The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 25 Issue 4
February 2015

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting February 12

Sun dog (parhelion) over Jay Peak, 12/20/14, by Jon Levy

Location: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **February 12** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: **Peter Nelson** from ***Friends of Tuckerman Ravine*** will be back to talk about activities at the ravine, including the grueling ***Tuckerman Inferno Pentathlon***.

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

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Important ACE Club Dates 2014–15

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

Meeting Location

The general meeting on February 12 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 Representative
Bryan Woods	EICSL Representative
Ryan Conway	Webmaster
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

Had enough snow yet?

Although we've gotten more down here than up North in the mountains, they've gotten their share as well. Conditions are great - Everywhere!

There are built-in discounts to be had as well: ***Magic*** had a $20 Throwback Thursday last week; ***Attitash/Wildcat*** have $50 Fridays for the rest of the season (except Presidents' Week), and there are many others. Also, you've probably still got some discount tickets to use up; don't wait for the Spring Thaw!

Benefits Committee Update

Tickets

Most mountains have sold out. The club should have a few Vermont ticket vouchers for sale at the February 12 meeting.

Door Prizes

There will be Vermont ticket vouchers door prizes at the meeting.

Notices from Benefits

Other than those sales at General Meetings, all tickets sales will be announced by email with instructions on how to place an order. There will be no notices sent by regular mail, so keep your email current with the Membership Chair at: membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

2015-2016 Vermont Ticket Voucher Sales

Benefits will be conducting its 2015-2016 ticket voucher sale for Vermont in ***July or early August***.

Some Vermont mountains sell out in this sale, so order early. As in the past several years, payment will be 50% up front with your order and 50% due by ***November 1, 2015***.

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

Bring Food!

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

Thanks for the Food

Thanks to all the members who brought food items to the last meeting. **Robin Diamond** brought your donations to ***Hannaford*** for the ***New Hampshire Food Bank***.

ACE Fleece Jackets

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

Check them out!

$25 each

All sizes available, including women's sizes.

ACE and Benefits Co-Chairs in the News

This past week, the ***Community Advocate*** website for ***Southborough, MA*** and neighboring towns published a story about the ACE Ski and Board Club and our Benefits Co-Chairs, ***Rob and Ilene Titus.***

Read all about it at the following link: http://communityadvocate.com/2015/01/28/couple-shares-passion-for-the-slopes/

Recap of December's General Meeting

The December 11 meeting was well attended, with holiday table decorations setting a festive mood. People were looking forward to picking up the tickets they had purchased.

Several club officers each spoke about their respective function: **Jon Levy** started the meeting and welcomed all members, old and new; **Chuck Riley** gave an update on EICSL, **Robin Diamond** on the racing program, and **Ilene Titus** on benefits, such as tickets.

Ed Berry was back at the ACE Club as the featured speaker of the evening to talk about the latest development at ***Stowe Mountain Resort***. He noted quite a few improvements since last year, for example, a new pump house. The mountain currently has 8 groomers.

The ***Spruce Lodge*** is a spectacular hotel, worthy of a trip for a special occasion. It is currently undergoing the process of earning a 4 star rating. The resort will be adding a number of attractions, including an ***outdoor skating rink***, a ***climbing wall*** (indoors) as well as a ***bowling alley***. There will be underground parking for 170+ cars, a new coffee shop and a market. All these ongoing renovations will cause parking to be a little tight during the upcoming season. It is recommended that guests use the convenient shuttle service.

The old lift at ***Spruce Base*** was replaced with a new high-speed quad.

The mountain is very attentive to the feedback from its groomers and snowmakers. Management listens to them to constantly improve operations each year. The mountain is dedicated to the 'product' and is spending the money required.

The full price for a ticket this season is $108 the first time you come to the mountain. However, on your next visit the price drops to $103 thanks to the rechargeable 'Evolution Stowe Card' (ESC). $89 tickets can be purchased online for the same day at the mountain or Liftopia websites. The most convenient way to buy a ticket is to authorize a credit card on your ESC card, which will be charged automatically the first time you get on a chair that day. No standing in line!

Ed Berry talks about Stowe Mt Resort

$44 tickets will be offered to club members on ***Ski Council*** and ***Ski Club Appreciation Days*** (you will need to show a club ID). Also, look for combined hotel deals. Group rates are available for a minimum of 20 people. Smaller clubs could combine trips with other clubs to reach that number; contact **Ed** for details.

The 20 year old ***gondola*** was refurbished at significant cost savings over buying a new one. The gondola was sent back to the manufacturer, who put in brand new upholstery, windows and racks.

The old ***alpine slide*** is gone, a casualty of all the new attractions.

Shannon Thomas and Michèle Grenier at the membership table

Robin Diamond talks about racing

December 2014 Door Prize Winners

Chris Cole	2 Smuggler's Notch tickets
Dana Blanchard	Gloves, hand warmers
Chris Gerber	Thermal bottom, gloves
Vince Mattock	Ski socks
Bryan Zarins	Goggles, hand warmers
Sue Rasmussen	2 Bromley tickets
Betty Ann Tyson	Thermal bottom
Linda O'Clair	Goggles, hand warmers, Stowe shirt
Chuck Riley	2 Pico tickets
Nate Bemis	Stowe shirt
Marcia Melanson	Stowe lift ticket
Laura Hughes	Ski poles, ski socks, hand warmers
Andy Sage	Helmet
Jack Coady	Boot bag
Shannon Thomas	Ski jacket
Bea Chaney	Skis and bindings

Jon Levy and Bea Chaney with the grand prize!

Shannon with her fashionable jacket

Dana Blanchard shows off his prizes

Marcia Melanson won tickets

Jack Coady with his new boot bag

Bryan Zarins likes his goggles

Laura Hughes with all her prizes

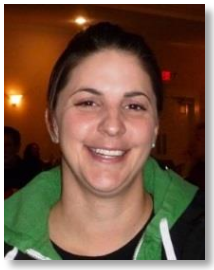
Member Profiles

by BettyAnn Tyson

The ACE Newsletter is introducing a new feature: each issue will present a short profile of selected club members.

Emily Barnaby is interviewed by BettyAnn Tyson

Emily Barnaby



This is Emily's second year as an ACE member. She found the club while searching online for discounted tickets and a race program.

Besides downhill skiing and racing she enjoys snowshoeing and cross country skiing. She likes skiing at Sunday River, Mad River Glen, and Mt. Snow.

She has returned to her home state of New Hampshire after studying at Springfield College, more studies in Australia, serving in the Peace Corps in Benin, West Africa, and living in California for a few years.

Emily works for Santander Bank in their corporate Emergency Management department.

Lee Arnold

Lee is a long-time member of the club dating back to the nineties when we were the Digital Ski Club.

Back then we held our meetings at the Chelmsford Elks until there was a fire that closed the building and we were forced to find other meeting places. When the Elks rebuilt, we returned.

Recently Lee has moved up to Woodstock, NH from his home in Mansfield, MA. He works out of his house as a software consultant, which allows him to ski mornings at Loon, which is nearby. Lee also enjoys hiking in the area.

Lee has two sons, ages 24 and 26. One skis and the other is a snowboarder.

Member Stories

Wildcat Vertical Challenge

by Bryan Woods

I would personally appreciate your support in the 12th Annual ***100K Vertical Foot Challenge*** at ***Wildcat Mountain.*** This is a charity event that supports the ***Make-A-Wish*** Foundation.

The goal is to ski 100,000 vertical feet non-stop in one day. The Lynx trail is closed for the day and limited to just the challenge participants. The goal is 48 top-to-bottom runs of 2,112 vertical feet on Lynx within the 9-hour window, 7:30am - 4:30pm. This leaves 11 minutes and 15 seconds per run. The Wildcat Express Quad can reach the summit in less than 7 minutes, which leaves just under 4.5 minutes to ski down.

This is my first time participating in the Wildcat Vertical Challenge and I have committed to raise funds to help children with life-threatening illnesses. Please take the time to support my efforts and Make-A-Wish of New Hampshire by donating in person at the February meeting or online: http://friends.wish.org/058-000/page/Bryan-Woods/100k-ft-Vertical-Challenge.htm

Bretton Woods

by Rob Titus, Jr.

I skied with two friends at ***Bretton Woods*** on Saturday, January 17, 2015. The day started out at -6 degrees, but eventually warmed up to 11 degrees.

This is a picture of me with Mt. Washington in the background. We did not take many pictures as our cell phones kept shutting down from the cold.

The snow conditions were awesome and we skied just about the entire mountain.

Membership Update

Michèle Grenier, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Hello to all the new members and all renewed members!

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

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

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

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

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

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

What the ACE Ski & Board Club Does

- Encourages camaraderie and enjoyment of skiing and riding
- Encourages and promotes an active recreational race program
- Provides availability of reasonably priced tickets
- Encourages participation in skiing in new and exotic places
- Promotes a greater knowledge of ski/board techniques, ski resorts, and technical knowledge of skiing and snowboarding

Brief History of the Club

- 25+ years old – the former Digital Ski Club
- Became the ACE Ski & Board Club, a Compaq employee club, in 1998
- Became a MA Chapter 180 nonprofit corporation, and an IRS 501(c) 7 organization in 2003
- Members are adult fans of skiing and snowboarding in the greater New England area including some former Digital, Compaq, Intel, Cabletron, and Hewlett Packard employees
- An original EICSL club (Eastern Inter Club Ski League)

Benefits of Membership

- Newsletter published four times a year
- Discount lift tickets
- Social meetings with presentations on aspects of skiing and boarding
- Active race program
- Occasional ski trips to the west or Europe and to Northern New England
- Member organized day trips to New Hampshire / Vermont
- Some shop discounts
- Timely information on coupons, special discount days and other deals
- Cross-country skiing outings
- Summer activities: cycling, hiking, camping trips
- Google Groups and Yahoo!Groups distribution lists; see details
- Optional EICSL membership
- Opportunities for family member racing
- Eligibility to win gear worth over $ 2,000 at general meetings

Old Times …

Who is this? Where was it? Were you there??

For details on winter trips, tickets, EICSL, racing, meetings and membership, see the club's website:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Members-only Google Group

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Updating your Email Address

Please let Membership know ASAP if your email address changes from when you filled out your Membership form, so that you continue to receive the latest news and updates from the club.

Old Yahoo!Groups

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

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

Links and Forms

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

Membership:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/

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

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

Newsletters:
www.aceskiandboardclub.org/newsletters/

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/aceskis

ACE/EICSL Update

Chuck Riley, ACE EICSL Chair

Haven't skied in the last couple of years? Last couple of decades? Never skied at all? What's your excuse? No money? No time? No skis? Whatever your reasons, we've got an answer.

The **Eastern Inter-Club Ski League** (EICSL), which began in 1950 as a small group of ski clubs, is an organization comprised of clubs with over 1,200 members. Don't let those numbers scare you. Each of the clubs has anywhere from 25 to 150 members and likes to keep things as intimate and family-like as possible.

Each individual club has its own elected board of directors and numerous committees to take care of the needs of its members. EICSL binds all clubs together. EICSL' s most important function, according to **John Bycina**, Past President (1998-2000) of EICSL, is *"to help clubs communicate and to obtain benefits for a large group such as a race program, social activities and discount tickets."*

Once a member, perks like 10% off purchases from certain merchants and restaurants in the North Conway area plus - the important thing - discounted lift tickets are organized by EICSL.

Because the clubs are centrally located in the ***Mount Washington Valley***, mountains like Wildcat, Attitash and Sunday River in Maine are all within an hour from the clubs. Most people decide the night before where they'll be skiing and share rides the next morning.

Although ACE doesn't have a lodge, we have standing agreements with a few clubs if you are interested in staying at their house as a guest. Cost is very low (about $25/night), so don't expect the Marriott.

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

All EICSL applications for the current season **were due by Oct 31, 2014**. There is a strict adherence to this policy and applications are no longer accepted for the current season.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2014–2015

Robin Temple Diamond, 2014-2015 Race Chair

ACE-Polecats Racing Update

(White Mountain Race League)

The ***ACE Ski and Board Club*** race team is down in numbers this season but we are definitely holding our own on the race course.

The first race was at ***Bretton Woods*** on ***January 7, 2015***. Racing started late because the mountain double scheduled the slope where we were racing. After some negotiations we were back on track about 10:00 am and racing was underway by 10:45.

Racers this year are:

Emily Barnaby - AA Senior Women's - Pelham NH
Kevin Keiley - Open Men's - Nashua NH
Robin Diamond - AA Super Vet Women's - Derry NH

Bretton Woods Results **for ACE (January 7)**

	Time	Handicap	Points
KIELEY, KEVIN	33.260	19.90	95.97
BARNABY, EMILY	39.910	46.84	91.38
DIAMOND, ROBIN	40.940	50.63	89.08

Cranmore Results for ACE (January 24)

	Time	Handicap	Points
KIELEY, KEVIN	28.360	18.17	100.00
DIAMOND, ROBIN	36.000	49.19	90.44
BARNABY, EMILY	35.140	45.63	92.66

Complete listing of race results can be found at www.eicsl.org/race.

The next race is at ***Wildcat Mt on February 7th***. If you are an EICSL member come on up to enjoy the discounted lift ticket price and cheer the teams as they **RACE** by you. Meet some members from other clubs and enjoy the day.

The championship race is at ***Black Mt on March 7th***. Races start at 10:30 and finish up about 12:30.

Discount tickets are sold in the lodge at the registration area for the race (location TBD). Lift tickets are CASH ONLY!!

If you would like to race next year please let me know.

It would be great if we could have at least one racer in each class: Open, AA, A, B, C, D. If you ski or snowboard you are welcome. The fee is $20 for the season and at each race we offer a discount lift ticket for racers and current EICSL members.