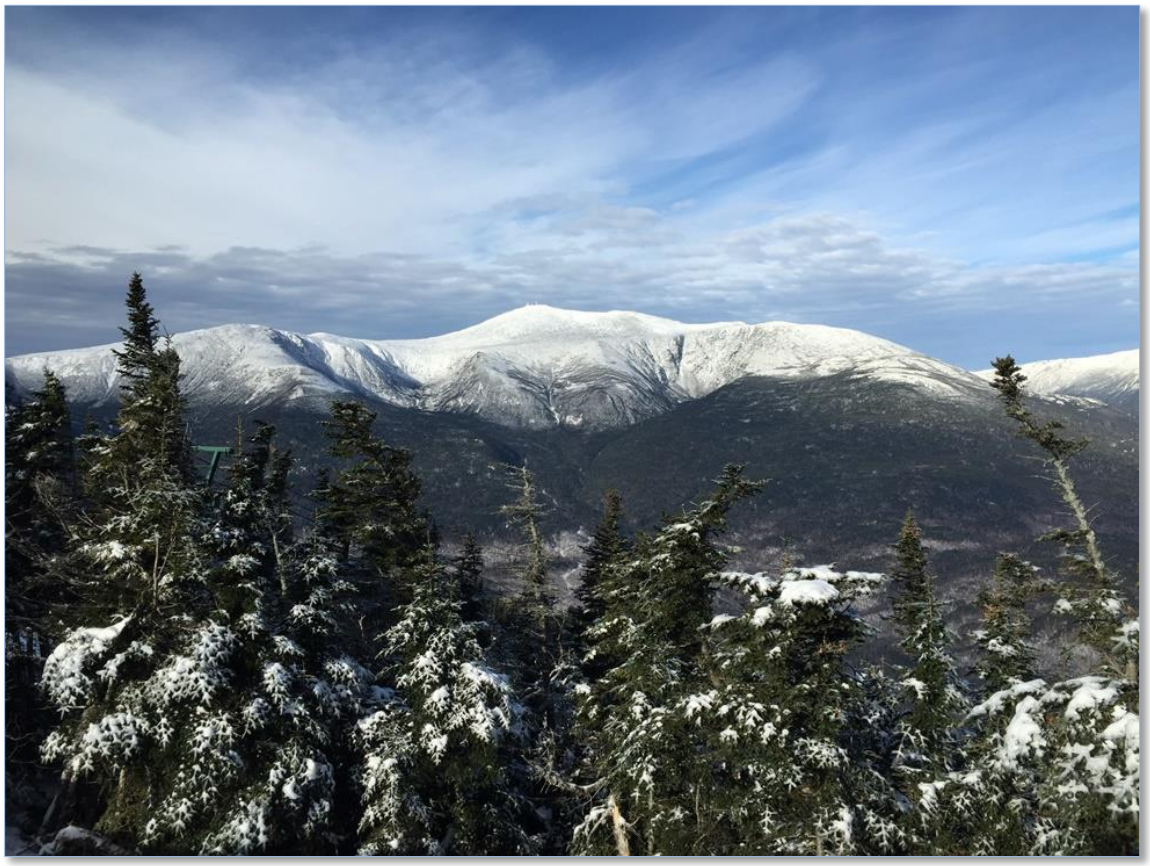
The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 25 Issue 3
December 2014

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting December 11

Bluebird day at Wildcat Mountain, by Bryan Woods



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

Meeting Highlights: Ed Berry from ***Stowe*** will be back to gives us an update about the mountain.

*For an **extra door prize ticke**t, bring food items for a pantry, for example: tuna, powdered milk, $5 grocery store gift card, rice, dry soup mixes, beans, canned goods, …*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2014–15

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 9	August 26	January 10
October 29	October 16	January 24
December 11	November 18	February 7
February 12	January 20	March 7

Meeting Location

The general meeting on December 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 ☺

***Ullr:** *Old Norse god Patron Saint of skiers*

ACE Club Executive Board

Jonathan Levy	President
Robin Temple Diamond	Vice-president and Race Chair
Betty Ann Tyson	Secretary
Dana Blanchard	Treasurer
Michèle Grenier	Membership Chair
Rob and Ilene Titus	Benefits Co-chairs
Chuck Riley	EICSL Representative
Bryan Woods	EICSL Representative
Ryan Conway	Webmaster
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

When was the last time we had a White Thanksgiving? The sacrifices to ***Ullr**** are working. (Someone must have burned a pair of old skis.)

Wildcat had a surprise early opening with free top-to-bottom skiing on Lynx. Mountains are opening left and right.

The EICSL Jay Peak trip is coming up fast. It's all happening, ahead of schedule.

The season is upon us!

A Hearty Welcome!

The Executive Board would like to extend a hearty welcome to **Bryan Woods**, who has joined the Board as our 2nd EICSL representative. This is the first time in many years that the EICSL committee is fully staffed to help with membership cards, social invitations, and to answer any questions about all that EICSL offers.

The Board still has openings for leadership in **Marketing**, **Snowboard**, and **Meetings**. See ***Jon Levy*** if you're interested.

Benefits Committee Update

Ticket Voucher Distribution

Ticket vouchers ordered in past sales will be distributed at the ***December 11, 2014*** General Meeting. Your order must be paid in full and you must be a paid 2014-2015 member to receive your ticket vouchers.

Ticket Voucher Sale

You may purchase ***additional tickets*** at the General Meeting. Order forms for Vermont Mountains will be available at that time. You must attend the meeting and be a paid 2014-2015 club member to purchase tickets in this sale. There are limited quantities of some Vermont Mountains and some have sold out. Remaining tickets will go on sale by email after the December 11 meeting.

Notices from Benefits

Other than those sales at General Meetings, all ticket sales will be announced by email with instructions on 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

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

Bring Food!

For an **extra chance at a door prize**, please bring items that can be donated to a food pantry, for example: tuna, powdered milk, $5 gift cards to grocery stores, rice, dry soup mixes, beans, canned food items …

Thanks for the Food

Thanks to all the members who brought food items to the last meeting. Your donations were distributed to the ***Nashua Soup Kitchen*** and to ***Loaves and Fishes*** in Devens, MA.

New ACE Fleece Jackets

Check out these brand new beautiful fleece jackets in a fashionable color with the ACE logo!

$ 25 each
Sizes S, M, L
Limited quantities

Recap of October's General Meeting

The meeting started about 6:45 pm with a stream of past, present and **new** members coming in from a rainy Fall evening.

People came out to this meeting to visit with friends, sign up for tickets and to hear our speaker **Ted Butler** from the ***Ken Jones Ski Shop***. Ted came down from Manchester, NH to give us a ***ski tuning demo***, a short "How To" on prepping your skis for a great day of skiing or racing.

Chuck Riley, ACE EICSL rep, gave us an update on EISCL benefits, the planned card distribution in December, and party invites.

Robin Diamond, EISCL Racing, gave an update to WMRL racing this season. The registration fee is $20.00, which will enable you to race in 4 races this coming season starting Saturday, January 7th. See race dates on the club's website under 'racing' or at www.EICSL.org/race.

Robin then introduced **Ted Butler**, of Manchester NH – just behind AutoFair Car Dealer of South Willow Street off Route 101.

Ted gave an easy to listen to ski tuning demo, where he explained the tools you would need, how waxing the ski works and most importantly, he answered the question "What does a stone grind really do to your bases?" Turns out it doesn't really sharpen your edges, it puts a texture in the base of your skis, which allows the skis to slide better. If you are going to race on your skis, and they have just had a stone grind, ski on them one or two days before the race, they only get better. Or use your brushes to smooth out those sharp ridges the grind puts in the bases. You will have a much better day and race.

A helpful hint – put 1, 2, 3 or more layers of wax on the skis. Put it on hot, but not smoking, keep the iron at a temperate heat (no smoke) and then scrape it off while still warm. Texturize with a metal/copper and bristle brush.

For a really good day on the slopes carry some "Toko" rub-on ski wax in your pocket to apply on the hill, or take a break at lunch and reapply at the lodge for fun afternoon skiing.

Ted had lots of helpful tuning suggestions and was kept busy after his presentation ended with many one-on-one questions.

Ted Butler demonstrates ski tuning

Costume Contest

We had three contenders for the costume contest this year. Thank you to those who came out in costume.

Ilene Titus – *Chef Boyardee* - she was serving up some Spaghetti O's.

Leta Markham – ***Downhill Mountain Biker*** with a Brain injury - the injury was busting out all over!!

Michèle Grenier – ***French Ski Instructor***. Michèle was our prize winner of two Pico lift tickets.

The meeting wrapped up with lift ticket purchases, socializing and more questions for Ted Butler regarding ski tuning.

Lots of interest and questions for Ted

A mountain sized **THANK YOU** goes out to **Ted Butler** for taking time out of his schedule to join us at the meeting. Thank you to **Ken Jones** of Manchester NH for the ***6 free stone grind*** tune-ups and ***two diamond stones*** they offered the club to add to the door prizes for the night.

Robin Diamond greeting members

Thank you to the board and our volunteers tonight for making this meeting happen:

Jon Levy – President, MC
Robin Diamond – VP and Racing (EICSL)
Chuck Riley – EICSL
Roscoe Diamond – Door greeter and charity wrap up
Michele Grenier – Membership
Ilene Titus and her Benefits team
Dana Blanchard – Treasurer
Betty Ann Tyson – Secretary
Bea Chaney – Newsletter – not in attendance.

Chuck Riley, Andy and Shelley Sage

Bill Tarkulich and Wayne Potter

Members listening attentively

Volunteers: Carlos Herpin – making notes of our door prize winners.

Thank you to **RJ Bradleys** for providing the door prizes for the evening.

October 2014 Door Prize Winners

Roscoe Diamond	2 Smuggler's Notch tickets
Leta Markham	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Roxann Arey	Ski socks
Matt Kontoff	2 Mad River Glen tickets
Wayne Potter	Goggles
Mary Mattock	2 Bromley tickets
John Campbell	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Cheryl Campbell	Diamond sharpening stone
Rob Titus	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Chris Gerber	2 Smuggler's Notch tickets
Kevin Kieley	Ski socks

Marty Stark	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Greg Ruklic	Thermal top
Jack Coady	Ski socks
Andy Sage	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Dan Villani	Diamond sharpening stone
Mary Stillson	Goggles
Janet Kennett	Stone grind, at Ken Jones
Mary Mattock	Thermal top
Betty Ann Tyson	Boot bag
Rose Villani	Ski jacket
Janet Kennett	Skis and bindings

All the lucky prize winners!

Member Stories

Wine, Cheese, Chicks & Skis

by Ilene Titus

On November 7, 2014, ***Wachusett Mountain*** held its annual Wine, Cheese, Chicks & Skis event. ACE Club members Mary Mattock, Betty Ann Tyson and Ilene Titus attended and met up with some old friends.

Betty Ann Tyson and Cindy Westling

The evening started with a selection of red and white table wines and a generous buffet of fine foods and desserts. A massage therapist was on hand and offered free 10 minute chair massages.

Ilene Titus and her daughters Kim and Kellie

Presentations included tips on staying warm (heated ski socks), the newest trends in skis for women, and exercises for getting in shape for the ski season.

Mary Mattock and Pam Beck

The cost was $10 with all proceeds going to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Great Early Season Skiing

by Bryan Woods

December 6, 2014 was another wonderful day of skiing. It rained in the valley, but ***Cannon***, ***Bretton Woods***, and ***Wildcat*** stayed all snow. This was day #10 of the season for me. Conditions at Wildcat were great top-to-bottom. They have made great progress since last year. Their new snowmaking system is head and shoulders above what they've had in the past. Two weeks ago, November 22, was a blue bird day at Wildcat. The views were amazing and conditions were buttery smooth.

Two fellow Makusues at top of Bethlehem Quad at Bretton Woods

The pick of the season thus far is Black Friday - hereby renamed 'White Friday', at Bretton Woods. The snow was boot deep all day long as the families stuck to the groomers. I skied until the last chair and only repeated a run twice. Half the mountain was open, including West Glade. It was the best day I've ever had in November, and I have the gouges to my bases to prove it!

First Snow in North Conway

by Michèle Grenier

First snow cover in North Conway

Members, send your stories to:
newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org
Beatrice Chaney – Newsletter Editor

Membership Update

Michèle Grenier, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Hello to all the new members and all renewed members!

If you have not joined to date you can download a basic membership form from the ACE website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/ and then send your completed form and dues (checks, no cash) to:

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

If you are a **PayPal** user, just send your payment to payments@aceskiandboardclub.org.

If you are paying by PayPal you will **still need to complete the membership process by sending your signed form to the above address**, or you may scan and email it to membership@aceskiandboardclub.org, or bring it in person to any general meeting.

I will email you a confirmation that I received your membership application. You may also sign up or renew your membership at every general meeting.

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

There is already snow in **Vermont, NH** and **Maine**!!!!! You can still sign up for the **Jay Peak trip** at the EICSL website; there are a few spots left!! This year will be great!

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 snowboarding

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 snowboarding 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

- Newsletter published four times a year
- Discount lift tickets
- Social meetings with presentations on aspects of skiing and boarding
- Active race program
- 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
- Google Groups and 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 Google Group

The club has moved the members-only email distribution list to **Google Groups** as a tool to disseminate club news and announcements. The members-only Yahoo!Groups was deleted at the end of September 2014.

New and renewing members are ***automatically added*** to the club's "Members Only" **Google Group**, unless they explicitly request not to be included. Members that have not renewed by Sept 30th will be marked as ***"NoEmail"*** until they have renewed their membership.

Family/Associate members will also be included automatically, assuming an email address was provided on their membership form.

If you are **not** receiving emails, please contact the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.

To **post** to this group, send email to aceskiandboardmembers@googlegroups.com

To **unsubscribe** from the Google Group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to aceskiandboardmembers+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

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

The club's Google Group is **private** and not listed in the Google Groups directory. Membership to this group is **restricted** - all group members must be approved and must be members of the ACE Ski and Board Club.

As a member of this group you can send out messages to the whole group – see email address above for posting. However - to avoid spam - all messages are approved by a **moderator** 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.

Old Yahoo!Groups

The **members-only Yahoo!Groups** is **gone/deleted**. You will not receive any club related email for this group!

The **general Yahoo!Groups** is still around for general discussions related to the club. This group, like the members-only Google Group, is also a moderated group. However, Yahoo!Groups requires that participants send an acknowledgment when they are being signed up.

Links and Forms

The club's website www.aceskiandboardclub.org no longer has a members-only area. Instead, look for news about coupons, special discount days and deals in your members-only email.

Membership:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/

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

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

Newsletters:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/newsletters/

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/aceskis

ACE/EICSL Update

Chuck Riley, ACE EICSL Chair

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.

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.

This year the **ACE Ski & Board Club** would like to invite **YOU**- to join EICSL as well. For just $10 per member in addition to your ACE Membership dues you can take advantage of all the discounts - but most important - the social atmosphere!

Join today! Email **Chuck Riley**, ***ACE Ski and Board EICSL Chair*** @ slohand53@gmail.com to inquire. Don't forget to put EICSL in the subject line.

All EICSL applications **were due by Oct 31, 2014**. There is a strict adherence to this policy and applications will not be accepted after this date.

I am hoping to get EICSL tickets at the next EICSL meeting and first batch of EICSL ID's.

EICSL Jay Peak Trips

5 days 12/16/14 - 12/21/14

3 days 12/18/14 - 12/21/14

Price is the same as last year. I will have that price and sign up info shortly. If anyone wishes to be a **coordinator** for the club please let me know.

EICSL Kick Off at Bretton Woods

There will be a **$25** ticket at ***Bretton Woods*** on 12/13/14. Cash only; must present EICSL ID.

Ski Show

EICSL had a booth at the ski show this year again in November.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2014–2015

Robin Temple Diamond, 2014-2015 Race Chair

Help us bring home the **GOLD** this year by racing with ACE and Polecats - one team.

To sign up, bring your **$20.00** check made out the ***ACE Ski and Board Club*** to the December 11th meeting.

Or send your completed registration forms with your $20.00 registration fee to **Robin Diamond** at 50 Hillside Ave, Derry NH 03038.

You can also scan your completed and signed registration forms and email them to robintdiamond@comcast.net and pay via **PayPal** on the ACE Ski Club website.

EICSL 2015 Race Schedule

4 Races - 3 Qualifiers and one Championship:

Two qualifiers finished gets you invited to the Championship Race in March.

1st Qualifier	1/10/2015	Bretton Woods
2nd Qualifier	1/24/2015	Cranmore
3rd Qualifier	2/07/2015	Wildcat
Championship	3/07/2015	Black

Race Program Information and Forms

ALL race registrations and discounted ticket sales will be from **8:00 am through 9:30** am ONLY.

All ticket sales are CASH ONLY. All members should be prepared to show their EICSL ID and guests need a guest pass for discount tickets. If you arrive after registration there will be no discount. Registered racers should go to the top of the course for your bib. No on-hill late new racer or guest racer signups.

Any EICSL member or club guest who hasn't raced in 2 years or more may run one race FREE on a trial basis. If you wish to sign up following that race you must contact your club race chair or come to the jury meeting following the race. For more info contact your club race chair or email EICSL.