The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 26 Issue 3
December 2015

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting December 8

We have fun at the ACE Ski & Board Club! Photo by Robin Diamond

Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **December 8** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: The speaker of the evening is **Michael Bouchard**, CEO of ***Tenney Mountain***. And who knows, maybe ***Santa*** will show up?

*For an **extra door prize ticket**, bring a $5 Supermarket gift card or $5 worth of non-perishable food items for a pantry, for example: seasonal items like stuffing mix, turkey or chicken gravy or broth, cranberry sauce, or staples like soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, …*

Newsletter Highlights

Club News/Club Officers 2
Benefits Committee Update 3
Recap of October Meeting 4
Winter Trips 6
Member Profiles 7
Member Stories 8
Membership Information 9
Google and Yahoo Groups 10
Links and Forms 10
ACE/EICSL News 11
Recreational Racing 11

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 23	February 6
February 9	January 26	March 5

Meeting Location

The general meeting on December 8 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 Co-chair
Emily Barnaby	Race Co-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

November was mostly warm, but temperatures seem to be settling into their normal range. Snow guns are blowing. ***Sunday River*** and ***Killington*** had surprise early openings. Other mountains are opening left and right. The EICSL ***Jay Peak*** trip is coming up fast.

It's all happening, right on schedule. The season is upon us!

Welcome **Emily Barnaby** as new race co-chair! Emily is also attending the EICSL race meetings and is serving as assistant race chair for EICSL.

Benefits Committee Update

Bring your Checkbook to the General Meeting on December 8th to Purchase Tickets.

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 was due by ***October 31, 2015***. Tickets will be ***distributed only if the balance is paid in full***.

Vermont Tickets: You may purchase additional tickets at the General Meeting on ***December 8th***. 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 tickets maximum with no more than 2 tickets from any one mountain. After the December 8th meeting, there will be an email ticket sale on a first come, first serve basis with confirmation by return email.

Bretton Woods: There is a very limited number of ***Bretton Woods*** ticket vouchers remaining. They will be available at the December 8th meeting.

Notices from Benefits: Other than those sales at General Meetings, 2015-2016 tickets sales will be announced by email (ACE 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***.

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

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.

Thanks for the Food

Thanks to all who brought food items to the October meeting. You donations were delivered to the ***Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry,*** which serves the residents of ***Ayer, Devens, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley.***

Bring Food!

For an **extra chance at a door prize**, bring ~ $5 worth of food items or a $5 Supermarket Gift Card to the December meeting. Your donations will again go to the ***Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry*** in Ayer, MA**.**

At this time of the year, they have a particular need for seasonal items like: Stuffing Mix, Turkey or Chicken Gravy, Coffee/Tea/Cocoa, Holiday Snacks (Fancy crackers, nuts, candy), Olives and Pickles, Turkey or Chicken Broth, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Yams…

Staples always in demand include: Breakfast Cereal, Hearty Soups, Pasta -Ziti/Rotini/Shells/Rigatoni, Beans - Baked & Refried, Boxed Rice/Rice-a-Roni, Helpers and Sides, Canned Pasta/Canned Chili, Tomato Paste/Whole Tomatoes, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Vegetables, Cake, Muffin and Cookie Mixes…

Thanks again for the School Supplies!

The club received a nice thank you letter from the ***Friendly House*** in ***Worcester, Massachusetts*** for our donations of school supplies last September:

… I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your most generous donation of backpacks and school supplies which you made to the Friendly House, Inc/Set for Success Program.

Your donation allowed us to supply many children in Worcester whose parents could not afford to do so with much needed school supplies. Because of your assistance, these children had the tools they needed to start the school year off right…

Recap of October's General Meeting

The October meeting was well attended, and a number of people displayed their creativity by coming in costumes ranging from Pumpkins to Dracula to reminiscences of the Sixties ...

Bill Tarkulich and Jon Levy

Jon Levy kicked off the meeting as usual by handing out door prizes, followed by **Bryan Woods** with an update on EICSL: The season kickoff is still December 12 at Bretton Woods; the full social calendar starts in January. He pointed out that this meeting was the last chance for members to join EICSL this year, as applications close at the end of October.

Robin Diamond announced that **Emily Barnaby** is joining her as ACE race co-chair. Emily encouraged ACE members of all abilities to join the ACE racing team. She described the experience as somewhat competitive, but a lot of fun. There are 4 races starting in January. You must be an EICSL member to race and you must sign up by December 15.

Ilene Titus talked about Benefits and ordering ***Cannon*** tickets. She announced that she had a few $2 vouchers left for ***Bretton Woods***, which proved very popular and later quickly sold out. She promised to order another batch if there was enough demand.

John Young, director of group sales at ***Crotched Mountain***, gave a lively presentation. He invited ACE members to come to Crotched, and get the corporate rate of $43. The mountain has 100% snow making and 100% lighting! Not a lot of beginner areas. Since December 2003 Crotched features the only ***high speed quad*** chair in Southern New Hampshire. It's a fast chair, 6-7 minutes - there is never a lift line. Crotched is part of ***Peak Resorts***, which also include Wildcat and Attitash.

You can buy tickets online, and get 50% off on week days with a Vertical Value card. You owe it to yourself to come check out the conditions! Crotched's snowmaking is second to none, and driving there takes exactly 46 minutes from the Elks Lodge. You get more for your money by getting an afternoon/evening ticket. On weekends, it is $43 from 9-5 or 1-9, $33 after 5 pm. Weekday tickets from 6-9 are $30.

John wants to see ACE Club Members participate in the racing program. Other clubs come too! Races are Wednesday and Thursday night. Robin is a member. Teams need a minimum of 5 members and can have a maximum of 8.

Mary and Vince Mattock

Robin Diamond gave an update on the ***Eastern Townships*** trip, and **Michèle Grenier** gave the latest status of the ***Steamboat*** trip.

Unfortunately, the scheduled speaker was unable to make it due to unforeseen circumstances.

October 2015 Door Prize Winners

Duane Delfosse	2 Burke tickets
Emily Barnaby	Socks (2)
Bill Tarkulich	Gloves
Linda O'Clair	Goggles
Dana Blanchard	Base layer
Michèle Grenier	2 Bromley tickets, gloves
Andy Sage	Base layer
Carol Bonner	2 Crotchet tickets
Betty Ann Tyson	Goggles
Jeffrey Tobin	Composite poles
Marcia Ruklic	Boot bag
Ryan Conway	Burton jacket
Skis	Ron O'Clair
Bill Tarkulich - Best costume!	2 Mt Snow tickets

Bill Tarkulich won best costume!

Nice jacket, Ryan!

Ron O'Clair won the grand prize!

Leta Markham as 'Spring Skiing'

Janet Kennett as Dracula

Carol won Crotched tickets

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 Michèle 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

2/20-2/27/16

$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.

EICSL - Jay Peak Trip 2015

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

Details at www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html.

Member Profiles

by Betty Ann Tyson

Dana Blanchard

Dana, a long-time ACE member, has served as our treasurer for over 10 years. The annual budget is over $50,000 a year. He oversees income and expenses and prepares and tracks the budget proposed. A major outlay of cash goes toward purchasing $20,000 of tickets, which must be bought before our Benefits committee receives the money from those buying tickets. He also files federal taxes for the club, which is required as a nonprofit organization.

Dana grew up in Rowley, MA and now lives in Townsend. His four children have been skiing since they were four years old. Two live in California where they now snowboard, and two are on the East Coast. Dana's wife has a quilt shop in Townsend, and Dana helps her with the business.

Dana started skiing when he was six years old, taught by his dad who was a member of the 10th Mountain Division and later a ski instructor. Dana now skis at Mount Wachusett and in the White Mountains. Besides skiing Dana enjoys hiking and mountain biking.

Dana was a Digital employee, like many of our club members, and now works at IMA North America, a company that makes machines to put pills into bottles. As IT manager, he supports 125 people.

Member Stories

Wine, Cheese, Chicks & Skis

by Ilene Titus

On November 13, 2015, Wachusett Mountain held its annual Wine, Cheese, Chicks & Skis event. ACE Club members ***Michèle Grenier, Mary Mattock***, and ***Ilene Titus*** attended and met up with some new as well as old friends.

Ilene Titus and Mary Mattock

The evening started with a selection of red and white table wines and a buffet of fine foods. Presentations included tips on staying warm, and the newest trends in skis and boots for women. The cost was $10 with all proceeds going to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

EICSL Ladies including Michèle Grenier and Ilene Titus

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

Dear Members,

Winter is around the corner!

Now it is time to sign up or renew your ACE Ski & Board membership. You may still 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 and send membership forms and EICSL release forms to the above address. I will email you a confirmation that I received your membership application.

You may also sign up or renew at every general meeting. If your address or email has changed, please note that it is a change on your form.

Let it Snow!!!!!!!!

Michèle Grenier, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

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

New and renewing 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 boarding
- 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 **were due by Oct 31, 2015**. There is a strict adherence to this policy and applications are no longer accepted for the current season.

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

Orders are now closed. **Bryan Woods** expects to pick up the tickets in North Conway.

EICSL Appreciation Days at Attitash

Attitash has setup 3 days of appreciation for us on Thursday December 31st, Friday January 1st and Saturday January 2nd .

Show your EICSL id and photo id at the window and get a left ticket for $49.

EICSL Trips

Check out EICSL's trips to **Jay Peak** and **Winter Park** this season! Get the latest info at www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2015–2016

Robin Temple Diamond & Emily Barnaby
Race Co-Chairs

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.