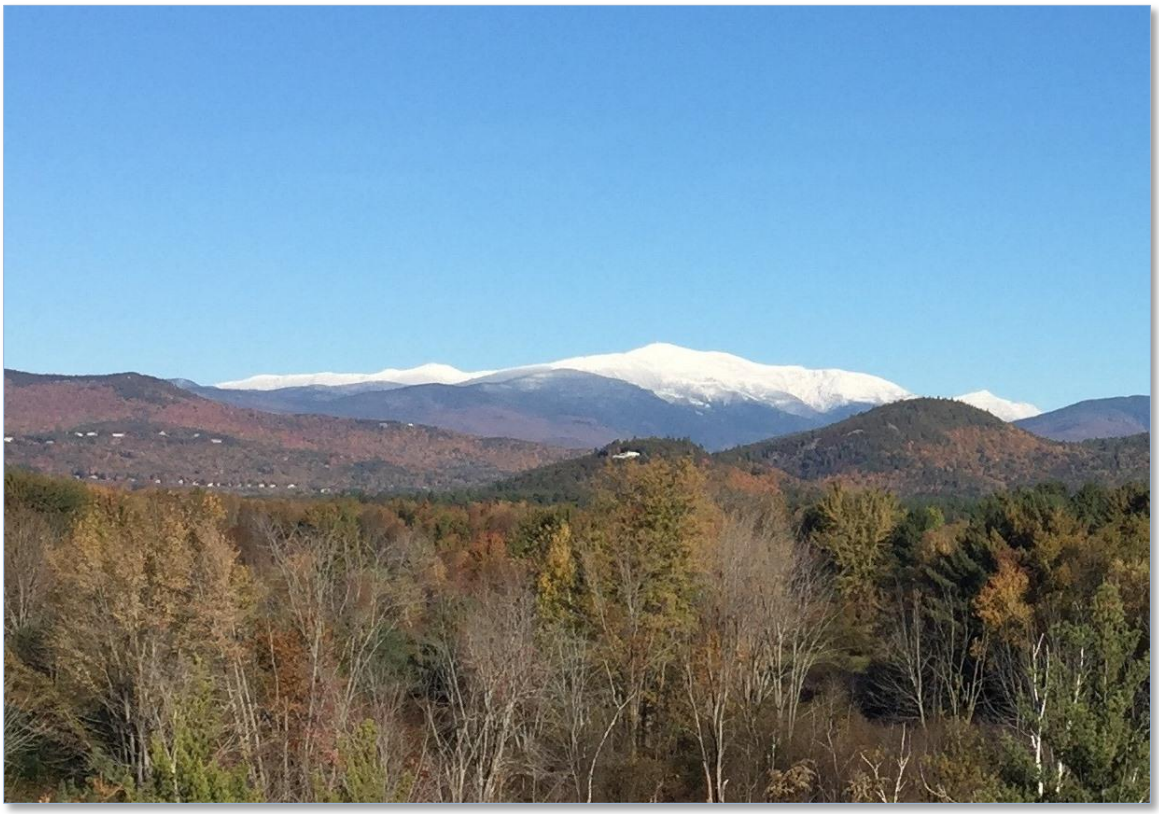
The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 26 Issue 2
October 2015

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting October 29

First snow on Mt Washington, by Bryan Woods



Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **October 29** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: The featured speaker of the evening is **Shannon Thomas.** She will talk about her trip to ***Chile*** with her racing team.

*For an **extra door prize ticket**, bring ~ $5 of food items for a pantry, for example: tuna, powdered milk, $5 grocery store gift card, rice, dry soup mixes, cans …*

*Also, **best costume** wins a pair of lift tickets to Mt Snow!*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2015–16

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 15	September 1	January 9
October 29	October 15	January 23
December 8	November 17	February 6
February 9	January 26	March 5

Meeting Location

The general meeting on October 29 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 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 Co-chair
Bryan Woods	EICSL Co-chair
Ryan Conway	Webmaster
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

The days are getting shorter; we've already had our first hard frost. ***The Farmers Almanac*** predicts a snowy winter (yet again). ***El Niño*** will be a factor. It's already snowed on the summit of ***Mt. Washington***; even ***Sunday River*** has opened.

The ***Boston Ski & Snow Expo*** is scheduled for November 12th through the 15th; there are plenty of discount admission deals out there.

Is your gear sharpened and waxed? Are you looking for new boards? New boots? A new shell? Winter is coming. Are you ready?

ACE Fleece Jackets

Fleece jackets in attractive colors with the ACE logo will again be for sale at the next meeting.
All sizes available.

$25 each, check them out!
No cash please.

Benefits Committee Update

Bring your checkbook to the General Meeting on October 29th to purchase tickets and/or pay any balance due from your summer 50% sale order.

Summer Sale Balance Due: In July and August, the Club through Benefits conducted a mail sale of Vermont Tickets. A deposit of at least 50% of the total price was due at the time of the sale. ***The balance is due by October 31, 2015*** by check or money order made out to Ace Ski and Board Club. Payment may be brought to the General Meeting on October 29th 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 also view a laptop PDF of your order form at a General Meeting.

Vermont Tickets: You may purchase additional tickets at the General Meeting on **October 29, 2015**. Order forms for Vermont Tickets, will be available at that time. You must attend the meeting to purchase tickets in this sale. Some Vermont Mountains are sold out and there are limited quantities of other 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. After the October 29 meeting, there will be an email ticket sale on a first come, first serve basis with confirmation by return email. Remaining tickets will go on sale at the December 2015 meeting.

Cannon and Bretton Woods: Currently, there is an email sale of ***Cannon*** and ***Bretton Woods***. Tickets for those mountains will be on sale at the October 29 meeting. There is no limit on the amount of tickets which you may purchase. Bretton Woods may sell out before or at the meeting.

New Hampshire/Maine Mountains: You may access other New Hampshire and Maine discounts by joining **EICSL** for an additional $10 added to your ACE Club membership. See ***Michèle Grenier,*** our Membership Chair, and ***Chuck Riley*** or ***Bryan Woods,*** our EICSL Representatives, for further information.

Notices from Benefits: Other than those sales at General Meetings, 2015-2016 tickets sales will be announced by email (ACE Members-Only Google Group) 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, ***Michèle Grenier***.

Wachusett Mountain GPS Club: Benefits is participating in the Wachusett Mountain GPS "Greatest Possible Savings!" club. To sign up for a Wachusett Mountain GPS Club Pass:

Go to www.wachusett.com Click on Group Sales - In the drop down menu - click on GPS Club - 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***. Prices for passes increase $100 after November 18, 2015. Check out the link ***"Perks our PassHolders Receive"***.

One does not have to be an ACE Ski and Board Club member to join our GPS group.

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**, bring ~ $5 worth of food items for a pantry, for example: tuna, powdered milk, $5 grocery store gift card, rice, dry soup mixes, cans …Your donations will go to the ***Food Banks of Massachusetts.***

Thanks for the School Supplies

School supplies donated at the September 2015 meeting were delivered to ***Friendly House*** in ***Worcester, Massachusetts***. Friendly House's focus is assisting families and individuals with basic needs such as emergency food, housing, immigration assistance, information and referral.

Friendly House offers affordable after school, vacation and summer programming. Friendly House also operates a homeless family shelter and transitional housing programs off-site. The staff at ***Friendly House*** were thankful to receive our much needed donations.

Best Costume Wins a Prize

Come in costume if you are so inspired! Best costume will win a pair of free ski tickets to ***Mt Snow.***

Recap of September's General Meeting

Jon Levy welcomed a good turnout of ACE members to the first meeting of the season, and started right away with distributing some door prizes.

Robin Diamond gave a slide presentation of the club's planned trip to the ***Eastern Townships of Quebec.*** Trip participants will be staying at a very nice place, the ***Manoir des Sables***, and can ski or board at several mountains within a 30 minute drive from the hotel, including ***Sutton***, ***Owl's Head***, ***Orford*** and ***Bromont***. There is also a National Park close by with trails around a lake and through the woods, suitable for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing. And, the town of Magog is not far for shopping! The trip is open to all ACE or EICSL members. The deadline for signing up is the December general meeting.

Rob Titus gave an update on the activities of the Benefits chairs. The purchase of tickets to New Hampshire mountains is being finalized and tickets should be available soon. As in previous years, the Benefits chairs are participating in the Wachusett Mountain's GPS club. Anyone, even non-ACE members, can purchase a pass by joining our GPS group. Rob put out a call for a volunteer to act as a 'discount scout', a role formerly held by ***Bill Tarkulich***. Currently the club's board members do not have the bandwidth to be on the lookout for deals and discounts.

Michèle Grenier talked about the exciting trip to ***Steamboat, Colorado***, planned for later in the season. A number of members have already been there. Michèle herself, who visited the place 6 years ago, can't wait to go back! Participants will be staying at the Phoenix condos, the nicest on the mountain, with ski-in ski-out option, although some will opt to take the shuttle bus to the gondola. Condos are on 3 floors, with all the amenities like laundry, WiFi. We will fly in to Hayden (not Denver). A 5-day pass is included, or a 7 day pass is available. The dates are February 24 to March 3, from Wednesday to Wednesday. The deadline for signing up is the October general meeting.

Bryan Woods gave an update on EICSL. The kickoff weekend is currently scheduled at ***Bretton Woods***, ***on 12/12***. Race clinics will be offered Fridays before each race, run by outside ski instructors from the Burke Mountain Academy. Cost is $350 for 5 weeks. See details on the Wildcat website.

EICSL is again running a ***Jay Peak*** trip in December, for 3 or 5 days.

EICSL is also planning a trip to ***Winter Park, CO*** on February 20-27. Capacity is 40 people. Cost is $1,250, including flights on Southwest, transfers and 5 out of 6 days lift tickets. We will stay at a hotel.

Robin Diamond, the club's Race Chair, encouraged members to sign up for racing, whether they have never raced before, or are hard-core racers! ***Emily Barnaby*** has joined Robin as a race assistant for this season. Cost is $25 to sign up, plus approximately $40-45 for tickets. Races take place in the morning from about 10-11:30, then you have the rest of the day to ski. The ***Wheelers*** and ***Wedelns*** have an informal agreement to host ACE members as guests. See contact information.

Robin also mentioned that the upcoming ***Ski Show, November 12-15***, will have $19 tickets for Bretton Woods, valid until Christmas.

September 2015 Door Prize Winners

Mike Dunn	2 Bromley tickets, socks
Greg Ruklic	Socks
Betty Ann Tyson	Ski club fleece
Marty Stark	2 Burke tickets
Ilene Titus	2 Magic tickets
Bryan Woods	Socks
Marcia Ruklic	Goggles
Roxanne Arey	2 Pico tickets
Vince Mattock	Socks
Ron O'Clair	Poles
Chris Cole	Poles
Shelley Sage	Boot carrier
Betty Ann Tyson	Ski jacket
Leta Markham	Skis

Leta with the grand prize!

Nice jacket, Betty Ann!

Chris Cole with his new poles

Shelley likes her boot bag

Warm socks for Bryan

Ron got poles too

Marcia will see clearly with these goggles

Winter Trips

For the most up-to-date information on the club's winter trips, or to sign up, visit the club's website www.aceskiandboardclub.org/.

Steamboat Springs, CO

by Michele Grenier

February 24 – March 2, 2016

$1,649 p/p 4 per 2 bed, 2 bath Condo

Grab your Cowboy and Cowgirl Hats!

By the end of February you're eating lunch outside, skiing in light gloves in the best snow ever!

We've picked ski-in ski-out 2 bedroom condos. You can walk to town or take a shuttle. WiFi, hot tubs, cable TV, laundry in condos. Land close to Steamboat.

Price includes flight, transfers, condo and ski tickets.

- Round trip air Boston to Hayden via United Airlines
- Seven (7) night accommodations at the Phoenix condos
- Five (5) out of seven (7) day ski pass to Steamboat
- Round trip airport / hotel transfers
- Baggage handling
- Welcome Reception
- All current taxes

Signup sheets at general meeting 10/29/15.

Mountain Range

Steamboat is actually a complete mountain range: Mount Werner, Sunshine Peak, Storm Peak, Thunderhead Peak, Pioneer Ridge, and Christie Peak. 2,965 acres (1200 hectares) of permitted terrain offer a diversity of trails for all levels of ability. Gladed areas of Pioneer Ridge, Sunshine and Storm Peak are Steamboat's particular claim to fame, with legendary Champagne Powder® snow in the trees for the most avid powder hounds.

Elevations

- Base Elevation: 6,900 feet/2103 meters
- Christie Peak Elevation: 8,020 feet/2444 meters
- Mid-Mountain Elevation: 9,080 feet/2768 meters
- Summit/Mt. Werner Elevation: 10,568 feet/3224 meters
- Vertical Rise: 3,668 feet/1118 meters

Trail System

- Permitted Acres: 2,965 acres/1,200 hectares
- Trails: 165 named trails
- Trail Classification: 14% Beginner 42% Intermediate 44% Advanced
- Longest Run: Why Not – over 3 miles/4.8km

Snow

- Annual Snowfall: 349"/886cm
- Snowmaking: 375 acres/152 hectares

Terrain Parks

Mavericks Superpipe is a freerider's dream. Mavericks is 450 feet long, 56-feet wide and has 18-foot walls, and a 22-foot transition. Steamboat's terrain park adjacent to Mavericks features an outdoor sound system, a variety of rails-kinked, sliders, rainbows, "s" mailboxes, double barrel, and Mini-Mav, a miniature version of the superpipe with eight-foot walls, perfect for novice riders. Click here for more Terrain Park information

Eastern Townships, Quebec

by Robin Diamond

February 26 - 28, 2016

$215 p/p double occupancy

Remember to bring your passport!

Manoir des Sables Hotel, Orford, QC Canada
www.hotelsvillegia.com/en/manoir-des-sables/

Lift tickets are not included – figure on $175 or less for three days of skiing.

Drive yourself – drive is about 4 hours from Boston. Rt 93 to 91 to border, then Rt 5 in Canada. ***Magog*** is 30 minutes from the border.

Eastern Townships – Continued …

Included in trip cost:

- Two nights lodging at ***Manoir des Sables***
- Two full breakfasts – buffet
- Dinner Saturday night – **Group Dinner: a 3 course dinner at the hotel is included in cost of trip.**

Local Ski Areas

- ***Owl's Head*** - Celebrating their 50th Anniversary
- ***Mont Sutton*** - Glades for everyone. Quiet and "Old New England" skiing. Something for all abilities.
- ***Orford*** - Steep and Deep, moguls and glades. Great food and lodge atmosphere. Old time ski area.
- ***Bromont*** - Night skiing – the best in the EAST – 360 degree lighting. All trails.
- If you are not up for skiing, there is shopping, sightseeing, wineries, National Forest Cross country skiing, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, skating and more.

Payment Schedule:

A. In full by mail or at any Fall Ski Club meeting.

B. 1st payment by October 31st, 2015 - $100.00
2nd payment by December 1st, 2015 - $115.00

No refunds after January 20th, 2016 unless you find a replacement.

Make checks out to ***Ace Ski and Board Club***, with a note "Eastern Townships".

For additional information or questions, contact Robin Diamond at robintdiamond@comcast.net.

EICSL - West Trip to Winter Park

2/20-2/27/15 - Registration Now Open!

$1250 Includes air via ***SouthWest***, airport transfers from and to DIA, lodging at ***Vintage Hotel*** with upgraded room with kitchenette based on double occupancy. (Please arrange a roommate), 5 days lift tickets with ***First Tracks/Lessons***. Deduct $450 for No Air. Deduct $280 for No Lift Tickets. Mail your $100 nonrefundable deposit to ***Mark Paquin***, EICSL Treasurer, 10 Oak Street, Braintree, MA 02184.

Go to www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html for the registration form and payment schedule (to be posted soon)

EICSL - Jay Peak Trip 2015

3.5 day trip: 12/17-12/20/2015
5.5 day trip: 12/15-12/20/2015

Registration opens soon!

Member Profiles

by Betty Ann Tyson

Profiles of one or more selected club members are now a regular feature of the ACE Newsletter.

Linda and Ron O'Clair

Linda and Ron O'Clair from Manchester, NH, have been club members for over 20 years, dating back to when the club was the Digital ski club. They are avid skiers and usually spend a week or two skiing out west. For over 30 years Ron has run a Sugarloaf trip, sometimes for a hundred people. The first trip cost $99 with tickets! They've skied at 60 ski areas, even in Chile, and record their trips with pins on a map.

Linda, retired this year, was a computer programmer at a financial company. Ron now works for Oracle managing transportation and warehousing of spare parts. Oracle went into the hardware business when it bought Sun Microsystems.

Along with skiing they enjoy RV travel, hiking, and boating. Linda crews on a 42-foot sailboat moored in Beverly.

Ron won't be skiing this year as he faces a third surgery for a broken heel. The break was not from a ski injury but resulted from a fall while he was attempting to clear snow off a roof. Better to stay on the slopes!

Member Stories

Girls' Hiking Weekend

by Michèle Grenier

This fall, October 2–4, 2015, we had a girls' hiking weekend; we cooked together and had a great time.

We stayed at the ***Ski Wheelers*** and hiked a trail above ***Bretton Woods*** that everyone enjoyed.

We then stopped at the ***Washington Mountain Hotel*** for a drink and back to the club for a nice home cooked meal.

It is an annual hiking weekend for the Ski Wheelers girls and this year ACE Ski & Board members joined as well. It is every year the first weekend in October.

If you would like to join us email Michèle at mgski@verizon.net to get put on the list for next year.

Michèle Grenier, Susan Orsato, Pam White, Cindy Westling, Ilene Titus and Kim Hayward

It was a great hiking day, great company and great weather!

First Skiing of the Season

by Bryan Woods

The scenic overlook photo was taken Monday, October 19 from the Vista outlook in ***North Conway***. You can see the snowcapped ***Presidential Range*** at the end of the ***Mount Washington Valle***y.

After taking that photo I drove through Pinkham Notch on my way to Sunday River. The White Mountains live up to their name and made a beautiful backdrop against the foliage. The leaves were largely gone in the notch, and ***Wildcat*** was blowing snow on Upper and Middle Lynx.

I skied at ***Sunday River*** on Monday, October 19. Coverage was excellent on ***T2***. ***Upper and Lower Sunday Punch*** had decent cover so long as you watched out for the water bars. Things were definitely thin at the bottom, but you can't complain. They were open top-to-bottom in mid-October.

I've decided that ***'snowliage'*** season may be my favorite.

Membership Update

Michèle Grenier, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Dear Members,

Now it is time to sign up or renew your ACE Ski and Board membership!

You can download membership forms 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. Please be sure to include a new email, address or phone number.

New and renewing primary members will be automatically added to the club's "Members Only" 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.

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 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

Google Groups

Members-only Google Group

New and renewing members are ***automatically added*** to the club's "Members Only" **Google Group**, unless they explicitly request not to be included.

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 **general Yahoo!Groups** is still around for general discussions related to the club. It may include current members as well as past members who still hold an interest in the club. However, it does not necessarily include all current club members, since signing up for it is optional. This group, like the members-only Google Group, is also a moderated group. 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

EICSL:

www.eicsl.org

ACE/EICSL Update

Chuck Riley, Bryan Woods
ACE EICSL Representatives

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.

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

For more information about EICSL, go to www.eicsl.org.

EICSL Applications

All EICSL applications for the current season **are due by Oct 31, 2015**. There is a strict adherence to this policy and applications will no longer be accepted for the current season after this date.

EICSL Social Events

If you are still holding any **blue invites** for EICSL socials, they are no longer valid. New **sand colored** invites are required for EICSL social events.

EICSL Lift Tickets

Bryan Woods expects to have an update by the October meeting.

EICSL Trips

Check out EICSL's trips to **Jay Peak** and **Winter park** this season!

Latest info at www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2015–2016

Robin Temple Diamond, Race Chair

Stay tuned for details about the 2015-2016 racing season at the upcoming general meeting, or go to www.eicsl.org/race.html for the latest update.