

**GREAT SALT LAKE WETLANDS ORAL HISTORY  
TRANSCRIPTION COVER SHEET**

**Interviewee:** M. Craig Dangerfield

**Place of Interview:** Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge; Brigham City, Utah

**Date of Interview:** May 6, 2017

**Interviewer:** Randy Williams; Jeff Nichols

**Recordist:** Randy Williams

**Recording Equipment:** Marantz digital recorder: model No.: PMD660; Shure omnidirectional microphone: model No.: MX 183

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**Transcribed by:** Susan Gross, 17 May 2017

**Transcript Proofed by:** Randy Williams, 10 June 2017; Craig Dangerfield, 21 June 2017;  
Randy Williams, 29 June 2017

**Brief Description of Contents:** Mr. Craig Dangerfield recounts his memories and experiences of duck hunting (specifically) on the Great Salt Lake wetlands, and other surrounding areas. He has worked as a hunting guide for the Bear River Duck Club for decades, and shares his knowledge and anecdotal memories over the years.

**Reference:**  
RW: Randy Williams  
JN: Jeff Nichols  
CD: M. Craig Dangerfield  
JD: Julie Dangerfield

**NOTE:** Interjections during pauses or transitions in dialogue such as “*uh*” and false starts and stop in conversations are not included in the transcription. All additions to transcript are noted with brackets.

**TAPE TRANSCRIPTION**

**[00:01]**

RW: 6 May 2017, Randy Williams here, with Jeff Nichols and Craig and Julie Dangerfield. We're at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Visitor's Center, and we're talking about the Great Salt Lake wetlands.

Craig, would you mind telling me your full name, and your birth year, and where you were born?

CD: It's (initial) M. [laughs] Craig Dangerfield; born in 1950, in Salt Lake City.

RW: Thank you.

Tell us a little bit about your background: where you grew up, your family, and what you do (or did) for a living.

CD: I grew up – I was raised in Garfield, Utah, until [I was 6 years old when we moved] to Magna. [The entire town of Garfield was evacuated in 1957.] I spent my years there in Magna, up until after high school and college, then I got into the tooling trade. I was an injection mold maker for pharmaceutical companies, and that took us to live in Ogden, and Idaho. My career allowed me to visit every state in the union, but six [laughs].

I mean, I got my first exposure to waterfowl when I was very young (living in Garfield). [Kennecott Copper Company owned the town. Some of the marshes of the Great Salt Lake were very near. The Company provided recreation for all their employees. Included was a huge club house with a bowling alley, boxing ring, theatre and further east was The Copper Club golf course, and east of that was the Kennecott Duck Club. West Valley has shopping centers all through there now. The Duck Club took in all the land between 2100 South to 3100 South and from about 4000 West to 5600 West. Stonebridge Golf course occupies some of that area now. It was a series of ponds and canals that provided hunting, fishing, and water skiing for the employees and a whole world of discovery for their children. I caught my first limit of rainbow trout there.]

RW: Tell us about that. And I do, before we go on, we have a special guest with us today. Would you guys – Julie, would you mind introducing our special guest?

JD: Abby.

RW: How old is Abby?

JD: Abby will be five in August, and she is a black lab.

RW: And Craig, is she your bird dog?

CD: [Laughing] She is.

RW: [Laughs]

CD: Can I tell you a story about Abby?

RW: Please.

CD: Three years ago, we had a yellow Labrador named Gus; he was about seven years old: big, strong dog. I'd ride a bicycle and he'd go along side with me (most of the time he pulled the bicycle).

But anyway, one day he just wasn't right, and he just wasn't keeping up very well. And I took him into the vet, and we found out he had cancer. And the vet gave him five weeks to live, and five days later he died.

**[02:31]**

And it was just before duck season. I'm a guide at the Bear River Club and it's mandatory that you have a retriever. I was beside myself; I just couldn't – "What am I going to do? What am I going to do? I've got to have a dog."

And I automatically thought of a puppy: "I've got to get a pup," which wouldn't have done me any good – it needed to be another year until I could use that dog. And I made calls all around Colorado, and Idaho, and Utah. And I just had a pup mindset: "I need a pup; I need to get it trained."

And anyway, I called another guide who's an [excellent] dog handler, and he says, "You know, I have a friend up in Heber City that has some dogs, and a very interesting story behind them. And they're trained: two years old, already trained."

I said, "Oh, my." You know, [the opener is] in three weeks I can be hunting with a trained dog. What I didn't know was the training was – these dogs were trained to be bomb sniffing dogs in Iraq (well for the Armed Services).

And so, they were taught to go on hand signals, as far as they needed – if there was a suspicious package alongside the road, they would send the dog, and you know, go over and back, and you know. And then if they could smell a propellant in there, then the dog was trained to sit. And once they sat, then the soldiers would know what to do, and then call the dog back. Well it soon became evident to the enemy what these dogs were doing. And these dogs became the favorite target of the snipers. So, they ended that program.

He was selling the dogs (trained) for \$5,400. And Abby had not quite graduated from the program – she was about 85% along when they terminated the contract. And so, when I talked to him on the phone he says, "I have a male and a female that are two years old." [After he learned of my predicament, and where the dog was going, he said "I will make you a good price"]

**[04:45]**

And I said, “I’m definitely interested. [Laughs] Don’t do anything, please.” I knew it was going to take me two hours to get up there from where I am.

And he says, “Okay, I won’t.” And I was just on my way to go up there and check this dog out, and I thought, “You know, I’m not including Julie on this decision; I’m just acting alone, which might end up biting me, in the long run.”

And so, I says, “She don’t get off work,” (she worked in Brigham City), and I said, “My wife doesn’t get off work until six. Could you possibly wait longer? We’ll be up there late.”

And he says, “Oh, no; not a problem.” So, when Julie got home, we just flew up to Heber City. And he got [the dogs] out. [We really had our hearts set on a female this time.] He had about ten acres where he’d just placed all of these dummies, and bumpers. Of course, the dog went through the drill, so perfectly.

But in the middle of this field he would just point, and the dog would run quarter of a mile and bring back a dummy. And Julie had never seen this; she’d never seen the dog handling like this. And we both just fell in love with this dog.

And so, she’d [Julie] never allowed a dog in the house before, and I’ve had dogs since I was 20. But Abby is a full-time resident now.

RW: [Laughing]

CD: She sleeps in our bedroom, eats treats [and controls our lives]. Her first duck hunt was [a learning experience] – I took my grandson out and it was on the youth day. [2 weeks before the general season.] Dylan shot a duck and Abby didn’t know what to do – she’d never seen a duck before.

[Laughter]

She was used to bombs. And so, I had to get out of the boat and walk over to the duck and show her. And she said, “Oh, so you want these huh?”

“Yeah.”

And the next duck she got more excited; and then the third duck she just piled out of the boat and swam [to where she had last marked it going into some cattails. She used her nose and found the duck.] And now [she just explodes out of the blind when sent, doesn’t matter if it’s a small teal or a large goose or even a swan. She’ll find it and bring it to you, but she still has all the manners of a see and eye dog in the duck blind]; she’s amazing. I’ve never had a dog quite like her. I’m sorry.

**[06:55]**

RW: She's beautiful.

CD: Isn't she.

RW: Well I love that you told us that story.

Maybe you could just start off by telling us about your first hunt?

CD: My dad, [Douglas G. Dangerfield] and his brothers & brother-in-laws and cousins all got together: it was a ritual every New Year's Day to go to Wyoming and hunt rabbits. And moms and aunts would make pots of chili and hot chocolate. And we'd go up by outside of Evanston.

And anyway, in 1962, Wyoming started requiring a permit. It wasn't a hunting license, but you had to have a permit to hunt. You know, it was a long ways to go, plus buying a permit; Dad, none of the uncles wanted to do that.

And Uncle Keith – said that he was going down North Temple, ( I-80 now) and out by the Morton Salt Works (just north of Kennecott dike). He had seen some rabbits out there. So that was closer to home, so we went there. I was 12 and my brother [Scott] was 15. I was using a single-shot Winchester model 37 shotgun (16 gauge, it was my uncle's), and my brother had a .22 rifle

Anyway, as we walked north there just wasn't many rabbits. There just – there was a couple, and the sagebrush started getting shallower, and farther apart. And pretty soon there was just nothing left.

There was snow on the ground, there was crusty snow on the ground. And my brother and I (everybody else had gone back to eat and get warm), and we just kept walking. We just kept walking north [towards Antelope Island] and it started getting a little bit marshy looking.

And we just had leather boots on, you know, not waterproof or anything. But we were just kind of standing there and this flock of birds. [laughing] I was telling the other gal from Westminster this, I don't know how to describe it. But there was this flock of birds in the sky. The sky was gray, it was going to storm, and there was just a whole bunch of birds [coming our way].

**[09:20]**

And I asked my brother, I said, "What are those?"

And he says, "They're ducks."

"Can we hunt ducks?"

And he says, “Well let’s see: you’re 12, you have a license, you don’t need a duck stamp until you’re 16. Yes, you can.”

And [at that point] I just held that barrel in the middle of this flock and I shot. And oh, a lone mallard came out just sailing, and glided for (it felt like two and a half miles) it was probably 200 yards though, into the marshy part. And I, oh, I don’t know, my heart was just pounding; I’d never seen anything like it. [I ran a direct line to where it fell.]

And I tracked it. And I got into the snow (where I thought it went down) and I could see these little duck footprints in the snow. And I’m muddy and wet now. And there was some alkali bulrush there that the bird had hid in there. And I picked it up, and I just – oh, I can’t describe what I felt, you know? It wasn’t like, “I killed this, yay,” and everything. It was like this was given to me; this was given to me.

And I took it home, I studied it for a few days before I even cleaned it. And I [cooked and ate] it, and I just – I don’t know, I just felt like I was part of that marsh, I really did. I just felt some switch went on inside; I can’t describe it. It’s very weird, but it doesn’t happen to everybody, but it really did me.

In my art classes [at school,] that’s all I drew, was ducks and geese. And I studied every book I could, and learned about making decoys, and blinds, and boats. And since I’ve owned three airboats; I’ve built two of them [and I’ve had 3 mudboats. The most current Mud boat was one I designed. It employs a chined bottom and was the first mudboat with this feature. The Bear River Club uses these boats exclusively now for their members. Each new member is required to purchase one. I couldn’t begin to count the decoys and blinds I have gone through these last 55 years.]

[My brother Scott and I purchased a dozen DuraDuck decoys. They were rubber and made in Salt Lake. We also bought a reloader to make our own shotshells. We had paper routes and split the costs of everything down the middle. Scott got a better job working at a gas station and he bought me my first shotgun. A 12 gauge Ithaca lever action Super Single M-66 three inch magnum single shot with a 30 inch barrel. It cost \$30 new. Dad took me to Farmington Bay the next season opener with that gun and I fired 50 rounds of the three inch shells and never hit a feather. My shoulder was almost dislocated and black and blue. After that I started to practice and finally was able to connect. 4 years later, I blew that gun in half using too much gunpowder in the reloads. I still have it.]

Also, [in my young years], our family activities were spent at the beach; there was Sunset Beach, and Blackrock Beach, and Saltair was still there (it wasn’t being used). [We were always having picnics there.]

### [11:33]

My Dad had some two-by-fours, and a piece of plywood, and I fashioned me a [triangular shaped] boat. And my goal was to reach Antelope Island in this boat. So, it was four inches [laughing] –

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: Thick, with a plywood pieced bottom. And I never did make it to Antelope Island; but I figured it didn't really have to float because the salt water keeps you from sinking. I never did make it [to the island] in that boat. So that was still one of my dreams; and as I got older, and I built a real airboat, I took it to Antelope Island. [There was not a road there then. Not a state park yet.] And that was just a highlight in my life. I don't know – it's silly, [but I felt I really accomplished an important goal.].

RW: It's amazing (I think) for most of us, and I don't know about the rest of you, but a lot of times the passions we get when we're really young, end up being the most pivotal in our lives.

CD: Yeah.

RW: And it sounds like that's really what happened to you.

CD: Yeah.

RW: That's amazing.

So, tell us a little bit about this – it almost is like a calling, I'm hearing you say (in some ways).

CD: [Laughing]

RW: This feeling you have with the birds, and with studying –

CD: Yeah.

RW: And so many amazing pieces of your life: with decoys, building and having; and the boats, and building and using; and then as a guide. Can you weave the story, how that all came to be?

CD: Well I used to hunt the refuge here, quite a bit. I always liked [it here since my brother would take me here.]

RW: Were you part of a group?

CD: Nope.

RW: Or you were doing this just –

CD: No, just on my own [most of the time.]

RW: Uh-huh.

CD: I'd take friends. I actually had a partner with a boat; the first airboat I had a partner. And as we would [hunt there,] I had some terrific experiences out there, just terrific (before the flood). And I would always drive by that Millionaire Club, and I'd think, "Oh, those [lucky] guys."

[Laughter]

You know, I'm out here working hard to get a duck; and they're in there not working at all, and probably shot plenty.

RW: Sitting in lounge chair.

CD: Yeah.

RW: [Laughing]

CD: Big fire and tv, and you know. Oftentimes I honestly wanted to just stop and give them a piece of my mind, I really did. I thought, because they're not from Utah (well there's a few members from Utah). But I just wanted to call them a bunch of spoiled brats.

**[14:04]**

Anyway, after many years, because I still hunt Idaho a lot too. I hunt up on the Snake River. We used to live up there.

But I went to a dog trial. I was invited to be a gunner for the dog trial, where they throw pigeons –

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: And ducks in the air, and then a dog – have you ever seen a dog trials?

RW: Just on TV; I mean, I haven't seen anything like what you're talking about.

CD: Okay, this is for retrieving. So, if I can just paint a picture. It looks kind of like a baseball field: we're at home plate, and there's a judge standing behind me. I'll take a dog (like Abby) up to this line, and there's a blind there.

And they'll throw up a dead pigeon and then fire a blank (and this could be out like 100 yards). And then in the middle, there will be a pigeon planted there (nobody knows exactly where, but they know that there's one out there in the middle). And then over here is where I would sit, as a gunner. And then they would throw a live pigeon, and myself and another gunner would shoot this other bird.

So, the dog saw a duck fall here (and heard a boom). He doesn't know anything about anything there in the middle. And then over here, he just saw a pigeon fly, and heard two



booms. And so, he knows there's one there, and his memory will probably tell him there's one over there [where he heard the first shot.]

So, they'll take the dog and send it, and it's up to the handler where you can send it. But with a [whistle and a] hand motion he'll send the dog either to the one or the other that the dog's seen. And then the judge is watching, and the dog has to go out, find the bird, bring it back, heel to the gentleman, and then gently hand him the bird.

**[16:05]**

And then the judge will take it, look at the bird, and make sure it's not chewed up – you still want to eat the duck, or whatever you're training it for.

So, then the dog's alert, and he's waiting for his next command. And they usually send it out to the live bird, where – and this could be 100, 150, or more yards away – it's wherever they set up the course.

And of course, the dog is really excited about that, because he heard the boom, and he saw the bird. And so, he'll go out there, and there's all the scent from other pigeons that have fallen, or birds. And then he has to find your bird, and bring it back in the same way (it goes through the judge and everything else).

And then the dog totally relies on you and trusts that there is something out there in the middle. He didn't see it, he didn't hear it, but he's just trusting you. And so you'll send him. And then they'll have a little flag or something on the bush, or something, so that you kind of know where the hidden bird is.

And then the dog will go, and he might stop short and start sniffing around. And then you'll get his attention and send him farther back. And maybe he's got to go to the right, he's got to the left; and so you give him all these commands, and then the dog is judged on how well he minds you, finds the bird, brings it back.

And then he's got to go through torture. He brings it back to you, and you take him, and you stand back [of the blind]; and then another [handler and] dog comes up to the line. And they go through that whole thing again.

Your dog knows what's out there now, and he's watching, hears the booms, and he knows there's a hidden one, and everything else. But the other contestant has got his dog there, [on the line,] and your dog has to honor what this other one is going to do; and he has to sit and stay. And it's the hardest thing there is for them: it's the hardest thing. And that's certainly, you know, what she's trained for.

RW: Where does that take place?

**[18:14]**

CD: Oh, all over. There's organizations: there's the Wasatch Hunting Club, Retriever Clubs here locally; the Lee Kay Center in Salt Lake – they hold them there. They can hold them just anywhere there's a river, a swamp. Just different places.

RW: It's a natural setting?

CD: Oh, yeah.

RW: Uh-huh.

CD: And they'll mix it up so that the dog doesn't get too familiar with the area. And so, they'll always change it to where it's more challenging for everyone.

RW: I'm just curious about how you've progressed from your experience with hunting, and then (it sounds like) trying to build this boat-

CD: [Laughs]

RW: To get to Antelope Island. How does this move forward?

CD: Okay.

RW: And maybe Julie even can tell how does that work as a family, you know?

CD: Well I didn't – I'm glad you brought it up, because I forgot where I was going with that.

So, I'm at a dog trial at Willard Bay –

RW: Um-hmm?

CD: Behind Willard Bay –

RW: Okay.

CD: And being a gunner, I have the program and I see whose dog is up (and I might know the person or know the dog, or the bloodline). And so, I'm looking at the program and the next dog up is called Bear River Sage. And I says to the guy I was with, "Bear River Sage, what about this dog?" He said, "Oh, that belongs to Gordon; Gordon [Shafer] He is the manager of the Bear River Club."

And I says, "The Millionaire Club?"

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: "Yeah, he's the manager."

I said, “Oh, my – I’ve got to talk to this guy.” [I had heard so many wonderful stories about that place over the years.]

And so afterwards, after the trials I went up to him. And I says, “Are you ever looking for guides?”

And he says, “I am right now.”

And I said, “Well what do you got to do?”

And he says, “You’ve got to have your own dog (well-trained dog), you’ve got to have your own decoys. You’ve got to be a good shot.” And he says, “I’ve watched you shooting out there,” he says, “that’s [laughs] not a problem.” (A compliment, I felt.)

**[20:29]**

And I asked, “What else?”

He says, “You’ve got to learn the marsh.”

And I says, “How do I do it?” Because there’s over 12,000 acres up there. And I asked, “How do I accomplish that?” And he says, “Just come on up and I’ll show it to you.”

And so I went up [immediately] and he showed me [all around. I took several notes. We got hopelessly stuck, while trying to catch up to a nest robbing fox, and had to walk about 3 miles back to get my truck to pull him out. The bugs were so thick that we literally had to breathe between our teeth to keep them out.] And this is after the high water of the floods of: ’84-’85. And the water was receding now, to where it was the first year that they reopened the club house again. When [the South side] was all under water they bought some property in Corinne. They bought two homes there, and the old [Smoot] dairy farm, and they hunted up in that part of it. But this (in ’89) was the first year they’d returned back to the magnificent clubhouse out here [at the end of Forrest Street.]

And so, I got that job 28 years ago. I was old [laughing] when I got it and I’m too old now, [but I don’t feel it.] It’s an opportunity for me to be on one of the most famous marshes in the whole United States, and hunt with some very interesting people, and also be paid to do that [laughs]. And they even furnish the ammunition for you.

And I mean, again, don’t take me as a duck slaughterer or a killer, or anything else. I enjoy the marsh. [I love the smell of the marsh. I love the sounds of the marsh.] And quite often I don’t always [feel a need to] shoot, but I enjoy letting the client have [a quality experience that he will remember. These are all high profile men who have shaped America with their various means and ways. I have guided some of their fathers and some of their sons. To watch a father’s face when his son gets his first duck or first goose is priceless. There is a bonding that takes place on the marsh. I can’t explain it, but

if you are talking about a water fowling experience and someone adds to the conversation with excitement, you know that they have experienced the same thing.

And to me, that's just the same feeling that I felt when I was 12 years old. I get to relive that [day every time I am out there.] And I've got a very good wife that understands that and lets me do it, because most people wouldn't [laughs].

[22:47]

RW: What's the time commitment?

CD: Four months; well more than that, because I'll work up here in the summer time too, Spraying for phragmites, and I've helped out banding ducks and geese at other places; helped capture them, and net them and everything for the banding. I currently have six boats [laughs]. [I hunt right up till spring when the Snow Geese are flying back North.]

JD: Nest.

CD: Huh?

JD: You build a nest for them.

CD: Oh yeah, nesting platforms for [ducks and geese, to protect them from predators]. I guess I should say it's more like at least seven months a year anyway. [The rest of the time is spent working on boats or trapshooting when I can.]

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: At least.

RW: What is the relationship between you and the clients?

CD: I have learned a lot doing this. When I was a new guide, [I felt a little intimidated and like I needed to behave as a butler or something, but I learned that when you share a blind with anyone, that you become a team and share a common goal. I have had many members tell me that they simply want to hunt with me. They don't expect anything more.]

[25:50]

[For many of my early years there, I was the requested guide for the most senior member of the club. He liked to suggest what to do and I would simply honor that although it meant picking up and moving around several times a day. I expressed my concerns to the manager, Gary Slot, and he told me basically, that I was the guide and the gentleman would need to do things my way for a change. And so I told this man "Today, we're going to have to do things a little different.]

I just wanted him to know that I would be making a few decisions today, and not necessarily to his liking – well he says, “Well I don’t like that. I don’t like that at all.”

And I said, “I’m sorry Mister,” [omitted]. “I’m sorry Mr. [omitted], that’s just the way it is.” And he said, “Well I still don’t like it.”

And we went and hunted, [had a great shoot,] and at the end of the day we came in. And he gave me his tip (or my tip). And I says, “Thank you, Mr. [omitted].”

And he says, “My friends call me Bob.” [Bob and I hunted together a lot after that and I enjoyed it a lot more.]

And after that day, we did things my way. It was like, if you had the guts to stand up to this man, [he respected you more] and he is the only one (please don’t get me wrong), he’s the only one that I ever felt intimidated by at all. These other people are just wonderful, they’re just like [you and I and they like to be treated that way.]

**[28:10]**

So when you’re in a blind with them, and [birds aren’t flying, you have a lot of time to talk. I’ve learned a lot from U.S. Ambassadors. CEO’s, Hollywood movie stars, Ranchers and hard working men that make things happen.]

And so we just talk about everything. And I love the geography, and I’ll point out the Lake Bonneville shorelines. And you know, I had one: Mr. [omitted]. He wasn’t real confident with his shooting abilities, I’ll just say that. And his father was a member there, years ago, and of course he passed the membership down to his son, and everything. But [omitted], he just didn’t like the bang-bang part of it as much – loved the association.

But anyway, I had him out [hunting pheasants on the Corrine side] and we’re talking about the geography. And so I says, “Yeah, so this is where Lake Bonneville was, and the Shoshone Indians came down here, and they would hunt waterfowl here and rabbits there, and everything.” And then I says, “That passage right there [through the mountains] is Promontory Summit, where the trains met [and the Golden Spike was driven.]”

He says, “The trains? Where the trains met?” [Laughs] And he says, “Can we go there?”

And so we [picked up and] spent the whole day at the Golden Spike Historical Site. The [Jupiter and the 119] trains weren’t on display, they were in the winter storage building. So, he says, “Can we go there? Can we go there?” This was like a six-year-old kid on Christmas morning. And we went and got the ranger to take us in to see the trains, and they let him inside the cab. He was pulling knobs and touching gauges, and twisting things. And I’ve never seen a man so happy, and he was about 70 years old.

**[30:16]**

And we went back to the national historic site, the building there, where they sell the souvenirs; he bought every book they sold. We sat down and watched every movie they played, and spent the whole day talking about trains. And when he comes back (it's harder for him now), but when he comes back he always asks for me. And we'll talk about trains. I've got him to shoot a few ducks, but it's not his favorite thing: he loves the [nostalgia and the history].

RW: That's awesome.

CD: Yeah. Nicest guy. Nicest guy.

JN: How many guides are there?

CD: Well typically they've got around 40 memberships. Now bear in mind, most members have to have two memberships in order to bring a guest. So really, on the Friday before the opening, the first Friday in October of every year, they have their big meeting out here. It's the most you'll ever see of them; they'll all come, and they do their voting, and [business, and elections, and] everything.

And then they'll hunt on the opening day. And there might be 23 members show up that day. So, with 23 members they'll probably have around probably 28 guides. Some of the [members are getting] old and they'll ask for two guides [to help them. This is the perfect time to train a rookie.]

I know the first gentleman I ever took out was 93 years old at the time [laughs]. I shouldn't say this, but one of the seasoned guides, he says – well I went to [rookie with] this seasoned guide. And we got our ducks and geese. And he kind of pulled me aside and he says [laughs], “Now do you know what to do if this guy has a heart attack or a stroke?”

**[32:28]**

I said, “I've done CPR and [first aid].”

He said, “No, you roll him over and get your tip.”

[Laughter]

That's not the [way it is done], but it kind of broke the ice. [We must be licensed and certified and anyone who isn't trained, cannot guide.]

RW: But you probably do have some guide humor. I mean, there's probably some stressful moments, some things like that probably do bubble up –

CD: Oh yeah.

RW: Amongst yourselves?

CD: Yeah.

RW: Yeah.

CD: Years ago, I [took out] a member. Oh, I don't know how tall he was: he was at least six-eight. Very tall; very tall and hard to hide, because you know, you've got a blind that's this tall, and then this guy is –

RW: [Laughing]

CD: Head sticking up here. So, I actually had to go cut cattails and everything else to try and kind of hide this man. [I marveled at his shot guns. They were a custom matched pair of 20 gauge side by sides built in England for the King of Romania. Gold engraving number 1&2. I saw him take down two geese with one shot using number one.]

After we [got our limits, we] were coming back in, he had a plane to catch (he had his own private plane, but he had to get to Denver in a hurry). And so we're coming out one of the backways that was a shortcut, and I needed to get him get him in the clubhouse on time.

And while we were doing that, a fox was running along the dyke. And he saw the fox, and he stood up, looked at this fox, and then he sat back down. The only thing I can think of is when he sat down he got (because you always place the cross-arms of the chair so that if you go left or right, back or forth, that it's supported). And I had him sitting there, and I guess when he sat down he must have twisted the chair legs. But as I'm hurrying to get back in, I got to the spillway [between the Bear River and the club house,] They're very narrow spillways, and you have to turn the boat quite abruptly to – and the boats are long and not that maneuverable in a tight spot. And anyway, he's sitting there, and I go through the spillway and get three-quarters of the way through, and then the back of the boat bumped the concrete. And he went out –

RW: [Laughing]

**[34:47]**

CD: Like he had a ton of weight tied to him, and [the current] pulled him down.

So here he is in the river. I'm coming after him (he's out in the front of the boat now), and I'm coming after him with the boat with the prop spinning like that. And I forced the handle of the motor up, you know, to elevate the prop, to miss his head. And in doing so, my sleeve caught the throttle, and so [making revving sound] –

RW: [Laughing]

CD: And then here's him laying in the water and this prop is going over his head. Oh my heavens. And I got the motor back down (of course, now it's accelerated), and I piled [the boat] right into the rocks: It climbed half way up the dyke. [I swam out and got him on land then pulled the boat off the rocks.] I got him [back in the boat and] on the plane with soaking wet clothes [and shaken up quite a bit, but not] late for his appointment, and later we laughed about it.

RW: And a really good story.

CD: Yeah. We laughed about it for many years.

RW: Oh my goodness.

CD: Yeah.

RW: You have to have a dog, you have to have your own decoys, and you have to be able to shoot, and know of –

CD: Yeah.

RW: The lay of the land. So, let's talk about the decoys. You brought some beautiful decoys, and historic decoys in today.

CD: Yeah.

RW: That we photographed. Could you tell us a little bit about those?

CD: Well it's hard to, in this area it's really hard to collect a lot of historical decoys. Most of the good ones are in the Mississippi flyway and the Chesapeake Bay area, and everything like that. Utah is not known for – a lot of people don't even realize there's ducks here [laughs].

So I actively pursued trying to find some of these decoys, and found out that when I did locate them [laughs] they were very expensive, collector's items. So, I started carving my own –

[Dog whining] Abby.

I started carving my own; and a man got wind of that through a cousin of mine. And Pioneer Village, in Lagoon –

RW: Yeah.

**[36:47]**



CD: Had a wood carving shop [that he managed.]

RW: Yeah.

CD: And so, this gentleman offered me to carve duck decoys for him. And then he'd pay me: I figured I made a dollar an hour –

RW: [Laughs]

CD: And I think he made about \$20 an hour [laughing], you know.

RW: So, he was selling them at –

CD: Yeah.

RW: At Lagoon?

CD: Yeah.

RW: Okay.

CD: And we didn't do that many; that shop didn't last that long.

So, I just – yeah, every opportunity I get, to find an old decoy, or any history about it, I pursue that.

RW: Where do you find them?

CD: Well these that I have are just, you know, local from this area. [Friends have given some of them to me.]

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: I bought a book on it (carving them), and it says a lot of the decoys made in the Chesapeake area were made out of white cedar – excuse me, yeah white, we have red cedar here – white cedar? And I thought that very interesting. Why that kind of wood? Does it hold up better, does it carve easier? Whatever. Come to find out, the Chesapeake Bay is known for all of the shipwrecks, because of the shallow water and the winds, and everything would capsize these sailing boats. And their masts were all made of white cedar.

So, the duck hunters would go out and take the masts, and make decoys out of them.

RW: Repurposing.

CD: Yeah.

RW: Yeah, that's really cool.

CD: But no, I don't have – you know, I don't have really a big collection or anything; just what I brought.

JN: So, can I ask you: who else works at the club? I mean, the cooks, and –

CD: Oh yeah. They have their own chef, you don't say “cook.”

JN: Um-hmm?

CD: [Laughs] And a fantastic chef, just fantastic. [He learned his craft in Germany]. He'll live there at the club prior to and through the season; they usually close down when it freezes, around Thanksgiving. [The members all dress in coats and ties for dinner. Quite often, the chef will make extra gourmet dishes and send them down to the guide house for us. There are two housemen that see to the members' rooms and their needs and assist with reservations. They also have a chauffeur to pick the members up and deliver them to airports.]

**[38:54]**

And they have a manager and an assistant manager; they have a couple of men that year-round are employed there to make sure the water [levels are right and the dikes are not eroding] and there's no botulism. [They are constantly creating new ponds for the birds. And there are resting areas that no one is allowed near. Their motto is that they raise many more birds than they harvest.]

They employ waiters [laughs], servers, I should say, and kitchen help.

RW: So, are all the memberships male?

CD: Yes.

JN: Are there duck pickers, pluckers?

CD: Yes; yeah. One of the gentlemen that I referred to lives there year-round, he raised his whole family out there. There's a little red home there on the property. He and his wife are both employed there

Anyway, they lived there. And then during the harvest, his sons will come and help him, and they'll pluck all the ducks. And they'll clean them up. And then they [have a final inspection and go over them and], check for any flaws. I mean, he wants to make these birds look like they came off of the shelf at Smith's Food King, you know?

**[41:12]**

And then he will vacuum-pack that and freeze them. And then they will be FedEx (frozen – they'll freeze it), and then it will be shipped to [the member's address.]

RW: That's all on site?

CD: Yes.

RW: This is happening?

CD: Yeah, yeah.

RW: So they'll have like a flash freezer?

CD: No, they've just got a big walk-in.

RW: Okay.

CD: Big walk-in.

RW: Um-hmm?

CD: But see, the thing is, you can hunt, now you can have a possession limit of three days' limit –

RW: Okay.

CD: So, seven ducks a day. If you have 21 ducks in the freezer, you can't hunt that fourth day.

RW: Okay.

CD: And then that's another thing that the federal people will look for.

RW: How does that work out? So there is a freezer and how is everybody's ducks being segregated.

CD: Oh, okay; alright.

RW: Banded, or –

CD: Good question. When we hunt, we come back with the birds and fill out paperwork and a tag. Example: today I hunted with Mr. Jones. We hunted this blind on this date. And we shot this many of this kind, this many of this kind: it's just a list. And you just check off, you know: "He got three of these, and two of those, and two of those."

[43:13]

And then the guide will fill out the same thing for himself. And it's got your address on it and your license number. And so, [you verify all this and write on the tag] (before they go into the pickers), this tag stays with that bundle of ducks: we've got them all strapped together. [You also write on the tag how he wants them prepared. Plucked, filleted, etc.]

And the tag stays right there with them. And then there's a basket in the freezer with his name on it. And you can walk in it anytime and see what he's got.

Like he can only have – this year you can only have one pintail, but you can have two canvasbacks. So, he'd better not have – if he shot two canvasbacks, and I shot two canvasbacks – mine better not be in his basket. Do you see what I'm saying?

RW: Um-hmm.

How does that work if a guide is shooting, as well as a client: where do your ducks go?

CD: Oh, I can take them. [I love to smoke them.]

RW: You can take them?

CD: Or I can donate them to him, if he wants.

RW: Okay.

CD: We had one individual, he was the president of the club when I started. Oh how he loved to come out here and hunt everything. And we had ducks, geese, swan. They had chukars at the time, pheasants and some quail.

And he would put on this fancy, fancy dinner at his home in San Diego every year for all of these dignitaries. And [his chef would prepare the game birds] – that was what he had on the table, is what he had harvested at the club. And he took so much pride in those birds, you know? [His obituary read: In lieu of flowers, please send all donations to Ducks Unlimited.]

**[45:23]**

You know, some of these men show up with their own tasters, and chefs. They do have their own wine label – it's not their own, but one of the members owns a winery, and he makes the Bear River Club brand of wine [laughs], you know?

Incredible, incredible people, I should say. [I love to look in the old log books and witness history first hand. For example, in the 1911 book, on November 5<sup>th</sup>, it shows where John Moses Browning is hunting with his good friend, A.P. Bigelow and they each shot 48 ducks (there were no limits then). This was the same year that Browning invented the famous model 1911 pistol that served our countries military for 70 years and is ever

so popular to this day. I was glad to learn that with all his genius and pressures that he had time to hunt. He's in the book several times. Certainly one of my heroes.]

JN: What species of ducks are the favorites? What do people want to shoot?

CD: You know what? There is some people that don't care: it's a duck. Canvasback's always a desired bird, but they're not real plentiful here. Teal are by far the best eating. [Widgeon, Gadwall, Pintail, Mallard.]

We have members that will shoot teal only, because they don't like the taste of the other ducks, and I really admire that. It makes for a long day; it makes it hard for the guide, and you might not get the whole limit of just teal. But that's okay; they say, "That's what we came for, and that's what they want."

Teal are always welcome. Probably the least favorite is the shoveler or spoon bill. I like them just fine. Teal are my favorite eating duck though.

They have an agriculture part of the property, in the north, they have corn fields and grain fields. And the geese will come into there and the mallards and pintails will feed in the corn.

We had members that want to shoot nothing but greenheads today and another species tomorrow.

[47:40]

And so, it's up to the guide to get him in those situations where it's most favorable.

RW: How does that all work, with what somebody wants? I can understand anyone that has a bird that tastes good to them.

CD: Um-hmm.

RW: But this, with the color – is it something, a quest? How does that work with the desires that the clients have?

CD: Oh, just a challenge. I mean, it's like an elk hunter. He might say, "Well I want nothing less than a seven-point bull elk." And so he'll let all of these six-points go by. It's just – again, the attitude is not just, "Let's go kill ducks."

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: It's not that at all. It's they're there to enjoy the comradery, and the food, and the lodging. And just some of them, there's a couple of them that want to hunt every blind on the club in one season. And that means they're going to have to hunt over 70 days in one season. And you know, that would be hunting every day.

RW: Tell us about the logic, especially for yourself, on the nuance of the bird, and you know, the sound. Or maybe it's the moving into the blind, or positioning yourself, or how you position the decoys. How does that logic get passed on? Is that something you talked about? You didn't talk about it, but you explained to us that the first experience with your brother, and then you went back and studied the bird. Can you talk a little bit about the study you've done?

CD: Sure.

RW: With the bird, the sound, the water, the boat?

CD: Sure, sure.

RW: All those things, to build and create? You're a master at what you do, and how does that all come together?

And then my next question would be how do you nurture that or mentor that in others?

**[49:42]**

CD: Well just by being there. I mean, being there is the whole, like I was explaining with Abby. She was one of the best-trained dogs there was for sniffing bombs, but she didn't know how to hunt ducks: I had to take her there. She learned that. And that's mostly the way that I've learned. [Other people I have hunted with have shown me many styles also.]

So, let's say if you wanted to pursue diver ducks, canvasbacks, scalp, red-heads – if you wanted to pursue that kind of duck, you've got to go to where the water is deeper [and their food is growing there.]

RW: Um-hmm?

CD: They like to dive, you know, and eat the aquatic vegetation underneath. If you want to hunt mallards, you can go where there's grain, because they're very –

[Referring to Abby] Was that her tail?

They're very capable walking in a grain field and that, where the diver – their legs are kind of back further, and they have a hard time on land. So you adjust for the different depths and areas.

And if you want to shoot mallards over water, you don't go to a big lake, you go to a small pothole. Teal – teal you can, we used to hunt by Saltair, and we called it Teal Beach, just right on the edge of the shoreline there, on the Great Salt Lake. And the teal would just stream by there.

So you just observe different birds. And you know it's, "Gee, we went here and all we saw was these kind of birds." Or we went there – well that's good to know, and so you remember all of that.

RW: Do you keep a journal –

CD: I do; I do. And I didn't start until I was 39 years old and I wished I would have started when I was 12. There's so many memories. [It is a detailed account of every day hunted. Weather conditions and temperature when I can.]

But my favorite hunt of the year I don't get to take a gun, I get to take a youth. And it's the youth hunt. And see, the average age of the duck hunter today – what would you think it is?

[51:58]

RW: I [pause] –

CD: Just throw out a guess, what do you think? I mean, you see all these guys and their boats, and their fancy rigs, and everything up and down the freeway.

RW: Seventy.

CD: You're close, it's 58. There's – the young people aren't exposed to it like we were as kids.

I've taken neighbor kids whose dads might not hunt. [I've taken friends kids.] I've taken relatives; I've taken my grandson. I'll take anybody on this youth hunt, because they get to experience that. Everything that I worked hard to get: the boats, the decoys, they get to appreciate that.

And it is absolutely my favorite hunt; and we might get a duck, or we might not. I mean, my grandson got his first goose last year, and I was so excited because it took me until I was 18 to get a goose and he got one his, you know, second year hunting [using my 20 gauge]

And Abby went out and got the goose, brought it back to the boat; and I am just, "Wow !, congratulations!"

And he was like, "yah"

[Laughter]

You know? I [couldn't contain my excitement but he was barely impressed.]

But what we found, I've sat on several councils with the fish and game, and everything else. And we're trying to get more people involved in this and we can't. And you know why? Because we're not teaching them anything.

I'll take this boat that I've spent part of my life building, and throw a youth in there and take them out to a fine place and set them all up, and all the decoys. And then they'll shoot, but then tomorrow, ask them if they could go duck hunting by themselves, they don't know how. They don't.

**[54:03]**

We used to walk out with leaky boots and as many decoys as we could carry. And we would walk into a place and get infested with malaria, you know [laughs], the mosquitoes; and sit on a muskrat house. And find out that that was no good and then move over here, and I mean in the same day, to come home with a duck.

And we're doing a horrible job of teaching them how to do it because we're spoiling them: we're giving them the easy way, and they don't –

And so it's like, "What are you going to do tomorrow?"

"Oh, I don't know; I might play on my phone or I might do some video games. Or my grandpa wants to go duck hunting, I don't know."

You know? It's just [laughs] they do it to appease us, I guess. It's just a legacy that I see going away; I really do.

RW: With yourself and your grandson, and with some of the clients (or other people), your friends that are guides: have you been having conversations about how you can give those experiences, those teaching experiences –

CD: Yeah.

RW: To youth? Are there some ideas?

CD: Yeah. They hold a youth fair every year down at Farmington Bay, and this is a result of that. And they teach. They'll have dog trainers down there. They'll have guys with decoys, but you know, they'll set the decoys out. They'll have all the kids show up, and they'll give them all a duck call, and they'll teach them how to blow a duck call. And they'll take them for an airboat ride.

They do all of that, but it's more and more to teach them how to do it.

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: But it's still, it don't matter, because they've already done easy way, and they're not as enthused to do it the hard way.



RW: Jeff probably has some other questions, but I'm just wondering – you mentioned the duck call – are you using calls?

CD: Yes.

RW: Do you call?

CD: Yes.

RW: Can you call for us?

CD: I don't have a duck call right here [laughs].

RW: I mean, do you call only with a duck call?

CD: Well, quite often I'll be caught without my call in hand, and I'll do some low (like a mallard will) [making duck call]. I'll do that. A pintail, teal, or a widgeon, they'll whistle, so you can [whistling through teeth] you know, whistle like that.

**[56:50]**

It's a lot better to blow your call. That's something that I've got a lot of, my collection of calls. [laughing] I should have brought them. But you know what? I've got some that I paid four dollars for in the '60s that work just fine, they'll work anywhere.

But that's the other thing the kids are afraid of. They watch the Duck Dynasty or some [other hunting show], and then they think have to have \$150 call. They're no better; they're no better than the cheaper ones, but it's the hype. I don't like that part of it; I don't like what's that come to. It's all, you have to have the biggest boat, the fastest motor, and all this hype. I really – you don't need that for the ducks or for the experience. [I've used mud dobbs for decoys before. You can't get any cheaper than that.]

That's the other thing the kids are afraid of, they think, "Well, I've got to go out and spend \$1,000 for warm boots, and warm coat, and waterproof this," and you know, it's got to have this brand name on it, it's got to be in style.

RW: Thank you.

Julie, I'd just like to ask you a question, if you don't mind. How does this fit into your family? It's kind of like your husband's calling: how does that work in a family?

JD: I don't know. It's his passion, so he just does it and we find other things to do. When the girls were growing up, we used to go walking six miles, we just – shopping, played; we played.

RW: Do you guys ever come out on the boat with him?

JD: Um-hmm; yep.

CD: My wife and daughters are a few of the only females that have toured the club.

RW: That's cool.

JD: Yeah.

[59:03]

RW: Well I just open this question to anyone: this whole project is looking at the culture and looking at what people are doing in the wetlands. And you guys live pretty close to the wetlands –

CD: Yeah.

RW: Over there in Plain City.

CD: In Plain City, yeah.

RW: Is there something that we haven't asked you that you'd like to share about your experiences in the Great Salt Lake, or the wetlands?

CD: Well it's never been the same twice: no experience has ever been the same.

My dad loved the lake, he just loved it. [He and his friend would fly a small plane to the remote areas around the lake, then land where they could and hunt rabbits.] He worked at the beaches; he worked at the Garfield Beach and the Sunset Beach. And he got (it was before he went to war), but he got paid 50 cents a day.

JN: Doing what?

CD: Parking cars, making sure there was water for the showers. [laughs] Making sure that the food was brought in, you know, just that. He just loved it. And I guess that rubbed off on me.

When they were building the new Saltair –

RW: Um-hmm?

CD: The existing one now. I should point out, I was in the old Saltair a few days before it burned down.

RW: Really?

CD: It was maybe three days. But it was Thanksgiving time and I was in high school. And my friends, [Neil Passey, Craig and Blaire Goates and myself] and we piled into a Volkswagen, and just went for a ride out there to Saltair. And we all kind of messed around with, you know, guitars, and drums, kazoos and harmonicas.

And anyway, in the Volkswagen this day I had a harmonica, and my friend had a Jaw's harp [makes sound with mouth] –

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: [The] other guy had a kazoo. And we ended up at Saltair. And that huge dance floor was just buckled; I mean, all that hardwood had just peaked. It was hard to walk on, it hurt; it really twisted your ankles and [was sharp at the peaks.]

**[61:30]**

But we got out there [laughing] on what was the stage and we had a concert [laughing] of just – the one guy found some sticks and hit them like drums, and we –

JN: You were the last band to play at Saltair.

CD: Really, exactly.

JN: That's awesome.

CD: Well, as it stood.

And so I was able to take my dad (when I built my second airboat), I took my dad out there where the pylons still were. And you know, all the old bottles – the way the lake would work, all the currents and everything would take everything and it would settle around those pylons. And we found a lot of old [Coke and] 7-Up bottles, and things like that.

But I forgot where I was going with this.

JN: Your dad's love of the lake, and your love of the lake?

CD: Yes, yes; thank you, thank you.

So they were building [the now existing] Saltair. And I went and got my dad, and we went down there. And we watched as they just poured a big ramp of cement in the back of that, for kind of a picnic area. And we just watched that lake (this was in '83, when the lake was rising). And we watched the waves just take the cement and break it up, and cast it where it wanted to.

But there was a book, they had one book on the shelf, and it was \$10.95. And it was called *The great Great Salt Lake*; paperback, published at BYU. And the author's name was Peter G. Czerny (C-Z-E-R-N-Y). And he wrote about the lake.

And there was no cell phones then, we didn't have the amphibious vehicles. In the early '60s, like when I was hunting my first duck, this guy was out in a Volkswagen going all around the lake – all around. And he had filmed all of these arches, and named them. And he named everything, and the formations, and the birds that lived there, and talked about it.

**[63:50]**

And anyway, I bought this book and Dad and I studied it and studied it. I read it several times, it was my favorite book. And I don't know how many years later – not until I started keeping a journal, I think I was 39 or something. I was in church and they had a speaker and his name was Peter Czerny.

And I thought, "Czerny?" And I looked at the program, "Gee, I've seen that; I've seen that name." And he started talking, and it hit me, "He's the one."

He talked about how his family escaped from Germany and they settled in Syracuse.. [In Germany, he had read about this marvelous lake in Utah, that will not allow you to sink.] And he would climb up on this silo in Syracuse every evening at sunset, and watch the sun set on the Great Salt Lake. And that's what sparked him. And so, when he got old enough to do it, he explored it. All of it !

And all of his writings, and everything about it – he came back to the state offices and he said, "Now out on [the Lakeside mountains] I saw a formation that looked like, well here's the picture of it." And he says, "I thought it looked like an aardvark," he says, "Do you have a name for this formation on that?"

And they says, "No, you just named it. We'll call it Aardvark Arch."

And so, I believe, in *Guinness Book of World Records* he has more namings of things in one area than any other person, or something; I forget the title. But a fantastic individual. After church, I invited him to our house and he came over and we visited and he signed my book. He just told me so much more [about his findings. Fantastic individual!]

JN: Is he still around?

CD: Yes, yeah. He's in the Provo area, and he has a website.

CD: So, I mean, I guess all's I'm doing is kind of fulfilling my dad's legacy of the Lake. I've learned a few things more about it than he was able to [but he taught me everything he knew.] And you know, that's [laughs] – that's my story.

RW: Thank you so much.

CD: [Laughing]

RW: This is so fascinating. Thank you both. Thank you, Abby.

[Laughter]

CD: Thank you.

**[66:10]**

RW: Are you still comfortable signing the release form?

CD: Oh yeah, not at all.

RW: Okay.

CD: I wanted to – I don't know if this – [one more story?]

Okay, back in the good ole days at the bird refuge, before the floods –

JN: Um-hmm?

CD: You were allowed to leave your boat out there, and you could leave it all during the duck season. [It was secure and locked up every night.] So it was really nice for me, because I was traveling from West Jordan at the time, and all's I had to do was bring fresh gas and go hunt.

So [laughing] I had a friend who had an airboat, his was airboat number one, which was really quite prestigious, you know? Mine was like number 394 – his was number one. The pilots used to land their planes out on a flat there, outside of unit two, and they had built a little shack there. If the weather got bad and they couldn't fly out; they could wait out the storm. And back then you were just always welcome in the shack. There was soup, and crackers, coffee, and a Coleman stove, and water. [Hopefully, you would replace what you used.]

Well, my friend would hunt [geese] on this flat often and they named it after him. So that was just kind of, "Well that's -----'s Flat, you don't go there, you know, that's his deal." I shouldn't use his name [laughs].

But he liked to drink a little bit. Do you remember like the *Salt Lake Tribune* or *Deseret News* paper boys would wear a canvas bag with papers in the front and papers in the back?

Well he used to wear one of those with [laughs] gloves and shells and lunch and everything in the front, and then in the back was a bottle of whiskey, always. And anyway, he drove an old International Travelall, which was like the forerunner of the Chevy Suburban.

[68:12]

RW: Um-hmm.

CD: And it was the last day of the season, so he had to take his boat home that day. [He and a couple of friends with him.] They went out and hunted. They had taken extra gas, and they had all the warm clothes (last of season, you know, January).

And they [laughs] hitched the boat up to this, International truck and drove out east on Forrest Street (and I-15 didn't exist here yet). And they got up into Perry or Brigham (excuse me) – Brigham City.

And shortly after they started heading south on highway 89, the fuel pump in the International went out; just completely went out. And there's three of them, and they were pretty buzzed at this point, I guess.

And they, "What do we do? What do we do? We're stuck, we cannot get this truck fixed tonight." They got to drive to Sandy, Utah, and, "What do we do?"

And they came up with the idea –

RW: [Laughing]

CD: "We brought gas for the boat, we've got gas in the Travelall; we've got all the fuel we need, we just don't have a motor. But the boat's got a motor, it's hooked up and wired to the truck, we've got the warm clothing – we'll take shifts.

Put the truck in neutral, somebody just steer the truck, somebody else go back and fire up and regulate the boat, and then we'll rotate shifts. And so they would steer the truck pushed from the boat behind – and he just had a 125 horsepower, four-cylinder aircraft engine pushing it. And [making engine sounds] [laughs] all the way home.

They finally got pulled over in Bountiful –

RW: [Laughing]

CD: In Bountiful, on 89; and the police were just beside themselves. They had heard complaints all the way from Brigham to Bountiful about a low-flying aircraft –

RW: [Laughing]

CD: That was flying over 89.

And the officer says, “Where [do you think you] are going?”

They says, “Oh, we’re just going to Sandy.”

[Laughter]

He says, “No, you’re not. Shut that thing off, we’re calling your wives to come get you.”

RW: [Laughing]

CD: They never got, you know, issued a citation or anything.

JN: That’s funny.

CD: That was a pretty good deal.

RW: Oh, my gosh. Ingenuity.

CD: Yeah, it worked.

RW: It worked.

CD: It worked.

RW: Oh, my gosh; thanks for sharing.

CD: Not too many know that story.

[Laughter]

So I just had to –

RW: I’m glad we know it.

CD: Okay.

RW: Thank you.

**[End recording – 70:52]**