The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 26 Issue 4
February 2016

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting February 9

Cider House at Wachusett Mountain, by Beatrice Chaney

Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **February 9** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: The Club will show videos from ***Ski The East*** (www.skitheeast.net) a producer of videos dedicated to Eastern mountains.

*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 canned soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, beans, …*

Newsletter Highlights

Club News/Club Officers 2
Benefits Committee Update 3
Recap of December Meeting 4
Winter Trips 7
Member Profiles 8
Member Stories 9
Membership Information 10
Google and Yahoo Groups 11
Links and Forms 11
ACE/EICSL News 12
Recreational Racing 12

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 February 9 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

Well***, El Niño*** has certainly affected the snowfall this winter. The West has been getting pounded, and we're getting the scraps, a virtual reversal of last year. For example, in one storm, Mount Hood in Oregon got 54 inches; last year, they didn't get 54 inches all season!

Here in the East, very few mountains are fully open, and it's February. As the saying goes, "The weather is the weather."

Take advantage of any snow we do get here in New England, or at least hope for temps cold enough to make snow.

Enjoy the rest of your season!

Benefits Committee Update

Bring your Checkbook to the General Meeting on February 9th to Purchase Tickets.

Vermont Tickets: You may purchase additional tickets on February 9th at the General Meeting. 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.

Bretton Woods: A limited number of Bretton Woods ticket vouchers remain. They will be available at the February 9th meeting.

Notices from Benefits Other than those sales at General Meetings, tickets sales are 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

Thanks for the Food

Thanks to all who brought food items to the December 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 February meeting. Your donations will again go to the ***Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry*** in Ayer, MA**.**

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…

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.

Recap of December's General Meeting

The December meeting was well attended, with Santa hats and table decorations providing a festive mood.

Jon Levy opened the meeting by announcing that membership numbers were up this season. He noted that the EICSL trip to ***Winter Park*** now had a waiting list, and that the December ***Jay Peak*** trip was closed.

Jon Levy and Bill Tarkulich

Bill Tarkulich and Jon showed off a framed picture signed by ***Olympic Snowboard Gold Medalist Scott Wescott*** for the ACE club at the Ski & Snowboard Expo!

Robin Diamond

Ilene Titus gave an update on the GPS passes for ***Wachusetts Mountain***, and **Robin Diamond** encouraged people to sign up for the trip to ***Eastern Townships in Quebec***, which still had openings.

'Sir' Michael Bouchard, the featured speaker of the evening, gave a fascinating talk on the history and latest developments at ***Tenney Mountain***, as well as on his own unusual background. Michael is actually not a skier, but an engineer and technologist, specializing in water and conservation. His private company originally bought Tenney Mountain to decommission it and use it as a laboratory of environmental use. However, after getting to know people in the community, he was moved by their friendliness and readiness to help. Based on their feedback and given the long history of the mountain, he decided to re-open it as a ski resort.

Rob Titus and Sir Michael Bouchard

Michael's life in the US Military gave him skills like discipline, risk assessment and planning that prepared him for the task of operating a ski resort despite his lack of experience with the ski industry. One advantage was that it allowed him to look at the operation from a functional standpoint, not biased by being a skier. His team also includes lots of former military, all highly experienced.

One of his biggest concerns in running the mountain was to minimize carbon footprint. Ski resorts are notorious for having one of the most abusive effects on the environment. Water is a big problem in the USA; there are virtually zero water reserves across the country. Waterville, for example, uses a lot of water.

Michael is also keen on using advanced military technology to bring down energy costs. He wants to borrow from a ship model, which relies on energy recovery systems. He plans to install advanced lighting that uses technology to broadcast energy from afar without cables, and still classified technology to make snow in warmer weather. He will consider alternative energy in the future, such as wind.

Jon Levy has Betty Ann Tyson pick a door prize ticket

His aim is to make Tenney into a living laboratory and license technologies to other mountains, a most unorthodox business model for a ski resort! He tries to focus on infrastructure, and outsource operations such as day care, restaurant, rentals, and leave traditional systems alone, such as trail design, snow making, lift design.

He had to learn to ski!

$85 Million have been spent to date on Tenney since the 80's. His goal for now is to keep cost down for skiers, in the $30-$40 range, cheaper on weekdays. He is not looking to make money right away. The planning is all phased, well thought out. There was a push to open the mountain for limited operation in the short term. The system will be designed to handle 3000 people/day, but he will be happy with 300 in the beginning.

In the longer term, he wants to develop retail and tourism (a 15 year project), including summer activities such as dogs, outdoor concerts, an amphitheater seating 35K folks (3-4 years out) with 1-2 events per year, mostly country. Other plans include building the first outdoor IMAX theater, to give people a reason to go to Tenney, educational programs. In the future: a convention center, develop back side skiing.

Michael was born in Chelsea. He became 'Sir' through his past humanitarian work.

Instead of building a website, he decided to rely entirely on social media, and found that Facebook works very well.

Big discussions …

Race Chairs Robin Diamond and Emily Barnaby

Elaine Lussier

Roxanne Arey and Michael Socaciu

December 2015 Door Prize Winners

Carol Bower	2 Bromley tickets
Betty Ann Tyson	Socks
Beatrice Chaney	Gloves
Janet Kennett	Goggles (2!)
Roxane Arey	Base layer
Chris Cole	2 Burke tickets
Vincent Mattock	Base layer
Matt Kontoff	Base Layer
Bill Tarkulich	Poles
Rob Titus	Base Layer
Marcia Ruklic	Bronze + 3 Peat
Adriana Socaciu	Boot bag
Ilene Titus	Ski parka
Robin Diamond	Skis

Robin won the grand prize!

Ilene shows off her new jacket

Nice boot bag, Adriana!

Bill Tarkulich loves his glow-in-the dark poles

Bea won some warm gloves

Matt's warm base layer

Betty Ann's socks will keep her toasty

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

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.

Eastern Townships – Continued …

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.

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.**

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

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.

EICSL Trips

The EICSL trip to **Winter Park** 2/20-2/27/2016 is now full, with a waiting list.

Go to www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html for up-to-date information on all EICSL trips.

Member Profiles

Ken Kozik

Interviewed by Betty Ann Tyson

Ken has been a club member since 1985 when he was a software engineer at Digital Equipment Corporation.

He still remembers the club meetings at the "old" Chelmsford Elks club when there were hundreds of attendees, most of whom worked at DEC. In 1989 Ken left software engineering and joined the DEC law department while attending law school in the evening. He was a patent attorney at DEC until he left in 1997 to enter private practice. Ken has worked as a patent attorney ever since and remains employed full time for a small patent law firm in Southborough, MA.

In his spare time, Ken actively participates in pro bono work involving family law matters, representing indigent clients in divorce proceedings. In addition, as a patron of the arts, Ken served on the board of directors for StageSource in Boston for 15 years, an organization that promotes nonprofit theater like the Huntington Theater Company and the Lyric Stage company.

Ken's father was born in Prague and started Ken skiing at age 5. Ken was born and raised in New England and has lived in Acton, MA since 1977.

Ken owns a second home in Southern Vermont and can be found skiing most weekends at Mount Snow, Stratton Mountain, Bromley Mountain, or Magic Mountain. Ken has custom-made slalom race skis from a small US ski company in California (see www.communityskis.com) that were less expensive than most of the "off the rack" Volkl and Atomic slalom race skis he has used over the years.

Off season Ken enjoys running, biking, and caring for his "project car," a 1971 Mercedes Benz 220.

Member Stories

Ski Trip to Okemo

by Mary Mattock

Now that the holidays were behind us, several of us, ***Rob & Ilene Titus***, ***Tom & Phong Roy and Vince & Mary Mattock,*** decided to take a trip to ***Okemo*****, VT.**

We checked into the ***Timber Inn*** in Ludlow, VT. Skiing ***Okemo*** on Wednesday January 6th we found great conditions, considering the lack of natural snow and the warm winter we had so far. With the cooler winter nights Okemo was able to make a lot of snow and had almost 50 trails open. Okemo has a weekly Wednesday 2 for 1 special for residents of New Hampshire and Vermont.

Mary and Vince Mattock

The ***Sunburst Six*** bubble chair has heated seats and a cover to protect you from the wind ☺. We did run after run and had a great time. Our favorite runs were ***Defiant, World Cup and Rim Rock***. Other favorites that were not open at the time are Stump Jumper and Blind Faith. We stopped at them to remember the good times of years past and look forward to future fun times on them! That night the hot tub and a glass or two of wine helped relieve the muscles. We had a great dinner at Sam's Steakhouse and enjoyed their salad bar and extensive menu. Something for everyone! We just walked across the street so it was easy coming and going.

Rob and Ilene Titus

The next day we went to the ***Jackson Gore*** area, which was open for the first time this season. ***The Quantum Four*** lift is also bubble car on the Quantum Leap run. We skied the open runs and they dropped the ropes on several new trails like ***Chief*** and ***Quantum Leap***. The conditions were great and the company was wonderful! Looking forward to more great times on the slopes.

Great Day at Killington

February 2d was a sunny day with great conditions before the rain storm!

Rob and Ilene Titus, Mary and Vince Mattock, Bea Chaney

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,

Please send Michèle a self-stamped envelope if you would like your membership or EICSL card mailed to you.

There is still time to sign up or renew your ACE Ski & Board membership for the remainder of the season.

You may 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 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

Check out the club's public website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org.

In addition, look for news about coupons, special discount days and deals available only to club members 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 now required for EICSL social events.

EICSL Trips

Check out this season's EICSL's trips at www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html. The EICSL trip to **Winter Park** now has a waiting list.

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.