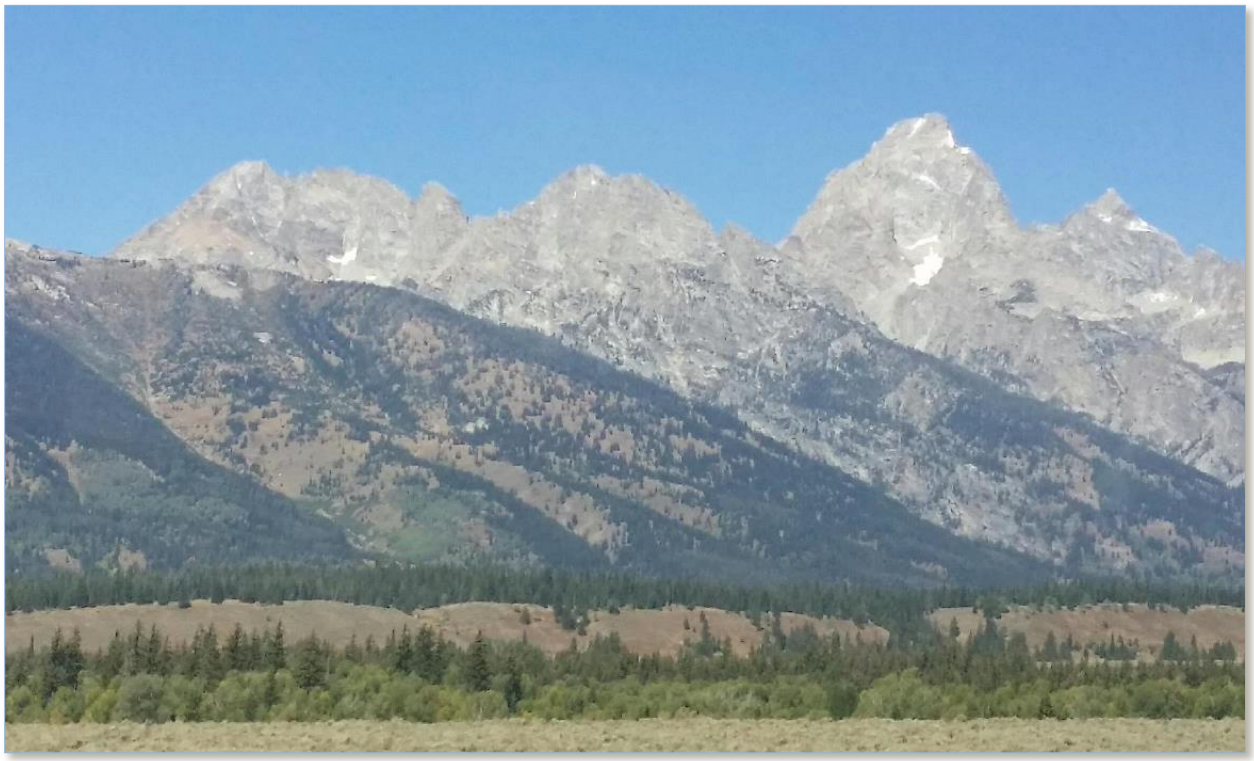
The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 27 Issue1
September 2016

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting September 13

Grand Tetons, Wyoming by Betty Ann Tyson



Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **September 13** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: At this time, no featured speaker has been confirmed for the evening. Come hear about the latest club news and upcoming trips, renew your membership and socialize with your fellow ACE club members!

New: ***Pizza*** will be offered for **$2 CASH** per slice (to defray costs). First come, first served, so come early if you are hungry!

*For an **extra door prize ticket**, bring a **backpack!** Or any **school supplies** worth at least $5, like pocket dictionaries, calculators, three-ring binders, filler paper…*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2016–17

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 13	August 30	TBD
October 26	October 12	TBD
December 8	November 17	TBD
February 8	January 25	TBD

Meeting Location

The general meeting on September 13 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
Open	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

Another winter season approaches. Local conditions last season are best forgotten; surely, they will be better this year.

Time for new gear? Are those boots getting packed out? How about your boards? Is the camber still decent? Mountains keep upgrading their lifts and snowmaking. All we need are cold temps (and no rain) to make it work. Some of the natural stuff is always welcome as well.

Welcome to winter!

Member Recognition

After literally decades of dedicated service, first as Newsletter Editor, then as Club Secretary, **Betty Ann Tyson** is stepping down from being an active volunteer. The last twenty years would not have been possible without your consistent and competent contributions. We will miss you on the Executive Board.

All the best, Betty Ann!

Benefits Committee Update

Discount Tickets In July and August, the Club through Benefits conducted a mail sale of Vermont tickets. The total price was due at the time of the sale.

You may purchase additional tickets at the General Meeting on ***September 13, 2016***. 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 September 13th meeting, there will be an email ticket sale on a first come, first serve basis with confirmation by return email. Restrictions on the purchase of Vermont mountains will continue to apply. Remaining tickets will go on sale at the October 2016 meeting.

We are in the process of negotiating with ***Bretton Woods*** and ***Cannon*** and will update you as soon as we have information. The Club will be able to offer you the best price for these mountains.

You may access other New Hampshire tickets discounts through **Ski New Hampshire** or by joining **EICSL** for an additional $10 added to your ACE Club membership. In the past, EICSL has also offered discounts on ***Sunday River*** tickets. 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, 2016-2017 tickets sales will be announced by email (ACE members-only Google Group) 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, ***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 16, 2016.

Check out the link ***"Perks our PassHolders Receive".*** Among others, there are discounts for Wachusett Mountain products and amenities, and discounts for select mountains in New England and Western Resorts.

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

Thanks for the Food

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

Bring School Supplies!

For an **extra chance at a door prize**, bring new, not used, school supplies to the September 13 meeting, especially **backpacks**, or items for older children such as pocket dictionaries, calculators or three-ring binders.

Volunteering for Vermont Adaptive

Back in July ***Jean E. O'Donnell*** met some skiers while volunteering at a support station for the VT 100, a fundraiser for Vermont Adaptive. They love skiing at **Mount Ascutney**. All it has is an aggressive rope tow and old fashioned grooming. Ascutney re-opened last year thanks to the hard work of an entire community, returning to its roots as a recreational area catering to youngsters and families.

If you are interested in meeting there some weekend day, contact Jean at 781.775.5859 or email her at jodonn1900@aol.com

Recap of February's General Meeting

The February meeting wrapped up the season for the club, although skiing was not quite over yet!

Robin introducing the meeting

Robin Diamond, the club's vice president, welcomed members and introduced the meeting's agenda. Since no speaker was scheduled, we would watch a movie, a video from ***Ski The East*** (www.skitheeast.net)

Rob Titus talks about Benefits

Rob Titus from benefits listed what tickets were still available and recapped the rules for resale: tickets bought through the club cannot be advertised online except the club's membership list.

Chuck Riley mentioned there was one spot left on the EICSL trip to Winter Park, to share a unit with 3 gentlemen who would be asleep by 7 pm ☺

Robin gave an update on the upcoming trip to Eastern Townships in Quebec, noting there were still 4 slots left and reiterated what a great deal it was: a 4 hour drive from Boston, a favorable exchange rate with the Canadian Dollar (1.23) a $215 hotel/meals package and affordable lift tickets.

Emily Barnaby talks about racing

Emily Barnaby from racing noted that the club was always looking for more racers and encouraged members and especially young family members to enroll!

Dana Blanchard setting up the projector

The movie showed exciting scenes from various Eastern mountains, from Michigan to Pennsylvania to Maine, mostly freestyle skiing, lots of jumping, extreme skiing and steep glades!

The Movie – Wild Stallions!

Since it was ***Mardi Gras*** season, some members came with colorful masks and beads.

Mary Mattock decked out for Mardi Gras with Vince Mattock peeking

Robin encouraged members to volunteer to run trips during the next season. From her own experience, she noted that while it is quite a lot of work, it is also a lot of fun!

She concluded the meeting by saying: go skiing, there is snow out there, they are making it!

Some February 2016 Door Prize Winners

Janet Kennet	Gloves
Bryan Woods	Socks
Ryan Conway	Helmet
Chuck Riley	Poles
Roxanne Arey	Base layer
Ilene Titus	Goggles

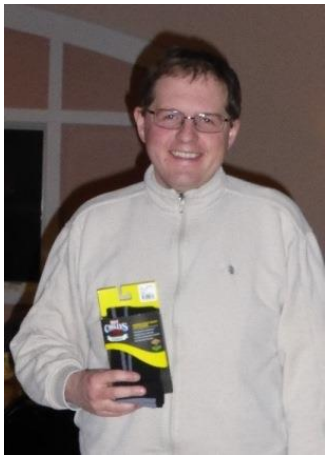
Chuck Riley won poles!

Great helmet, Ryan!

Janet likes her warm gloves

Roxanne's base layer will keep her toasty

Bryan's socks will keep him warm



Ilene shows off her gloves while Robin picks a ticket

Winter Trips

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

EICSL Trip to Jay Peak

Dec 13 – 18, 2016

Stay tuned for details on the upcoming EICSL trip to ***Jay Peak*** in December, as well as the kick-off event at ***Bretton Woods***.

ACE Trip to Eastern Townships, Quebec

Feb 24 – 26, 2017

After last season's wildly successful trip, we are planning to return this upcoming season on the same week-end. Stay tuned for details!

Member Profiles

Carlos Herpin

Interviewed by Betty Ann Tyson

Carlos is one of our newer members. He heard about the club through a former ACE member and has been coming to meetings regularly with a coworker and fellow skier, Mary Stillson. Carlos and Mary work at Skillsoft in Nashua.

Because Carlos lives in Brookline, NH, he can do night skiing several nights a week at Crotchet and Pat's Peak enabling him to get in about 40 ski days a year. He also goes to Loon, Cannon, and Killington.

As a teenager he wanted to ski with his friends, but the family did not have the funds to let him take up this sport. He grew up in Framingham and was the youngest male of 12 children. Many years passed before Carlos could get out on the slopes. He started skiing at age 36 only because his wife bought him a Perfect Turn package at Killington. Sounds like he hasn't stopped since! His wife accompanies him to the ski areas; she doesn't ski but enjoys the resort amenities. Carlos enjoys introducing his nieces and nephews to skiing and snowboarding.

He has raced with the ACE ski team and in one race came in first. For the future the challenge he has set is to ski Paradise at Mad River Glen.

Carlos attended Atlantic Union College where he studied finance and enjoyed gymnastics and swimming. In high school he also wrestled and played lacrosse. He currently works as a software systems engineer.

When asked what he does in summer, Carlos says he relaxes, goes to the beach, and dreams of skiing.

Member Stories

Trip to Eastern Townships, Quebec 2016

by Robin Diamond

Attendees: *Robin Diamond, Trip Coordinator, Emily Barnaby, Ilene and Rob Titus, Roxanne Arey, Mary Sue Ankner and Betty Ann Tyson.*

The club had been trying to get this Canada trip off the ground for about 3 years. It was our first drive-yourself trip and we were all looking forward to some time away socializing with friends and of course a few good days on the slopes.

On Friday, February 26th Emily and I headed for ***Orford, Quebec***. There was snow through Franconia Notch but that didn't slow us down. By 11:00 am

we crossed the border into Canada, and suddenly everybody spoke French!

Upon arriving in Orford we stopped at a chocolatier a few doors from the hotel and watched the chocolate makers create chocolate delicacies behind a window. They were prepping for Easter with home-made chocolate eggs and bunnies. After sampling some freshly made confections we checked in at the hotel, ***Manoir des Sables***, then immediately headed out for ***Mount Orford***, 10 minutes up the road on Rte 141.

Mt Orford was windy, sunny and cold – we checked to see if there was a wind hold and the man in the ticket booth said: no wind hold – time to ski!! We were soon riding the gondola up the mountain for our first run. Roxanne and Mary Sue were also at Mt Orford, though we didn't see them or know they were there until we met up for dinner. The wind at the top was enough to blow you over when exiting the gondola or chair. Once on the slope, the wind was blocked by the mountain.

Conditions were somewhat icy but there were a few places with soft snow and the sides of trails had some light Canadian powder. Mary Sue and Roxanne headed to the hotel about 1:30 while Emily and I stayed till 3:00 and finished out the day.

Back at the hotel we headed straight for the hot tub before gathering in the lobby to leave for dinner at the ***Magog Brasserie*** (Micro Brewery), about a 10 minute drive. By then, Rob and Ilene had arrived from Massachusetts and Betty Ann had trekked over Dixville Notch all the way from Sunday River, Maine. The Brasserie is a busy, local joint that serves local delicacies – dishes like duck poutine and gravy, fish and chips, salads and beer samplers. Downtown is colorful and there was a theme of penguins at the restaurant and at other establishments - something to do with hockey and the local team in Magog.

Saturday was a group pilgrimage to ***Mt Sutton***, a 45-minute ride from the hotel. Sutton is known for its glade skiing, but there wasn't much new snow in the woods. We were all wearing tulle hairbands on our helmets and a mountain guide asked if we were there for a bachelorette party - which we thought odd because we were all old enough to have grandkids except Emily. Thanks Ilene! If you ski at Sutton, watch out for some curious items in the beginner area: the skier in the trees, the family of bears in the limbs of the trees and a giant blue jay clinging to a tree. We all had a full day of skiing with a short break for lunch. Prices for food were about the same as at a U.S. ski area, but the exchange rate made it better. Maple syrup popsicles were a late afternoon treat – 1.25 CAN for a wad of cold maple syrup wrapped around a popsicle stick; the golden frozen syrup was sticky, cold and definitely something you wouldn't get at a U.S. ski area. A Must Have at Sutton! As soon as Emily and Rob returned from some black diamond runs we packed up and headed back to the hotel.

Dinner was scheduled for 7:00 pm at the hotel – a 3-course gourmet dinner in a semi-private room. We shared stories from the day and talked with new friends and old. Dinner was 5-star and consisted of calamari with 3 dipping sauces, select cuts of beef followed by desserts of cappuccino cake with a butter cream filling and a fruit cup served in a wafer cup lined in chocolate with a small mound of whipped cream. What a way to finish the day! By 9:15 we were ready to retire for the evening. We took group pictures and decided to meet for breakfast at 7:00 a.m and head out to ***Owl's Head*** for some powder runs on our way home.

Rob and Ilene Titus at Owl's Head

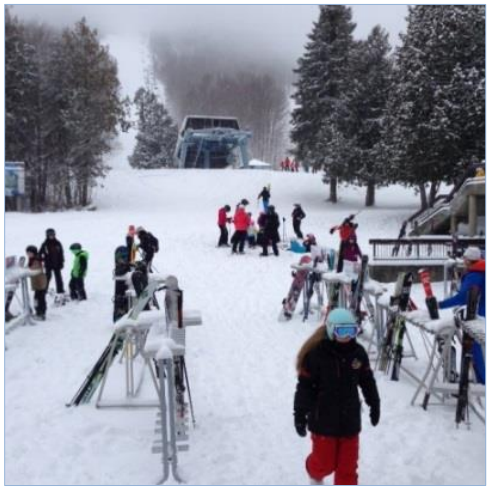
We woke to find 3–4 inches of powder on the cars and after a filling breakfast we headed to Owl's Head. The driving was slick but 30 minutes later we were walking to the lodge through 6-8 inches of powder. Owl's Head has beautiful views of ***Lake Memphremagog*** – a 32-mile lake that is in both the U.S. and Canada. By-mid morning the clouds had lifted and the views were brochure worthy. Owl's

Head sits on the south west side of the lake about 30 minutes from the U.S. border. We called it a day at about 11:30 am as the group met in the lodge for a bite to eat and to say our good byes for the weekend.

I would like to say thank you to the group for the thoughtful gifts from the ski shop at Owl's Head – a 50th anniversary T-shirt and neck warmer. Not necessary but appreciated. Organizing a trip has its ups and downs, but when you get to ski powder the last day of the trip and spend time with some good people it makes it all worthwhile.

Some highlights from the weekend:

- 3 falls on the slopes
- 8 inches of powder
- 1 bachelorette party without a bride
- Gale winds at the top of Orford
- 7 steaks for 7 diners
- Stop signs in the middle of nowhere!
- 3 deer crossing
- 6 penguins on the porch
- 7 happy ACE Ski Club members
- 1 wrong turn – well, two!
- Skiing all the open trails at Sutton
- 3 days of lift tickets for the price of one, even better if you're a "senior"



We are planning a return trip next year on the same weekend. The exchange rate is in our favor so we are going to book it now to get the most for our dollar and yours. Drive yourself. Hotel package includes two nights with two breakfasts and one dinner.

Three hours and a half from Derry, NH and lift ticket expense of less than $150 for 3 days – I think I will go next year. Will you join me?

Winter Park 2016

Michèle Grenier was there:

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,

Now is the 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.

NOTE: If your email has changed, please put a note on your membership form that ***"my email has changed".*** Thank you!

Let it Snow!!!!!!!!

Michèle Grenier, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

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 **are due by Oct 31, 2016**. There is a strict adherence to this policy and applications are no longer accepted for the current season.

EICSL Trips

Check out this season's EICSL's trips at www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html.

Stay tuned for the upcoming EICSL trip to ***Jay Peak*** December 13-18, as well as the season kick-off at ***Bretton Woods***.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2015–2016

Robin Temple Diamond & Emily Barnaby
Race Co-Chairs

Stay tuned for details about the 2016-2017 racing season at the upcoming general meeting, or go to www.eicsl.org/race.html for the latest update.