Doug Slater Collection

Picture of my boat in 1950, with a 22 hp. Evinrude opposite twin cylinder outboard motor. I had the towing power and Ed Pegg had the skis. That is Ed Pegg looking out the cabin window and myself holding on to the paddle.
Doug Slater Collection 10 Skiers, the first year we pulled multiple skiers.
Doug Slater Collection     Fifteen People On Water Skis, The second year we pulled multiple skiers. Don Burnett sitting beside Doug Slater driving the boat and to give you an idea of just how small that boat is for pulling fifteen skiers never mind twenty. The boat is 13ft., 9in. long and 4ft., 4in. wide (52 in.) I beefed up the transom to handle a 100 hp. Mercury motor and eventually pull 20 skiers. The motor has a 11in. pitch propeller used on moving barges up and down river.
This is a side view of the twenty skiers after they had just passed under the bridge. This pic gives a better idea just how small the boat pulling them is. It is amazing that twenty skiers managed to navigate (Ski) thru that narrow opening under the bridge never mind being towed.
Doug Slater Collection  This is side view of five girls skiing on one ski, this was quite a feat in the early days of skiing on one ski, not sure of the year. Mabel McInnis, Susan Dobson, Cathie Price, Norrie Howat and Laurel Gilmore.
Doug Slater Collection

This is a picture of Ed Pegg on the left and Doug Slater on the right with a young fella that Mabel and I could not remember his name, he appeared to be quite at home on our shoulders.
Doug Slater Collection  This is a picture of the ski jump used in our Water Shows and shows Cuthbert McNeil and Doug Slater making necessary repairs on it. The ski jump was adjustable from 2ft. to a height of 6ft. It was parked at my dock back in the 1960's
Doug Slater Collection preparing for the jump thru the ring of fire. That is Doug Slater standing on the end of jump. Tom Gilmore, was the probable jumper. In the ski jump and ring of fire it could of been Ed Pegg, Phil McClellan or Tom Gilmore performing. This event involved a large half ring rapped in rags attached on one side of the high end of the jump with an opening on the her end of the half ring on the high end of the jump for the ski rope to go thru. The rags on the half loop ring were soaked in gas and lit just before the skier went over the jump. The skier actually jumped thru a huge ring of fire. I designed this event and most of the events for our water shows but with out the co-operation and enthusiasm of all our skiers and parents with their boats there would have been no Water Shows.
Douglas Slater Collection Louise McNeil -s. Playing the part of "Grandma" on water skis
Louise McNeil - Playing the part of "Grandma" on water skis
Doug Slater Collection  Getting Ready to take off with the Kite
Doug Slater taxing for take off with water skis and kite.
Doug Slater Collection  Doug Slater and kite just after take off
Doug Slater Collection

Doug Slater and kite gaining altitude
Doug Slater Collection  Dloug Slater and Kite flying over a boat taking pictures
Doug Slater Collection
Doug Slater Kite: There was no room in the Flin Flon Museum so it was stored in the Kenora Ont. Ship Museum "The Kenora"
Doug Slater Collection  Doug Slate: First Water Ski Kite in Canada - Second in North America
Doug Slater holding a framed information chart.
Doug Slater Collection ....That is a pair of home-made skis and harness ( by Slater ) resting under Doug Slater's kite in the hold of the steam ship ( not sure if the ship's name is Keenora or Kenora ) that steamed up & down Manitoba's Red River located in Selkirk's Marina Museum.
Doug Slater Collection  

This is a picture showing other ships located in Selkirk's Marina Museum. The stairs on the right of the picture lead up to the deck of the ship Kenora or keenora.
Doug Slater Collection scan pictures but do give you an idea of the amount of spills I took trying to perfect my kite, it took a couple of summers to be able to fly miles. Picture it appears that I just lost a ski and the resulting spill looks inevitable.
Doug Slater Collection do not remember how this one ended up, but it doesn't look good.
Doug Slater Collection, looks like Doug Slater and the Kite have parted ways and will have separate landings.
it appears that I just lost a ski and the resulting spill looks inevitable
Doug Slater Collection  The boat pulling the skiers using a work prop (11in. pitch) pulled 10 skiers at once off the dock. Each skier had two tow ropes, one for themselves and one for transferring. Three other transfer boats were used to transfer the ten other skiers on to the main tow boat. They would pull along side the ten skiers and ropes would transferred until all skiers were behind the main tow boat. It took some great co-ordination and skiing for this transfer and lots of open water to complete the transfer.
Five Person Pyramid. Regarding the five skier pyramid they were attached to a single tow rope that branched into approximately a six foot bar for the men and two short ones for the girls. The bar was the stabilizer of the pyramid. Facing the men from the boat on the left it was Phil McClellan, Ed Pegg in the middle and Harry Whitely on the right. Both Phil & Harry had the two ropes attached to the single line from the boat. The two girls were pulled behind individual boats that came along side of Phil & Harry, the men passed their spare rope to the girls. Norrie Howat on the left took a rope from Phil and Mabel McInnis from Harry on the right. Everybody now has their own short rope. Phil & Harry work together with the girls getting them transferred onto their skis. Ed in the middle has homemade 10 in. wide skis that help steady this event. Now the girls each with their own rope and with the help of all three men worked their way up to the mens' shoulders. I don't correctly recall on how we step by step transferred the girls up onto the mens' shoulders but we did practice this maneuver on shore.