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KUED The Alta Experience

Interview of:

BILL BINGER

JONO BINGER

CHRIS BINGER

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 Q. -- transcribing it, we know who you are.

3 BILL BINGER: So, Bill Binger. B-I-L-L,
4 B-I-N-G-E-R.

5 Q. And then -- and John?

6 JONO BINGER: Jono Binger. J-O-N-O
7 B-I-N-G-E-R.

8 Q. Okay. Now, let's start with Bill on a
9 single.

10 What -- what brought you up there?

11 BILL BINGER: I graduated from the
12 University of New Hampshire in 1971, and I was working
13 at Lune Mountain on the ski patrol there.

14 And I had kind of a three-year plan after
15 college. One year -- one more year New England, one
16 year out West, and then one year traveling around the
17 world.

18 And I figured I'd figure out what I wanted
19 to do next.

20 And when -- when I was trying to put
21 together money to come out here, I was working for a
22 steel company and writing for jobs at different ski
23 areas.

24 And the day I went in to tell them I was
25 leaving, I still didn't have a job out here, but I went

1 in and talked to this captain of industry. White
2 haired guy. Stick pin tie. Three-piece suit.

3 And he said, Now, where are you going? And
4 I said, I'm going out West.

5 What are you going to do?

6 I'm going skiing.

7 You know, young man, you can't do that all
8 your life.

9 And I said, Mr. Eissler, that sounds like
10 the best reason to do it right now. I'm leaving.

11 And so I packed up my Volkswagen bus, and
12 it --

13 And at U & H I had had a poster on my wall.
14 Great big mountain. I don't know where it was, I just
15 happened to like the -- the -- the picture. And I got
16 out West, and I'd -- I'd written a piece about that.
17 Mount Superior, Alta.

18 Of course I didn't know it was Mount
19 Superior.

20 At U & H, a poster on my wall.

21 Winter, spring, summer and fall.

22 A great mountain somewhere out West.

23 There may be better, I thought, at best.

24 To head out in my old VW bus.

25 My dad made somewhat of a fuss.

1 Let's cut the grass, then have a beer.

2 How can you be unhappy here?

3 A steel company wants you to be.

4 industrial management trainee.

5 An opportunity they are giving.

6 Skiing? That's no way to make a living.

7 So there I was, riding the old Wildcat lift.

8 Over my right shoulder, there it was.

9 A gift.

10 Gleaming snow, brilliant in the sun.

11 Mount Superior.

12 My life at Alta had begun.

13 The poster long gone did not endure.

14 I made the right choice, that's for sure.

15 Much of my life in the sight of that

16 mountain.

17 Life truly lived.

18 It's those blessings I'm counting.

19 And one of those blessings is my son. Right

20 here.

21 Q. And when you -- when you think about your
22 son, and coming out here, and kind of seeing how it's
23 all turned out, what kind of feeling does it get to
24 see -- I mean, how he's turned out? How both of
25 them -- how Chris and Jono turned out?

1 BILL BINGER: Well, the cool thing is is
2 that not only do I love them, I like them. And we've
3 had a lot of fun over the years.

4 And I remember skiing with them as little
5 kids. And Dwight Butler from Wasatch Touring and I
6 would go out. And one of the be -- one of us would be
7 out ahead. In deep powder days, they'd -- they'd go
8 down, and they'd keep going until the drag on their
9 poles got so much that it spun them around and you'd
10 see this poof. And whoever was behind would come down
11 and pick them up, shake them off, and set them back on
12 their feet. And we'd keep doing it.

13 But, you know, with their mom, whom I met at
14 Alta. She was running the Rustler Lodge dining room.

15 You know, our family skied, and skied hard.

16 Skiing on storm days was the very best.

17 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

18 BILL BINGER: And that was -- that was our
19 favorite.

20 And, you know, it's -- but it's a community.
21 It's more than just skiing. I mean, I think you can do
22 that anywhere. But the people, indeed, are what --
23 what make the place.

24 And the people who came there in the early
25 '70s -- it seemed like there was a transition that went

1 on, and the class -- the '70s went on to -- well, run
2 the place. So.

3 But it's been -- it's been a good life, and
4 it continues to be.

5 Q. When you think about that, the two -- give
6 me a two-shot.

7 When you think about when you were a little
8 kid, in skiing, the size of it, I mean, did it
9 intimidate you? Did you think, Wow, what a big
10 mountain? Or is it the only mountain that you ever
11 knew?

12 JONO BINGER: Well, it was the only mountain
13 that I ever knew, but it was always intimidating.

14 I mean, you ride up the lift going -- you
15 know.

16 You know, when you started out, I remember,
17 you know, thinking the snow is just so deep.

18 You know, like walking up from the parking
19 lot, just be going, Oh, my gosh. I have to go skiing
20 in this? You're freaking yourself out for the day.

21 And then you kind of get on the lift, get
22 your skis on, you know, start going down, and just get
23 back in the rhythm, and, you know, you have your family
24 around you. All of your friends. And picking you up
25 as you fall, and just making those trends on the way

1 down.

2 BILL BINGER: He was ten when he skied the
3 main chute for the first time, on Baldy.

4 And I remember when I first came to -- to
5 Alta, and I looked over at Mount -- at Mount Baldy, and
6 I thought, Wow. I'll think I'm a skier when I can ski
7 that.

8 And Jono did it at ten. And I think
9 Christopher did about the same thing. He called me at
10 work and said, Hey, dad. I skied the chutes. And I
11 said, Who did you go up with? And he said, Well, I
12 went up alone.

13 And I said, Well, what did you ski? And he
14 said, Little Chute to Dog Leg. And that was his first
15 run at ten years old.

16 And then he said that he had seen that there
17 was a fellow from the cat crew who was skiing free
18 heel, so he followed him and figured that he could ski
19 it free heel. He wouldn't have any problems.

20 Q. Yeah. I think the equipment has really made
21 it so people kind of can ski -- like in the '70s, I
22 guess contrast what it was like with the equipment in
23 the '70s to nowadays.

24 BILL BINGER: Well, we were skiing it on
25 stiff slalom skis, and didn't know it any better.

1 Hanging at Alf's is a pair of nice old red
2 star slaloms, with leather boots, and --

3 You know, I just didn't -- didn't know
4 any -- any -- any different. You just had to learn how
5 to ski it.

6 And the big difference was that, you know,
7 coming along and learning how to ski, you could -- you
8 could ski a line, say on the shoulder, go down, ride
9 back up, look at your tracks, figure out what you'd
10 done, what you wanted to do differently, and pick out
11 your next run and go ski it.

12 And now, it's sort of like the Oklahoma land
13 rush, or -- or -- or the --

14 You know, you look at people going out to
15 the castle now, and it looks like the Klondike miners
16 going over Chilkute Pass.

17 It's -- it's different, but -- but I think
18 the equipment has made it possible to extend the life
19 of all us '70s skiers, in -- well, into a whole new
20 century. You know?

21 And we're hoping to keep doing it for a long
22 time.

23 Q. Yeah. What's amazing to me too, is that,
24 you know, you -- there, on a powder day, there will be
25 people standing around waiting for a gate to open. Has

1 it always been like that?

2 BILL BINGER: When I first started, there
3 weren't gates. There were just occasional signs. And
4 people seemed to abide by them. There was a certain
5 etiquette, that, you know, people observed, and most
6 people stayed out of closed areas, you know, with the
7 signage. Rope lines came along, and there'd be people
8 that you knew standing there waiting for you to open
9 it, but they were trading on insider information.

10 JONO BINGER: I remember that with -- you
11 know, coming up -- this year, actually, rolling up to
12 the top of Collins lift, poking around in the top
13 shark, and trying to hunt him down.

14 And we were all in, and somebody goes, Hey,
15 we're about to go up in Ballroom. Do you guys want to
16 go?

17 And it's like, All right. Dad? Catch the
18 next lap.

19 And, you know, Chris and I were like, you
20 know, we go checking out there. And no one was
21 standing in line, because they weren't thinking they
22 were going to open it that way. And we're just, you
23 know, boom. Zip out there. You know? Seconds right
24 after the patroller, and then drop in and go ski.

25 So it's kind of inside -- insider

1 information right there.

2 Q. Yeah.

3 I think also, you know, even -- not the
4 casual --

5 Now, over the years, you've had some pretty
6 interesting experiences as far as, you know, the
7 progression of the ski patrol, and the progression of
8 things up there.

9 Talk a little bit about what it's like to
10 kind of ski around with bombs in your pack, and do
11 control work, and kind of -- kind of work the mountain.

12 BILL BINGER: Umm, when I started, in 1972,
13 there were only 12 or 13 of us on the -- on the ski
14 patrol. And then there was a massive in flux of
15 weekenders on Saturdays and Sundays.

16 So when -- when I came out from New
17 Hampshire, the -- the fellow who interviewed ahead of
18 me was also out from New Hampshire. And he made a big
19 deal out of the fact that he belonged to this
20 professional ski patrol association. And he came out
21 and said, you know, I think they may have some jobs
22 available for next season. But you better get in
23 there.

24 So I went in and interviewed with Kort
25 Richardson. I think Doug Richardson. And they said,

1 Now -- now what's this PSPA thing? And I said, It
2 means I know how to ski ice in the east. It has
3 absolutely nothing to do with anything out here. But
4 I'd like a chance to, you know, learn -- learn
5 avalanche work, and skiing out here.

6 So I came out, and next thing I knew, I was
7 doing routes, and was -- was relatively clueless. And
8 we kind of made it up as we -- as we went.

9 There was a -- an emerging -- you know, it
10 was art and science mixed -- mixed together. And Raul
11 was kind of surprised by -- by what we saw happening,
12 and none so much as December of 1973, when there were
13 huge avalanches.

14 Peter -- Peter Love, who was one of the snow
15 rangers at the time, said they were probably 100 years
16 storms. That there hadn't been slides like this since
17 the mining days.

18 And, you know, seeing the absolute
19 destruction, the -- the power was just amazing.

20 And the way the snow safety program has
21 gone, with Onno, and then -- let's see. Buff McLowry,
22 Bill Hofmann, and now Titus Case, they've -- they've
23 been -- we've been able to open more areas, more
24 frequently, and say -- in a safer manner.

25 And that's the big thing that I think Alta

1 has going for it, is a record of progressive avalanche
2 control work, and an eye towards safety, always.

3 It's the only ski patrol in the country that
4 has a circle with a snowflake instead of a cross target
5 on your back.

6 And I don't know what that all means, but
7 it's the longest job I've had in my life, so.

8 Q. When you think -- let's go back to that
9 storm cycle. That 1972 storm cycle.

10 Talk a little bit about some of the -- I
11 mean, everything went.

12 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

13 Q. Slid -- you know?

14 Slides crossing the road, slides hitting
15 buildings. And not -- you know, not loose snow ones,
16 but like big ol' climax slides.

17 A. Yeah. December 30th, things started
18 happening. I mean, it was snowing so hard that, from
19 my room at the Buck Horn, you couldn't even see the
20 mine. Which is, you know, the -- just on the knoll
21 above there.

22 And finally we went -- we went out to see if
23 we could at least get a limited opening going on the
24 lower mountain, and the -- the 105-shot, you know, up
25 on P ridge. Just as we were finishing our routes, and

1 we felt the wind blast, and the -- the windows shake,
2 and knew something was up.

3 And came around the corner, and, you know,
4 the Alta Lodge had been hit. The parking lot had been
5 crossed. There were vehicles that had been pushed --
6 well, a long ways from where they had started.

7 And the next day, it was clear and
8 absolutely beautiful. And there were more big
9 slides -- huge dust clouds going down across the main
10 road, below Superior. And, again, you know, we
11 positioned ourselves to do rescue work as might be
12 needed. And miraculously, there was not as much damage
13 as there -- as there might have been, but --

14 I don't think we've seen anything like that
15 since -- since then. And that's by in large due to
16 the, I think the efforts of the snow safety people, and
17 the --

18 You know, there's more people than I even --
19 even name.

20 Q. Do you think --

21 BILL BINGER: Just --

22 Q. -- that nowadays too, also skier compaction
23 on the mountain plays a big role in how snow is
24 controlled?

25 BILL BINGER: Well, yeah. I mean, the snow

1 safety people -- Titus and Howe, Gabe Garcia, you know,
2 they get people out sooner, in -- into areas. And over
3 the course of the season, it definitely makes a
4 difference.

5 You know, we used to wait for things. You
6 know, open the back side the following day, the
7 shoulder another day. Devil's Castle. You know, in
8 some sort of sequence, thinking that by waiting, you'd
9 let things settle down.

10 And I think with the -- the more aggressive
11 management of the snow pack, they are able to -- to get
12 a compaction that enhances the stability and the
13 safety. So, yeah. It's -- it's changed a lot.

14 Q. So basically what --

15 BILL BINGER: Well, I've always tried to get
16 the guys up for -- for good ski days.

17 And probably the best note that I ever wrote
18 to -- for Jonathan at school was -- he was going to
19 school at Rowland Hall. And it was probably the best
20 powder day of the year.

21 And I sent a note, To whom it may concern.
22 In order for Jonathan Binger to feel well tomorrow --
23 as well as possible tomorrow, I believe it essential
24 that he not attend school today.

25 And I guess this note made the rounds of --

1 the teacher's rounds, and a couple of the teachers
2 bolted and came up and went skiing too.

3 Q. Well, talk a little bit about that.

4 I mean, I have a new -- a new baby. I'm
5 very excited to write those kinds of notes, and to take
6 him out of school when -- when it's appropriate.

7 How was it to -- that, you know, you -- that
8 your dad could see the magic? You know? Like
9 realize that you're probably learning more by going
10 skiing today than what you were going to learn in
11 school.

12 JONO BINGER: Oh, it was great. I mean, I
13 was -- you know, I was plugged in -- along with
14 Christopher, we were plugged into AYC early on. And
15 kind of began skiing there.

16 And so every weekend, instead of hanging out
17 with friends, you know, just kind of kicking around
18 Salt Lake, from school, we'd go up to the mountain.
19 Hang out up there. And, you know, catch a ride up
20 early with him.

21 And either -- like -- but before we were
22 really good skiers, we'd go up to Watsons, hang out
23 there. Eat food. And then kind of go down to -- take
24 a run and then go across the Albian, to meet the group.
25 And then we'd all head out and skiing for the day.

1 And it was just a -- it was a great network
2 to be involved in. Especially growing up.

3 Because, you know, there was always someone
4 there teaching you. More. And you have a group that
5 was always pushing you.

6 So that, you know, you were just always
7 developing your skills.

8 And living in the valley, and going to
9 school down here, and being at Rowland Hall, you know,
10 it was a small enough community there that they
11 understood that -- where I was going, and how important
12 it was. So.

13 I mean, I -- I remember, you know, getting
14 up before the road closed, and trying to make the
15 closures.

16 So we'd get up there, and, you know, if the
17 road was closed for -- until like noon, we'd still be
18 out skiing, so.

19 Q. Nice.

20 How about thinking in terms of this. You
21 know people that are kind of casual skiers. People
22 that ski, and ski.

23 I mean, you guys are skiers. Like it's in
24 your core. You know. It's part of what you do.

25 Why do you think it is so important?

1 And the answer is probably pretty obvious,
2 but, you know, I mean --

3 JONO BINGER: No --

4 Q. Think about it from an emotional level. I
5 mean, how -- the feeling that you get when you're on
6 the mountain.

7 What it's like when you're ripping a run.
8 You know, like one of your favorite runs. You know,
9 draw it in your mind and think about that feeling that
10 it gives you.

11 JONO BINGER: I mean -- I got -- I mean,
12 it's kind -- you know, bliss going down. As you're
13 just engulfed by the snow.

14 Occasionally getting breaths, and then just
15 kind of going back into it.

16 And either chasing someone, or being chased,
17 and just trying to make this as fast a lap as possible.
18 And try to get to those little stashes that you know
19 about, and just kind of knowing it -- knowing it so
20 well, and it being an intricate part of kind of who
21 you've been, forever.

22 And -- and, I don't know. Just -- it's just
23 a love that you always have.

24 BILL BINGER: You ever watch the ermine in
25 Albian basin?

1 You know, they're -- they're -- they're
2 going along, and Pshew, they're up and down, going
3 along.

4 And like happy little animals.

5 I mean, and I know the smaller animals don't
6 fare so well at the teeth of the bigger ones, but
7 nonetheless, you know, it's -- it's pretty cool.

8 And just chasing each other around, and the
9 energy builds, and you just -- spent by the end of the
10 day.

11 It's --

12 Q. That's great.

13 JONO BINGER: And another great thing about
14 being up there was -- and always being up there, where
15 you have people coming in from out of town, that just
16 kind of ski the entire day. And if the conditions
17 change, and you can be out there for a little while,
18 and if it's just not quite where you want to be, you
19 can -- you don't feel bad about just taking some time
20 off, hanging out. And then going back out and taking
21 some more laps.

22 You know, see if the conditions have
23 changed. The visibility has cleared up. Or if the
24 wind directions have loaded, you know, certain pocket,
25 and making laps on that.

1 I mean, I remember those days where there
2 was just like your -- just erasing your own tracks as
3 you go by, and come back again and just refreshes.

4 Q. Classic free refills.

5 JONO BINGER: Exactly.

6 Q. When you -- well, think about that kind of
7 intimate knowledge of the mountain. When you're out
8 there skiing, talk about how you can read the mountain.

9 You know, maybe the sun has been over hear,
10 or the wind's blowing, or, you know, this has been kind
11 of protected from this storm kind of thing. Talk a bit
12 about how the mountain is kind of elastic, and you can
13 pretty much always find something good if you kind of
14 know what you're doing.

15 BILL BINGER: Mm-hmm.

16 Nature's grooming.

17 JONO BINGER: Yeah. I -- nature's grooming.

18 A prime example would be kind of West
19 Rustler area.

20 Coming out the high T, dropping down. I
21 mean, you get that area buffed, it's like skiing on,
22 you know, stiff styrofoam. Nature's grooming right
23 there. I don't know.

24 BILL BINGER: Or -- or -- or the powder. I
25 mean, you know, the kids learned early on that the more

1 northerly facing areas are going to hold the snow
2 better, where the shadows are, at what time of year.

3 Going out to the wall on the Castle is
4 probably the last great powder skiing that -- that
5 there will be.

6 And then, as -- as you move on into spring,
7 you know, where's --

8 JONO BINGER: What's softening up first?

9 BILL BINGER: Yeah. Where's the corn snow
10 going to be?

11 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

12 BILL BINGER: You know, right -- south
13 facing exposures.

14 Just moving around. You know, get a feel
15 for it. And if it wasn't quite right on the first run,
16 move it over a little bit, and -- and just adjust it.

17 And -- and these guys got very good at
18 reading that.

19 JONO BINGER: There really is, though,
20 always fun skiing. Every day. No matter where you
21 are. Whether it's just taking groomers while you're
22 waiting for it to warm up, or going off piece and
23 poking around.

24 Q. I mean, literally, I've never -- I don't
25 think I've ever been skunked. I've never gone up there

1 and said I'm going home.

2 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

3 Q. There's always something, you know, to ski.

4 Or at the very least, you just kind of
5 noodle.

6 BILL BINGER: Yeah. Yeah.

7 But some of the -- some of the most
8 unexpectedly good days are the days that don't look all
9 that good from -- from down here.

10 And you get up and kind of go, Whew.

11 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

12 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

13 JONO BINGER: Like you wake up in the
14 morning and it just looks all gray out in Salt Lake.
15 And you kind of cruise up the canyon, move right out of
16 the clouds, and there's some clear skiing.

17 Q. I remember that actually my first trip up
18 Little Cottonwood Canyon, that was the case. You know,
19 it was. You know.

20 Talk a little bit about --

21 Bill, it looks like you're moving in a
22 direction. Where are you going?

23 BILL BINGER: Umm, back when you were
24 talking about, you know, the way -- the way things were
25 when I first got there. And what -- what was the read

1 on things.

2 Kent Hunnengarner, who was the general
3 manager at Snowbird for years, also came out of the
4 Alta Ski Patrol. And he and I were sitting at the top
5 of Emma Ridge, waiting for the -- the corn snow to go
6 off one day.

7 And I told him the story about getting hired
8 out here for \$200 a month plus room and board, and I'd
9 made the mistake of telling my dad that. And that's
10 when he said -- you know, he lit his pipe. Let's
11 finish the grass. You know, that -- that whole thing.

12 And he said, Yeah, I had the same problem.
13 Only I started for 150 a month.

14 And I've always said it's so much fun for so
15 little money. And starting at Alta back in the day,
16 ski patrollers didn't earn much pay. \$200 a month plus
17 room and board. The whole point was skiing, not cash
18 reward.

19 It was explained to me by a patroller,

20 Oh so wise.

21 Just being here at Alta

22 was half the prize.

23 First tracks down High Rustler

24 was good for 20 bucks.

25 Nights with girls in the lodges

1 worth much more with luck.

2 Making lots of money

3 wasn't my skiing plan.

4 But I came away each spring

5 a pretty wealthy man.

6 You know?

7 And all of us are. That are part of that

8 community up there.

9 It's -- it's just been -- it's been an
10 extraordinary place to find. And the people who don't
11 get it, leave and go away. And those who do, get a
12 locker, like you, and meet people like him, and --

13 I love that place, and I love the people.
14 It's been a very sustaining element of -- of my life,
15 and I think our lives together.

16 Q. When you -- I mean, you've pretty much
17 (inaudible) the wink at the bottom?

18 BILL BINGER: Yeah. Yeah, it's been --

19 JONO BINGER: The uh -- the day after my mom
20 passed away, the (inaudible). The high notch on -- was
21 opened, and -- well, it wasn't opened yet. There was a
22 line. And we kind of rolled up with the patrol, and
23 they're like, Come on guys. Let's go.

24 And so we followed them out there. And we
25 went up, and we ducked under the rope. And I mean,

1 just passed, I mean, 30 some odd people probably. And
2 we just ducked under, and was just kind of looking
3 around. And kind of, you know, kind of kept our heads
4 down and just kept going.

5 BILL BINGER: You went through the --
6 through the gate though, properly, with Gabe.

7 JONO BINGER: Yes. Yes.

8 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

9 JONO BINGER: Yes, with Gabe. Sorry.

10 BILL BINGER: Just want to make that clear.

11 JONO BINGER: Sorry.

12 And we cut around the corner, and they're
13 just like, Boys, have at it.

14 And Chris and I just -- just dropped in,
15 and -- I mean, just beautiful. Like, you know, the day
16 before, skiing it wasn't that great. That night it
17 just dumped up there. Right afterwards. And Chris and
18 I just skied a line all the way down to the bottom.
19 Just the two of us. I mean, no one else chasing you.
20 No one at all. Just the two of us, all the way down to
21 the patrollers.

22 And, you know, Gabe hung back at the top,
23 and skied all the way down to the cut off back to
24 Sugarloaf. And looked at each other, and just -- just
25 kind of -- you know, mom's -- mom's still with us.

1 And it was just amazing. An amazing run
2 that, you know, just kind of showed the community that
3 was there.

4 Q. Yeah.

5 JONO BINGER: For us.

6 Q. When you think about it, it's kind of
7 your -- you're kind of in a --

8 It's nice to have -- I mean, that was
9 probably one of the best runs of your life maybe? You
10 know?

11 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

12 Q. When you can think of it.

13 When you think of, you know, some really
14 killer day, really awesome skiing, either a storm
15 day -- you know, those are usually my -- those are my
16 favorite.

17 No one's around, and you're just -- you
18 know, free refills, and you keep going back.

19 Talk a bit about, you know, what that --
20 that feeling. That -- I know we talked a little bit
21 about this before, but kind of talk a little bit about
22 why skiing gives you that -- that kind of feeling of
23 freedom.

24 JONO BINGER: Well, umm, your -- you're
25 unconstrained as you're up there.

1 You can kind of go at your rule, where you
2 want to go. With your friends on -- you know, as
3 you're right at the lift, you're kind of -- it's the
4 blowing on you. You're kind of feeling the wind
5 pushing on your skis. Just out in the elements.
6 Riding up and just huddling up next to someone next to
7 you, and just going, All right, well, you know, well it
8 looks kind of fun. Let's see if we can get over there.

9 You know, cut around the corner, and maybe
10 it's -- let's go in the trees, it's going to calm down,
11 and you can watch -- you can watch the snow just kind
12 of -- you know, it nukes one way, and then, you know, a
13 little further down, maybe the wind is taking it
14 another direction, and -- and, you know, you're just --
15 you're just kind of feeling the groove as you're going
16 down. Feeling the flow. And just kind of feel
17 freedom, I would say.

18 Q. Thanks. What time is it?

19 JONO BINGER: 11:50.

20 Q. Okay. Because Chris is -- I don't think
21 he's going to go right at 12:00. I just don't want to
22 leave him hanging.

23 So while we're on that subject, Bill, why
24 don't you talk a little bit about the -- the effects of
25 weather up there.

1 Like when you're sitting on the chair, I
2 mean, one of my favorite things to do is I like to look
3 at my coat and see if I can find a -- an Alta
4 snowflake.

5 JONO BINGER: That is totally so much fun to
6 do. Yeah.

7 Q. You know, or feeling --

8 BILL BINGER: Is it true, they're all
9 different?

10 Q. I -- I -- I'm looking.

11 BILL BINGER: Umm, it depends on -- on when
12 you're on the chair, you know, early -- early morning,
13 or late in the day, or -- you know.

14 One of the things I think that's interesting
15 about the demise of the two-person chair is that you
16 used to be able to have some one-on-one time with --
17 with somebody. And now, you're with three or four
18 people, and it just changes the -- the dynamic of it.

19 Somebody else may be listening to an -- an
20 Ipod. Somebody else is zoned out. You know, whatever.

21 JONO BINGER: Checking snowflakes.

22 BILL BINGER: Checking snowflakes.

23 And do you include -- do you include them in
24 your conversation, or -- or --

25 It just changes the dynamic a little bit.

1 Are they listening in -- if you have a radio
2 on, people are always tuned in to what -- what's going
3 on.

4 I got this hot stock tip on -- you know, on
5 the Castle. But that's -- that's changed some.

6 But the -- the emotional tie to skiing, you
7 know, for me, goes back to being a kid, and my --

8 My birthday is New Year's Eve. And the week
9 between Christmas and New Years, we always used to go
10 skiing.

11 And to this day, I'm convinced that Alta
12 puts on that torchlight parade and the fireworks for my
13 birthday.

14 For my 50th birthday it was really big,
15 because it was the millennium. But -- fun.

16 JONO BINGER: I remember, as a kid, always
17 being -- actually being kind of convinced of that. You
18 know? My dad's a patroller here. You know, think --
19 it's the coolest thing. It still is the coolest thing.
20 It just still is.

21 And -- and going -- you know, Oh, they're
22 putting on, you know, this big old torchlight for his
23 birthday. And totally convinced of it.

24 Because after, you know, everyone would come
25 up just for the torchlight, and I'd -- and New Years.

1 Okay. But it's my dad's birthday. Go and do dinner
2 afterwards.

3 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

4 JONO BINGER: So.

5 And I'd get to play with fire.

6 BILL BINGER: I've told the guys up there,
7 that if I make it to December 31st of 2049, I'll be
8 100 years old, and they can just strap the explosives
9 and the fireworks right to me and push me off the top
10 of High Rustler, and we'll -- we'll call it quits.

11 Q. -- stop tape for a second?

12 BILL BINGER: Well --

13 Q. We're rolling, so.

14 BILL BINGER: Oh, okay.

15 Q. If you want to share this --

16 We can certainly turn it off.

17 JONO BINGER: If not, the stories will keep
18 coming.

19 BILL BINGER: Well, the story that I just
20 told you, we were off the air, was that when the bull
21 wheel of the top of the old Germania lift broke, in --
22 I guess it would be 1973, '74, I don't know. And I
23 salvaged some wood out of the -- out of the top
24 terminal. Made a bed out of it. So both my boys were
25 conceived on the Germania lift.

1 There you go. You got it.

2 Okay.

3 Do you want me to tell you the

4 Anheuser-Busch story?

5 Okay.

6 Q. I should have had -- made sure that you
7 signed the release forms before we started going.

8 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

9 Umm, Mount Superior, Alta.

10 At the University of New Hampshire.

11 A poster on my wall.

12 Winter, spring, summer, and fall.

13 A great mountain somewhere out west.

14 There may be better, I thought, at best.

15 To head out in my old VW bus.

16 My dad made somewhat of a fuss.

17 Let's cut the grass, then have a beer.

18 How can you be unhappy here?

19 A steel company wants you to be

20 industrial management trainee.

21 An opportunity they are giving.

22 Skiing?

23 That's no way to make a living.

24 So there I was, riding the old Wildcat lift.

25 Over my right shoulder, there it was.

1 A gift.
2 Gleaming snow, brilliant in the sun.
3 Mount Superior.
4 My life at Alta had begun.
5 The poster, long gone, did not endure.
6 I made the right choice, that's for sure.
7 Much of my life, in the sight of that.
8 mountain.
9 Life truly lived.
10 It's those blessings I'm counting.

11 Q. When you look at Superior, or even just
12 looking anywhere on that mountain, you know, standing
13 on High Boy and looking back towards the race hill and
14 seeing the shadows late in the season, or early in the
15 season when it seems like it's getting darker fast, and
16 you want the day to last, talk a little bit about just
17 the scenery up there. Talk about the environment. You
18 know? If you want to wax poetic, or if you want to
19 wax emotional about how it makes you feel when you're
20 up there. You know?

21 What are some of your favorite places where
22 you just look and go Ahh, kind of thing.

23 JONO BINGER: I have to say Eagle's Nest.
24 Hanging on to Eagle's Nest.

25 It's like that secret little spot, that

1 people just ski right by, because it's -- you know,
2 there's trees at the top, and I think just discourage
3 people.

4 But you get in there, and you kind of -- you
5 kind of get isolated, and kind of wrapped up in your
6 own little world, that you can kind of look across and
7 see across the canyon pretty easily.

8 And kind of watch that's going on there.
9 You have that -- I mean, on fresh days, you have
10 that -- it's totally untouched over there.

11 And you can just kind of -- and you have the
12 birds like that -- in the springtime, that come flying
13 through. A lot of the animals that poke up.

14 I mean, there have been times like where
15 I've chased little bunnies down, or something like
16 that. In the lower parts. And there's just -- it's
17 just kind of all there. So.

18 BILL BINGER: I think the -- the view from
19 the top of -- of Sunnyside, with the Castle, Sugarloaf
20 Peek, East Greeley, Greeley Bowl, Patsy Marley, a
21 360-degree view, is just so -- so world class, that
22 it's unbeatable. And, you know, I -- I left for a few
23 years to go to school in southern California, and I
24 used to delude myself with thinking I didn't care if I
25 skied again.

1 It was probably the best thing I did for my
2 feet, to get them out of ski boots for a few years, but
3 the whole time I was gone to southern California, I
4 kept my ski equipment at Alta. And when I'd come back,
5 it was just like I'd get to the mouth of the canyon,
6 and, Wow. This is -- this is great.

7 And that feeling, when I first saw Mount
8 Superior, and thinking, Well, I'm here. I don't have
9 to go any further. You know, This is it.

10 And it really has been.

11 You know, we've enjoyed traveling throughout
12 the world, but home is right here. And Alta is --
13 Mayor Bill Leavitt would say, is our spiritual home.
14 And it's been a good one.

15 JONO BINGER: Best skiing on earth.

16 Q. Why do you think it's the best skiing on
17 earth? (Inaudible).

18 JONO BINGER: Umm, you can't get that much
19 powder anywhere else, that is -- that gets really good,
20 with a community surrounding it.

21 I know for the past, I guess five years now,
22 I've been away, but always had a pass at Alta. And
23 coming back, you know, just kind of slip right back
24 into it.

25 And there's -- there's -- I haven't really

1 found a community that surrounds a place quite like
2 that. And it just -- I think that, combined with the
3 snow and the atmosphere around it, really make it what
4 it is.

5 Q. I guess what's also interesting, you know,
6 your dad would turn you loose. As little kids. Just
7 go out there and have fun, boys.

8 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

9 Q. You know? I mean, contrast it, you know,
10 that -- even though some people might think that's not
11 the best place to turn kids loose. It really -- I
12 think it probably is.

13 JONO BINGER: You can't find anyplace
14 better.

15 I mean, you've got pads on all of the
16 towers. I mean, you've got soft snow. And you've just
17 got a big huge playground to play in.

18 BILL BINGER: It is. It's a big huge
19 playground.

20 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

21 BILL BINGER: For people my age -- and
22 that's -- that's the other thing. When I got -- when I
23 got there, I realized you didn't have to play age by
24 the numbers.

25 You know, there's the wild old bunch skiing

1 up there. There's Jack Waldron skiing on the patrol,
2 who's 79.

3 Jack's my hero. If I grow up, I want to be
4 like Jack Waldron.

5 And -- and umm -- but -- but it's a mix
6 of -- of ages. And I think one of the things that --
7 the socialization skills that Christopher and Jonathan
8 both have are tremendous, in part because they're not
9 intimidated by a whole variety of people, whether it's
10 Joe in the locker room, or, you know, you slide on the
11 lift. And you may be riding up with somebody who's
12 famous in another right. But there you are riding up
13 the lift with them.

14 And the -- the friendships to last a
15 lifetime.

16 You know, I think of it as.

17 A small town at the end of a dead end road.

18 A road that is never closed,

19 though travel may be occasionally.

20 temporarily restricted.

21 We don't lose your girlfriend,

22 you lose your turn.

23 Where there are no friends on a powder day.

24 Where friendships last a lifetime.

25 Lives that are changed forever.

1 Highway 210, to Alta.

2 It's good. It's very good.

3 JONO BINGER: I remember being a kid -- when
4 I first came into the locker room. You know, Chris and
5 I were sharing a locker. And we -- and my dad took us
6 to the spot all the way down at the end of the locker
7 row. Just so we were out of the way and, you know, we
8 weren't causing any problems. Because we were probably
9 the youngest kids that had lockers in there at the
10 time. And it was -- you know, that's precious real
11 estate. I mean, not many people have lockers in there.

12 And you watch the list now.

13 But -- and, you know, going in and out, and
14 trying to be in there early, or get out there. And it
15 was just -- you know, you were always interacting with
16 everyone there. So. And it just teaches you a lot, I
17 have to say. So.

18 And riding up the lift was -- was a huge
19 thing. Because you're always -- always someone new,
20 from somewhere else. And you could either -- as a
21 little kid, come up with outlandish stories of what you
22 were doing, or who you were, or tell them the truth.
23 Just depends on what mood you're in, and who you're
24 with. So.

25 Q. So did you ever have fun like that, where

1 you were just like make up like blatant stories of --

2 JONO BINGER: Oh, yeah. I mean, totally
3 outlandish.

4 I mean --

5 And, you know, you could just see the person
6 just going, What are they talking about?

7 You know, that's a total lie. You know?

8 I mean, tell them -- you know, Yeah, my
9 dad's a patroller here. You know, try to be all --
10 puff up your chest and be all proud, and --

11 Yeah, it was great.

12 Q. I think that's kind of fun too, is that I
13 kind of get the idea that you guys -- you know, a lot
14 of people have family dinner. You probably have family
15 dinner, but, you know, also a lot of family time
16 together riding chair lifts together.

17 So, as you said, you know, I mean, you love
18 them because you have to, but you like them because,
19 you know, your -- your kids are your friends.

20 BILL BINGER: Mm-hmm.

21 Q. You know, do you think that relationship
22 is -- you know, skiing has made that?

23 BILL BINGER: Absolutely. You know, we've
24 done a whole lot of other things together, but skiing's
25 at the core of it.

1 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

2 Six months out of the year. Or more.

3 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

4 And, you know, we've even had the
5 opportunity to go to Chili and ski -- ski there
6 together.

7 And again, you know, we did it as a family.
8 We'd go out and -- and ski all over the place.

9 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

10 We -- I mean, we went to Germany. Went
11 skiing there. And --

12 Skiing's just been the core of all of our
13 family activities.

14 There was never -- there was never -- there
15 was no, Where are we going for Christmas? We're going
16 to Alta. You know?

17 Chris's break rolled around, and every day
18 we were spent up there. Skiing.

19 Out of school? Go ski. So.

20 That's definitely the core of where always
21 been, and where our time's spent.

22 Q. Uh, stop tape for a second?

23 -- kind of impressions of growing up there,
24 and, you know, what it was like to be able to kind of
25 have it as your playground.

1 You know, to be able to get out, you know.
2 I mean, if you think about it, Chris, you know, when I
3 remember seeing you guys in the locker room, and you
4 guys seemed like, you know, little kids.

5 CHRIS BINGER: Sure.

6 Q. And you probably had ten years of skiing
7 experience on me.

8 So, I mean, it's kind of interesting that --

9 Talk a little bit about, you know, what it
10 was like to be able to just go up there and hang out
11 with your friends, and your brother, and your dad, and
12 kind of be able to have that as your playground, and
13 to --

14 CHRIS BINGER: Sure.

15 Q. -- ski all the time.

16 CHRIS BINGER: Okay.

17 Q. Okay.

18 CHRIS BINGER: Right now?

19 Q. Yeah.

20 CHRIS BINGER: Sorry, I thought -- I
21 thought -- I was just like.

22 Q. This has been kind of like a constant joke.

23 CHRIS BINGER: Some of my fondest memories
24 were just being a little kid, and -- and -- on
25 Saturdays -- or Friday nights, actually. Looking

1 forward to AYC on the -- on a Saturday.

2 And my dad would come in my bedroom and wake
3 me up first thing in the morning, and cruise
4 downstairs, and -- and he'd have oatmeal ready. And
5 we'd have some oatmeal, and watch Saturday morning
6 cartoons while my dad was frantically trying to get us
7 out the door so we could get to patrol on time.

8 And sometimes it was busy -- or, you know, a
9 big storm. We'd go up with the Richards, and we'd all
10 pile into the back of their old blue suburban. And it
11 would be three families of kids in there. And we'd
12 just be piled in the back of this thing, and we'd be
13 cruising up, and we'd try and catch every single
14 traffic light on the way up to Alta.

15 And, you know, we'd get up to the parking
16 lot, and -- and it was always a rush to get inside, and
17 get all of your stuff on, so you could go play in the
18 snow, or take the rope tow hill from the Wildcat side
19 over to the Albian side. And then smother our plate
20 full of pancakes, and eggs, and bacon, and get ready
21 for the day.

22 And I remember this one time, Kory Richards
23 and I, we had to go over to AYC, but it was -- the rope
24 tow was closed, because it was so snowy. And so -- we
25 were so determined, we wanted to go skiing so badly,

1 and the snow was just so awesome, that we -- we walked
2 the entire way over to the other side so we could be
3 there on time.

4 And AYC had been cancelled because the road
5 had been closed. But we were oblivious to that,
6 because neither of us drove.

7 So we ended up hiking around and skiing most
8 of the day, and then in the afternoon built some snow
9 forts and whatnot. And.

10 I remember the snow was just -- it was just
11 fantastic. It was really cool.

12 Q. When you think about, you know, as a little
13 kid, can you kind of go back and think about the
14 difference -- like what it's like going off the
15 traverse now, or if you were going off the ballroom.

16 At times when you were little, did it seem
17 like the -- the woopedoos and the bumps were, you
18 know, as big as you were?

19 CHRIS BINGER: I remember -- especially in
20 the spring, when it would be bullet proof, or rock
21 hard, and you were trying to wrap all the way around to
22 Greeley Hill and whatnot, and you wanted to get some
23 nice corn snow. And not -- and skipping across on
24 my -- my old Rossies. They were just skinny sticks.
25 And, yeah, I remember those bumps just being gynormous.

1 Especially if you've been cruising out towards -- right
2 when you get to Piss Pass.

3 Can I say that in here?

4 Q. Yeah.

5 CHRIS BINGER: When you come around the
6 corner there, and those bumps were just so big. And it
7 was just so daunting.

8 And I remember great laps through Eagle's
9 Nest, and --

10 I remember the first time going up to
11 Eddie's High Nowhere.

12 And being terrified. I can't remember how
13 old I was.

14 But getting to the top, and -- and putting
15 on my skis, and making sure that I had them -- I was
16 holding onto them, to make sure that they weren't going
17 to slide off the other side and fall off the edge of
18 the world.

19 JONO BINGER: I remember also, being as a
20 little kid, like with the shorter skis, the bumps were
21 huge compared to your body, but you're like -- but
22 they're continuing. They're sort of like, it seems
23 like a lot of bumps now like drop off on the back
24 sides, but you're like, Whee. Like just kind of a
25 cruise through them.

1 And it felt like you were going through --
2 some like the little trails off to the sides. I don't
3 know what they call them now. The little -- fun little
4 kids trails. And chasing each other through those.
5 So. With the short skis. Wedge, straight.

6 BILL BINGER: I remember these guys leading
7 me into the trees when they were little, and, you know,
8 their skis were small. And, you know, finally -- I was
9 going faster and faster. And I finally just threw my
10 poles and started grabbing trees. Just to slow myself
11 town.

12 JONO BINGER: The Three Bears, or something
13 like that?

14 BILL BINGER: I don't know what it was, but
15 it was one of those God damn-it guys moments.

16 JONO BINGER: That's funny.

17 Q. Well, talk a little bit, Bill, about the
18 progression that you've seen, from them being picked up
19 out of the snow, dusted off and sent on their way, to
20 what it's like to try to ski with them now.

21 BILL BINGER: I harbored the illusion for a
22 long time that we went up and skied together. And then
23 it gradually dawned on me that we went up there, and
24 they went skiing and would occasionally stop in to see
25 me. And would -- would deign to take an old school run

1 with an old school guy.

2 And then along would come their buddies, and
3 Whoosh, they're gone. So.

4 But -- but they've taken skiing to, you
5 know, the levels -- it's a power ten, beyond anything
6 that I was capable of. And the things they've --
7 they've done, and the places they've gone, and --

8 The one thing that's also neat to see,
9 though, is the friends they've made, and the community
10 that they're building on -- what their mom and I had.
11 Or have.

12 JONO BINGER: Yeah. Actually have.

13 Q. Well, that's kind of neat, because, I mean,
14 the -- the -- I guess what's kind of interesting too,
15 is, you think, and both your dad and John already
16 talked about this a little bit.

17 When you think about skiing, and what it is
18 to you. What makes it really important? What makes
19 it -- you know, the feelings that you get when you are,
20 you know, either ripping a good run, or maybe all of a
21 sudden, you know, you were having kind of a terrible
22 day at -- you know, you know how those days go. Like
23 where it's not clicking, and then all of a sudden, like
24 it clicks?

25 CHRIS BINGER: When you get it?

1 Q. Yeah.

2 Talk a little bit about, you know, kind of
3 that feeling that you get. Just what did it get to
4 you?

5 CHRIS BINGER: Well, it -- you know, when
6 you get one of those awesome powder moments -- I
7 remember my first experience cutting out from Supreme
8 and Catheryn's area, out on to Patsy Marley, and
9 getting my first run down the gut.

10 And I was with Jono. And probably two or
11 three years ago. Probably 2003 or something like that.

12 And we dropped in off the top, underneath
13 the radio tower up there. And it was just over the
14 head. Just so deep. I'd never -- I'd never really
15 experienced it that -- like that.

16 And the fact that there were no turns,
17 broken trail the entire way up, when we were the first
18 people down it.

19 And it was a good couple thousand feet of
20 just over the head. And I really understood why
21 those -- all those oldtimers talk about the snorkel.

22 I mean, I'd experienced face shots here and
23 there, but having a continuous run, where every once in
24 a while you get a brief window of seeing where you're
25 going to go, and you just dive back in to it, and it's

1 just going up and over your head. And it's just the --
2 the brief fluffing of it as it hits your jacket, was
3 just the most incredible feeling. And it's -- it's
4 just such a high, it's unbelievable.

5 But I remember when -- you know, being
6 younger, and -- and AYC, and whatnot, when I was
7 learning how to ski, having a -- a -- or my professor,
8 instructor, John Musser, would take us around to the
9 worst skiing on the mountain, in an effort to make us
10 better skiers. A concept that I never understood,
11 because I'd see all of these people over in Ballroom,
12 and the Castle, ripping awesome lines, getting great
13 face shots, and we're skiing this stuff, which is
14 windblown crud. And you couldn't even get an edge into
15 it. And you'd pop up on top, and you'd -- your -- your
16 turns aren't parallel -- or your skis aren't parallel.
17 And I really finally started to realize, you know, how
18 much that meant, as I could -- as I became a stronger
19 skier. And I started enjoying skiing more, because I
20 was -- was better at it. And felt more control in a
21 variety of conditions.

22 And so now, having grown up at Alta, I feel
23 like I can find good snow on the mountain anywhere.
24 Whether it's good snow to other people, it doesn't
25 really matter. I can -- I can find something that's

1 going to be really good for me. And that I'm going to
2 have fun with.

3 And, you know, when you ski the mountain a
4 lot, and -- and as a little kid, you grow up seeing
5 where the good snow is, and what happens after a
6 certain type of storm, or a certain type of snow falls,
7 and you can find those -- those isolated pockets, or
8 the -- the areas that face a certain direction that are
9 going to have the best snow on them. You know, I mean,
10 whether it's wind blown, it feels like groomers, you're
11 real -- ripping big groomers down West -- West Rustler?
12 Or, you know, finding the stashes in the trees out in
13 Eagle's Nest. Dropping into Regal's Chute. There's
14 just so many wonderful little lines you can poke
15 around, that a lot of people don't know about.

16 And I feel a lot of that's -- or a lot of
17 Alta is getting crowded, and a lot of people know about
18 those stashes, because the secret's been out for a
19 while. But you just have to be innovative and figure
20 out where you're going.

21 I mean, look at Farmer John. He always
22 finds something good.

23 Q. Dave?

24 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

25 Q. Farmer Dave?

1 CHRIS BINGER: Farmer Dave. Sorry. Farmer
2 Dave. Farmer Dave, he always finds something good.

3 Q. How about, you know, some of the -- probably
4 the more memorable runs that you have had, what would
5 you say sticks out in your mind as like one of the most
6 memorable ski runs that you've had?

7 CHRIS BINGER: One of my first ski runs that
8 I really remember was skiing down Greeley Hill, with my
9 dad and Dwight Butler.

10 And it was one of those three-foot dumps.
11 It was just -- it was just deep.

12 And I was a little kid. And so when we were
13 coming down off the pass there, and making a couple
14 turns. And I couldn't get more than three turns before
15 I'd caught a tip and rolled over. And I just wasn't
16 strong enough. And my dad would -- or Dwight would
17 come down and pick me up by the jacket, and shake me
18 off. And then he'd put me back in the snow, and I'd
19 try and follow either one of -- one of their turns as
20 they skied past me, or break trail again. And I'd bank
21 one turn, two turns, and then that third turn, my right
22 pole would drag back and I'd flop over on my back.

23 And so that was -- that was a memorable one.
24 To remember skiing with my dad.

25 And there was another one, where -- it was

1 right after our mom passed away. And Jono and I had
2 the -- we had a moment where we got to go out to the
3 High Notch, before anybody else could go out there.
4 And the patrol had -- had already done the control work
5 and whatnot. And they opened the gate just to us, and
6 we got a lap done, the entire back side there, with --
7 with everybody down in the Sugarloaf lift watching.

8 And it was just a magical moment. The whole
9 way down, no one else around. That was really, really
10 neat. It was a pretty special one.

11 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

12 CHRIS BINGER: Had another one, that --
13 there was one morning I went up early with my dad. And
14 I had been helping him set up signs, and move bamboo
15 around, and they'd had a bunch of new snow.

16 And I'd -- was up at -- actually, I -- I --
17 I caught the mid station, got to the top, and my dad
18 said, Hey, Christopher, it's -- it's nine -- it's 9:10.
19 Head to the front of the mountain. Got it go out and
20 hit High Boy.

21 So I cruised out. High T. I made it to the
22 top of High Boy, and the lift line down at Collins was
23 just packed. I mean, all the way out to the road.

24 And I -- I just -- I just went for it. And
25 I got the -- those turns, those coveted turns that

1 everybody hopes for. Right down the center, nonstop,
2 top to bottom.

3 And I made them old school turns. Because I
4 didn't want to waste it with my big long big Ss. So I
5 made a bunch of smaller turns.

6 I remember coming down underneath --
7 underneath the lift, as my dad and three other
8 patrollers loaded on, with their jackets loaded full of
9 bombs.

10 And my dad yelling at me, Yeah, Christopher.
11 That was awesome.

12 And as I rolled into the lift line, you
13 know, various friends and buddies, and all of my -- all
14 my closest friends were yelling and clicking their
15 poles, and telling me how much they hated me because I
16 had just skied the run they wanted.

17 But all in good fun. And we all get those
18 runs.

19 And it was just a magical -- magical moment
20 at Alta.

21 One of the many.

22 Q. And when you think about that too, I mean,
23 what really defines Alta? What makes it Alta?

24 CHRIS BINGER: I -- I think Alta is -- Alta
25 is family. Everybody there, you can -- you can go up

1 there, on your own, and you can find some of your
2 closest friends to go skiing with.

3 And whether they're people you grew up
4 skiing with, someone you met two days ago, you're all
5 sharing the -- a love for a sport which is just so
6 addictive.

7 And -- and sharing those lines. And in
8 building off one another, whether you're following
9 someone down -- down a run, or making laps and meeting
10 each other at the bottom, just to ride the lift and
11 chat about how awesome your run was, or where you found
12 that awesome little stash, it's just -- it -- it's
13 love. It's -- it's just the most incredible feeling
14 ever. Just the sense of community.

15 And it's a common strain between everybody
16 up there. I mean, you hop on a lift with somebody, you
17 might not know anything about them, and you can find
18 something in common. And you get these brief little
19 windows into people's lives. And, you know, sometimes
20 people are giving you pointers as to where to go, or
21 where they've been skiing, where you can find some
22 goods.

23 Or maybe you're passing that same info off
24 to somebody else.

25 But, as far as the community goes, it's

1 very -- very supportive. Everyone is so close-knit.
2 And, you know, whether you're dealing with a tragedy,
3 or whether you're dealing with things at home, you can
4 always find support up there.

5 And, I don't know, my family's been there
6 forever, and it feels like I can't leave. You know?
7 I go someplace else for the summer, and I've got to
8 come back.

9 JONO BINGER: It's also a great place to
10 escape, too. When you -- when you're, you know, have a
11 rough day down in the valley, or working, or at school,
12 or whatever it is. Just kind of slip away up there,
13 and just -- you just leave everything behind.

14 I mean, as everybody goes on vacation, you
15 know, when you're on vacation and you're away from it
16 all, we have every day to go up there. And you just
17 leave it all behind. So. It makes a world of
18 difference.

19 BILL BINGER: I'd spent a whole day, early
20 morning control work, skiing, came home. We bought new
21 bunk beds for the boys. And I was putting them
22 together, and I was exhausted.

23 And I said to -- to their mom, I've got to
24 call this quits. I -- I've got to get up early again
25 tomorrow.

1 And she said, You're going back up for more
2 control work, aren't you? You're going back up to go
3 skiing again tomorrow. You're doing all of this
4 self-indulgent stuff. When are you going to put the
5 bunk beds together?

6 And I said, Well, I'll be home tonight. You
7 know? And I did. I went skiing the next day.

8 CHRIS BINGER: You had a time when Jono
9 was -- it's a great escape. You know, you can meet up
10 with anybody up there. And, again, you're so close
11 with all of them. It just feels so right to just go
12 skiing.

13 And if you want to, you can also get lost.
14 You know, you can -- you can avoid all of those people
15 if you don't want to. You can go ski on your own, and
16 think, or just -- just relax.

17 Q. What are some of your favorite -- if you go
18 up to Alta, and, you know, what -- you think of the
19 scenery, you think of the mountain, you think of the
20 views, where would you go if you were just going to
21 take in a -- like a quintessential perfect Alta view?

22 CHRIS BINGER: Oh, man. That's a tough
23 call.

24 It depends if it's a powder day, where you
25 can't see anything.

1 You know, I really like going up to the
2 shoulder. If you can go up above Bad News Cliffs.
3 It's kind of a fun little escape. There's not a whole
4 lot of people up there. You can sit on some of those
5 cliffs, or just hang out. You can watch what's going
6 on.

7 The Stadium Jump's always kind of a fun spot
8 to go hang out. People watch.

9 What do you think, Jono? Any favorite
10 spots?

11 JONO BINGER: I said it was Eagle's Nest
12 earlier.

13 CHRIS BINGER: That was a good one.

14 Q. Where is the Stadium Jump?

15 CHRIS BINGER: The Stadium. Oh, man.
16 Probably one of the coolest jumps at Alta.

17 It's out in the Castle, and it's this huge
18 wind lip, or big wave. And it's right in the center.
19 Between Devil's Castle proper and Sugarloaf Peak.

20 And it's about a 50-foot long wind lip, that
21 curls back up the -- up the mountain. It's almost like
22 a wave that's breaking on shore. And there's a big
23 hill with no trees on the back side of it. So you can
24 hollow out different sized jumps, and you can go long
25 distance, or you can just go super high in the air, or

1 you can kind of track the ground as you -- as you
2 cruise.

3 And it's always -- it's always that coveted
4 first hit, when you get out there, and -- and drop in
5 from the top, before someone sculpts something. And
6 you can get that perfect hit, and the perfect pristine
7 landing.

8 JONO BINGER: Or --

9 CHRIS BINGER: And ski away from it.

10 JONO BINGER: Or slam into the corners.

11 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah. Or get a triple eject.

12 BILL BINGER: Tell them about the kids that
13 were discing you that one time.

14 CHRIS BINGER: There was a time that I -- I
15 had just learned how to do backflips. And I learned
16 how to do them over on Oil Pan.

17 And we went out to the Stadium Jump, and
18 we -- we'd sculped it out a couple of days before,
19 and -- and I had school all week. And so I came back
20 that next weekend, and there were a crew of older guys
21 that were up there, and -- and they had -- they had
22 built it up all big.

23 And I came in, and I was asking them about
24 the landing, and how was it. And there was all of this
25 new snow. And I just wanted to make sure that the

1 landing wasn't bombed out. And that the interim was
2 okay, and that the take-off didn't have too much lip on
3 it.

4 And these guys were hiking back up to hit it
5 again. And I asked one of the first guys that had come
6 up. I asked him, you know, How's the landing? And
7 how's -- how's the lip? And he's like, It's good,
8 man. Just go. Just go.

9 And, you know, I'd always wanted to be safe,
10 and make sure I knew where I was jumping, and what was
11 going on before I tried any tricks and whatnot.

12 And so I asked the next guy that came up,
13 and he's like -- he was again, saying, Just go for it
14 man. Don't bother me. I'm -- I'm thinking about what
15 I'm going to do next.

16 And so I -- I decided to -- to just go for
17 it. I'd seen a couple of people jump it at that point,
18 and so I felt pretty comfortable.

19 And so I dropped into it. And one of the
20 guys that was hiking up leaned over his shoulder and
21 geez, Pshew, here comes a big straight air.

22 And it just boiled inside me. And I was
23 like, Oh, you mother.

24 So I -- as I -- as I cruised into the jump,
25 I -- I did this huge backflip. And I remember hanging

1 upside down in the air, and grabbing my skis, and just
2 floating. And spotting my landing, and seeing all of
3 these bomb holes, and seeing the bomb holes go past me.
4 And I was like, Oh, man. I just cruised past all of
5 their holes.

6 And I stomped the hell out of it. And these
7 kids just like, Whoa, did you see that? That
8 12-year-old kid just did a huge back. That was unreal.

9 And I was just like, See you guys. Thanks
10 for nothing.

11 Q. When you think about that, you know,
12 there's -- there's kind of two kinds of people up --
13 that you run into. Contrast -- I've always -- when I
14 see you guys out there, I always know that -- that
15 you -- you're great skiers, but you're actually still
16 polite.

17 CHRIS BINGER: Thanks, Joey.

18 Q. Which you don't really see a lot of kids, of
19 your generation. Or whatever.

20 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah. Yeah.

21 Q. So talk a little bit about, you know, the
22 fun, of just how fun it is to ski and, you know,
23 contrast with maybe how it -- you know, you're serious,
24 but serious about fun.

25 CHRIS BINGER: Well, I really enjoy --

1 Do you mind if I go ahead?

2 JONO BINGER: No. Go for it. Go for it.

3 CHRIS BINGER: I really enjoy sharing --
4 sharing Alta with other people. And, you know, when
5 you meet someone on the chair lift, and they're new,
6 and they're trying to figure out where to go. And if
7 you can take them out to, say a new spot, like West
8 Rustler, or out to Eagle's Nest, and, you know, make
9 sure that they get out there. And then take them down
10 a run, and show them how -- how wonderful it is, and
11 show them that --

12 I mean, again, it's the Alta community, and
13 welcome them to Alta?

14 It makes you feel really good, and also,
15 they have a great time skiing. And you know that
16 they'll go back and sit in the hottub later that night,
17 and tell their friends that, Hey, this -- this kid took
18 me out to -- I can't remember what it was called.
19 Eagle's something or other. And it was just awesome.
20 I had the most killer run ever.

21 And it makes me feel good that I can share
22 that community with someone else, and hopefully
23 they'll -- they'll bring that back to -- to their
24 friends, and their family, and more people will come
25 out.

1 Because it really is an amazing -- amazing
2 spot.

3 And do you want to add something else?

4 JONO BINGER: It's also -- it always seems
5 to be like the small things.

6 You know, you kind of watch someone getting,
7 you know, frustrated, trying to find their ski. And,
8 you know, you might have to stop on your line. And,
9 yeah, there's no friends on a powder day, everyone
10 says, but, you know, you can always help someone out
11 real quick. And make a quick turn, and -- you kind of
12 watch -- you know, be watching them dig for a while,
13 and going, Where did they fall? Okay. Ski's probably
14 fall line from that. And skiing down and just kind of
15 doing one big turn across it, and just clink clink, you
16 can hear it hit your ski, and pull it up, and go, Here
17 you go. And they're just like -- you know, just, you
18 know, made their day. And they're back skiing again.

19 And, you know, that -- those little things
20 that just -- and you just take off and go meet up with
21 everyone. You know, it's like, What did you do? Oh,
22 helped someone find their ski. And you can laugh about
23 it. And they might go back to the hot tub, and say,
24 Hey, someone found my ski today for me. I'm not having
25 to go find -- buy new skis, or something like that.

1 So.

2 It's the small things that add up.

3 BILL BINGER: Well, Christopher recounted
4 one of his triumphs. Jono was filming him skiing down
5 the -- down the Elevator Shaft, and he -- he'd skied --
6 skied down. And I, to this day, don't know how
7 Jonathan kept the camera steady, but as he goes past
8 the camera, Christopher is mugging for the camera, and
9 just then he hits this big chicken head gob of ice.
10 Blows his ski off, crashes, and when he -- when he goes
11 to get up, he raises his hand, and there's about this
12 much pole there. And Jonathan -- you hear on the audio
13 portion -- says, You broke your pole dude. You broke
14 your brand new pole.

15 And he's laughing.

16 But the camera doesn't move.

17 And I, to this day, don't know how -- how
18 you did that. But it's -- that, to me, is one of the
19 priceless pieces of video.

20 JONO BINGER: That's funny.

21 BILL BINGER: Hubris bringing on nemesis.
22 Pride preceding the fall.

23 CHRIS BINGER: There's something about
24 that -- that camaraderie, though, that you have when --
25 you know, when you fall. You know enough people on the

1 mountain, and everyone else in the community helps out
2 as well.

3 And, you know, if you lose a ski coming off
4 a cliff, or just making a basic turn, hitting that
5 traverse you didn't see, there's always someone there
6 to help you pick up a ski which is downhill from you,
7 or way back up the hill after you've cartwheeled or
8 starfished down 100 feet or so.

9 And, you know, it's just returning the
10 favor.

11 I mean, you help your -- you help your
12 neighbor bring in their trash can when they're not
13 around. You know, you do the same thing. You bring
14 someone's ski back to them when they're -- when they've
15 fallen.

16 JONO BINGER: When they're having a yard
17 sale.

18 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

19 Q. Well, we've all been there.

20 JONO BINGER: Exactly.

21 BILL BINGER: Haven't we all, yeah.

22 Q. Bill, talk a little bit about kind of what
23 it's like to -- to see -- see Chris and Jono progress
24 through the years, from seeing from little gromps, and,
25 I mean, they're -- they've gone way past where --

1 wherever we're going to go skiing wise, you know?

2 BILL BINGER: We have a photo of skiing
3 at -- at another mountain. It was Aspen. And
4 Christopher was in -- in a backpack on my back.

5 And I skied him down a world cup downhill
6 course. But it was covered in six inches of snow. And
7 it was smooth as could be. We skied the whole length
8 of it. Got to the bottom.

9 And the next day things were sunny and
10 clear, and Christopher again was in the backpack. And
11 I'm skiing him at Snowmass.

12 And he got his -- his fingers out of the
13 pack, and had them on my shoulder. And with every
14 turn, he would go tchew, tchew, tchew. You know?

15 And we pulled up someplace else to go -- to
16 go skiing. And Christopher looked at the -- at the
17 hillside, and said, Fun here.

18 And, again, you know, three -- three years
19 old, or whatever. He got it right from -- right off
20 the bat. As did Jonathan.

21 CHRIS BINGER: Well thanks.

22 BILL BINGER: And to this day, I've got more
23 pictures of Christopher than I do of Jonathan skiing.
24 And I kept asking Jonathan about it, why there were
25 no -- no pictures of him. And he -- he would keep

1 saying, I have my fun.

2 And finally I said, What's the deal? All
3 of these pictures are -- are Christopher. And there's
4 none of you. And he said, That's because when I'm
5 taking pictures, I get to ski down first and decide
6 where I'm going to take them. So I get first tracks.
7 I have my fun.

8 JONO BINGER: Yeah. It's always fun. You
9 know, going out.

10 When we first got our video camera, going
11 out there, and just hiking up like above -- like going
12 out Catheryn's Area, and hiking above the traverse --
13 you know, past the boundary signs, and then skiing back
14 in-bounds. Just a short little run. And just getting
15 the shots.

16 And it was totally worth every turn of it,
17 but, you know. Sure. And you get a little shot out of
18 it.

19 CHRIS BINGER: Back to development of
20 skiing.

21 I mean -- or -- of our skiing, or of Jono
22 skiing, or my skiing.

23 I remember watching Jono improve. I
24 remember kind of as a little kid, being a little
25 hot-headed about, you know, how much better I was than

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1 Jono.

2 I remember that first powder day that --
3 that we skied together. Because we were in different
4 AYC groups. And we would ski --

5 JONO BINGER: For a long time, yeah.

6 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah, we'd ski together
7 every -- you know, on Sunday, or when we weren't in AYC
8 or whatnot.

9 JONO BINGER: With mom or dad.

10 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

11 But we never really skied hard together.

12 And I remember one of those first days, just
13 making laps all day long, and -- and skiing -- just the
14 two of us, and picking up our friends, like Julie
15 Christiansen, Haydn Christiansen, Hayden Price.

16 JONO BINGER: Yep.

17 CHRIS BINGER: All of those different kids.

18 JONO BINGER: Sarah Budge.

19 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah, Sarah Budge. Robert
20 Ferrington, Charles.

21 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

22 CHRIS BINGER: All of those kids.

23 JONO BINGER: Thomas.

24 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah, T-bird. Oh, man.

25 And, you know, we pick up these small crews,

1 and we'd just have this little posse that was cruising
2 around.

3 And --

4 JONO BINGER: Wreaking havoc --

5 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

6 JONO BINGER: -- everywhere we went.

7 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah. It was just really
8 neat.

9 JONO BINGER: Lines -- lines were just
10 terrible.

11 CHRIS BINGER: It was like all of a sudden
12 we were on the same page, and we all kind of
13 understood. It was this mutual understanding of -- of,
14 Let's just go ski.

15 And it was almost like a group think. You
16 knew exactly where to go.

17 And, again, everyone had been skiing the
18 area for so long that they -- they knew where the good
19 pockets of snow were, and whatnot.

20 And it was -- it was fun. You'd just be
21 kind of a train, or a mob of people going down -- going
22 down a slope. And you'd get to the bottom, and you
23 couldn't stop talking about how cool something was, or
24 how funny it was when someone fell. And, to this day,
25 we've got some great crash videos that we've put

1 together.

2 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

3 CHRIS BINGER: Of all of us.

4 JONO BINGER: Wrecking, one after another,
5 off one jump or another.

6 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

7 But I remember going through like the
8 bigfoot phase, and rocking the little tiny short big
9 feet. And -- just 'cause we wanted to change it up a
10 little bit.

11 And one day it was --

12 JONO BINGER: Telemarking.

13 CHRIS BINGER: Telemarking two?

14 But I remember one day, bigfooting. It was
15 Julie, Jono, Thomas, George, and I.

16 And we went up to the Baldy chutes.

17 And I -- I didn't quite know how to get into
18 the main chute, because I hadn't skied it enough.

19 And so I figured we could go Little Chute.

20 And so we dropped in over the chutes, and
21 I -- and I -- I had been down Dog Leg and Little Chute
22 before, and so I -- I figured, Oh, we'll just go do --
23 do Dog Leg.

24 So I remember dropping into the top part of
25 Little Chute, and then cutting over to Dog Leg, and

1 skiing down there. And getting to the bottom, and --
2 and talking to my dad. And I'd be like, Hey, dad, I
3 just -- I just skied -- skied Little Chute on my
4 bigfeet.

5 What?

6 What are you doing that for?

7 But.

8 I remember another time, going up to -- I
9 can't remember if it was a Friday -- it was another day
10 my dad was up there. But they'd opened up the Baldy
11 chutes. And a couple of years I'd seen that they
12 didn't open it up very often. It was always kind of in
13 the spring that they opened it. It wasn't -- there
14 wasn't such a big push to open it up, so it was kind of
15 special. They'd open it three or four times a year.
16 As I recall.

17 And so when -- when it was opened, you had
18 to go ski it. You know? You had to go up and do it.

19 And the first time I've ever -- I ever went
20 up there, I hiked up. And I got to the top. And I
21 didn't really know where I was going, so I asked one of
22 the -- one of the guys up top if he could show me how
23 to get down.

24 And, yeah, he took me to -- to Little Chute,
25 and then dropped -- dropped into Dog Leg with him.

1 When I got down to the bottom again, I told
2 my dad. Hey, dad, I skied the Baldy chutes today.

3 And he said, What? You skied the chutes?
4 Who did you go with?

5 And I was like, I went up on my own, and I
6 met with some guy from the cat shop. He showed me
7 where I was going.

8 And that was really cool.

9 Q. Well, when you think about that, from a
10 control standpoint --

11 CHRIS BINGER: I remember --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I wonder where Ruth
13 is.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hey, let's not go
15 there.

16 CHRIS BINGER: I thought one of the neatest
17 things about the AYC was; A, how it taught you how
18 to -- how to try to ski, and helped -- and helped you
19 progress a little bit, but also how it helped build
20 that -- that community and that standing.

21 And there would be a lot of students in
22 there that -- whose families didn't -- didn't work up
23 there, or whatnot. They're valley folk.

24 And it kind of helped cultivate and show you
25 that everyone was accepted and everyone was part of the

1 group.

2 And we -- every year we'd do this igloo snow
3 campout, up in the Albian basin. And it was always
4 that thing that you -- that you looked forward to, but
5 you dreaded, because it meant the end of the ski season
6 was there, but it also meant that you got to go igloo
7 camping.

8 And so we'd go up, and we'd -- we'd all go
9 build our igloos, and snow caves, and snow forts and
10 whatnot.

11 Deju would make us a big pot of spaghetti,
12 and then we'd all let our boots freeze solid in the
13 morning.

14 I remember you try and put your feet in your
15 boots and you could barely get them in there.

16 BILL BINGER: See what you have to look
17 forward to?

18 Q. Yeah. It's going to be fun.

19 JONO BINGER: It was -- yeah. It was
20 definitely a learning curve on it. But it was
21 something that was like -- it was such a production,
22 making these igloos.

23 I mean, you'd spend the entire day, just
24 sitting there cutting blocks and trying to make them.

25 And you'd have these grand plans for making

1 this giant igloo, but the goal is -- you know, you've
2 got to curve those things in soon, because, like you'd
3 watch some people make them, and their walls would be
4 too straight, and they'd have to put like a tarp over
5 the top, or, you know, these things. You could barely
6 reach the top if you were trying to put the blocks in,
7 and --

8 I mean, or some of them caved in, and how --

9 It was just -- it was such a production
10 trying to get it all together, and just with your
11 friends. Just trying to -- trying to make it work,
12 but. Sometimes it just didn't happen. So.

13 CHRIS BINGER: Do you remember the --

14 BILL BINGER: And then in later -- in later
15 years, it was to my advantage to be the patroller on
16 duty, because I'd had a snowmobile, which meant that,
17 once I got the guys all bedded down --

18 JONO BINGER: Take off?

19 BILL BINGER: I head -- I head for the Snow
20 Pine.

21 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

22 But also, the benefit for us was, he'd take
23 our boots, and go take them to --

24 BILL BINGER: Some --

25 JONO BINGER: Where? Where did he go?

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1 BILL BINGER: Down to -- down to the --
2 Alf's.

3 JONO BINGER: Yeah, Alf's, and drop the
4 boots in there to keep them warm overnight, and bring
5 them back up in the morning. So.

6 BILL BINGER: Get up in the morning, drive
7 back up on the snowmobile, wake the guys up. Morning
8 guys, how are you?

9 CHRIS BINGER: I remember the competitions
10 at the end of the year. For the AYC competitions.

11 You'd have your mogul skiing, you'd have
12 the -- the ski racing. And then they always had one
13 different one, which was either a Golanday jump --

14 What were some of the other ones? Was
15 there just the Golanday jump?

16 JONO BINGER: Just the Golanday jump, I
17 think.

18 BILL BINGER: Yeah.

19 JONO BINGER: Bumps, racing, and Golanday.

20 CHRIS BINGER: I remember they had the
21 Golanday jump, which was over on the old race -- or the
22 upper race course?

23 And it was -- it was a perfectly sculpted
24 jump, but it was all -- it was Golanday style.

25 And no one -- no one was doing tricks back

1 then, really.

2 But I remember Haydn -- Haydn Christiansen
3 just -- just going huge off this thing. Doing a big
4 old iron cross. And rolling the windows down as she
5 went off. And the tight pants too.

6 We all thought we were so cool.

7 Florescent was in too.

8 JONO BINGER: And one pieces.

9 CHRIS BINGER: And one pieces, yeah.

10 Q. Do you still have some of that stuff, or all
11 you --

12 CHRIS BINGER: Oh, we've got this great AYC
13 video. And it's to chris-cross. Make you want to
14 jump.

15 And it's just like, ber-ner-ner. Just
16 rolling the windows down.

17 JONO BINGER: Feel just like --

18 Oh, that was really fun.

19 BILL BINGER: And the last day of the
20 season, these guys came in. And they've both got wigs
21 on. And Jonathan looked like Don King, the fight
22 promoter, with a pink headband. And Christopher had
23 a -- an equally ugly wig, with a black and white zebra
24 striped coat. And then Jono wearing a shag rug jacket
25 like Rick James or something like that.

1 And it was the -- it was the same year that
2 their -- their mom died. And one of my kind,
3 sensitive, caring colleagues on the ski patrol said,
4 God. Their mother's not even dead a month and their
5 father's influence is shining through.

6 CHRIS BINGER: You remember that?

7 JONO BINGER: Yeah.

8 Going up to High Boy.

9 CHRIS BINGER: Right.

10 JONO BINGER: Closing out the year.

11 BILL BINGER: So you can always find someone
12 who cares.

13 Q. When you think about, you know, the end of
14 the season, it's always kind of a bittersweet.

15 Yeah. I guess, is there anything you want
16 to talk about? That -- you know, this is going to be
17 kind of a historical piece, but also trying to get at
18 the -- you know, what the essence of what makes it
19 special.

20 And it seems like there's this -- you have
21 the community, you have the people, but Alta is pretty
22 much -- it's a pretty simple formula. Great snow,
23 great terrain, and great people.

24 BILL BINGER: Absolutely.

25 Q. You know, would you talk -- talk a little

1 bit about that?

2 BILL BINGER: Well, when -- when I got here,
3 I thought I'd died and gone to heaven. And been here
4 ever since.

5 And my -- my journal that I kept back then
6 began with, Where does one adventure end and another
7 begin?

8 And I think as each guy went off to college,
9 I gave them journals, and inscribed them with, you
10 know, something to that -- to that effect.

11 And, for me, it's -- it's a dream come true,
12 that -- that -- you know, I always wanted to ski. My
13 parents thought I was taking time off when I went
14 skiing, and I thought I was taking time off when I went
15 to school.

16 And, having gotten here and seeing what --
17 what these guys have done, and I feel vindicated in
18 pursuing Alta as -- as a lifestyle.

19 And, as far as dreams are concerned, it --
20 it's very satisfying, now that I see my abilities
21 diminishing, with -- with Parkinsons, to see these guys
22 take skiing to a level that I could only even imagine.

23 And when Jonathan graduated from Montana
24 State last year, the -- the next day, as sort of the
25 end to a journal, or the beginning of another journal,

1 I had written:

2 Does one adventure end where another begins?

3 Or are they really seamless?

4 Slumber so profound as to be dreamless.

5 Awake we dream and envision life to be.

6 And make a decision that may take years to

7 realize.

8 At times our patience it tries.

9 This? Who? What? How? Where? When?

10 Why spend our youth to make wise?

11 Memories made, images taken.

12 Dream or not, to which we awaken.

13 And this is a dream come true. To be with

14 both of you guys.

15 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah.

16 JONO BINGER: Thanks, dad.

17 BILL BINGER: I love you.

18 CHRIS BINGER: Me too.

19 JONO BINGER: Love you too.

20 BILL BINGER: Anything else?

21 Q. What else would you say?

22 JONO BINGER: I don't know what else to say,

23 honestly.

24 BILL BINGER: Is that it?

25 Q. I think we're good.

1 CHRIS BINGER: Yeah. I'd like to echo what
2 you said.

3 I mean, it's -- it's a community of just
4 incredible people. They're just so down to earth. And
5 it's amazing terrain. And it's blessed with just
6 incredible snow.

7 I think the three of those make it Alta.
8 It's just an incredible spot.

9 And I think skiing up there is just -- I
10 want to do it for the rest of my life.

11 Q. Perfect.

12 BILL BINGER: And it's blessed with Joey,
13 and Bill, and Jono, and Christopher, and --

14 There are some characters up there too.

15 CHRIS BINGER: They don't want you to get
16 religious.

17 (Whereupon, the recording
18 was concluded.)

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