



Happy Trails

The Newsletter of the Long Island Cross-Country Ski Club

The mission of the Long Island Cross Country Ski Club is to foster a love of cross-country skiing and of nature, and to be able to enjoy this with other like-minded people. We welcome individuals of all abilities.

See p. 4 for an article about our new mission statement!

President's Message

Hello Fellow Cross Country Enthusiasts!

Seems like the 2023–24 ski season is winding down, though we do have a group up at Garnet Hill the last week in February catching some decent conditions. Our last meeting of the season is March 21, 7 pm, at the Plainview–Old Bethpage Library, or via Zoom. The program has not been finalized yet. I will let you know the details prior to the meeting.

Anita Risener is working on our annual dinner scheduled for Saturday, April 27, always fun, with raffles and surprises for all. Details to follow. Do plan on attending.

I am very happy to announce that elections took place during the February meeting for the 2024–25 season. Our new president will be the very capable Kristi Halpern; Anita Risener continues as our Vice President, Ed Kislik as treasurer, and Carol MacBride as secretary. The

Executive Board works quietly behind the scenes to keep LICCSC moving forward. Many thanks to all who do their part to keep the club going, with trips to go away on and other activities to keep us interested.

Stay healthy, active and optimistic. And ...

THINK SNOW!



Ronnie Levy
President
LICCSC

The LICCSC Has a New President!

Ronnie Levy has served as our president for four years (two as co-president with Bruce Redlein). We are all extremely grateful for her efforts on behalf of the club, and appreciate her personal style, avoidance of drama, and caring but assertive leadership. Thank you, Ronnie!!

Kristi Halpern will be taking the helm of the club, aided by Vice President Anita Risener, Treasurer Ed Kislik, Secretary Carol MacBride, and all the other people on the executive board and in the member community who work together to make this club the excellent group it is. Consider leading a trip or even just proposing a get-together on or off-Island, in or off-season!

Upcoming Meeting

Thursday, March 21, 2024

All meetings start at 7 pm and are offered in person at the Plainview-Old Bethpage Library Room B, and virtually via Zoom link to be sent prior to each meeting.



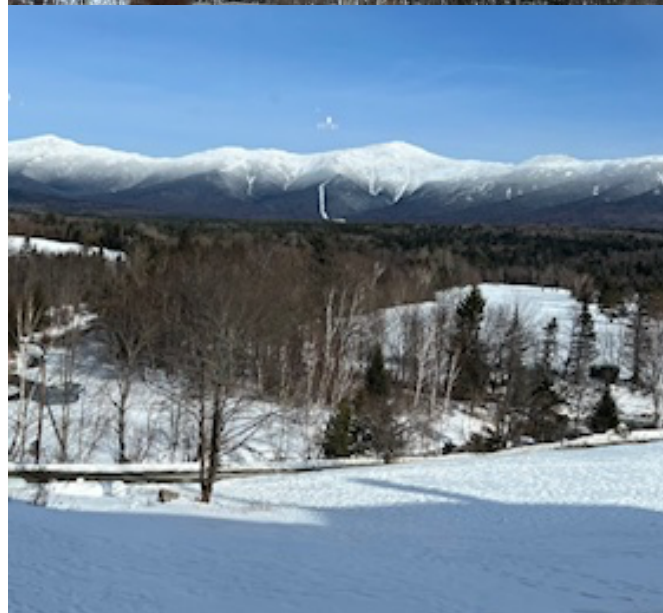
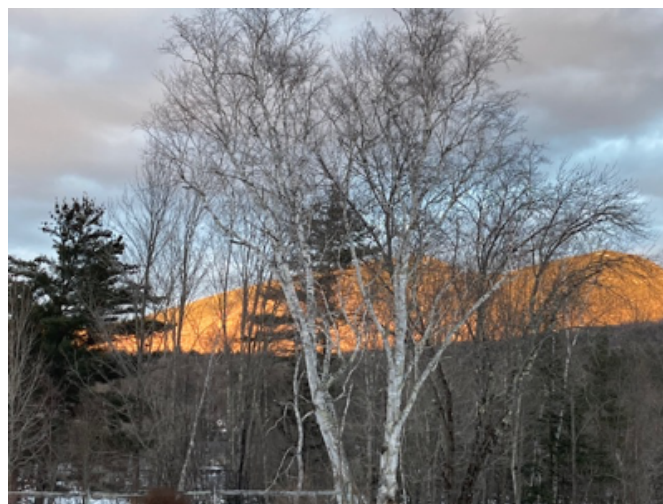
Photos from Club Trip to Eagle Mountain House



Top photo: Rich Travis, Charles Elioseff, Richie Mardosa, Regina Giglio, Lyn Lettieri, Janice McCabe, Ozzie Wenisch. Not pictured: Nanette Wenisch, Ron McCabe, Kristina Bilello, Sue and Jack DeMasi. Bottom left photo: Charles Elioseff, Ron McCabe, Regina Giglio, and Ozzie Wenisch. Bottom right photo: Lyn Lettieri, Ozzie Wenisch, and Charles Elioseff. Photos on this page and next courtesy of Janice McCabe, Lyn Lettieri, and Sue and Jack DeMasi.



Photos from Eagle Mountain House (cont'd)



Craftsbury Delivers Again by Marge McGuire

Before leaving, after a great week of skiing and fun at Craftsbury Outdoor Center in 2023, I booked my room for 2024. They said the trip fills up fast and I didn't want to take any chances. I lucked out with great roomies, each of whom I barely knew before the trip. My 2024 roomie and I booked the same room together for next year. But was it really luck? The LICCSC is such a great group of outdoorsy fun people that I don't think you could go wrong by taking the chances that I did. The food, friendly staff at Craftsbury, and comfy accommodations (not to mention affordable price) were so good, I didn't even care if we didn't have snow this year. I'm vegan, and the food alone was great (way better than my cooking!). The kitchen staff aim to

please, no matter what your dietary needs may be.

Despite getting rained out on Friday, the snow conditions this year were good. The skiing was great and after making the long trek to "town," an afternoon of snowshoeing was fun too! Even though we seemed to take a few wrong turns, we never got permanently lost! Adventure is half the fun, isn't it?

If you have never been to Craftsbury, I highly recommend it! Don't overthink it. A lot can change in a year and their cancellation policy is excellent (where else do you lose only about \$20 if you cancel as close as two weeks before?), but with such a great group, I'm sure that whatever comes up, we can make it work!

Our Club Now Has a Mission Statement

A mission statement has been adopted by our club. Definition: "A mission statement accurately defines an organization's guiding principles and unites their members around a common purpose."

Composing a Mission Statement for our club was a process. Here is how it was done: First, the Mission Statement Committee carefully reviewed our members' responses to our ten-question survey form. Then, the committee considered our own research on effective mission statements. We then composed the Mission Statement. Finally, our executive board voted on it and it was adopted.

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We would like to thank all the members of our club who responded to our Mission Statement Survey and helped us accurately define our organization's guiding principles. See you on the trails!

—Judy Kislik, Helen Horton, Ellie Perlman

LICCSC Donation to the Plainview-Old Bethpage

Library



On February 22, LICCSC Treasurer Ed Kislik (pictured right) presented the club's donation of \$100 to Eileen Sill, from the Plainview-Old Bethpage Library's business office, in gratitude for allowing us to hold our meetings at the library, and for their help in ensuring that the meetings run smoothly. Thanks, Ed!

Photos from Trip to Garnet Hill



Photos submitted by Judy Kislik and Anita Risener.

Ski Clubs Unite! A Trip with Miramar by Kristi Halpern

I recently asked myself: Is my ski season over? After returning from the LICCSC trip to Craftsbury I was able to ski two days on Long Island. Wow. Okay, two more days is just not enough! So, I took the plunge and signed up for a ski trip to Vermont with the Miramar Ski Club. This New York ski club has been established a long time and has their own ski lodge in Waitsfield, Vermont. All I had to do was meet the bus at a convenient spot on Long Island and off I went!

I was able to try out two cross country ski areas I had never been to. On Saturday morning, the charter bus dropped off four skiers at Ole's Cross Country Ski Center. Conditions were marginal, temps were in the teens, and few trails were open, but I was very happy to try out my new Rossignol touring skis. Ole's trail fees and rentals are reasonably priced, and they have a comfy lodge for enjoying a bagged lunch.

After day of skiing, what a pleasure it was to return to the Miramar Ski Lodge and enjoy a hot shower, cocktail hour, and a chef-prepared dinner.

Sunday morning we packed up and the bus drove an hour south and dropped off downhillers at Killington and took the three remaining XC skiers to Mountain Top Resort. There was a lot more snow there, but even with warmer temps, the conditions were rather firm and slick. Since it is called "Mountain Top" all the trails were either up or down. By 3 pm we were done skiing and headed back to

Killington for pickup and the return trip to NYC and Long Island.

Miramar is a friendly club; although mainly an alpine club, they can accommodate XC skiers as well. It was an enjoyable, all-inclusive weekend (trail passes extra). I even enticed a few to join LICCSC!



One of many great views at Mountain Top Resort, Chittenden, Vermont.



Above photo: Ole's Cross Country Ski Center in Warren, Vermont, is also an airfield. Right: Kristi, standing, left, with Miramar skiers.





Finally, some local snow! A view of ski tracks and the beautiful copper beech at Caumsett State Park, Lloyd Harbor, New York. Photo by Kristi Halpern.

Message from Your Membership Chairperson

LICCSC Current Members: 114. New Members so far this season: 13

I would like to ask all current members to help us grow. Invite others you know to join LICCSC. Equally important is to make sure we all welcome new members and encourage them to feel included in all club activities. If you see someone you don't know at a meeting or at a XC ski event – go up and introduce yourself. They would probably like to meet you as much as you would like to meet them. ***Please remember to include/invite new members to ski when we have local snow or to include them on XC trips or in carpooling, etc.*** I am passionate about this club and I suspect you are as well. Help us grow by welcoming new people to this great club. ***Invite them to come play in the snow with us!*** —Kim Schultze, Membership Chairperson

Club Officers

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