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Contact:

Robert Renton: (905) 257-6204

Andrew Taylor: (905) 895-5769

Christopher Taylor: (705) 487-1735

<http://www.muskokaseaflea.ca>

email: gofast@muskokaseaflea.ca

The term Seaflea is a generic name given to any number of small boat designs, usually home built and powered by small outboard motors. The typical seafleas of yesterday were 8 to 12 feet in length and powered by motors from 2 1/2 to 25 hp. Once popular, (long before the advent of personal water craft), they were great family projects and were not only safe to drive but also the envy of any other kid on the lake who was unlucky enough not to have one.

The Muskoka Seaflea website began in 2001 after Chris and Andrew Taylor decided to post pictures of their Mini Max Seaflea construction process on the internet. At that time there was very little information on these once popular home built hydroplanes that dominated cottage lakes during the 50's, 60's and 70's. Most of these cottage racers were constructed from plans printed in the Science and Mechanics magazine issues of that era. After stumbling across a set of plans for the "Mini Max" the two brothers took a week during the summer of 2001 and assembled two of these 8-foot long boats. The rest they say is history.

Since 2001 the Muskoka Seaflea website has been involved in a number of initiatives promoting safe and family oriented boating. Our affiliation with ACBS International and ACBS Toronto, the Muskoka Lakes Antique and Classic Boat Show, The Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre, the Maple Leaf Chapter of the Antique Outboard Motor Club as well as other organizations has made us the top rated resource on the Internet for all things seaflea. With over 1000 members alone on our forum, and photo and video contributions from Canada, the US and around the world we have assembled a wealth of knowledge on boat designs, building information and plans...all absolutely free!

This summer, Muskoka Seaflea is proud to host our fifth annual "Fleafest" in association with The Antique and Classic Boat Society, Toronto. This family oriented fun-filled day takes place at the Muskoka Wharf in Gravenhurst, Ontario. Over 50 vintage and homebuilt seafleas will be in the water and on land displays. The focus of this event will be the sharing of information among our members and demonstrations of boat performance and handling. We will also have on display the three constructed Mini Max seafleas built during our Seaflea Building Workshop held on April 25. Cardboard boat building and racing will take place from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. The highlight of the day will be the seaflea in-water demonstration runs from 1:00 to 2:00 pm where Steam Boat Bay will be "abuzz" with seafleas of all types! And.... we will once again have our boat building tent set up for those who wish to build and paint a model of a classic seaflea racer!

Participants must pre-register their boats on the Toronto ACBS website in order to bring their seafleas. Two free admission tickets will be given to those who register and bring their boats. Registration and further information is available at our website: www.muskokaseaflea.ca.

We eagerly invite members of the media and the general public to Fleafest 2015 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, July 11. Admission to Fleafest 2014 is \$15.00 and includes admission to the huge ACBS Summer Boat Show. See you there!