at ***Stowe Mountain***: new snow guns, a new pump station, anything that is good for snow, Stowe will do, and has been as far back as in the single-chair days. Man-made snow is good for one week; if it's cold enough, they resurface 6"-12" every day.

The mountain also refurbished the Gondola; it is now second in number of runs in the whole country. It runs in the summer as well. They invested half a million $, which is why Stowe is a very expensive mountain. Full price is now $98; however you can get tickets online for $84. There are also multi-day package deals. Also, look out for ski club appreciation days.

A good tip is to by a $5 Stowe bypass card, which not only saves you money, but allows you to go straight from your car to the slopes! It is tied to your credit card, and you get charged the first time you use a lift on a given day.

Ed Berry talks about Stow Mt. VT



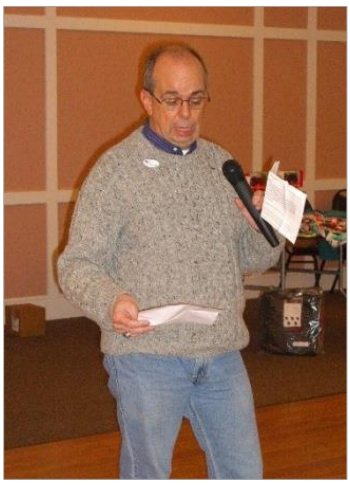
A little history: the 'Den' is a historic structure built by the Conservation Corps.

Stowe currently has 481 Acres of trails. Some woods are on State Forest land.

Some advice if you go into the woods: first of all, don't go alone! Program a number in your cell phone to call in an emergency. And be aware that there is no coverage in the back of the mountain

Santa greets attendees with Emily Barnaby and Robin Diamond

Bill Tarkulich



December 2013 Door Prize Winners

Bill Tarkulich	2 Smuggler's Notch tickets
Vince Mattock	2 Bromley tickets + 2 more Bromley tickets
Wayne Parker	thermal bottoms, hand warmers
Greg Ruklic	Christmas stocking, hand warmers
Gerry Welch	2 Smuggler's Notch tickets
Betty Ann Tyson	Christmas stocking, hand warmers, thermal top
Marty Stark	goggles, hand warmers
Marcia Ruklic	thermal top, hand warmers
Ilene Titus	2 Mad River tickets
John Campbell	5 pair hand warmers
Jack Coady	Christmas stocking, snow slider
Kelley Gage	5 pair hand warmers
Chris Gerber	goggles, hand warmers
Dana Blanchard	thermal top, hand warmers
Mary Stillson	5 pair hand warmers
Roscoe Diamond	2 Stowe tickets
Shelley Sage	5 pair hand warmers
Paul Bewersdorf	Boot bag
Andy Sage	Men's jacket
Mary Sue Ankner	Women's jacket
Andy Sage	Skis and bindings

Jack Coady with his snow slider and of course Santa

Mike Mullins, the Ruklics and Chris Gerber have big discussions

…Santa Santa Santa Santa Santa ….

Santa with Marcia Ruklic

Santa with John Campbell

Santa with Kelly Gage

Santa with Chris Gerber

Santa with Ilene Titus

BettvAnn Tvson with Santa

Santa with Robin Diamond

Santa with Vince Mattock

Mary Stillson with Santa

Bea Chaney with Santa

Member Stories

Skiing in Utah, January 7 – 14, 2014

by Mary Mattock

Travelers were ***Rob & Ilene Titus*** and ***Vince & Mary Mattock***

We left home very early **Tuesday** morning and got the flight to ***Salt Lake City***. It was a clear day and good flying weather. Once we landed we stopped for ski tickets, beer and wine. This was going to be a great vacation! We drove east to Park City; after getting settled in the condo, we got groceries and had dinner. Sleep came easy that night and we got a few flurries.

Our first stop **Wednesday** morning was ***Park City*** and there were no lift lines! The whole mountain was ours. We started at the Payday lift and worked our way over to King Con lift. It was snowing and windy. The trails were great and the view was fantastic. At lunch someone suggested we take the Bonanza lift over to the McConkey's Bowl. Somehow we ended up in the trees and in the woods. Making our way over obstacles and between the trees was fun. We found our way out to the lift. Before we knew it the day was almost over. We really enjoyed the hot tub that night.

On **Thursday** we headed out to ***Deer Valley***. Now this is the way to go skiing! They have people all over to help you carry your skis or help you find your way around this huge ski area. It was still snowing and a little windy. We picked out which house would be ours on the mountain's heated driveways, hot tubs and million dollar views. Skiing was wonderful. Legs were really feeling it at the end of the day. Then home to the condo and hot tub and dinner.

On **Friday** we headed to ***Homestead Crater*** to soak in the warm mineral springs. There is a 55 foot high calcite dome that is 10,000 years old. It was opened to the public in 1996; they constructed a 110 foot tunnel and installed changing rooms.

There is a 45 foot cathedral-like opening over the water, which is covered in the winter and open in the summer. The water temperature year round is 90 degrees. It is 65 feet deep and people can scuba dive here.

On **Saturday** the weather was clear enough make the trip through Little Cottonwood Canyon to ***Alta***. The base lodge is at 8,500'. This is a favorite local ski area. The sun was out, the air was clear and the groomed trails were perfect. There was plenty of powder if you wanted to find it. We arrived very early and you could hear the charges being set off on the mountain. Later, while skiing, you could see the black powder on the mountainside. The steeps here are really steep and the head walls were incredible!

This place rocks! Later after lunch the clouds rolled in and visibility was difficult. We needed to get out of the canyon before they closed the gates and you got locked in. Not a bad idea if you have nowhere to go!

On **Sunday** it was time for a massage. All the muscles were achy and the massage was worth every penny. Then we headed to the ***Utah Olympic Park***. The Olympics were held here in 2002 and the luge track, ski jump and museum were fun to see.

On **Monday** we went to the ***Canyons Resort***. This is a large area spread over several mountains. It was windy and we skied all over. It was our last ski day and we wanted to get in as much skiing as possible.

As we looked out to Park City across from our condo you could see the half pipe being made to get ready for the televised competition. We were leaving and people from all around the world were coming to town.

Also downtown Park city was getting ready for the ***Sundance Film Festival***. All the movie stars and paparazzi were going to be arriving the next day. It was time to get out of town.

The time flew by and before we knew it we had to pack up all the gear and head home. We had a wonderful time, saw some great ski areas and had lots of good food!

Early Season Trip to Sugarloaf

by Marcia Ruklic

Geg Ruklic and I skied at ***Sugarloaf, ME*** on Thursday and Friday December 19 and 20, taking advantage of a good early season deal being offered at the Boston Ski Show.

We stayed in the hotel with walk to the Super Quad. Breakfast was included, but since the hotel restaurant was closed, we had to walk over to the base lodge for breakfast. The hotel's large salt water hot tub felt good after day one!

These were good conditions for the first outing of the season. It snowed all day Friday, so we kept skiing even though our legs were screaming.

X-Country Skiing at Great Brook Farms

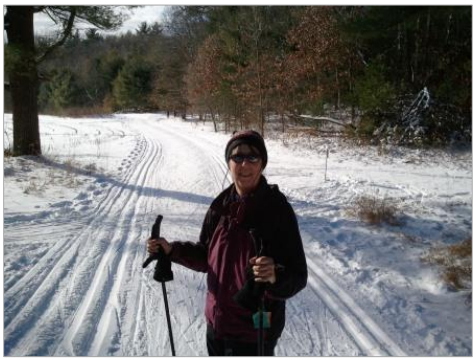
by Beatrice Chaney

It's been a good winter so far for local cross-country skiing - worth all the shoveling after each storm ☺

The ***Great Brook Ski Touring Center*** in Carlisle, MA (www.greatbrookski.com) has been open most of the time since December thanks to the recurring snowstorms, which replenished the snow cover just in time whenever it got too thin or rained off.

The staff at the center does a great job grooming and maintaining a scenic network of trails through woods, across fields and along frozen ponds in a winter wonderland. They also offer rentals and lessons; the parking lot is usually packed after a storm.

Even in lesser conditions and frigid weather, you can always see groups of high school students and others skating by at great speed in little skinny suits, training as part of Nordic Ski teams.



To get some fresh air and exercise and see some snow and trees, you can't beat a 10 minute drive and $55 season pass!

Members, I need your stories!

When you go on a trip, why not send me a picture or two with a few lines describing your adventure, and I'll publish them in the next newsletter!

Beatrice Chaney – Newsletter Editor
newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org

Membership Update

There is still time to renew your ACE Ski and Board membership. Anyone ***new to the Club*** joining after March 1 will be a member for the coming season. (Lapsed members - whether from current year or prior years - can't take advantage of this special offer.)

You may mail your completed forms and dues (checks, no cash) to:

Michèle Grenier
ACE Ski and Board Club
46 Kelly Road
Dracut, MA 01826

Or you can fill out the form on the ACE website and pay by PayPal.

You may also sign up or renew at every general meeting.

Membership forms are available at www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/ . If you mail me the form I will email you a confirmation that I received your membership application.

If you are a **PayPal** user, just send your payment to payments@aceskiandboardclub.org. To complete the membership process you will need to mail me your completed form or bring it to any general meeting.

New and renewing primary members will be automatically added to the club's "Members Only" Yahoo!Group unless they explicitly request not to be included. The "Members Only" Yahoo!Group will be used to disseminate club news and announcements.

What the 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

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 nonprofit 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)

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
- Member organized day trips to New Hampshire / Vermont
- Some shop discounts
- Timely information on coupons, special discount days and other deals
- Cross-country skiing outings
- Summer activities: cycling, hiking, camping trips
- Yahoo!Groups distribution lists; see details
- Optional EICSL membership
- Opportunities for family member racing
- Eligibility to win gear worth over $ 2,000 at general meetings

For details on winter trips, tickets, EICSL, racing, meetings and membership, see the club's website:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Members Only Yahoo!Group

Yahoo!Groups have changed their policy again. We will stay with Yahoo!Groups through this year at least, to disseminate club news and announcements.

However – Members **must acknowledge** their acceptance to be added to the club's "Members Only" Yahoo!Group by responding to an email sent to them when they are being added.

New and renewing members will automatically be sent an invitation to be added to the club's "Members Only" Yahoo!Group, unless they explicitly request not to be included.

It is necessary that you be on this "Members Only" list to hear about **benefits, newsletters** and late breaking **deals** that the club offers.

NOTE: Renewing members from last year may not receive an email depending on when they renewed. If you are a **primary** member (Full or Basic) and are **not** receiving any news or information from the club, please send mail to the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.

General Yahoo!Group

We will continue to use the club's **General Yahoo!Group** for open communication with each other; asking if others want to organize a last-minute ski trip, find some extra ski tickets, or pass on tickets that you cannot use and passing on other public information. At this point in time, the ***Yahoo!Groups Calendar*** will continue to be used to send out reminders about upcoming meetings and trips.

ALL Members are encouraged to subscribe to the General Yahoo!Group's distribution list. This is very easy; all you have to do is send email to: ACESkiandBoardClub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To join this group, go to: http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/AceSkiandBoardClub/ Click on ***"Join This Group!"*** and follow the instructions.

Go one step further and create a ***Yahoo! Profile.*** With a Yahoo! Profile you'll be able to post photographs of your latest ski trip and view other members' photographs and documents. You can also edit your membership preferences to get each individual email as it is sent out, or as a daily digest, or as web-only.

Both of the club's Yahoo!Groups are **private** and not listed in the respective groups directory. Membership to these Groups is restricted - all group members must be approved. As a Yahoo!Group member you can send out messages to the whole group. However - to avoid Spam - all messages are approved before they are released.

Updating your email address
Please let membership know ASAP if your email address changes from when you filled out your Membership form, so that you continue to receive the latest news and updates from the club.

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

General Yahoo Group Addresses

http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/AceSkiandBoardClub/
Post Message:
aceskiandboardclub@yahoogroups.com
Subscribe:
aceskiandboardclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
Unsubscribe:
aceskiandboardclub-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
List Owner:
aceskiandboardclub-owner@yahoogroups.com

Links and Forms

ACE Ski and Board Club Website:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org

The club's website has a ***members-only area*** for coupons, special discount days and deals. Look for a special members' e-mail, which will contain the username and password good for this membership year.

Membership:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/

Tickets:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/tickets/

Trips:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/trips/

Racing:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/racing/

Newsletters:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/newsletters/

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/aceskis

EICSL Update February 2014

The deadline for joining EICSL has passed for this ski season. You can read below about the benefits of joining for next year:

Haven't skied in the last couple of years? Last couple of decades? Never skied at all? What's your excuse? No money? No time? No skis? Whatever your reasons, we've got an answer.

The **Eastern Inter-Club Ski League** (EICSL), which began in 1950 as a small group of ski clubs, is an organization comprised of clubs with over 1,200 members. Don't let those numbers scare you. Each of the clubs has anywhere from 25 to 150 members and likes to keep things as intimate and family-like as possible.

Each individual club has its own elected board of directors and numerous committees to take care of the needs of its members. EICSL binds all clubs together. EICSL' s most important function, according to **John Bycina**, Past President (1998-2000) of EICSL, is *"to help clubs communicate and to obtain benefits for a large group such as a race program, social activities and discount tickets."*

Once a 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 people decide the night before where they'll be skiing and share rides the next morning.

Although ACE doesn't have a lodge, we have standing agreements with a few clubs if you are interested in staying at their house as a guest. Cost is very low (about $25/night), so don't expect the Marriott. For more information, contact **Chuck Riley.**

ACE/EICSL Racing 2013–2014

Gerry Welch, 2014 Race Chair

EICSL 2014 Race Schedule

1st Qualifier	Saturday	1/4/2014	Bretton Woods
2nd Qualifier	Saturday	1/25/2014	Black Mountain
3rd Qualifier	Saturday	2/8/2014	Bretton Woods
Championship	Saturday	3/1/2014	Wildcat Mountain (Championship)

EICSL Cross Country Racing

New this year is a pilot cross country race program that will be held each Sunday following the EICSL Race Schedule.

These events will be taking place at the ***Jackson Ski Touring*** facility. Anyone interested should contact their EICSL reps or see www.EICSL.org for more details.

Night Racing Leagues

Anyone needing information on the weekly night racing leagues should contact the following listed below:

Pat's Peak	Gerry Welch
Crotched Mt.	Robin Diamond
Wachusett Mt.	Mountain Race Dept. 978-464-2300

2014 Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge

Again we were supplied with the magnet race schedule for these races; feel free to get one at our club's general meeting.

Also see www.snocountry.com for more details on these fun free races.

Vertical Challenge Event Information

Race Registration Opens at 8:00 am
The Vertical Challenge Race starts at 11:00 am
Race Awards and Victory Party at 3:00 pm

(*All times subject to change. Please check registration on race day for updates.)

Save Time on Event Day - Pre-register Online!

Saturday, February 1, 2014 at Shawnee Peak, ME
Sunday, February 2, 2014 at Pats Peak, NH
Saturday, February 8, 2014 at Catamount, MA
Sunday, February 9, 2014 at Ski Ward, MA
Friday, February 14, 2014 at Cannon Mountain, NH
Saturday, February 15, 2014 at Mount Southington, CT
Sunday, February 16, 2014 at Nashoba Valley, MA
Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at Mount Sunapee, NH
Friday, February 21, 2014 at Whitetail Resort, PA
Saturday, February 22, 2014 at Liberty Mountain PA
Sunday, February 23, 2014 at Roundtop Mountain, PA

Saturday, March 1, 2014 at Camelback Mountain, PA
Sunday, March 2, 2014 at Jiminy Peak Mountain, MA
Saturday, March 8, 2014 at Killington Resort, VT
Sunday, March 9, 2014 at Pico Mountain, VT
Saturday, March 15, 2014 at Sugarbush Mountain, VT
Sunday, March 16, 2014 at Bromley Mountain, VT
Saturday, March 22, 2014 at King Pine Ski Area, NH
Saturday, March 29, 2014 at Okemo Mountain, VT - Finals

NASTAR Racing

Visit www.nastar.com for all the details on their mountain programs through-out the United State of America.

Maine

Mount Abram 207-875-5000
Friday 5-7 PM Sunday 1:00 - 3:00 PM
18.56 Boris Badenov

Shawnee Peak 207-647-8444
Wed/Thur night league
Public Sat/Sun 12:30 - 2:30
21.85 East Slope

Massachusetts

Wachusett Mountain 978-464-2300
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun & Holidays 11-1 PM
26.00 Challenger

New Hampshire

Bretton Woods 603-278-3320
Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun 10:00-3:00 PM
22.56 Bretton's Wood

Cranmore Mountain 603-356-5544
Wed, Sat & Sun & Holidays 10-3 PM
23.17 North Slope

Crotched Mountain 603-588-3668
Sat, Sun & Holidays 11-3 PM
23.00 Meteor

Granite Gorge Ski Area 603-358-5000
Main Street

Gunstock 800-486-7862
Sat, Sun & Holidays plus race leagues
23.63 Ramrod Race Trail

McIntyre Ski Area 603-622-6159
Tues 6:30-8:00pm League Races
17.72 Trail 2

Mount Sunapee 603-763-2356
Sat, Sun & Holidays 1:00 PM
21.22 Eggbeater

Pat's Peak 603-428-7653
Sat & Sun Holidays 11-3 PM
15.52 Downdraft

Waterville Valley 603-236-8311
Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun 12:00-2 PM plus holidays
19.35 Lower Utter Abandon

Vermont

Jay Peak 802-988-2611
Thurs. & Fri. 1:00 PM
15.25 Interstate

Okemo Mountain 802-228-4041
Fri, Sat, Sun & Holidays 10-2 PM
22.25 Bull Run

Sugarbush Resort 802-583-6818
Fri-Sun & Holidays 10:00-3:00 PM
23.25 Racer's Edge

US SKI TEAM Alpine Master Program
New England Masters Ski Racing 2014

Visit www.ussa.org
Click "Alpine" then click "Masters".

Visit www.nemasters.org

Final Words

I hope all of us have an enjoyable fun filled and healthy ski season with lots of great snow conditions and good time to go along with it.

Like always, Racer Ready...

Best of Luck,

Gerry Welch - Race Chair
41 Mathew Circle
Goffstown, NH 03045
978-387-2893
gjwelch@netzero.net

For the latest updates on the club's racing program, visit:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/racing/