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KUED The Alta Experience Interview

NEFF & SHIRLEE WALKER

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 Q. -- always ask you to do, and actually, you  
3 know, Piney couldn't -- Piney couldn't even get this  
4 question right.

5 I want you to say and spell your name for  
6 me. And that way we'll get it --

7 And the reason Piney couldn't get it right  
8 is because his name is Stephen Wayne Gus Gilman  
9 something or other. Piney whatever.

10 It went on for like a minute.

11 MR. WALKER: I don't know where this Piney  
12 thing came from.

13 MRS. WALKER: I don't either.

14 MR. WALKER: When he worked for us, he was  
15 Gus.

16 MRS. WALKER: It was Gus.

17 Q. Right.

18 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19 MRS. WALKER: Once I had to do the payroll,  
20 and I -- I thought, Who are these guys? I don't know  
21 any of these people.

22 I didn't recognize a name on the payroll.

23 MR. WALKER: Well, everybody had a -- a  
24 nickname, it seemed like. But -- but he didn't.

25 MRS. WALKER: He was Gus.



1 MR. WALKER: That came about --

2 Q. Well that's not even his real name. His  
3 name is Stephen.

4 MR. WALKER: Really?

5 I guess I knew that when I was making out  
6 the payroll, but.

7 MRS. WALKER: I thought his real name was  
8 Gus. Gustaf.

9 MR. WALKER: Well, that's what he went by.

10 Q. So, Shirlee, say and spell your name for me.

11 MRS. WALKER: Okay.

12 Shirlee Walker. S-H-I-R-L-E-E, W-A-L-K-E-R.

13 Q. And Neff?

14 MR. WALKER: Neff Walker; N-E-F-F,  
15 W-A-L-K-E-R.

16 Q. And the reason we do that is that when we  
17 put your name on the screen, we want it to be spelled  
18 correctly, so.

19 MR. WALKER: Aha.

20 Q. Now, you guys have kind of an interesting  
21 history, in that you moved up to Alta to run Watson  
22 Shelter. And why don't you tell me a little bit about  
23 how that -- how that all came about.

24 MR. WALKER: Well, the way that we got  
25 Watson Shelter was very interesting.



1           I had previously been on the weekend ski  
2 patrol up there. And one -- one night we had a big  
3 party in our -- in our house, for the patrol.

4           We invited Chick, and Buck, and Hans. The  
5 big -- big three from Alta Ski Lifts, to come and  
6 partake with us.

7           And when Shirlee and I were in the Army, in  
8 Germany, we learned a bunch of German songs. Beer  
9 drinking songs.

10          And I had played the accordion since I was a  
11 little kid, so we -- that was one of the things we did.  
12 We -- I got out my accordion, and Shirlee and I sang  
13 some German songs.

14          And Chick, of course he knew us, but not  
15 well. But he fell in love with us. That night.

16          And he said -- and --

17          Oh, and also, at that time, Chick was not  
18 just the area manager for ski lifts, which, at that  
19 time was called Salt Lake City Winter Sports. He was  
20 also the manager of the Alta Lodge, and a part owner in  
21 it.

22          And he said, Oh, you guys have got to come  
23 up and entertain in the Sitzmark. The bar in the Alta  
24 Lodge.

25          And we said, We'd love to.



1                   So we did. Quite a few times.

2                   And then, when Park City opened, I -- I  
3 transferred my ski patrol work to Park City, because  
4 they had a lot better deal for family skiing than Alta  
5 did.

6                   And, of course, that was the main reason I  
7 was on the patrol, is so my kids could ski, and my  
8 wife.

9                   And so we were over there for a couple of  
10 years. And one night, right after the season ended, a  
11 girl that used to ride up in the carpool with us to --  
12 to Alta, drove up in our driveway. And she had her  
13 parka all full of candy bars, and cigarettes, and all  
14 kinds of miscellaneous things.

15                   And we said, Lynn, where did you get all of  
16 that stuff? And she says, Well, they closed up Watson  
17 Shelter tonight, and they -- they were just giving all  
18 of this stuff away.

19                   And I said, Why?

20                   Well, because Ted and Wilma, who had been  
21 running Watson Shelter that year, are not coming back.  
22 And so they're just giving it all away.

23                   And I said, Really. Who's going to run  
24 Watson Shelter next year? And she said, I don't have  
25 any idea.





1                   So that -- that was a germ of an idea.  
2           Actually I'd been angling -- and that was another  
3           reason that I went to Park City, because I thought  
4           maybe I could find a good business opportunity in  
5           the -- in the ski business. Ski area. Over there.  
6           But that -- that didn't happen.

7                   And so the next morning, first thing, I got  
8           on the phone, and I called Chick, and I said, Hey. I  
9           understand Ted and Wilma are not coming back. We might  
10          be interested in the Watson.

11                   He said, Really?

12                   And so we made arrangements to meet him up  
13          there. And he got a guy to turn the lift on -- the old  
14          Collins single chair lift. And we went up, and went  
15          through it, and it was, oh, it was a deplorable mess.  
16          It was full of dead flies.

17                   And I guess the last weekend that they were  
18          open, Ted and Wilma were not there, and it was operated  
19          by members of the lift crew. And they couldn't care  
20          less what condition they left it in.

21                   Sink was full of dirty beer glasses and  
22          everything. It was just awful.

23                   Then anyway, we could see through the mess.  
24          And of course I was familiar with Watson, having been  
25          on the patrol up there for a couple of years.



1                   And we got together on a deal.

2                   And we were not interested in being  
3 employees of Alta Ski Lifts. The only way that I would  
4 consider doing it was if it was my own business.

5                   And Chick was amenable to that. He didn't  
6 want to be in the food business. Anymore.

7                   And so that's how we got Watson Shelter.

8                   MRS. WALKER: And I didn't want anything to  
9 do with it.

10                  MR. WALKER: That's right.

11                  MRS. WALKER: I thought Neff was -- had lost  
12 his mind.

13                  And I said, You aren't considering that  
14 rinky dinky little flophouse on the mountain, are you?

15                  And he said, I certainly am. I think it  
16 could be a great fun thing for us to do.

17                  And I just -- I just couldn't believe it.

18                  And all the time he was talking to Chick, I was  
19 standing behind going, no, no, no.

20                  Anyway, I was overruled, as you can see  
21 happening.

22                  MR. WALKER: Well, it certainly worked out  
23 that way.

24                  MRS. WALKER: It turned out to be -- I lived  
25 through it. I didn't think I would.



1           I was directing the choir at the unitarian  
2 church at the time, and the next -- well, he told you  
3 what a mess the building was in.

4           Our next choir rehearsal I was thinking -- I  
5 said, Would you guys like to do something fun?  
6 Uh-huh. I said, Why don't you all come up to Watson  
7 shelter at Alta with me, and we'll have a party, and  
8 you can help clean it up. And I'll buy you all a  
9 hamburger when the ski season starts.

10           Well, they were a fun bunch, so they thought  
11 that was a great idea. So the whole choir went up to  
12 Watson Shelter, and we cleaned it all up. The women  
13 were downstairs, the men went upstairs. And we just  
14 had a great time.

15           And it started to snow while we were up  
16 there. And everybody wanted to walk down, because it  
17 was such a pretty storm.

18           About halfway down the mountain, we could  
19 see the lodge -- lights of the lodges. And just  
20 spontaneously, everybody started singing Silent Night.  
21 And it was just a really thrilling moment. I'll never  
22 forget.

23           And that's how we got started, sort of.

24           The poor choir -- I had to quit shortly  
25 after that. I couldn't do the choir and Watson both.



1 But I tried it for a while.

2 I'd ski down alone in the morning, and do  
3 the choir, and come back, and be in time for lunch at  
4 Watson.

5 MR. WALKER: Shirlee mentioned that the  
6 ladies were all helping clean up downstairs, and the  
7 men went upstairs.

8 Well, what they were -- what the men were  
9 doing, they -- I --

10 The upstairs, only half of it was set up for  
11 the public. And all of the back half of the upstairs  
12 was storage.

13 And as soon as I got a hold of the Watson,  
14 I -- I started building rooms back there. I wanted an  
15 apartment for us to stay in.

16 And, of course, I'd have an electrician up  
17 there, and they'd put in outlets, and switches, and  
18 whatnot. And I had brought a bunch of paneling up  
19 there, and they were helping us put the panels up.

20 Well, I -- I got involved in something  
21 downstairs, and I wasn't supervising adequately. And  
22 when I went back up, here they had paneled over all of  
23 these outlets and switches. And so I had to tear it  
24 all back down, and --

25 MRS. WALKER: It was the next --





1 MR. WALKER: -- start over.

2 MRS. WALKER: -- the next day. He didn't  
3 find out --

4 MRS. WALKER: It was the next day, yeah,  
5 right.

6 Q. Talk about, a little bit, on the mountain,  
7 you know --

8 Yeah, talk a little bit about maybe how much  
9 fun it was to kind of be up there.

10 I mean, people are up there to have fun, and  
11 you're there to kind of provide a service.

12 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

13 Q. Talk a little about that.

14 MR. WALKER: Well, one -- one of the -- one  
15 of the things that we were accused of was unfair  
16 marketing. Because the old Collins chair, and then  
17 later on the new Collins, went right directly over the  
18 Watson Shelter, up to the top of Aggie's Alley.

19 And when we were cooking hamburgers, all of  
20 the odors that wafted out of the exhaust, that was over  
21 the grill, just made it impossible to not stop for a  
22 burger.

23 And that -- that was -- that was a lot of  
24 fun.

25 Q. Well, talk about the hill right behind



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1       Watsons there. You know the name of that hill.

2                MRS. WALKER: Johnson's --

3                MR. WALKER: Yeah, it was the --

4                MRS. WALKER: -- Warmup.

5                MR. WALKER: -- Johnson's Warmup.

6        Q. But you know what we call it now?

7                MR. WALKER: What?

8                MRS. WALKER: What?

9        Q. Hamburger Hill.

10               MR. WALKER: Oh really?

11               MRS. WALKER: Oh really?

12        Q. People don't know why it's called Hamburger  
13 Hill.

14               MRS. WALKER: Oh. I didn't know that.

15        Q. When we ride up -- ride up old -- the  
16 Collins chair, you know, you'd smell the hamburgers.

17               MRS. WALKER: Right.

18               MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19        Q. And then you'd have to ski Hamburger Hill to  
20 go down and get a hamburger.

21               MRS. WALKER: Well, we used to have an old  
22 lift phone. They didn't have the sophisticated phones  
23 that they do now. We -- we had an old lift --

24               MR. WALKER: The old crank.

25               MRS. WALKER: And if you had two cranks, it



1 was the Watson, three cranks it was Germania, and so on  
2 and so forth.

3 And we used to monkey around with that a  
4 lot.

5 And if some self-important ski instructor  
6 would come in, you know, he had maybe a movie star or  
7 something, and I would go to the phone and ring Watson.  
8 And I'd say, Bill. You've got a phone call.

9 And he -- oh, he'd jump up. And look all  
10 around and make sure everyone saw him. And he'd come  
11 and pick up the phone.

12 Bill speaking. No one was there.

13 Bill. This is Bill. And everyone that was  
14 in on it, and they'd start laughing.

15 Everybody'd catch on but poor Bill.

16 But eventually, we did that so many times I  
17 couldn't do it anymore.

18 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19 MRS. WALKER: We used to do dumb stuff like  
20 that.

21 MR. WALKER: The one that I really -- really  
22 remember getting caught that way was Lynn Nichol, who  
23 was one of the supervisors on the ski school.

24 I think he's still there.

25 And we sure got him that way one day.



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1 Q. Let's wait until the --

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let's wait.

3 MR. WALKER: Joe -- Joe was on our side  
4 then.

5 MRS. WALKER: But, see, something just  
6 slipped out of my mind.

7 MR. WALKER: We had a pretty good  
8 relationship with the Board of Health.

9 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, we did.

10 MR. WALKER: I don't remember the guy's name  
11 now. He was the head of it. He was an MD.

12 But he liked to ski. So he'd -- he'd come  
13 up --

14 MRS. WALKER: Quite often.

15 MR. WALKER: -- quite frequently, to look  
16 things over.

17 We were always glad to see him come, because  
18 he was -- he was a good guy.

19 MRS. WALKER: For a while, they didn't know  
20 what to do about beer. We didn't have beer at first.

21 And then we finally got a -- permission to  
22 get a beer license.

23 Well, you know how Utah is. And --

24 MR. WALKER: It was even worse then.

25 MRS. WALKER: So they decided, in some wise





1 way, that it would be okay if the beer drinkers would  
2 all go upstairs to drink their beer, and the non-beer  
3 drinkers would stay downstairs.

4 That meant that people -- the dad in the  
5 family wanted a beer, had to go upstairs, and leave his  
6 family downstairs.

7 And this went on and on. And there was a  
8 legislature that we liked, and he finally said, This  
9 doesn't make any sense.

10 I can't remember his name.

11 MR. WALKER: Tom Carlogos. He was Senator  
12 Bennett's administrative assistant.

13 And they got that straightened out for us.

14 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. Because they -- you  
15 know, it made the family had to break up for lunch.

16 And of course their idea was, well, if you  
17 didn't have to drink your beer, you wouldn't have to do  
18 that.

19 Well, we do have to drink beer. And it went  
20 on and on.

21 But it did get straightened out. It was  
22 kind of silly, as usual.

23 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

24 Q. Talk a little bit about what it's like --  
25 imagine that the -- your kids were pretty excited when



1 they found out that you were going --

2 MRS. WALKER: Oh.

3 MR. WALKER: Oh ho ho.

4 MRS. WALKER: Were they ever.

5 MR. WALKER: Boy.

6 Q. Talk a little bit about that.

7 MR. WALKER: Well, of course the deal that  
8 we had with our kids was that we would take over the  
9 Watson Shelter, and run it, with the understanding that  
10 it was up to them to come in and help during the lunch  
11 rush.

12 And so whenever it started getting busy,  
13 we'd get on the crank phone and called Hans at the  
14 bottom of Germania, and Joe, or Jack Burckhardt at the  
15 bottom of Wildcat, and say, Hey. When -- when you see  
16 our kids, tell them it's time to come in and go to  
17 work.

18 Well, sometimes they'd show up an hour  
19 later. They -- it -- it really didn't work very good.

20 MRS. WALKER: Well, we also told them that  
21 they had to come -- the older ones had to come in after  
22 school. I usually had a casserole, and the older one  
23 would put it in the oven. And they had to watch out  
24 for the young one.

25 And as soon as that didn't happen, as it



1 should, then we would have to give up Watson Shelter,  
2 which, of course, we wouldn't have done, but they  
3 didn't know that.

4 So they were pretty conscientious about  
5 that.

6 MR. WALKER: And they -- well, they helped  
7 with the clean-up after we closed, and --

8 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. They had to do that.

9 MR. WALKER: -- all of that kind of thing.

10 MRS. WALKER: We had them caught then.

11 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

12 MRS. WALKER: But when we lived up at Alpine  
13 Glow, I felt bad for them, because they had to ski down  
14 in the dark -- it was one of the biggest roads closure  
15 years we've ever -- I think the road was closed 23  
16 skiing days that year.

17 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It was --

18 MRS. WALKER: As I recall.

19 MR. WALKER: It was grim.

20 MRS. WALKER: And they had to ski down in  
21 the dark.

22 And I don't know if you remember, they had a  
23 racing for amateurs, a race course set up. I want to  
24 call it NASCAR. That's not right.

25 Q. NASTAR.



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1 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

2 MR. WALKER: NASTAR, yeah.

3 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

4 And they -- sometimes they'd leave it up  
5 overnight, and my little daughter was just tall enough  
6 that she would hit that thing.

7 MR. WALKER: Right at the bottom of Rustler  
8 is where that was.

9 MRS. WALKER: And she hit it with her mouth,  
10 and got -- she got in the Goldminers, and Elpheda  
11 called me at -- at the Alpine Glow, and she said, I've  
12 got a sad little girl here. She cut her mouth.

13 And Heidi got on the phone, and she said, I  
14 cut my mouth on a NASTAR.

15 She said, Can I tell this to my  
16 grandchildren?

17 And I said, Yes, you can tell your  
18 grandchildren.

19 But the kids in their classes used to worry  
20 about them. The teachers would say, I wish you'd get  
21 those kids here earlier, because I can't do anything  
22 with them until the Walkers get here.

23 Of course there was one in high school, one  
24 in junior high school, one in --

25 MR. WALKER: Elementary.





1           MRS. WALKER: -- in grade school. There was  
2 somebody somewhere, everywhere.

3           And then they'd say -- they'd call me at  
4 Watson, and they'd say, We've got to close the road at  
5 3:30. You better get those kids up the canyon.

6           So I'd call the schools, and get in the car  
7 and drive down the canyon and go home and get all --  
8 everybody's skis, and throw them in the car, and go to  
9 all of the schools and pick up all of the kids, and  
10 take them back up.

11           And we catch -- usually end up catching the  
12 last chair to get up to Watson.

13           Q. When you think about that, I mean the -- it  
14 sounds like it -- you had to -- I wouldn't say put up  
15 with a lot --

16           MRS. WALKER: Oh, it was --

17           Q. -- to make it work.

18           MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

19           Q. But logistically, it sounds like it was  
20 something to make the whole thing go.

21           MRS. WALKER: It was. It was definitely --

22           MR. WALKER: Very -- very much so.

23           MRS. WALKER: -- something.

24           Q. Talk a little bit about the trade-off --

25           MR. WALKER: Yeah.



1 Q. -- between, you know, why --

2 I mean, why would you -- why would you do  
3 that?

4 MRS. WALKER: Because we loved being on the  
5 mountain, and we loved skiing.

6 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It -- it was -- it was  
7 my opportunity to get into the ski business.

8 And we just loved it.

9 MRS. WALKER: It was an -- a unique  
10 lifestyle. Something we enjoyed.

11 MR. WALKER: Yep.

12 But talk about logistics. I mean, man.  
13 Getting the food up the hill.

14 The first year, I was able to talk Chick  
15 into letting me borrow one of their big trucks. And I  
16 hauled everything up the hill that -- that was  
17 non-perishable, that I figured would last and last.

18 And just filled the storage upstairs.

19 And the perishable stuff, on the other hand,  
20 had to come up two or three times a week.

21 And it all came up on the single chair  
22 Collins lift.

23 MRS. WALKER: Usually one thing at a time.  
24 You know, one chair at a time.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah.



1                   First of all, it would arrive at the lower  
2 parking lot. Then Alta Ski Lifts would have a snowcat  
3 there. I didn't own a cat at that time.

4                   And it would all be off-loaded out of the --  
5 MRS. WALKER: Truck.

6                   MR. WALKER: -- truck, into the snowcat.

7 Then they'd drive it to the bottom of Collins.  
8 Off-load it onto their ramp, put it on the chair, you  
9 know, one chair at a time.

10                   It would all -- all come up.

11                   So somebody would be loading it on the chair  
12 at the bottom of Collins, and I'd have one of my  
13 employees, or myself, at the top of Collins, taking  
14 everything off.

15                   And then we'd have to pack everything from  
16 there over to Watson, which is about a hundred yards.

17                   It was -- and in the snow, you know, that  
18 was quite a job, to get it over there.

19                   Sometimes we used a toboggan, but mostly we  
20 didn't. Just carried it over.

21                   MRS. WALKER: And sometimes we had a couple  
22 of catastrophes.

23                   After we got our snowcat, the back came off  
24 of it somehow, and -- and all of the beer kegs went out  
25 of it, and all over the mountain.



1                   And that disrupted quite a few skiers.

2                   MR. WALKER: Well, I was gathering up beer  
3 kegs at three o'clock in the morning. With my snowcat.

4                   MRS. WALKER: They were just rolling all  
5 around.

6                   MR. WALKER: Yeah.

7                   Q. How long did it take for the foam to settle?

8                   MR. WALKER: Well, it was --

9                   MRS. WALKER: It didn't -- it --

10                  MR. WALKER: -- hermetically sealed.

11                  MRS. WALKER: It didn't take very long. It  
12 seems to work out okay.

13                  MR. WALKER: Yeah.

14                  It was laying there in the snow, so it -- it  
15 was good and cold.

16                  MRS. WALKER: Sometimes we had trouble  
17 getting our supplies up, though, if the -- like that  
18 time that Russ wouldn't bring our stuff up to the  
19 Alpine Glow, because of the cat track, was it?

20                  MR. WALKER: Yeah. It was icy. He was  
21 afraid he was going to slide into the creek.

22                  MRS. WALKER: Yeah. And he might have.

23                  It was an icy cat track. He could have slid  
24 off.

25                  But we needed our supplies, so there we have





1 it. We had our little moments.

2 Q. Talk a little bit about the community.

3 We talked to Russ Harbor. We interviewed  
4 him for the show.

5 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

6 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

7 Q. There's just some great people that you've  
8 probably met over the years.

9 MRS. WALKER: Oh, yeah.

10 Q. Talk a little bit about the -- just the  
11 community of Alta, and what a homey place it is.

12 MRS. WALKER: Well, I'd say, by in large, it  
13 was pretty homogenous. Wouldn't you?

14 MR. WALKER: Oh, absolutely.

15 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17 MRS. WALKER: We all had one goal in mind.

18 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19 MRS. WALKER: But you couldn't avoid -- you  
20 couldn't avoid -- what am I trying to think of? --  
21 conflicts.

22 Q. Well, let's go back.

23 You said you all had one goal in mind. What  
24 was that goal?

25 A. To make -- promote the area, and make Alta



1 a --

2 We all wanted to keep Alta kind of pristine.  
3 We didn't want it to be an Aspen or a Snowbird. We  
4 wanted it to be an old-fashioned ski area.

5 And we really wanted to cater to the local  
6 Salt Laker.

7 MR. WALKER: Well, we loved -- we loved the  
8 lodge guests too, because --

9 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. That's true.

10 MR. WALKER: By in large, you know, they had  
11 deep pockets. And they'd -- they'd spend a lot of  
12 money.

13 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. But we -- but the lodge  
14 guests were also primarily people who came back year  
15 after year after year.

16 They were people we got to know pretty well.

17 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Chick's -- Chick's  
18 remark on that was, the only way that you can get a  
19 reservation at the Alta Lodge is as you're checking out  
20 this year, you make your reservation for next year.

21 MRS. WALKER: And that went --

22 MR. WALKER: And that was pretty much true.

23 MRS. WALKER: And when Eddie Morris was the  
24 big instructor there, that was pretty much how you got  
25 a lesson scheduled with Eddie too.



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1                   MR. WALKER: Yeah. He -- he was booked a  
2 year in advance.

3                   MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

4                   Q. Eddie Morris kind of has a run named after  
5 him. Do you want to talk a little bit about that?

6                   MRS. WALKER: Eddie's I Know Area.

7                   MR. WALKER: Oh, Eddie's I Know Area.

8                   MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

9                   MR. WALKER: Well, it's above Gunsight, and  
10 it --

11                   Back in the days that I was skiing a lot up  
12 there, it was almost im -- impossible to get to.

13                   You had to take your life into your own  
14 hands to get to it, but man oh man, once you got there,  
15 what a run.

16                   MRS. WALKER: You've skied it? He's skied  
17 it.

18                   MR. WALKER: It goes down the back side.  
19 And that was before there were any lifts over in Albion  
20 Basin.

21                   So it was a -- it was a long trek back to  
22 the -- back to the bottom of Wildcat and Collins to get  
23 back up -- up the hill.

24                   Q. Right. Because they wouldn't even pack  
25 that -- they wouldn't even pack that out. Somebody had



1 to cut a traverse at some point. Right?

2 MR. WALKER: Well, yeah. Yeah. There was  
3 absolutely no grooming in -- in Albian Basin.

4 MRS. WALKER: Alta didn't groom --

5 MR. WALKER: On Wheely Hill or any of that.

6 MRS. WALKER: -- any more than they  
7 absolutely had to.

8 It doesn't seem to me.

9 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

10 Q. When you talk about Chick Morton, he's kind  
11 of a big character in this whole story.

12 MRS. WALKER: Yes.

13 MR. WALKER: Oh, absolutely.

14 MRS. WALKER: Yes.

15 Q. Talk about Chick, and what kind of guy he  
16 was.

17 MRS. WALKER: Oh --

18 MR. WALKER: Well, Chick. He had an  
19 interesting -- interesting history.

20 He owned a riding academy just south of  
21 Westminster College. On 13th East.

22 And he closed it up in the wintertime.

23 There was no business in the wintertime. And  
24 somebody -- I can't remember who now. Some --

25 MRS. WALKER: Fred Spire?





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1 MR. WALKER: Was it -- no. It might have  
2 been Fred.

3 Anyway, somebody said, Hey, Chick, there's a  
4 job for you as a bartender at the Alta Lodge, in the  
5 wintertime, if you want to come up.

6 So he did. He became the bartender at the  
7 Alta Lodge. And that's how he got started, at Alta.

8 And he did that for several years, and then  
9 he finally decided it was time to get rid of his riding  
10 academy. And the powers that be at Alta, who was Jay  
11 Loftin and Joe Quinney, they knew Chick by this time,  
12 and they thought that he would make a good manager.

13 So -- I take it back. That -- Fred Spire  
14 was the manager up there then.

15 Q. Yeah. He was the first manager, and then  
16 Chick took over in about what, '62? I think about  
17 1962.

18 The dates -- kind of run into each other.

19 MRS. WALKER: I'm not sure.

20 Q. But Chick was the general manager when you  
21 were up there?

22 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

23 MR. WALKER: Yes, he was.

24 And when I was on the ski patrol, Chick was  
25 brand new as the manager. Fred had just retired the



1 year before.

2 And he -- his arthritis was so bad, he had  
3 to retire. He just couldn't -- couldn't ski anymore.

4 I think I saw him on the hill once while I  
5 was -- my first year on -- on patrol.

6 But then -- then Joe Quinney.

7 And Joe was the president of Alta Ski Lifts.  
8 He talked Chick into taking over the lift company. And  
9 he --

10 And by this time, Alta -- Chick was already  
11 the manager of the Alta Lodge. So they said, Well, you  
12 can do both. You know? It's not really a full-time  
13 job. You just manage things, and pay the bills and  
14 whatnot.

15 MRS. WALKER: Well, Bill Leavitt, at this  
16 time, too, was the stockholder. Wasn't he?

17 MR. WALKER: Yeah. He -- he had a --

18 MRS. WALKER: Bill and Chick were both  
19 stockholders.

20 The big stockholder was --

21 MR. WALKER: Jay Loflin.

22 MRS. WALKER: -- Jay Loflin.

23 Who owned the big publishing company.

24 MR. WALKER: New direction in --

25 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.



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1 MR. WALKER: -- Connecticut, I think.

2 MRS. WALKER: And I think one of his sons is  
3 still active in the --

4 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

5 Q. While we're talking about Jay Lauchlin, he's  
6 kind of -- he is kind of an enig -- he's kind of an  
7 enigma.

8 MR. WALKER: Yeah. He --

9 Q. Can you talk --

10 MR. WALKER: He was --

11 Q. -- a little bit --

12 Did you know him well? Can you talk a  
13 little bit about him?

14 MR. WALKER: We knew him pretty well. Yeah.  
15 He was more or less a silent partner.

16 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. He didn't --

17 MR. WALKER: In everything up there.

18 MRS. WALKER: He didn't do any -- much  
19 managing.

20 MR. WALKER: He -- he was -- he was the big  
21 money behind Alta Ski Lifts.

22 MRS. WALKER: He trusted his people.

23 MR. WALKER: And Joe Quinney put a -- a -- a  
24 group of Salt Lake businessmen, who were skiers,  
25 together, and they formed Salt Lake City Winter Sports



1 Association.

2 And they got Jay interested in it.

3 Jay had been coming out, and more or less  
4 just back-country skiing, up in Alta. And he -- he  
5 loved the place. He was a real dedicated skier.

6 And so he put a lot of money into Alta Ski  
7 Lifts.

8 MRS. WALKER: He built the big new lift  
9 house. I guess it's not new anymore.

10 MR. WALKER: Well, if I'm not mistake -- and  
11 I'm not 100 percent sure of this, but I think that Jay  
12 is the one that built the Alta Lodge originally.

13 MRS. WALKER: May be.

14 MR. WALKER: And he's the one that hired  
15 Chick as the manager of the Alta Lodge.

16 And sold him a partnership in it.

17 He -- he had an interest in it.

18 And then a few years later, Bill Leavitt  
19 came up and bought Jay Loflin's interest out.

20 So then he and Chick were owners for --

21 MRS. WALKER: Well, did he buy Loflin out?

22 MR. WALKER: -- for a short --

23 Yeah.

24 MRS. WALKER: I didn't know that.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah.





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1 Out of -- out of the Alta Lodge.

2 MRS. WALKER: Oh.

3 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

4 Not out of the lift.

5 MRS. WALKER: Oh. Okay.

6 Q. No. Because that's when -- the way I  
7 understood it, too, is that Fred Spire, when he  
8 retired, he was given a number of shares in the --

9 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

10 Q. -- Alta Ski Lifts company.

11 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

12 Q. Umm, and those were non-dividend paying  
13 shares.

14 MRS. WALKER: Right.

15 Q. And, you know, he had ownership of -- a  
16 certain percentage of ownership in the ski lifts, but  
17 basically he needed some money.

18 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19 Q. So that's -- he offered his shares over to  
20 Jay Lauchlin.

21 MR. WALKER: Oh.

22 MRS. WALKER: Oh. Okay.

23 Q. And that's how Jay got into a larger  
24 percentage of the -- of the ski lift company.

25 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm. Yeah.



1 Q. And we're not really going to go into that  
2 story too much, but --

3 MRS. WALKER: No.

4 Q. -- that's for your own information.

5 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

6 MRS. WALKER: That's kind of complicated  
7 anyway.

8 Q. When you think about -- you know, let's --  
9 instead of just talking about the facts, let's talk a  
10 little bit about the emotion of Alta.

11 It's a magical place.

12 And, you know, when I was talking with Andy,  
13 and Tom, they said, you know, that they would never  
14 take it for granted that they got to grow up in such a  
15 special place.

16 Let's talk about why Alta -- what makes Alta  
17 such a special place?

18 MRS. WALKER: There's kind of a mystique. I  
19 don't know.

20 But what --

21 MR. WALKER: Well, just the whole feeling  
22 that you get when you go up the canyon. Even before  
23 you get to Alta. You know? You -- you just get this  
24 feeling in your stomach, that --

25 MRS. WALKER: It's not your stomach.



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1                   MR. WALKER: It's -- it's such a -- such a  
2 special place.

3                   MRS. WALKER: I think --

4                   MR. WALKER: And back before Snowbird was  
5 there, you know, it was -- it was the end of the  
6 canyon, and it was just unique. Just really unique.

7                   And, gosh, to -- to be up there, at night,  
8 and see the moon come up. It was --

9                   MRS. WALKER: We used to -- we used to -- at  
10 night we used to go out and hike around and ski.

11                   We had miners -- miners lamps that we used  
12 some -- not all the time. When the moon was out.

13                   MR. WALKER: Yeah.

14                   MRS. WALKER: Hans used to say he'd run the  
15 lift on a full moon. Run the moon on a full lift, or  
16 something.

17                   But anyway, it was -- it seemed like people  
18 who had been at Alta will always sometimes gravitate  
19 back.

20                   I saw that at -- at -- with Crispy Critter.  
21 He came -- he always shows up again.

22                   MR. WALKER: Bob Kellogg.

23                   MRS. WALKER: People -- people seem to come  
24 back.

25                   I don't know why, but --



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1 MR. WALKER: Oh, they do. Yep.

2 MRS. WALKER: Once -- once you've been at  
3 Alta --

4 MR. WALKER: Year after year.

5 MRS. WALKER: -- it seems like you show up  
6 again somehow.

7 And people --

8 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

9 MRS. WALKER: -- will ask where you ski, and  
10 they'll always name Alta.

11 MR. WALKER: Yeah. The -- Alta skiers  
12 are -- they're a special breed too. They're all in  
13 love with the place.

14 MRS. WALKER: And they -- they're very --  
15 they don't want it to change. They're very --

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17 MRS. WALKER: -- selfish that way.

18 MR. WALKER: That's right.

19 MRS. WALKER: They don't want boarders, and  
20 they don't want this, and they don't want that.

21 Q. Well, when you think about, really, you  
22 know, a lot of people at Alta, they don't want change.  
23 But changes have been made over the years.

24 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. That's right.

25 Q. Can you give me your impressions of how --





1 how the things have progressed up there?

2 MRS. WALKER: Things have changed a lot.

3 MR. WALKER: Well, slowly, yeah. It's taken  
4 a long time. But it's --

5 MRS. WALKER: Right.

6 MR. WALKER: It's changed a lot --

7 MRS. WALKER: I was --

8 MR. WALKER: -- and for the better,  
9 certainly.

10 MRS. WALKER: I was surprised when they  
11 built Blackjack, or Jack -- what's that called? That  
12 first condominium they built. Down the canyon.

13 MR. WALKER: Oh, Hell Gate.

14 MRS. WALKER: Hell Gate.

15 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

16 MRS. WALKER: Isn't there one called Jack  
17 something?

18 Q. Yeah. Blackjack's over just on the ridge  
19 between the Westward Ho and --

20 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

21 MRS. WALKER: Yeah?

22 Q. -- and Snowbird.

23 And actually, the Blackjack mine claim is  
24 what Ted Johnson bought, to get --

25 MRS. WALKER: Oh, okay.



1 Q. -- to get Snowbird started.

2 MRS. WALKER: Yes. Okay.

3 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

4 Q. But when you think about --

5 Talk a little bit -- you know, let's go back  
6 and talk a little bit about that single chair, that  
7 Collins lift.

8 Let's talk a little bit about maybe, if you  
9 can, if you can remember what it sounded like. If you  
10 can remember what it was like to have that chair swing.

11 MRS. WALKER: Oh, I can remember -- I can  
12 hear it --

13 MR. WALKER: Oh, boy.

14 MRS. WALKER: -- in my daily life  
15 practically.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It -- it was a unique  
17 lift in that the -- the power for it, the motors, were  
18 all at the top terminal. And so, to turn the thing on,  
19 somebody would have to put skins on their skis, and --  
20 and climb up the hill.

21 That was before Wildcat. You know, when  
22 Collins was the only lift at Alta, and --

23 MRS. WALKER: Where's that picture of -- of  
24 the old wooden towers?

25 Is it in there?



1 MR. WALKER: Oh, yeah.

2 Q. We'll get it for you.

3 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

4 Q. When you talk -- and any reference that you  
5 want to make to a picture, just talk about it, and then  
6 we can scan the picture and show it on the screen.

7 MRS. WALKER: Okay. Well, this is funny.

8 It's a picture of the old wooden towers on Collins.

9 And Hans Brogle used to say -- a lot of  
10 things about Hans were attractive. He could be a real  
11 bear, but sometimes he was nice.

12 Anyway, he used to say, See that? That's  
13 when the lift towers were made of wood and the men were  
14 made of steel. Now the lift towers are made of steel,  
15 and the men are made of wood.

16 That was his main -- it's in there  
17 somewhere.

18 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It's on the wall in  
19 there.

20 MRS. WALKER: Right.

21 Q. What's really funny is I think that -- well,  
22 Onno actually appropriated that.

23 MRS. WALKER: Did he?

24 Q. Yeah. We talked it -- he kind of used that  
25 quote in his interview.



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1 MRS. WALKER: Oh.

2 Q. And he couldn't figure out whether he was  
3 made of wood or whether he was made of steel.

4 MRS. WALKER: Steel.

5 Q. Anyway --

6 MR. WALKER: Well, it was -- it made a  
7 racket.

8 MRS. WALKER: Oh my.

9 MR. WALKER: Boy, that was -- sometimes --  
10 well -- well, later on, after there was the Wildcat  
11 lift, and they -- they didn't run Collins except when  
12 they needed a -- needed it for the overflow, and so  
13 when -- whenever they'd turn Collins on, and we were in  
14 Watson, we'd -- that was a message to us that -- get  
15 ready for a crowd.

16 MRS. WALKER: Look out.

17 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Because they were  
18 crowded, or they wouldn't be running Collins.

19 The only time they ran it was for overflow  
20 crowds, and bring supplies up to -- up the hill to  
21 Watson.

22 MRS. WALKER: That was later on. Yeah.

23 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

24 Q. I remember getting on -- we'd always get in  
25 lift line pretty early.





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1 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

2 Q. And -- you know, to run over and get in the  
3 Collins line. Right?

4 MR. WALKER: Uh-huh.

5 Q. I remember we'd be yelling at each other,  
6 from one chair to the other, like who was going to make  
7 it to Germania first.

8 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, right. Yeah.

9 Q. That's a lot of times on Collins we ended up  
10 beating the Wildcat folks but, anyway.

11 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

12 MR. WALKER: Well that -- that was the new  
13 Collins.

14 Q. The new Collins.

15 MR. WALKER: That went to the top of  
16 Aggie's.

17 Q. Yeah. Yeah. You know.

18 MR. WALKER: Uh-huh.

19 Q. Like I guess that would be the second  
20 Collins, or even the third.

21 MRS. WALKER: Do you know what Samoyed dogs  
22 look like?

23 Q. Samoyeds, yeah.

24 MRS. WALKER: We had one, and Chick had one.

25 And when we first got ours, of course he was



1 a puppy, and Chick's dog Sam used to be the boss.

2 Then, as our dog grew old -- grew up, then  
3 he didn't want to be bossed around anymore, and they  
4 became enemies.

5 And --

6 MR. WALKER: They both thought they were  
7 Alpha males.

8 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

9 And dogs, I've heard -- I don't know if I  
10 believe it. -- are supposed to be able to see colors.  
11 And of course our kids all had yellow parkas, and Sam  
12 hated us. Because we got to go up the mountain, and he  
13 didn't. He had to stay down. And so along would come  
14 our kids, and get on the chair, and go on up the  
15 mountain. And our dog would be right behind them, and  
16 going up the mountain.

17 Well, it turned out that anybody -- whoa  
18 unto anybody that showed up with a yellow parka on.  
19 Sam was after them right away.

20 And I said, How does he know they have  
21 yellow parkas?

22 And people would -- began to catch on. If  
23 they had a yellow parka, they'd just pull it off.

24 Q. Where did those yellow parkas come from?

25 MRS. WALKER: We just bought Jim Shade --



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1 MR. WALKER: We got them all from Jim Shade.

2 MRS. WALKER: He decided that they'd look  
3 cute if they all had yellow parkas.

4 There are still people who remember the  
5 yellow parkas. And I say -- they say, How are the  
6 yellow parkas doing? And I say, Well, they're doing  
7 great. They're not little boys anymore.

8 Q. Let's talk a little bit about maybe -- I  
9 don't know. Your son said that Chick's office was like  
10 the principal's office.

11 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. If you got in  
12 trouble --

13 Q. Let's talk a little bit about those guys.

14 MRS. WALKER: Well --

15 Q. And maybe how crazy they were skiing around  
16 and stuff.

17 MRS. WALKER: Our kids would get in all of  
18 the trouble that they dared. And they'd try and think  
19 up stuff to do.

20 Like one -- one day we --

21 MR. WALKER: Like jump off of the lift.

22 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, jump off the chair.

23 And, you know --

24 MR. WALKER: And that's a real no-no.

25 MRS. WALKER: Cable would go like that, and



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1 might shake -- shake the whole thing off -- off the  
2 rails.

3           And they did that once, and we got -- we got  
4 ring ring. The Walker boys are jumping off the chair.  
5 And then we'd have to take them all in, and bar them  
6 from the lifts. And then they'd all be in Watson  
7 crying as loud as they could cry. You could hear them  
8 clear down to the bottom.

9           And then -- what -- they did some other  
10 naughty stuff. I can't remember.

11           MR. WALKER: Well, one memorable event was  
12 when they had the Alta Golundy --

13           MRS. WALKER: Oh. I don't think they did  
14 that.

15           MR. WALKER: Well, yeah. All of our boys  
16 jumped in the Golundy.

17           MRS. WALKER: Oh, I know that.

18           MR. WALKER: The older boys jumped off the  
19 big one, and -- and Matthew, who is the youngest son,  
20 he -- he would go off the smaller one.

21           Well, Matthew was very, very brave, and  
22 he --

23           MRS. WALKER: And competitive.

24           MR. WALKER: Yeah.

25           He wasn't allowed to go off the big jump.





1                   But one -- one night, after the lift was  
2 closed, and everybody was off the hill. And we were  
3 all up at Watson still, you know, cleaning up and  
4 whatnot.

5                   So when we went down, Matthew decided, by  
6 golly, I'm going to go off the big jump. And it was  
7 icy.

8                   MRS. WALKER: Hmm. It was terrible.

9                   MR. WALKER: And he did go off the big jump,  
10 and of course he landed on his face.

11                  MRS. WALKER: I think he went off on one  
12 ski.

13                  MR. WALKER: Yeah, he did. Yeah. I don't  
14 remember how that came to be, but he -- he only had one  
15 ski on when he went off the thing.

16                  And so he -- he went in to the lift office,  
17 and Jean Morton called us. And she says, Hey. Your --  
18 your son is down here, and he's got blood all over his  
19 face.

20                  MRS. WALKER: She said, I think he got hit  
21 by a snowcat.

22                  MR. WALKER: But he survived.

23                  MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

24                  I --

25                  Q. Talk --







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1 next year.

2 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

3 MR. WALKER: You'd be amazed how much damage  
4 10,000 ski boots can do to a wood floor.

5 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. Or a cement floor.

6 MR. WALKER: And the upstairs was a wood  
7 floor, and the stairs were wood.

8 And, boy, I'd have to remodel that place  
9 every year.

10 The -- it seems like, when Alta people got  
11 together -- and by Alta people I mean business  
12 owners -- the conversation always got around to  
13 emptying the --

14 MRS. WALKER: Septic tank.

15 MR. WALKER: -- the septic tanks.

16 MRS. WALKER: Always.

17 MR. WALKER: Now that was a real challenge.

18 MRS. WALKER: We had to talk about it --

19 MR. WALKER: Especially up on the hill,  
20 where -- where we were.

21 It wasn't near as -- as bad for the lodges  
22 down below.

23 MRS. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

24 MR. WALKER: But that --

25 Well, we had a 6,000-gallon tank down below



1 the main tank, which was the original tank. And we had  
2 to add a -- add them from -- add them from time to  
3 time, as the business grew, and the -- we needed more  
4 capacity.

5 Q. What's really funny is people always  
6 mention -- from the original Watsons, that that was one  
7 of the things that always kind of stuck out in their  
8 mind, is the --

9 MRS. WALKER: Ahh.

10 MR. WALKER: Oh, yeah. That was --

11 Q. You know, the Forest Service pit toilet down  
12 there --

13 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

14 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

15 MRS. WALKER: I hated it.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

18 Q. Now, when did you -- when did you first ski  
19 at Alta?

20 I mean, before you had any -- any business  
21 operations up there? When did you first ski up there?

22 MR. WALKER: The -- my very first time going  
23 to Alta was when I was a student at Wasatch Academy in  
24 Mount Pleasant.

25 We had a ski club down there, and we put --





1 put a trip together, and -- and all got in the back of  
2 a great big truck, and lined the sides with cardboard,  
3 and put canvas over the top, and all huddled together  
4 in the back of that truck, and --

5 Of course when we got there, the truck  
6 disgorged all of us right in front of the Forest  
7 Service pit toilet that you're talking about. And  
8 there was quite a line-up to get in there, as we had  
9 just ridden 100 miles in the back of that truck. And  
10 that -- that was my first -- first time to ever ski  
11 Alta. And I didn't ski it again until -- I guess until  
12 I was in college.

13 Q. And that first time that you went up there,  
14 was -- the Collins lift was in?

15 MR. WALKER: Yeah. That was the only lift.  
16 At that time.

17 Q. And then --

18 MR. WALKER: Oh, no, I --

19 Q. -- they had some rope tows and stuff below  
20 the --

21 MR. WALKER: I take --

22 There was another lift. They called it the  
23 Peruvian lift, I believe.

24 And the bottom terminal was just above the  
25 old Watson Shelter.



1 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

2 MR. WALKER: The one that's still there.  
3 You know, the log cabin.

4 And it -- it went up to the west. Up to  
5 Peruvian Ridge.

6 And, as a matter of fact, I --

7 MRS. WALKER: Where did you get -- where did  
8 you get on that lift?

9 MR. WALKER: Where?

10 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

11 MR. WALKER: That -- at the bottom of the  
12 lift. But you'd have to ride Collins to get to it.

13 MRS. WALKER: That's what I was going to ask  
14 you.

15 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It was the same as  
16 getting on Germania.

17 MRS. WALKER: Oh, okay.

18 MR. WALKER: You know, you'd have to --

19 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

20 MR. WALKER: -- get up there.

21 Q. Ride too.

22 So that was the one that had the big double  
23 towers that went over the --

24 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

25 And --



1 MRS. WALKER: It burned down.

2 MR. WALKER: -- as a matter of fact, I  
3 helped tear that lift down when I was on the ski  
4 patrol.

5 MRS. WALKER: I thought it burned down.

6 MR. WALKER: Yeah. It did. It did. But  
7 there were still things that had to be --

8 MRS. WALKER: Oh. Okay.

9 MR. WALKER: -- removed off the hill.

10 Q. Now, when you were on the ski patrol, it's a  
11 little different than it is today.

12 Did you -- you guys didn't do as much  
13 snow -- did you do snow safety and that sort of stuff?  
14 Or is that still under the Forest Service?

15 MR. WALKER: No, we did it. We did it.

16 The Forest Service was in charge, but.

17 That was just when they very first started  
18 using explosives.

19 I remember -- I remember when they first  
20 brought a pack 75 up.

21 The -- the Forest Service brought a pack 75  
22 up, and they were shooting it from the road, up onto  
23 the hill, to the various places that they knew had to  
24 be hit.

25 And then, after a while, they -- they got



1 the Recoilist 105. And they -- they had fixed it -- in  
2 placements for them. And they still do. That's --  
3 that's the way they do it now.

4 And -- oh, what was the guy's name?  
5 Invented the avalauncher.

6 He was -- he was an old Alta --

7 Q. Monte Atwater?

8 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Monte Atwater. He was  
9 an old Forest Service snow ranger.

10 Q. Let's talk a --

11 Well, let's go in and talk a little bit  
12 about the fact that -- you had to deal with getting the  
13 kids to school was the road --

14 MR. WALKER: Yeah. That's when we were at  
15 the Alpine Glow.

16 Q. -- closed. Right?

17 But also the fact that, you know, there are  
18 avalanches up there, and that they can close things  
19 down.

20 And, you know, it snows a lot.

21 MR. WALKER: Yes, indeed.

22 Q. Talk a little bit about maybe what the  
23 feeling was like, you know, some interlodges, or  
24 some -- you know.

25 MRS. WALKER: Oh, the interlodge was quite





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1 fun.

2 MR. WALKER: With the shipwreck parties,  
3 and --

4 MRS. WALKER: They used to -- I think Eddie  
5 Morris was one of them, that used to make a run on skis  
6 down to the liquor store, in Holladay, and come back up  
7 to the lodge. Because they didn't used to have a  
8 liquor store in the lodges.

9 So he'd make sure that they had plenty of  
10 supplies.

11 And -- let's see.

12 We -- you got caught up at Watson with just  
13 the dog. None of us were there. And you -- interlodge  
14 was closed.

15 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

16 MRS. WALKER: And we -- we didn't have a  
17 phone up there either. So the Park City phone company  
18 made arrangements to phone Neff about once every hour,  
19 or once every two hours or something.

20 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

21 MRS. WALKER: To make sure he hadn't fallen  
22 down the shaft, or something like that.

23 It was --

24 MR. WALKER: Yeah, I was snowed in up there  
25 for ten days.



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1 MRS. WALKER: All by himself.

2 MR. WALKER: And the interlodge was closed  
3 that -- that entire time.

4 And, of course I had plenty of food, plenty  
5 of beer.

6 MRS. WALKER: And he had the dog with him.

7 MR. WALKER: And I had the dog, yeah. Yeah.

8 MRS. WALKER: But the rest of us were all  
9 snowed out.

10 MR. WALKER: That was the first year we were  
11 up there, I think.

12 MRS. WALKER: That was nice of Park City to  
13 make that --

14 They had to patch the phone in, to make sure  
15 you were all right.

16 Did I get to talk to you?

17 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

18 MRS. WALKER: I forget.

19 MR. WALKER: Yeah, that was quite a -- quite  
20 a feat to get a telephone up there.

21 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, it was.

22 MR. WALKER: Ted Johnson, who had had the  
23 Watson Shelter the year before I got it, had tried to  
24 get a phone, and the -- the phone company kept putting  
25 him off all summer long.



1                   And finally it snowed, and they said, Well,  
2 we can't get up there now.

3                   Well, I wasn't about to take that from them.  
4 They -- they started pulling that on me, when I got it.  
5 But I had a good friend who was a lawyer in Salt Lake,  
6 Phil Cowley. And he wrote them a letter. And that  
7 letter got some action out of them.

8                   So we got a telephone.

9                   MRS. WALKER: Yeah. We really need -- we  
10 thought it was dangerous not to have a phone. You  
11 know? We had any serious injury or anything, we  
12 really needed a phone.

13                  MR. WALKER: But it was part of the -- part  
14 of the Park City --

15                  MRS. WALKER: Exchange.

16                  MR. WALKER: -- exchange.

17                  MRS. WALKER: Yeah, it was.

18                  MR. WALKER: Yeah, we had a Park City  
19 prefix.

20                  Q. So it came over from Big Cottonwood and  
21 down?

22                  MR. WALKER: Yeah. It --

23                  Q. Instead of coming up the canyon?

24                  MR. WALKER: It came over Catherine Pass,  
25 actually.



1 Q. Right.

2 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

3 Q. When you think about when you're up on  
4 the -- you know, up on the mountain up there, and  
5 looking around, think about the beauty, the natural  
6 beauty. Talk a little bit about why Alta is just a  
7 gorgeous place.

8 MR. WALKER: Well, the mountain is so  
9 spectacular. The canyon is so spectacular. All the  
10 way up.

11 And after you get there, it's awe-inspiring.  
12 Year-round. You know, it doesn't matter, summer,  
13 winter, it's always beautiful.

14 Albian Basin, there's no place like it. The  
15 wildflowers up there are incredible.

16 MRS. WALKER: When I used to ski down early  
17 in the morning, to -- to downtown and direct my choir,  
18 and there would be no -- nothing on the mountain. And  
19 I'd be skiing down just as the birds were waking up.  
20 And it was almost a -- bring tears to my eyes. It was  
21 just a -- a phenomenal experience, that I wouldn't ever  
22 forget.

23 But it -- it would be so silent. The  
24 silence was overwhelming.

25 And remember that time I had pneumonia?





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1 MR. WALKER: Sure do.

2 MRS. WALKER: And we were at --

3 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

4 MRS. WALKER: -- Alpine -- living at Alpine.

5 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

6 MRS. WALKER: Well, and Neff called the  
7 Goldminers. The interlodge --

8 MR. WALKER: The interlodge was closed.

9 MRS. WALKER: And he called the Goldminers,  
10 and he said, My wife is pretty sick. Do you have a  
11 doctor down there?

12 And they said -- and they called around,  
13 and, yeah, they did.

14 And he talked to Neff, and he said, I think  
15 you better bring her down here. And I said, I'm not  
16 going anywhere with interlodge closed. I'd rather die  
17 in -- up here at Alpine Glow than in an avalanche.

18 Because, you know, it was so bad, I was  
19 afraid if we -- if we sneezed, we'd have an avalanche.

20 Talk about silent. You know? Everything  
21 was closed tighter than a drum. It was just total  
22 quiet.

23 And when he started up that snowcat with me  
24 in it, you'd have thought it was --

25 MR. WALKER: Well, you weren't in it.



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1 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. I went down with you.

2 MR. WALKER: I went down -- well, that's not  
3 the way I remember it.

4 MRS. WALKER: I --

5 MR. WALKER: The way I remember it is you  
6 stayed in bed at the Alpine Glow, and -- I didn't --

7 I didn't dare have you in the cat, because  
8 the snow was so deep, and I had this old 1962  
9 Trackmaster.

10 MRS. WALKER: I remember that cat.

11 MR. WALKER: From Thiokol. It was an  
12 experimental thing that was built.

13 MRS. WALKER: Very. Very.

14 MR. WALKER: I bought it from Bill Leavitt.

15 And it wouldn't go uphill and -- when the  
16 snow was real deep. Real deep.

17 I knew that if somehow I -- I got in a place  
18 where I -- I couldn't go back up in this track that I  
19 made going down, I wouldn't be able to get back.

20 MRS. WALKER: Well, I remember being in it.  
21 Didn't I go down with you?

22 MR. WALKER: Mm, no.

23 MRS. WALKER: Did you bring the doctor up  
24 there?

25 MR. WALKER: No. I got -- I went down and



1 picked up some medicine.

2 MRS. WALKER: That's right. You got --  
3 yeah.

4 MR. WALKER: And I brought the medicine  
5 back --

6 MRS. WALKER: Oh, okay.

7 MR. WALKER: -- to you.

8 MRS. WALKER: You got the antibiotics.

9 MR. WALKER: That's -- that's what --  
10 But I -- the snow was so deep, I knew I  
11 wouldn't be able to get back up if I couldn't go back  
12 up in my track that I made coming down.

13 MRS. WALKER: But it was --

14 Q. It sounds like the Iditerod, where you had  
15 to go get the serum and bring it to you.

16 Safe Nome.

17 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. It was so --

18 MR. WALKER: Same deal. Yeah.

19 MRS. WALKER: It was so silent, though, when  
20 he turned on that cat, that's what I remember.

21 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

22 MRS. WALKER: It just sounded like Niagara  
23 Falls. It would just roar.

24 But, oh, it was so still.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Yeah.



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1 MRS. WALKER: You can't imagine stillness  
2 like that.

3 MR. WALKER: Shirlee mentioned the -- the  
4 head lamps that we used to use.

5 As a matter of fact, I -- I had to ski down  
6 in the dark nearly every night.

7 MRS. WALKER: Well, I did too.

8 MR. WALKER: During the week.

9 MRS. WALKER: Who do you think was with you?

10 MR. WALKER: Yeah -- yeah, she -- she did  
11 too.

12 MRS. WALKER: He doesn't like to talk about  
13 me doing that.

14 MR. WALKER: But, of course, on weekends, we  
15 stayed up there. We didn't have to ski down there at  
16 night.

17 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. Whenever the kids  
18 didn't have to go to school, we stayed.

19 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

20 MRS. WALKER: Overnight.

21 MR. WALKER: But that was a -- always  
22 something. And Jim Shane used to always watch for me.

23 You know, I didn't ask him to.

24 MRS. WALKER: He didn't watch for me.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah. For us. Excuse me.





1 I didn't ask him to. This was just --

2 MRS. WALKER: That was nice.

3 MR. WALKER: He was concerned.

4 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

5 MR. WALKER: Yeah, Jim was a ski patrolman.

6 You know, he'd been on the patrol up there for years.

7 MRS. WALKER: He thought if we -- something  
8 happened, one of us broke our legs or something, we  
9 could be stuck up there.

10 MR. WALKER: So he'd always watch for the  
11 lights coming -- coming down the cat track.

12 Q. Would that -- talk a little bit about some  
13 of the people that you've known over the years.

14 Jim Shane.

15 Did you know Harold Goodrow?

16 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

17 MR. WALKER: Very well.

18 MRS. WALKER: Very well.

19 Q. Harold.

20 Who are some of those other kind of first  
21 beginning ski patrol --

22 MR. WALKER: Oh. Well I'll -- one of the  
23 most interesting guys was Ed LaChapelle.

24 He was the snow ranger up there. The head  
25 snow ranger.



1                   And he and Delores, his wife -- and Delores  
2 was a character.

3                   She was -- she's reputed to be the first  
4 person to ever ski the main chute.

5                   MRS. WALKER: She --

6                   MR. WALKER: From Baldy.

7                   MRS. WALKER: She would -- couldn't -- he  
8 tried to make her mind, her husband, but she wouldn't.  
9 She was a powderhound. And he'd close off runs, and  
10 the first person to ski them was Delores.

11                   He'd look up, and there'd be Delores skiing  
12 down the closed run.

13                   And she just didn't -- so he would get her  
14 skis and lock them up. So she couldn't go skiing.

15                   But --

16                   MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17                   MRS. WALKER: They -- I liked both of them.

18                   MR. WALKER: Well, speak of -- speaking of  
19 Delores, here's an experience that we had.

20                   One time, when I was on the -- on the ski  
21 patrol, it was after skiing. And a bunch of us were up  
22 in the Sitzmark, having a beer and talking about a  
23 great day skiing. Got -- it had -- it had been a real  
24 good day. Powder day.

25                   And we were all sitting around, and all of a



1 sudden the door opens, and here comes Ron Nicoli.

2 And he was the leader of the full-time  
3 patrol at that time.

4 Comes --

5 MRS. WALKER: He was the patrol.

6 MR. WALKER: He comes walking in, and  
7 he's -- his face is all bloody.

8 And, Ron, what happened?

9 He said, Well, Delores and I and a couple of  
10 other guys went over and skied Menopause.

11 MRS. WALKER: And it's on the Snowbird side.

12 MR. WALKER: On the Snowbird. So on the  
13 back side of --

14 MRS. WALKER: Baldy.

15 MR. WALKER: -- Wildcat Ridge.

16 MRS. WALKER: Oh, yeah.

17 MR. WALKER: And we got in a -- we got in an  
18 avalanche.

19 And Delores is up there, and we'd -- we  
20 weren't able to find her. The rest of us all got out.

21 But Delores is up there.

22 So, of course, we all immediately jumped  
23 into our ski boots, and skis, and they turned the lift  
24 on, and we went up and -- we found her.

25 MRS. WALKER: Her glove was out on the --



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1 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

2 MRS. WALKER: On the snow.

3 MR. WALKER: Right.

4 But she got pretty badly injured. She --

5 MRS. WALKER: Her hip got broken.

6 MR. WALKER: Yeah. She had -- she went  
7 sideways into a tree in the slide and broke her hip  
8 and -- and leg.

9 And so she was -- she was laid up for weeks  
10 and weeks.

11 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. She --

12 He didn't have to worry about her for a  
13 while.

14 MR. WALKER: They --

15 MRS. WALKER: Well --

16 MR. WALKER: They lived in the upper guard  
17 station, at the time. Ed and Delores did.

18 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

19 MR. WALKER: And Shirlee and I went up to  
20 see them, after -- after she got out of the hospital,  
21 and -- and was in bed up there.

22 And it was a -- such a unique site, 'cause  
23 here's -- you know, instead of having something that  
24 looked like hospital equipment, for her to pull herself  
25 up on, they had it rigged up an ice ax above her.





1 Suspended from the ceiling. That she could grab.

2 Because that's the kind of people they were.

3 Q. Mountain people for sure.

4 MRS. WALKER: Right.

5 Q. You know?

6 I mean --

7 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

8 Q. And you'd think of Ed LaChapelle as one of  
9 the -- I guess he's --

10 MRS. WALKER: He's an icon.

11 Q. He is.

12 Talk a little bit about him.

13 MR. WALKER: Oh, he wrote the book on --

14 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

15 MR. WALKER: -- avalanches.

16 MRS. WALKER: He started the avalanche  
17 studies. He was the avalanche man, and he did most of  
18 his research at Alta.

19 And he -- he tried to get government funding  
20 to -- well, what's the guy we liked? With the curly  
21 hair that got caught in the other avalanche?

22 Q. Purla?

23 MRS. WALKER: Ron Purla.

24 MR. WALKER: Ron Purla, yeah.

25 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.



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1 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

2 MRS. WALKER: He got Ron Purla to work with  
3 him, but he couldn't get any money out of the  
4 government to fund his studies. Which I thought was  
5 too bad. Because they were both extremely educated,  
6 and well suited to do that kind of work.

7 And so I think, eventually, of course, it  
8 all came out in the wash, but not while -- not while  
9 the people that were pioneering got -- got the benefit  
10 of it.

11 MR. WALKER: When we first met Purla, he --  
12 he was just a skier at Alta.

13 He had a degree in electrical engineering.

14 MRS. WALKER: Oh, I thought it was math.

15 MR. WALKER: He was -- he was an engineer.

16 And he really got interested in snow  
17 physics. And so he went back to school, and ended up  
18 with a Ph.D. in snow physics. And that's what Ed was  
19 also, a --

20 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

21 MR. WALKER: -- Ph.D. snow physicist from  
22 the University of Washington.

23 MRS. WALKER: And they were such a wonderful  
24 pair.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah.



1                   And -- yeah. Ron, he's a great guy.

2                   He became the head of avalanche control in  
3 Canada. And I -- as far as I know, he's still up  
4 there.

5                   Q. I think he is. I -- I e-mailed him.

6                   MR. WALKER: Oh.

7                   Q. And talked to him a little bit.

8                   You know, he kind of pointed me in some  
9 direction. You know.

10                  MRS. WALKER: I think I've got an address --  
11 a mailing address. You know, I wrote to him after I  
12 wrote that book.

13                  Q. Well, I have an e-mail address, if you --

14                  MRS. WALKER: Do you?

15                  Q. I could --

16                  MRS. WALKER: Oh, I'd like it.

17                  Q. -- on to you?

18                  MR. WALKER: Yeah.

19                  Q. So you can say hi.

20                  MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

21                  MR. WALKER: Yeah. That would be neat.

22                  Yeah. He -- he started as a snow ranger at  
23 Alta, the same year that we got Watson Shelter.

24                  MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

25                  He got -- I guess he told you about his



1 avalanche.

2 Q. No, I didn't really -- I didn't really go  
3 into that.

4 MRS. WALKER: Oh.

5 Q. But I have a question about -- now, this  
6 kind of goes back to the -- the feeling of skiing  
7 powder.

8 When you think about -- you know, you said  
9 it was a great day. A good powder day.

10 MR. WALKER: Mm-hmm.

11 Q. Kind of tell me what makes a great powder  
12 day.

13 MR. WALKER: Well, great powder is powder  
14 that's uncut. And --

15 MRS. WALKER: Light and fluffy.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Light, fluffy. At least  
17 18 inches deep.

18 MRS. WALKER: You feel like you're floating.

19 MR. WALKER: Better if more.

20 MRS. WALKER: It's -- it's almost like  
21 you're floating. Another world.

22 MR. WALKER: And, you know, that's what --  
23 that's what's so unique about --

24 We -- we like to sound like Alta is the only  
25 place that it exists, and of course that's not true.





KUED Interview \* Neff & Shirlee Walker

1 Snowbird has great powder. Brighton has great powder.

2 Snow Basin has great powder.

3 But --

4 MRS. WALKER: Not quite as great.

5 MR. WALKER: When you think about -- when  
6 you think of powder skiing, you think of Alta first,  
7 because that's where it all started.

8 That's where the deep powder technique was  
9 first developed, by --

10 MRS. WALKER: Eddie Morris.

11 MR. WALKER: Eddie Mo, Alf Engen, Bill  
12 Tischman.

13 MRS. WALKER: And that guy that became the  
14 cop. Gene Huber.

15 MR. WALKER: And Huber, yeah.

16 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

17 MR. WALKER: Yeah. They --

18 MRS. WALKER: They --

19 MR. WALKER: They're the ones that developed  
20 the Al --

21 MRS. WALKER: They developed that deep --

22 MR. WALKER: -- the deep powder technique,  
23 and -- and they spread it out to all over the country.

24 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. They -- they're the  
25 ones that really got people into deep powder. You



1 know?

2 MR. WALKER: Actually, another guy that was  
3 even ski -- skiing powder before they were was Spherry  
4 Engen. Spherry was the first snow ranger at Alta.

5 MRS. WALKER: Alf's brother. Yeah.

6 MR. WALKER: Yeah. And that was before Alf  
7 was up there. Alf was in Sun Valley, I think, at the  
8 time.

9 And --

10 Q. Can you talk about Spherry and Lois? Did  
11 you know them at all?

12 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

13 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

14 MRS. WALKER: Not well. I didn't know him.

15 Q. Okay.

16 MRS. WALKER: I didn't know him very well.

17 Do you?

18 MR. WALKER: Who's "them?"

19 MRS. WALKER: Spherry --

20 MR. WALKER: Spherry and who else?

21 MRS. WALKER: Lois. His wife.

22 MR. WALKER: Oh, yeah. Yeah. We knew them.

23 MRS. WALKER: I didn't know them very well,

24 I said.

25 MR. WALKER: Well, that's true.



KUED Interview \* Neff & Shirlee Walker

1 Q. With -- when you -- kind of looking back  
2 over the years, and you -- what kind of feelings do you  
3 get?

4 MR. WALKER: Oh, deep nostalgia.

5 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

6 MR. WALKER: Deep, deep.

7 MRS. WALKER: Very warm, glad it happened.

8 Q. Let's take a -- contrast this.

9 MRS. WALKER: During -- pardon me.

10 Q. Neff comes home and says, Guess what?

11 We're going to run the -- we're going to run --

12 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, right.

13 Q. -- the Watson Shelter.

14 MRS. WALKER: I thought he was mad. Crazy.

15 I was -- we've got five children. You've  
16 lost your mind? You want to run that rinky dinky  
17 stinky place up on the mountain?

18 MR. WALKER: She was not in love with it  
19 like I was.

20 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

21 I didn't --

22 Q. Talk about --

23 MRS. WALKER: I didn't ski.

24 MR. WALKER: Well, yeah, you did. You  
25 were -- you were skiing.



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1 MRS. WALKER: No, I wasn't. Oh, well, at  
2 Park City. I didn't count that.

3 MR. WALKER: I got her her first pair of  
4 skis in Germany. And we went and skied at --

5 MRS. WALKER: I asked for a guitar.

6 MR. WALKER: -- Engleberg, Switzerland was  
7 her first exposure to skiing.

8 MRS. WALKER: I asked for a guitar, and I  
9 got skis.

10 MR. WALKER: Instead.

11 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

12 MR. WALKER: And then we came back, and I  
13 got on the patrol.

14 MRS. WALKER: I forgot I did ski.

15 MR. WALKER: And so she -- she -- she skied  
16 every weekend while I was on --

17 MRS. WALKER: I did.

18 MR. WALKER: -- the patrol.

19 MRS. WALKER: I was a pretty good skier  
20 then, even though I forgot that.

21 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

22 And then, when I got on the patrol at  
23 Park City, she skied even more.

24 MRS. WALKER: Did you know that Chick was a  
25 great singer? Chick Morton?





KUED Interview \* Neff & Shirlee Walker

1 Beautiful tenor. An Irish tenor. He had a  
2 beautiful voice.

3 He and I would do duets up in the Sitzmark.

4 And there's a room in back of the bar, up in  
5 the Sitzmark, called the Campton's Room. And we used  
6 to get to stay there when we sang.

7 MR. WALKER: That was kind of reserved for  
8 us.

9 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

10 Q. When -- did you -- you know Bill and Susie  
11 Ridding?

12 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

13 MR. WALKER: Very well.

14 Q. Did they sing -- did they sing with you  
15 guys?

16 MRS. WALKER: They don't sing.

17 MR. WALKER: No.

18 Q. Oh, okay.

19 Because I saw some old pictures of them, and  
20 they were in some sort of Bavarian type costume.

21 MRS. WALKER: Well, that could be, but they  
22 don't sing.

23 Q. Okay.

24 MRS. WALKER: I hope they don't sing.

25 MR. WALKER: When -- when I came back from



1 Germany, I had two-pair of Lederhosen. And I ended up  
2 giving one pair of Lederhosen to Harold Goodrow,  
3 because he was all wrapped up in the Alpine Bavarian  
4 type mood too.

5 Q. When you talk about Harold Goodrow, he and  
6 Jim Shane were pretty good mountaineers.

7 MRS. WALKER: Oh, yeah. Very -- very --  
8 both of them.

9 MR. WALKER: They were excellent  
10 mountaineers.

11 Q. Talk about --

12 MRS. WALKER: They would do big hikes in one  
13 day. They'd do -- what -- would that -- Matterhorn,  
14 and then they'd do another one. All in one day.

15 MR. WALKER: And they also have a couple of  
16 first decendents on the north face of the Grand Teton.

17 Q. Yeah, they pretty much put their mark in  
18 there.

19 And when you think about that, think about  
20 maybe what it would take to be, I don't know, a  
21 mountainman, in those days.

22 The equipment that people have now is --

23 MRS. WALKER: Oh, yeah.

24 Q. -- is -- makes a lot --

25 MRS. WALKER: Makes it --



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1 Q. -- possible.

2 MRS. WALKER: Makes it a lot --

3 MR. WALKER: Oh, yeah.

4 MRS. WALKER: -- easier.

5 Q. Talk a bit about the equipment that you guys  
6 had to deal with, and maybe the equipment that they had  
7 to deal with in order to get out there and ski the  
8 powder back then.

9 MRS. WALKER: Right. Right.

10 MR. WALKER: Well, of course we had wooden  
11 skis to begin with.

12 And then, the -- the Head standard was  
13 invented. And that was a big step forward. A lot  
14 easier to ski powder with a Head standard.

15 MRS. WALKER: The metal ski.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17 And -- and then, by golly, I got a pair of  
18 Head deep powders. And --

19 MRS. WALKER: Who was that guy at Brighton  
20 who -- who skied, and he got his tips under a log, and  
21 went like that, and pulled his bindings and everything  
22 off of his ski?

23 MR. WALKER: Yeah. That was Zane Dowel.

24 He --

25 MRS. WALKER: He's a --



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1 MR. WALKER: He owned the place.

2 MRS. WALKER: Yeah, he was -- he took me off  
3 the mountain up there once.

4 He -- he's a big man. And I broke my ankle.  
5 I didn't know what I was doing. And he came along.  
6 And there was no ski patrol. And he put me over his  
7 shoulders like -- like this.

8 My head is here, and my feet are there.

9 And skied down with me like that.

10 I kept saying, I can ski. I can ski. But  
11 he wouldn't let me down.

12 Do you think he'd be interested in how  
13 Delores and -- and Ed died?

14 Q. Well, we don't really talk about that,  
15 because I do know -- I do know that Ed was on a ski  
16 trip, and he --

17 MRS. WALKER: He went to Delores's --

18 Q. -- had a heart attack.

19 MRS. WALKER: -- funeral.

20 MR. WALKER: Yeah, he --

21 Q. Oh, yeah. That's right.

22 MR. WALKER: Yeah, he went to her funeral,  
23 and that's why he --

24 MRS. WALKER: I thought it was strange.

25 MR. WALKER: -- happened to be there.





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1 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. They seemed to die all  
2 of a sudden together.

3 Q. Yeah.

4 MRS. WALKER: Okay. Then that's enough of  
5 that.

6 Q. Well --

7 MR. WALKER: Very unique.

8 Q. Is there anything that you wanted to --

9 MR. WALKER: Different people.

10 MRS. WALKER: We used to have -- for lodge  
11 guests --

12 Was that sheepherder guy, was he a lodge  
13 guest?

14 MR. WALKER: Yes, he was.

15 MRS. WALKER: Yeah. He came every year.

16 MR. WALKER: Ed Sturgis --

17 MRS. WALKER: Yeah.

18 MR. WALKER: -- was his name.

19 MRS. WALKER: He was a great guy.

20 MR. WALKER: He and Greg Wells. And Greg --

21 MRS. WALKER: Greg --

22 MR. WALKER: Greg was a wealthy guy.

23 MRS. WALKER: Greg came out here and built a  
24 house up in Albian Basin.

25 MR. WALKER: But -- but when we first met



1 those two, they always skied together. And they stayed  
2 in the Rustler Lodge, in the dormitory.

3 And Greg was kind of a cheapskate, even --  
4 even though he was a millionaire. So he shared a room  
5 in the dormitory with -- with Ed.

6 And Ed was really an excellent skier. He  
7 was a -- he was probably -- when -- when we first met  
8 him, I would say he was 65 years old. Something like  
9 that.

10 But he -- he looked just like Eddie Mo on  
11 skis. You know, the deep Alta commode position?

12 MRS. WALKER: That's what he called it.

13 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Yeah.

14 MRS. WALKER: He called it the advanced --  
15 advanced commode.

16 MR. WALKER: Yeah.

17 And, of course, that was on the old  
18 equipment. You know?

19 Wooden skis or -- or Head standards.

20 And then the Head deep powders, which I --  
21 as I say, I -- I got a pair of them, and unfortunately,  
22 that's what I was learning when I broke my leg, in  
23 1971.

24 Rusted -- rusted bindings. It was my own  
25 fault.



1 Q. Oh, really. So they didn't release, so they  
2 were kind of --

3 MR. WALKER: That's right. Yeah. The old  
4 explodamats.

5 Q. Yeah.

6 MRS. WALKER: I think we've probably told  
7 it -- all the stories we can think of.

8 Q. Well, we'll get some more another day.

9 MRS. WALKER: Okay.

10 (Whereupon, the recording  
11 was concluded.)

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