

# Eastern Inter-Club Ski League Celebrates 50 Years



February 25, 2003  
Attitash Grand Summit Hotel  
Attitash-Bear Peak



Shawnee Peak  
Congratulates  
**EICSL**  
on its  
**50<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary!!

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February 25, 2003 • Attitash Grand Summit Hotel • Attitash-Bear Peak

## **Past Presidents of the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League**

Year(s)	Name	Page
1946-54	Lee Chisholm (d)	
1954-58	Charles Wolf (d)	
1958-60	Robert D. Aldous	2
1960-62	Robert Snow (d)	
1962-64	Robert Lindsey	3
1964-66	Paul Parker (d)	
1966-68	William Kempton	
1968-69	C. Roy Scammell	4
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1971-72	Salvatore P. Casella	
1973-75	Fred W. Moore (d)	
1975-77	Chester E. Thompson	7
1977-79	Mary E. Bennett	
1979-81	Leo C. Stevens	8
1981-83	Joseph B. Kerrissey	
1983-85	Eileen P. Duffin	9
1985-87	Julia F. Middlebrook	
1987-88	George Remon	
1988-90	Craig Gilleland	
1990-92	Allen Miller (d)	
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*We are celebrating the first 50 years since the incorporation date of EICSL. As an informal organization EICSL was started in the 1946-47 season and a number of clubs predated the league by many years.*

My first remembrance of what is now the league was about 1949. Three clubs got together to have informal racing. Each club met with one other club so there were total of three Two-club races. The clubs were the Snow Chasers of Lynn, The Hochfliegers of Lowell and I can't come up with the third club for sure, possibly Old Colony of Quincy.

The first race I recall was between the Hochfliegers and Snow Chasers and was held in Bristol, NH on Pickett Hill, which was the property of the Hochfliegers and their first lodge. There was no lift; we raced on sort of Giant slalom down through an apple orchard. The second race the Hochfliegers vs. ? was at a tow rope area near Plymouth, NH. I don't recall any winners, etc. but the League as we now know it grew tremendously in the next few years.

The first chairman was Lee Chisholm of Malden and he was president or chairman for many years. The League became a major part of organized skiing and many of us grew with it in the political part of skiing. Paul Parker became a Director and later a Treasurer of Eastern division of the USSA. I became Director but quit there.

The first major race we ran was an Olympic tryout on Cannon in about 1954 or 1956. Roger Peabody, a manager of Cannon, and myself set the giant slalom. Down Cannon and then down Zoomer in pure slush at a temperature of about 40°. Race Day dawned with a temperature of about -20°. Blue Ice top to bottom!!! College coaches from the west who were familiar only with powder claimed it was too dangerous. So, Roger Peabody told them he would have me as race chairman forerun the hill. He also said that I was only a "Class C" racer and never made class B or A in Eastern racers. What he neglected to tell them was that I usually had a season pass at Cannon and skied there two days a week so I was used to ice and could run that course blindfolded.

During one of Lee Chisholm's later years as President of the League, he asked the members to come up with ideas to get the clubs going and organized earlier in the season. So Les Horten of Melrose got a golf tournament going quite successfully and I organized a get together that was called Weirs Weekend. It was held up at Weirs Beach, on Lake Winnipesaukee, at a hotel on the hill above where the arcade is now.

This was a very successfully organized weekend drunk. We had a cash bar from Friday night until Sunday with 4 beers for a buck and three hi balls for a buck. At one of the large ones, I had to order 1,000 lobsters for the Sunday cookout.

We also ran another Olympic tryout and National Championship at Wildcat, at which the racers who were handled with kid gloves. Instead of a party for the racers, I spent our budget on a post race party for the gatekeepers and other volunteers from the league clubs instead.

The League held one of the first USSA Eastern Ski Assoc. Boston conventions. It was held in the Statler Hotel and we had about 800 people attend. I have many great memories of my years involved with the League. In 1954, the year after I was president of Hochflieger Ski Club, I became President of the League and married the President of the Innitou Ski Club, Ellen Carrasco. Our wedding party resembled a League convention.

Sincerely yours,  
Robert D. Aldous

I joined the Schussers in 1953. The League had been formed then by Lee Chisholm, a ski shop owner in Malden and a member of the Lynn Snow Chasers, Schussers, Melrose (?), Charlie Wolf's club (Wildcat), Die Sarbre-Trugers, Hickory Hawks, Innitrous, Old Colony, Brockton, Aldous' club (?), Clipped Wings, etc.

The programs originally offered, under the USEASA, such as (1) Amateur Instruction; (2) Basic, Standard, and Advanced Tests; (3) Race officiating were the attraction to club membership.

Our Club (Schussers) were early renters in N. Conway (circa 1949). Others followed which allowed the beginning of a race program at Intervale Ski Area, & Charley Butchekers, etc.

We were recommended for World Cup by Roger Peabody, George Macomber, Mal McLane, Brooks Dodge and because of our ability to provide lots of bodies. We had run many Class B & C races which were precursors to racers moving up to National Level. Many of us were by then trained by Sosman and others to run sanctioned races. A small group of us officiated at many sanctioned events around New England.

We eventually managed to "infiltrate" USEASA via McLane, Macomber, etc. with Directorships and ultimately Paul Parker (Old Colony SC./Past President) nationally. Parker was the moving force to get EICSL into the Ski Show.

At one time, I was a: (1) Qualified Amateur Ski Instructor; (2) National Ski Patrolman #2144; (3) FIS Qualified Race Official; (4) President of the Massa-schussers; (5) President of EICSL; (6) Director of USEASA; (7) Delegate to USSA convention.

So many wonderful memories of club friends, skiing all over the place, Inter-Club parties (M & M's), NO race politics -just fun - Inter-Club banquets, etc.

As I reminisce, lots of things come to mind, but most are memories of all the events, happenings, races, etc.

The times with Bob Snow, Parker, Aldous, Wolf, Moore, Mitch, and all the fabulous girls in the League who kept us on the straight and narrow just are wonderful. And to think it was all volunteer; we paid our own way and loved it!

Memory not as good as it was -- Senior moments, you know -if I think of anything else, I'll call you.

10/23/02  
Bob Lindsey  
Past President  
Semi-retired; 75 years old

The founding... The other clubs were the Brockton Ski Club and the Waterville Valley Black & Blue Trail Smashers.

The 1967 World Cup... As I recall, Bob Aldous, at the time on the USEASA board, brought back the request from a board meeting. The opportunity was made available to the USEASA, but EICSL was the only league or council with the skill and manpower to conduct it. I remember many meetings at Bob Lindsey's house in Medford that went on forever. It must have been a full year in the planning stage. Roger Peabody, the executive director if USEASA was involved and he handled the national and international communications, Paul Parker was the press agent. Bill Kempton was race chairman and I was Chief of Timing and Calculations. I suspect that USSA wanted to host the event in the US but was incapable of doing so. As a result, they contacted Roger Peabody for help. The woman who was executive director before Roger moved to Colorado Springs, CO. and I'm sure it was her who referred the USSA to USEASA. In those days, USEASA was larger and more active than either USSA or any other regional ski association. Remember, we even had our own magazine long before "SKI" or those others showed up. Charles Gibson, the Harvard Ski Coach, also worked for IBM. Through his efforts, Tom Watson, CEO of IBM and a skier, had computer equipment set up at Cannon Mtn. to calculate FIS points. Computers were fairly new then, and Charlie had 6 programmers there and some massive machines were trucked in. Nowadays, my PC can do the same job, only quicker. That was the first time computers were ever used at a ski race. Charles Gibson went on to become President of USSA.

I'm not sure about how the EICSL got so involved in USEASA. When that organization was formed, their headquarters were on Huntington Ave., down across from the YMCA. When the woman exec. moved to Colorado, (Gloria was her first name I believe), Roger Peabody took over and it was agreed to move to Littleton, NH. where he lived. The later move to Brattleboro, VT signaled the demise of USEASA. In the early days, there was some who wanted to compete with USEASA and the ESA was loosely formed. It never developed at all, although whenever the leagues and councils from NY or NJ wanted to move USEASA south, the specter of the ESA was raised and they backed off. Eventually the compromise was the Brattleboro move. The problem there was that all the office staff, especially Roger wanted to stay in NH so they all resigned. They were NH natives and the job didn't pay that much to justify moving. Al Pires was chairman of the USAESA Alpine Officials so he should be able to answer the question of the officials. However, from its founding days, all officials, both Alpine and Nordic were USEASA sanctioned. We used to have such great conventions, ski shows, Fall Forums, and organized activities. The printed literature alone was priceless. I was a USSA official at one time and had an opportunity to attend the Olympics in Japan in 1972. However I was newly married and just bought a house so that trip was out of the question. I wish I could find my USSA credentials, they got lost somewhere over the last 30 years.

We were an envied League because our member clubs had an interest in the League and were active participants in USEASA functions. I can't help but say that this was because of the quality of people elected to the League who were able to communicate the purpose of the League and the USEASA to the member clubs effectively.

Race Program... When I became involved with the race program, the race chairman was Vic Poulin of the Wamesit Ski Club. Then Bill Kempton of the Lynn Snow Chasers became race chairman. During these years, the program consisted of about 200-300 people. Also, during these years, there was only one class for the women. The scoring system for the women was based on, the total number of women in a race. There was a chart that was used to figure out the individual points in the women's race. At this time there were two men's classes, men's "A" and men's "B".

Somewhere around 1963-1964 Gerry Crabbendam and myself took over as race chairmen. We started to expand things a little bit. We added men's "C" and also restructured the women's program into women's "A" and women's "B". A few years later men's and women's Classified "A", and "D" were added to the program. Within four years, the expanded race program had 700-800 people racing.

Also during these years the race courses consisted of red, blue, and yellow gates. We also had to run communication wire before each race and pick it up afterwards. All timing was done with hand stopwatches. Some years later we started to use the NASTAR type system that is used today.

Parties... At one time the parties were just called M & M parties. They were advertised mostly by word of mouth or fliers with no thought about conflicting parties. Some of the parties that are active today had their start in the early sixties. There were some EICSL parties that were quite well attended, such as Weirs weekend.

At one point we had what was called presidents weekend, when all the presidents of the individual clubs got together and had a social weekend along with some trading of club ideas.

For a few years the Cannon mountain ski clubs ran a U.S. Ski team fund raising party. It was called "*The Cock & Bull Party*." It was held at the Peabody slopes base lodge. Funds were raised through ticket sales, raffle prizes, and an auction of ski, club signs and license plates that somehow or other got to the auction table.

1967 World Cup Races... The League got to run the World Cup race through the exhaustive efforts of Paul Parker, Doc Sosman, Bob Lindsey, Bob Snow and others in the league, and the efforts of Roger Peabody who was the executive vice president of USEASA. The USEASA office was located in Littleton, NH at that time. There were a lot of EICSL members who took 2-3 weeks of their vacation time to make the race the success that it was.

On the down side, EICSL was one of the parties that were sued by a photographer who was hit by a racer coming through the finish line in downhill practice. He had tried to run across the finish between racers. The case was finally settled out of court.

A lot of people do not know that EICSL also ran the alpine events for the NCAA finals in 1969. These events were run on the world cup slopes. Again a lot of league members took their vacation time to make these races a success.

Ski Show & Swap Shop... My recollection of these events go back to the Boston Armory, The Commonwealth Armory, and the Prudential center. These were great money makers for the league and a great chance for clubs to advertise for members. It was also a chance for our elected queen, Miss EICSL to model the years new ski clothing for the ski show audience.

USSA, USEASA, Alpine Officials... The league was always well represented at these national levels of organized skiing. We have had people who were officers, directors, or committee chairman at all these levels. And last but by no means least, we have J. Leland (Doc) Sosman, who was a very important part of all these organizations. Doc was also a member of the US Olympic Committee and a US delegate to FIS.

## *j/15/50* **Eastern Inter-Club Giant Slalom Jan. 29 Gives Orphan Annies Chance for C Rate**

The Eastern Inter-Club Ski League will be staging its first major ski meet Jan. 29 when the nine clubs of the League are to run a giant slalom race for Class C and unclassified skiers at Charlie Butcher's Pinkham Notch slope.

This race was primarily planned to serve as a qualifying race for unclassified "Orphan Annies" who wish to win Class C ratings. To win a C, a skier must participate in a race or pass a proficiency test. Class C skiers will have the chance to establish a high placement in this race to qualify for Class B ratings.

Only members of the nine clubs are to enter race.

The League includes the Appalachian Mt. Club, Hochfleiger Ski Club, Massa Schussers, Piscataqua Ski Club,

Snow Chasers, Wild Cat Ski Club, Winchester Chamois, Wakefield Skibees, Winthrop Ski Club.

Four three-way meets are scheduled this winter in each of which three teams compete. The schedule rotates so that each club races against every other club in the League by the end of the season.

The first meet, scheduled for Jan. 8, was postponed to Jan. 15, when the Hochfleigers of Greater Lowell meet Winchester X Chamois and Malden Massa Shussers at Intervale; Lynn Snow Chasers meet Appalachian Mt. Club and Winthrop at Pinkham Notch. The third group, comprising the Wildcats, Wakefield Skibees and Piscataqua club of Portsmouth, N. H., postponed its first race to March 17.

## Thoughts From A Past President...

My first introduction to the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League was when I started to race for the former Brewmeisters Ski Club of Bethlehem in 1966-67. At that time I belonged to the Bumps and Bruises Ski Club which leased a lodge in Twin Mountain. The next winter the Bumps joined the League and formed their own race team. I became the Club President and League Rep. That became the beginning of my 20 year plus stint of involvement with the League. I believe that Bill Kempton was President then and the League was host to the 1967 World Cup Races at Cannon Mountain. Two years later the League hosted the 1969 Eastern Championships at Cannon and I became more involved with the mechanics of putting on a world class ski event.

In the early 70's I was asked to become a Vice President and started the 4 year climb up the ladder to become League President. Monday night meetings became a way of life back then. The league was growing, over 30 clubs and two thousand plus active members. There were charter trips to Europe, a race program with several hundred competitors, ski shows, Spring Banquets, hospitality trips to Canada, and oh those Eastern Ski Association Conventions in the Catskills, Boston, New Jersey, Washington D.C., and Quebec City just to mention a few.

The League was a leading Council in the Eastern Ski Association at that time and, to the rest of the East we were known as the Boston "Mafia". I served on the Eastern Ski Association Board of Directors along with Paul Parker, Mary Bennett, Doc Sosman and Fred Moore for several years following my Presidency of the League. During that time we ran a number of very successful winter weekends at Mt. Snow and Waterville Valley. We also hosted the USSA Convention in Boston during the 1976, 200th Birthday Celebrations.

During the time that I served on the BOD, I operated a printing company, Lyons Press in Marlboro, Massachusetts and used my expertise to produce many of the League's publications such as the famous "Blue Book" and the "Lift Lines" newsletter.

In 1998 I closed my printing company and moved to Franconia, New Hampshire to start a new career as an innkeeper. My wife Sue and I have been operating the Kinsman Lodge, Bed & Breakfast since the summer of 1999. The Lodge was the former home of the Bumps & Bruises Ski Club. During the winter I work as the Race Administrator for the Franconia Ski Club at Cannon Mountain so you see my interest in organized skiing, and competition have not diminished.

As I look back over the many years, it is the friendships that have resulted from the experiences that are most vivid. The hard work and those many meetings are dimmed by the memories of good times had, I am honored to have been asked to be part of the great legacy of the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League.

Chet Thompson, Past President

They were the years when the foundation of the present social rules were adopted. The ski clubs originally ran parties BYOB but then began to seek remuneration for such parties. In addition, local establishments started making waves regarding the ski club parties and how they possibly affected their business. Whether or not the parties would pass muster, as regards to the state and local rules governing the presence of alcohol was being discussed. The social rules were adopted to address these concerns and appear to have worked out very well through the years.

The second year of my presidency was one of the worst snow years in history. The race committee worked hard to schedule the two preliminary races and the Championship race. However, the lack of snow both naturally and man-made assured there were not any preliminary races. The Championship race was held with "invitations" decided by the race committee based on past history.

It should also be noted that under the leadership of Mary Bennett, the Fall Forum as we know it today was re-instituted. These first sessions were held at the New England Inn and were a huge success.

**Newspaper Article - 1/15/50**

**GALS DO JUMP**

Two years ago Dorothy Graves Mucha of Turners Falls, Mass., held an official Class "A" jumping card in the USEASA and did compete in some meets, the details of whch have been lost—by distraught males, probably.

There is also a group of gals in the Lynn Snowchasers ski club of Lynn, Mass. that arranges jumping meets on small hills. There have also been several women known to have learned to jump in several of the East's ski jumping towns.

**IT'S HEALTHY, TOO**

Last year there was short-lived excitement over leaping ladies when the public feared for the health of the gals. A physician was approached with this problem: are women physically capable of the rigors of ski jumping?

The doctor announced that ski jumping was good exercise for any young woman of good health who went at the business sensibly. Since that decision, there has been no known upsurge of interest.

The M&M parties (4-7pm) Martini's & Manhattans were the only drinks of choice and perhaps beer at some of the parties who ever heard of serving soda or - horrors! - coffee! Gradually sombreros, Cape Codders, and other of the "batch" drinks became popular and, yes, soft drinks and coffee are always served as well as "top shelf" brands. Food sometimes also appears!

In my early days the EICSL party system was somewhat "catch-as-catch-can." Mostly people would call Phyllis Hayes' Mom and she would list the dates. This wound up with lots of parties on one weekend and possibly none on the next. By 1977 it became apparent that we needed new system. That year I organized and ran the first of the meetings that have come to be known as "Blood Bath." This system has served us well over the years, and has been modified as needed to suit the clubs.

Tri Club/Summer Club - you'll read about the evolution of Summer Club in Ed's article. Tri-club was organized in the early 60's by the Brett-Hupfers, Polecats, and Ski Bees. Annual and seasonal events were run, each club taking responsibility for putting on an event. The Tri-Club race was always fun; the trophy now resides at the Bees, the last club to win.

Summer events included softball, bicycling, and swimming at the Third Iron or Echo Lake. There were also dinners cooked by the members (not catered). Labor Day weekend saw the Bees doing a lamb shish ke bab dinner for 300 or so guests. This was followed by the annual toga party and chariot races on the Wedeln's front lawn always an exciting event.

By this time, of course, Tri Club had greatly expanded and could not accommodate all who wanted to attend its parties - thus the creation of Summer Club. Over time the number of people participating in both groups diminished appreciably so that now, in 2003, Summer Club is the organizing group for the off season activities.

We've gone up and down over the years, and have had problems here and there. We've lost some clubs - and gained others. The number of racers dropped dramatically at one point but is on the increase. The number of members, as always, fluctuates.

All in all, though, being a member of an EICSL club remains the most economical way to ski and to meet and become friends with some GREAT people.



## Ski Show Swap...

Many of you may not know that in addition to having a booth at the Ski Show there was a time when the League also ran a "Ski Swap".

Sometime in the early 70's, League board member and past president, Paul Parker of the Old Colony Ski Club was approached by Jerry Simon who had an idea he was putting in place to do a Ski Show. As part of the show, which would travel to some major US cities, including Boston, he wanted to set up an area at these shows where skiers could bring in their unwanted ski equipment and the League along with their counterparts in other cities would run this ski swap where items received would be sold for the asking price less a handling fee. All of the proceeds would go to the League and the space would be provided at no cost to the League.

Paul was all for the idea and asked me if I would help him with it

During the first show Bruce and Joyce Hardy who were selling ski equipment in an area of their home approached us. They asked if they could bring in some of their equipment under the same conditions as any individual. We had no problem with that as, at the time, we needed more equipment than we were getting. For the 13 years the League ran this "Swap" Bruce and Joyce not only were there but also helped out from set up to break down.

On the last day of the first show a gentleman named Dick Williams approached us and said he was in charge of a program for inner city children. The program was called YES which stood for Youth Enrichment Services. The program had been given space at a building on Mass Ave. in Boston and he wanted to know if we would donate whatever equipment people did not show up to reclaim by the end of the show to this program. All that we had at the end of the first show were items where people who sold a few of the things they brought in had said to just throw out whatever they had left. We were happy to give what was left to Dick.

When the Ski Show first started the schedule was: set up on Wednesday, show open Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 to 10 (very long hours) and break down on Monday. It was this way all of the years the League was involved with the "Swap." The show was held most of the time at the Hynes, once at the Trade Center and a couple of times at the armory off of Commonwealth Ave. A profit from the Swap was always made for the League. From about \$600 the first year to \$1500 to \$3000 thereafter.

After that first year I was named chair of the Ski Swap committee and ran the "Swap" for the next 12 years. The basic committee for this function consisted of myself, Inge Mueller & Jan O' Sullivan of the Hochflieger Ski Club and Al Smith from the Ski Daddlers Ski Club. Al and I were at the shows from Wednesday through Monday and Inge and Jan from Thursday through Sunday. Many other League members spent time helping to set up, work at the "Swap" and help break down. "Doc" Sosman of the Black and Blue Trailsmashers let us use the barn at his home to store our equipment as well as the League booth.

There were many things to deal with. We needed racks for skis, racks for clothes (racks were made by Al & occasionally others), rent or borrow tables for sweaters, gloves, hats, etc., rent cash registers, buy 3 part tags, deal with Boston fire laws, set up an enclosed office area, etc. and in later years deal with theft.

During the second year of the "Swap" we were approached by Strand's Ski Shop who also wanted to bring in some of their equipment abiding by the same set up we had for individuals. By the end of running this "Swap" we had about 12 small ski shops as well as Bruce and Joyce Hardy bringing in equipment and clothing along with hundreds of individuals.

Because times change, and business is business, sometime in the early 80's the "Swap" was given to Ski Market to run. Ski Market didn't exist when the Ski Show was conceived and the creation of it was a direct result of 3 men from New York who saw the Ski Swap at the Ski Show.

More memories...

...When I first started going to North Conway, Route 16 went through many towns and it took about 5 hours to get there. Each year it got a little better. Now-a-days it takes only 3 hours or so.

...Our banquets were attended by 500 people and we had to turn away some or they could come after dinner (for a fee) for the dancing.

...We had a winter event at the Eastern Slopes Inn every year for several years - it was semi formal!

...When I first went up, the mountains to ski were : Black, Cranmore, Intervale, and Sunday River (But SR was only a little hill much like Intervale) & Moose, just past Wakefield where we'd ski sometimes on Sunday on the way home. Wildcat opened the next year I went up - I think it was '59.

Phyllis Hayes  
Past President  
Member: Ski Bees



## The History of Summer Club...

Back in the late Seventies, Tri-Club, the premier summer organization of the League, had grown to a point where further expansion was impractical. Yet there were many members of other clubs who wanted to participate in the weekend activities organized by Tri-Club. Since invitations for the weekends were very hard to find, a group of individuals representing their clubs decided to create an alternative solution. So, on a warm summer evening in 1979, Summer Club was born.

The representatives of the five original clubs, Abenaki, Hickory Hawks, Randolph, 'SKimo's and Weymouth, met in Malden and planned events for the upcoming Labor Day weekend. They wanted to offer everything that Tri-Club was offering and decided to add a little extra. So along with Summer Club, the "Golden Toilet Bowl Volleyball Tournament" was also created. On Labor Day weekend in 1979, their plans and preparations came to life.

Starting the next year, Summer Club organized events for the three major holiday weekends. One aspect of these weekends the committee wanted to promote was daytime activities. Because of this, the committee started planning day events for the weekends. For example, on Memorial Day weekend there was a road rally (the M.W.V. 500?). Fourth of July usually brought canoeing down the Saco or maybe a softball tournament. Labor Day, of course, had the Golden Toilet Bowl Volleyball Tournament. Then, in 1986, Summer Club started traveling to Purity Springs Resort in Madison, NH to enjoy a day at the lake. Naturally, there were brunches, dinners and social activities included in the weekend activities. Summer Club had started to grow.

As we moved into the '90s, Summer Club came into it's own as we continued to offer varying activities throughout the season and the Valley - such ideas as a day at Attitash, the Mount Washington Hotel 0 of July fireworks, Mountain Biking on Wildcat and Sunday River, even more serious Softball, golf and Volleyball tournaments. Unfortunately, as Summer Club grew, Tri-Club (the original inspiration) faded. As such, many of the original Tri-Club ski clubs joined Summer Club and we became one organization.

With the addition of the Lawrencian Ski Club in 1996, Summer Club had grown to nine clubs. Although our participation has dwindled over the years, the committee still plans all the events for the weekends for all the clubs involved. This has lead to the clubs becoming closer as the members and guests enjoy the activities together. The organization has also become a vehicle for bringing new members into the clubs. Many guests who could not come up to ski in the winter have returned as guests in the summer. Once these guests have found out about the "greatest secret in the Valley", they've decided to stay. To them, and to all the future guests of summer and winter we say, "Welcome, come and join the fun"!

In the 1940's after World War II, the men that had returned from the war began running charity races for their fallen friends. They enjoyed racing and wanted an opportunity to do it competitively. The problem was that college students dominated the ski racing available at the time. What happened next is history...the history of the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League.

I will not do the EICSL history disservice by attempting to tell it. On the preceding pages are letters from Past Presidents of EICSL, thoughts and memories abound and I am sure you will find them as fascinating as I did. There are slight variations here and there but we all know how memories are...

My Presidency began in 2001. My involvement in the league began one sunny afternoon in 1997 at Shawnee Peak. A bunch of us were hanging around après-ski and a very charismatic guy came over and started talking to the group. He was going to be running for President of EICSL in the spring and wanted the votes of our clubs...that guy was John (JB) Bycina, by the end of the conversation he had somehow convinced me to be the "voice" of the EICSL Hotline. How I got from there to here is still a mystery.

In 1999 at the urging of JB, Marianne Merola and I brought back Fall Forum to educate members. An important program at Fall Forum is the Alcohol Service Awareness Program (ASAP); the local police, New Hampshire Public Health Department, sheriffs department and county attorney's office run it every year. This program has been a great bridge between EICSL and the local authorities that really appreciate us educating our members on alcohol awareness.

Thanks totally to the exhaustive efforts of Clark Linehan the traffic on the EICSL web site ([www.eicsl.org](http://www.eicsl.org)) has increased 500%! Our site is professional to look at and he created an online membership inquiry form that has brought many new members to clubs. Not to mention this is our second year of taking payments on line for lift tickets, events and trips. The addition of online ordering increased discount ticket sales enormously. EICSL is officially in the 21st century.

As any EICSL Past President or Club President will tell you this is a hard job...a job that cannot be done without a lot of teamwork and great people. Great people like Clark Linehan, Conrad Fong, Marianne Buschmann, Maria Rocco, Lori Erickson, John (JB) Bycina, Rick Gallagher (the son of an early member of EICSL), Bob Bonsignore, Dot Gilbert, Art Taddeo, Margy Wynn, Carol Fanning, Skippy Blake, Bob Malovich and many more. Very special thanks go to Past President Eileen Duffin for her hard work in contacting Past Presidents for this project and working the past 3 years on Fall Forum.

While the changes in our world have been great over the past 50 years, one constant has been the corner where EICSL resides. Where great people get together to ski, hike, canoe, tell stories of days gone past, hash over current events, share life's milestones, meet future husbands and wives and generally enjoy the beauty and serenity of the White Mountains and Mount Washington Valley.

Most Sincerely,  
Donna M. Hicks

The Eastern Inter Club Ski League is recognized as the Boston Council of the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association. It is incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is basically determined as a council representing 53 ski clubs of the Greater Boston Area with individual memberships approximating 5,000 skiers.

The League is now in its 20<sup>th</sup> season. It was originally founded by Leland Chisholm and Richard Bradley in 1946. At that time, Lee was the president of the Lynn Snow Chasers and Dick was president of the Wildecat Ski Club of Boston. Their interest was to bring the two clubs together for an informal ski competition that would allow the expert and the intermediate to have a try at competition on the recreational skiers level. That year the first race was held between the Wildcats, Snow Chasers, and the Innitou Ski Runners of Woburn. The race was decided a success and led to another competition that same year.

During the following summer months, the official organization was formed and a new method of scoring informal meets was developed. This method has been revised through the years, until a satisfactory procedure was arrived at. During the next two winters, the organization grew to twelve clubs, with nine competing clubs. Interest in the many aspects of skiing forced the League to expand its activities to include standard ski association committees on Ski Patrol, Amateur Instruction, Uniform Tests, First Aid Classes, Fund Raising, Association Participation, and a year-round program for its clubs.

No worthy cause has lacked the support of the League. Substantial contributions to the Olympic and U.S. Ski Team Funds, and aid to ski patrols with equipment are all part of the Leagues contribution to organized skiing. In past years the League published an official paper, which was circulated among the membership of the clubs comprising the League. Originally, the New England Ski News, and later the Northeast Ski Journal, the paper is no longer being published. However, in recent years, the League has published a booklet entitled "...about Ski Clubs," which was printed for the purpose of introducing skiers to the Eastern Inter Club Ski League, its member clubs, and its functions.

The League has grown steadily until it now encompasses 53 clubs. Through its interest in the government of the sport, its development of competitors and competition, and the activities of its committees, the League has come to play a great part in eastern skiing. Through the fine spirit of cooperation shown by the member clubs, the League has been able to stage many outstanding events, such as the National Ski Championships of 1955, the North East Championships, the National Ski Championships of 1961, the North American Alpine Championships of 1966, and this year of which we are justly proud.

*Copied from "North American Alpine Championships" program book.  
Cannon Mountain, Franconia, New Hampshire, March 10-11-12, 1967*

*There is an old picture of a shelter in Tuck's  
and the caption reads as follows:*

The second Tuckerman Ravine Shelter at Hermit Lake. After the fire of May 8, 1951 burned the original CCC building, the AMC and Forest Service together did not have adequate funds to build a replacement. A fund drive by the Eastern Inter-club Ski League led by Mt. Washington Ski Patrol leader Swampy Paris (Innitou SC) closed the gap, and construction of a new building with recycled lumber from the Forest Service commenced in the summer of 1952. A more modest building than the original it had a small crew room and a larger public room with a lunch counter dispensing sandwiches and snacks. In May 1972 this building was destroyed by a fire caused when a propane gas bottle shifted on melting snow and snapped the gas line to the building, spewing propane into the open flame of an operating space heater. Many 100-pound propane bottles exploded in the heat of the blaze and were found flattened in the surrounding woods. A third shelter was built in 1975 which provides caretaker quarters and a small information desk, but no skier warming room.

*from "Over the Headwall:  
A Short History of Skiing in  
Tuckerman Ravine"*



## Hockies, Wildcats, Snow Chasers Split 3-Way Team Races

The first three-way team race of the Eastern Inter-Club Ski League was held in a blinding snowstorm at Pinkham Notch Jan. 22 when one victory was won by each of the three teams.

The Malden (Mass.) Wildcats won the combined downhill-slalom for the men's A team race, the Hochfliegers (Greater Lowell, Mass.) won the combined men's B team race and the Lynn (Mass.) Snow Chasers won the women's combined.

More than 100 members of the three clubs were on hand to race, man telephone lines and officiate.

### MEN'S A TEAM

B. McDaniels, Wildcats .....	93.3
E. Yanakakis, Snow Chasers .....	93.4
R. Labombarde, Hockies .....	95.4
L. Horton, Wildcats .....	101.5
L. Chisholm, Snow Chasers .....	102.3
D. Lane, Wildcats .....	103.2
N. Gildersleeve, Snow Chasers .....	103.7
Robert Aldous, Hockies .....	107.0

### MEN'S B TEAM

E. Labombarde, Hockies .....	103.4
R. Johnson, Wildcats .....	110.2
J. Evans, Hockies .....	110.7
S. Sears, Snow Chasers .....	112.3
K. Yanakakis, Snow Chasers .....	112.9
F. Putnam, Wildcats .....	120.8

### WOMEN'S TEAM

C. Chisholm, Snow Chasers .....	119.8
B. Horton, Wildcats .....	121.4
B. Donovan, Snow Chasers .....	135.8
G. Chadwick, Hockies .....	155.3
A. Baker, Wildcats .....	158.2
M. Lynch, Hockies .....	163.5

FEB. 1, 1950

## EICSL 50th Anniversary Committee

Kary Yanakakis  
Paul Yanakakis  
Eileen Duffin  
Lori Erickson  
Carol Fanning  
Donna Hicks  
Clark Linehan

*Special thanks to Kary & Paul Yanakakis for allowing us to use material from the 1946-1957 Snow Chasers scrapbook*

### Inter-Club League<sup>12/11/49</sup> Elects Chisholm

New officers of the nine-club Eastern Inter-Club Ski League are: Lee Chisholm, president; Ray MacIntire, treasurer; Chris Cunningham, secretary. Officers were elected Nov. 14 when representatives of the Chamois, Hochflieger, Piscataqua, Massa Schusser, Lynn Snowchasers, Wildcat of Boston, Wakefield SkiBees, Innitou and Appalachian Mt. Club ski clubs met to plan the league racing schedule.

A giant slalom race for Class C and unclassified skiers will be run at the Pinkham Notch, N.H. slope on Jan. 29. This race will replace the Individuals Event usually scheduled for the end of the season.

This winter the Hochfliegers are trophy defenders in the A&B men's team race. The Wildcat Ski Club of Boston holds the women's team trophy.



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*Thanks to Chet & Sue Thompson for their contribution  
as Friends of EICSL.*

# The Ski Clubs of EICSL

Ace Ski and Board Club  
Ala-Bye Ski Club  
Abenaki Ski Club  
Birch Hill Ski Club  
Blitzschnell Ski Club  
Brettl-Hupfers Ski Club  
Brockton "Skimeisters" Ski Club  
Clipped Wings Ski Club  
Fall River Ski Club  
Greater Boston Ski Club  
Innitou "Ski Runners" Ski Club  
Lawrencian Ski Club  
Makusue Ski Club  
Massa-Schussers Ski Club  
Melrose Hickory Hawks  
Mr. Roger's Ski Club  
Old Colony Ski Club  
Otter Ski Club  
Polecat Ski Club  
Prospectors Ski Club  
Randolph Ski Club  
S-Kimos Ski Club  
Ski-Bees Ski Club  
Ski-Wheelers Ski Club  
Skidaddlers Ski and Sports Club  
Victor Luv Ski Club  
Wedeln Ski Club  
Weymouth Ski Club



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