

## **Chris and Sunny Nielsen**

### **Emery County Courthouse, Castle Dale Third Ward Youth Conference**

**June 28, 2014**

Chris: A lot of the people that might know. When I was a kid I worked for him. I have to tell you a story about how I got my wife, but, ah anytime I didn't work for Bylo somebody else would hire me and would send me down there. And one time Bylo had his own cabin, but he, they also had lower cabin about mile down below the Swinging Bridge, on the San Rafael River. And, there was another ole cowboy that lived right over there, right up there by the name of George Magnuson. And George and By, was ah... what I call Cowboys. There would be six or seven other guys that had a few cows, and in the spring you had to ride the river. Somebody had to ride the river everyday because the cows would get in the mud and you had to pull em out or they'd die. But every morning we'd get up down there ??????. One morning when we got up them other guys said "Chris, you ride with By today or you ride with George Magnuson today, because when you left they didn't ride the river very much cuz they went way out to check cows. And when they left camp in the morning and when you throwin your leg over the horse and you stood up in your stirrups so your butt was just off the saddle, and you'd jog for maybe 20 miles. Sometimes I'd say "Please, Lord, let me find a couple of cows so I can slow down". That was the cowboy way. They done everything on horseback. And, you had your ride and go!

Bylo... was a guy that always tied hard and fast. Anymore all our ropers were valuable. Bylo was always tied hard and fast.

Clyde Magnuson: You better explain that.

Chris: Well tying hard and fast is your rope is tied solid to your saddle horn. Bylo would pack a loop in his lariat and about that big and he'd have just about that much and this part was tied to the saddle horn. He wouldn't even take a wrap that had a rope strap on the shoulder of your saddle most guys buckled them on. Bylo had a one strap and a loop that went over the horn. And he, if you come out of a draw or over a ridge and there was a bunch of wild horses. He'd have one of em caught before they even knew Bylo was comin. But anyway, him and George Magnuson, Cliff Jewkes was ridin down towards Mexican Bend, where Clyde knows this, and there's this big ole canyon comes down there, a big wash comes

down there. It's called White Horse Canyon. Bylo, my father in law, he wasn't, he wasn't my father in law back then, George Magnuson and Cliff Jewkes; they'd seen this wild, white mustang stallion two or three times. And ah, they'd seen this stallion and three or four mares that went up this canyon; didn't even have a name till after that. But George and Cliff Jewkes, Cliff Jewkes was a ??? of mine. George a pretty big guy and Bylo was just a big cowboy. They say's, "Let's go get that big white stallion. That's a box canyon they can't get out the other end". So they got going up there where the wash narrowed up, the canyon narrowed up. George and Cliff says, "By you stay here and if he gets by us up there, we know you'll catch him." Byjoe said, "I just sat down by the tree there bout noon there ???? I knew ????and He said, "Pretty soon here they come" he says. I jumped up behind that tree roped that last stud. He says, "When I woke up there's George Magnuson slappin me on the face. He says, "Wake up By, wake up By, wake up!" I says, When I roped that white stallion, and he says, its stud jumped off a 20 foot bank and jerked BY's horse off. And he said, "George Magnuson slappin my face "Wake up By, Wake up By!" I said, I finally got up and I staggered around a little bit. He says, here's ole Cliff Jewkes, that little biddy ole guy that's got the nose of that white stud. If you get a horse, any horse down, you grab it by the nose and pull it back over the shoulder they cannot kick you and cannot get up. Bylo said I'll wonder around there and look things over and I said my horse standin there and I walked over there and I said, "Cliff you can turn your horse loose now". He says, "No! He'll get up". By said, "No, he broke his neck when he jerked me off the bank". So that little canyon down there, it ain't a little canyon it's a big canyon, not a flat down there, that is called White Horse Canyon. And that's just the kinda cowboys I like to tell stories about.

My Dad used to own the pool hall right across the street over here. When I was ten years old I was in there and Sunny's dad stopped one day. And he says, "They tell me you're gonna be a calf roper". And I say's, "Yes Sir, that's all I dream about". He says, "Well what you gonna be doin this, this weekend?" I said, "I have no plans". He says, "I have a whole bunch of calves to brand", he says, "Why don't ya come up and help". I said, "OK". Now Clyde's dad was there and a couple of other guys that thought they was cowboys workin for Bylo. Here comes a ten year old kid and Bylo just being a smart ole cowboy this day he says, "Get up on that horse right there an see if ye can even catch a calf". Well I roped and dragged every calf to the fire. When we got on the last one he looked up and he says, "How old did you say you was?" I said, "I'm ten." He said, "You see Monroe

right there". He said, "He worked for me for 10 years to get Ina Lee". He said, "You jus figure on workin for me for the next 10 years, and you can have Sunny". And.....

Sunny: It gets better every time he tells it. Laugh...

Chris: And Sunny wouldn't have nothin to do with Chris all winter. She had her high up school boyfriend, and ah, the minute that school let out in the spring and she knew I was goin rodeoin, ropin calves, here comes Sunny, "Can I go with you? Can I go with you?" So, I worked for her for ten years. But, we've been married for 55 years now.

Sunny: ???? I told him to make notes before we left home so he'd remember.

Chris: All I have to do is start talkin. I love to talk. I'm just tryin to decide which story to bring out now.

Shirley: If you guys have a question, go ahead and ask.

Chris: Do you have any questions?

????: If you worked all day, how much did they pay ya?

Chris: Big LAUGH! Back in them days, you gonna like this: Five dollars a day. Now I think Clyde pays about seventy or eight dollars a day; what I used to do for five. Laugh.... Laugh....

Clyde: Days aren't as long either.

Chris: Well, ah my days was long back then. You'd.... you had your ride most of the time, but when you git up in the morning at day light and saddle, go out and bring the horses, Bylo would fix breakfast. And, Lloyd Baker, which was another cowboy out there in Sinbad, would fix breakfast. While they was fixin breakfast I'd go feed all the horses. And after breakfast, I'd usually go saddle everybody's horse, and ah they just, they was on a horse from daylight till dark.

In 1956 I went to Sinbad with, with ah Lloyd Baker, he run clear out to the Muddy river to Tam Seeps where we spent two weeks gatherin mosta his cows an trailin them to Clark Valley which was, you know where Draggerton is, Sunnyside. Clarks Valley is just before you exit the junction when you get off a 50 & 6. And ah, it took us two weeks to go over to Parch Valley to brand calves and put em on the mountain. Now I've been ridin from daylight till dark. I mean Lloyd Baker was ?????? tryin to load a two ton truck. And he'd start them cows up the road just as it was getting light enough to see up the trail. When you find out what part you're on, you might have a dirt road to follow or you might have a trail. And ah, Lloyd Baker would be there on the trail, he'd know where you was gonna be at ten o'clock if you had to go 30 miles around. He would be there at ten o'clock and have coffee and cake or donuts or sumpin. And at noon he'd have a good meal fixed. And at four o'clock, I don't know how he knew where we was gonna be, he would have coffee and cake again, cookies or somethin. And then, supper was maybe ten or eleven o'clock. And it, it was from daylight till dark. And we was, ah, the next fall I was workin for Roy again. We was out there stayin out on the Book Cliff mountains and ah, what they call Nine Mile country. And ah, Mile Blackburn and a guy from Wellington and me was workin for Lloyd gatherin cows and every morning Lloyd would say, "Don't ya guys wanna lunch? You guys never pack a lunch". He says, "You leave here at five in the morning an don't get back an have supper till ten, eleven o'clock at night. Well, ole Mile looked up and he says, "Lloyd there's only one think wrong with the two meals we get a day". And Lloyd he got all excited, because he fed good and good and wants ya to eat good, and he'd want us to fix a lunch every day. Lloyd got all excited and he says, "Boy it's a long time from when ya guys eat breakfast till supper", and Lloyd says, "Yeah, but look at it the other way, it ain't very damn long from supper to breakfast". So, anyway, if you guys get tired of me, tell me to shut up. Laugh...

?????: It seemed like ah back then a few more people, if they was runnin cows they did it as their main occupation, you know...

Chris: Right

?????: You know the Coal Mining jobs and their cattle job how..... There was a lot of them....

Chris: There was guys like Lloyd Baker and also Lloyd Baker lived in the Green River, he had about a 200 acre farm in Green River. He'd run 350 thousand from ????. Seeps to ????? Canyon. His brother, Walt Carlyle Baker, has what Clyde has now, out what we call the Jeffrey Ranch; way out there when ya, if you every go to ????? and get up on the Hogan, that's a Thousand Lake Mtn. and they's, they run from down on the desert out there to Last Chance up onto that mountain, which Clyde has, has now.

????: What would you guess the size was, for a guy to support his family? A ranch, how many cattle did he have to run?

Chris: Well, with the price of cattle today you wouldn't have to run very many. Laugh... Back then there was a lot guys that had thirty, forty, fifty head. Sunny's dad had always run right around three fifty. Lloyd Baker on the south end of Sinbad which, Clyde's son-in-law and his Grandson, has that country now, but Lloyd run three hundred fifty head out there. And then, Jeffrey Ranch they run a thousand head. And Carlyle and Lloyd was brothers and when you branded these calves you branded them calves. Carlyle branded with a cross L. It's like making an L with cross, cross, across the top of em. That's Carlyle's brand. Lloyd Baker run the cross slash, a cross with a slash, put on cows with a hot iron. And it didn't matter which calf you put the first brand on, every calf was that way. It was fifty-fifty on both outfits. And, anyway, I've been ridin for Lloyd for bout three weeks solid when we went out to help Carlyle brand a few. And we branded one day and the next day Lloyd and me loaded our horses in the truck, hauled it fifteen miles down from the Last Chance to Jeffrey Ranch, and ah, there was an ole sheep wagon down there, but anyway, we un-loaded our horses and we rode till we could see the uranium trucks haulin ore outta the Hidden Splendor Mine. We didn't get clear to them, but we got way down there on the Muddy River, lookin for any stray cow. When we got back to the sheep camp that night this ole sheep camp was bout all shot, but it was a regular ole sheep camp only it was still on, it was pulled by a team of horses, it wasn't even rode back then it'd been there for so long. Lloyd slept in the camp. I slept out on the ground on my bed role. Next mornin we got up and I said, "Man I'm kinda stiff. I don't know if I can even get on a horse. But, I fed the horses and we had breakfast, and I saddled the horses, I couldn't put my foot up to the stirrups, so I went ole Snortcy, the horse of Lloyd Baker I was ridin, Snortcy. He snorted at everything, but he was a super good horse. I led him over to a bank and I crawled up on my hands and

knees on this bank and slid on the horse, but it was an hour before I could get back off an back on. But I've been from daylight till dark for about three weeks and I rode that. Lloyd said we rode about 60 miles a day. And I know I was stiff.

Sunny: Lloyd was also County Commissioner at one time.

Chris: Yeah, he was Emery County Commissioner at one time.

Clyde: His picture is out there on the wall.

Sunny: Tell em about the airplane.

Chris: Well way out there, there's a place where me and Lloyd made an extra mile outta this. We rode over to this hole... big ole Indian sittin out there. He says, "This is an engine outta an airplane" he says. Back in WWII, he says, "They lost an airplane, the Air Force did, an he says when they finally found it, he says, there was five guys on that airplane. They found it way out there on the Last Chance, and ah, he says, but, when they, they finally found the airplane and they got a crew there that make sure that they wasn't alive or dead or somethin, there were only four, there was five guys on the plane. He said they hunted and they hunted and they finally found the fifth one way back up over there on the ledge. And this guy had crawled on his arms and drug one leg cuz it was broke so bad up there to the edge of that ledge back there. The other four was killed on the plane crash. Now the guy that bought the Jeffrey Ranch, it was called the Last Chance Ranch, Jeffrey Ranch, then the Baker Ranch, and then this guy that owned Emery, what do ya call that?"

Clyde: Castle Valley Ranches

Chris: I was talkin to him one day here and I says, "Do you know where the airplane crashed out there? Do ya, then he says, "Did you know about that?" And I says, "Yeah, I worked for Lloyd Baker". And he said, "There ain't very many of us guys alive who knows about that".

But that's, that's just part of the history of Emery County, the good cowboys. I guess there was a lot of other good cowboys, but, there was....

Sunny: Tell em about ????? horses.

Chris: There used to be a guy here, he run about forty, maybe fifty heada cattle here on Cedar Mountain. ????? Winters was his name, and ah, me and Joe Jeffs was gonna help him get his calves together on Cedar Mountain. We took the cows, first day we made it to Bull Holler, which is the stock corral right there bottom of Cedar Mountain. The next morning we started up that Bull Holler draw and all these cows got sick, I mean they was sick. There was only two died, but they was sick and bad! You could see his whole herda cows dying right there. And the cows was so sick, he says, I gotta do somethin I don't know what they got into but, he says, I thought I'd bleed em. So he got out his knife and he was goin from cow to cow and he'd stick his knife right up under the cows tail and just slid their tail all the way down. Some of em bled, some of em didn't, but we lost two cows back there and that was a spooky deal when you see bout sixty heada cows all standin there on somethin, so sick that they wouldn't even run from ya when you grab their tail.

Clyde: Arrow grass???

Chris: Huh?

Clyde: Was it arrow grass???

Chris: I don't know what it was and Clyde, or Joe Jeff's didn't know and Pat didn't know, but Pat was pretty dang worried.

Clyde: I heard the same thing with Fillmore's, bottom of the hill there off of the slaughter house there.

Clyde: Tell em bout Lloyd's dog.

Chris: Will start this story about had a big ole black dog he called YAK. And it didn't matter what, but anyway, the best story about ole Jack I could tell ya is about 5 years before I went to work for Roy Baker somebody else that was working for Roy roped a calf, Lloyd run two bell waddles on the neck

Sunny: Tell em what a waddle is.

Chris: A waddle is you, on the neck, skin under the throat you cut a strip of it ya see, and then it'll hang down and grow hair all the way around it, and its called a waddle. Lloyd run two of em, anyway, this guy that was workin for Lloyd he roped this calf one day down there by the, just after they cross the San Rafael River, and ah, what was his name? Castrate this calf, and this cow took that calf and they never got it till that steer was six years old. This is the year I'm workin for Lloyd Baker and we meet Byjo there on the river and Lloyd says, Lloyd says, "I'd sure like to get that ole cow and that big ole steer". Everybody'd see em, but nobody could ever get em. Lloyd went out south of the river for quite a ways and I went clear tah Sugar Rock, pert near clear to the mouth of Rock Art box with Byjo that day. I was workin for Lloyd but I was ridin with my father-in-law before he was my father-in-law and ah we finally got back up there quite a ways, Tamarack is terrible down there in the San Rafael, and you know what Tamaracks are? It's a bad little bush grows, can't hardly ride a horse through it.

Chyde: Like willows

Chris: Like willows. And ah, Lloyd Baker seen us comin, he waved us over an he says, "I got that cow and that steer down there in them Tamaracks". "Chris", he says, "I want you to get off an crawl down in there, don't even try to bother em, cuz he says, they will take. But, he says, "You crawl down in there, and locate em then you back out, tell me where there at. I can send ole Jack in. And, so I did, I met em face to face crawlin on my hands and knees. I backed right back out, a ways I backed out, my face towards em, so I was makin sure he wasn't gonna come an get me. And ah, I crawled outta there, went back up on the bank where Lloyd and By was, and I said, "There about right down in there". He says, "Come here Jack", he said, "Get right down in there"; pointin to the same place I was pointin. Jack went in there. You guys think ??? guys is funny. Lloyd Baker took care of this pack pine tar in his saddle back pocket, and when and ole Jack cause it was so heavy, started getting tender footed, he'd stop and build a little brush fire, heat the tar up, scrape them ashes out, when the tar got to where it was just nice and soft and runny, but it wasn't hot, he'd get a foot in that can and stick in some cool ashes. That's just like puttin shoes, he says, the tar will heal the foot, and ah, the ashes is what act like a shoe sole, till they wear out. But, he told ole Jack where to go. Jack brought em out, and Jack took, we probably 10 miles, maybe 15 miles down the river from the Swinging Bridge, and Jack took that steer with em big ole long horns to the bridge and sat there and held em. Now there was



bout probably two to 250 heada cows we were movin that day to the bridge at that time. But, Lloyd and By and Me, I'm suppose to be a roper. I betcha I throwed 15 loops at that cow. I don't know why Lloyd didn't ever rope her. By would always just pack a grass rope and he would rope her and she'd break his rope. He'd tie another knot in it and I'd be tryin to catch this second cow and keep her out gettin back in the Tamaracks. Like I said, I was suppose to be a roper, but I throwed probably 15 loops before I got that ole stick mount rope on her and then we broke her to lead and tied her up there. When we got up to the bridge there stood ole Jack just, just like a dog sittin there by the steer, and every time that steer would go to move; he'd hit her upon the nose, and Lloyd said, "By you still own the slaughter house in Castle Dale? He says, "Yeah". He says, "You suppose we could get that cow and that steer up there to your corral, a few other cows, we could load em up, take em right up there and have em killed tonight?" And that's how he got rid of them wild steer and that cow.

Sunny: Any more questions? ..laugh...

Chris: Laugh...

Sunny: I have a story of my own to tell. I wasn't, I wasn't a cowboy, but I rode with my Dad a lot. I was the sixth girl in the family. And so, that's why my name is Sunny. So anyway, were out there, and there was a herd of cows, herd of horses, wild horses, and my Dad said, "You need to run those horses up in that canyon". So there's kinda, I can't remember what ????, there was a flat, there was a as you down low here, Dad said, "I'll go around this ??? this way ???, ??? make sure they go up the canyon. I said, "Okay". I think I was 12, 13 somethin. So anyway, here come these horses up the canyon ??? and I'm up there. ??? and I'm up there ??? run across that flat just as fast as that ole mare could go and I come to the edge – to me it looked like the wash was a 500 feet wide, but it was more probably a ditch, as I look back now. But, she jumped and when she jumped she caught it with her front feet, but her hind feet fell right down into the wash.

Chris: It was full of tumbleweeds.

Sunny: ?????????? and she fell and I come back. I fell off and when I woke up Dad was, "Wake up", "Wake up Sunny". I says, "????? He says, "Yep". ??????????

Laugh....

Sunny: That was my one claim at being a cowboy.

Laugh.....

Clyde: Levi, this Bylo, you live in his house. (Levi Jensen)

Levi: Oh!

Chris: That big house, not since ??????

Sunny: That house, I grewed up in that house. I have lots and lots of, if I'd known you were there, I'd shown you a picture of, a picture of our family having Thanksgiving dinner. And, ?????? back into the kitchen, a table.

Chris: Long, long table.

Sunny: ????: ?????? not one of those.

Johnathan Fauver: You know these desert horses out here?

Sunny: What?

Johanthan Fauver: These wild horses out here? Do you think it's all ... ah.. real wild horses, just pure wild horses, but, there not right? Bylo used to have a throw stallion in there now and then?

Chris: Yes, there was a couple of Swasey's and a few other guys that I don't remember for sure now, before my time, but they would, there's a lot of horses out there. They would take a pretty good stallion out there and turn him loose, so they could catch the colts in a couple of years.

Clyde: Wasn't there a remount, remount program going on sometime?

Chris: Byjo was raisin horses for the remount back there, Byjo always run 40, 50 sometimes sixty mares, and he had, I think he had seven different remounts stallions over the years, but the....

Clyde: Tell em what a remount is.

Chris: Well, back in Ft. Robinson, Nebraska where I been there, and ah, that was the largest, Ft. Robinson, Nebraska was the largest horse deal for the U.S. Army. Now the Army before machinery trucks and jeeps and everything, everything was done on horseback – the Calvary. You, you read about Custer getting wiped out by the Sioux, well, you figure all of the army, during the, the what they call it? The war between the states back there?

Clyde: Civil War

Chris: Civil War and all wars they fought all up until the second world war, was all fought with horses, that was the mode of transportation for all the army, but, because the army had to have so many horses, anybody that run some good tight mares, they would send him a stallion that stood up to their quality of what kinda horses they wanted. So Byjo was runnin these mares. He'd breed em with these remount stallions and all the geldings they had to get em broke when they was four and five. The army, the Calvary would send the buyer out and they would buy the geldings. They'd want no stallions, no mares, they want just geldings: The United States Army. Now when WWI come and they started getting all this machinery and stuff and they started getting outta the horse business . Ft. Robinson, Nebraska if ya ever get back there, which is about 80 miles from Russ, Wyoming over in Nebraska; it's kinda just a big tourist deal now, but it, it really impressed me. We got there and we been to another little place just past there and we decided to come back and stop there and the guy that was with me; one of the greatest ole team ropers there ever was and with horses. He knew this Don Lemon that was, that worked for the state of Nebraska, and he was over this Ft. Robinson. And they raised buffalo and few other things, but, he told us, he said, "There's a lane out over here and he says, "You didn't ever want to be caught in that lane". In the fall when we was started them horses out for the winter, for seven days, there was nothing but solid horses goin up that trail. But then in the spring, when the Calvary would go start gatherin in, he says, "He

wanted to ever get in front of the bunch, because they'd come all the way into Ft. Robinson. It's just quite a place.

Sunny: I had five older sisters and a younger brother, and we used to never go to ride gilding, but we broke a gilding, but, they weren't our horses. Because all them were contracted to sell to the government, so, but, I remember I had cousins that were older like Warren Jensen and John Jensen and ???? and who else was there?

Chris: Barry Balkwell ???

Sunny: Barry Blackwell ???? They were all cousins and when they got the geldings home and they'd brake em for the Calvary for the military. These guys would come and guard these horses. And it was a circus, because my dad got ?????? ???? throw a bucket so they'd buck. So, he'd get somebody on a horse and he'd throw a bucket and it would throw him clear off, my Dad would ????? ???? they had one they rode a lot an, they tried to ride him a lot, let's put it that way. And, ?????? ?????? and a horse threwed him off and he said, "I guess I'll have to call that horse High Pockets". His name was High Pockets for years before we got, but we rode the, Ina Lee and I, and Zora, we rode..

Chris: Ina Lee is Clyde's mother

Clyde: Zora is....

Sunny: Some of them didn't ride em as much as we did, but Ina Lee and I and Zora rode quite a bit. And that's what happens on a gelding ?????? the cousins, the guys broke em ???? we just had to teach em how to lead and stuff. So, that's how we ??? ?????? that's how my dad couldn't remount?????. Right now, up in the corner, where the swimming pool is ???? I think there was seven of those horses. They buried them, and they was suppose to sent headstones to put em on, but they never did. I think they buried seven of those ?????? ?????? But you couldn't sell em and you couldn't give them away. You had to shoot em, or bury them ???????? ?????? and called it ????????

Chris: Clear back to Sinbad, talkin bout the wild horses, there used to be a lot of, down at Mexican band, where Clyde, where Clyde runs some cows now. At one

time the Government paid the cowboys to go down there and shoot burros. These little wild burrows? One day down there, them cowboys they got 700 burros, and... that's a lot of burros!

Sunny:

Clyde:

Chris: And also, down there in Mexican bend, which I never seen this trail, but Byjo told me, he says, "I don't know what they packed outta there, but, I been thinkin bout it and I think it was probably part of the ole Spanish Trail, back up, up above White Horse Canyon there's some markers and some markers, markers on used to be some of those ole school houses that said "This is the Spanish Trail". But, down there in Mexican Bend when you go to Green River, when you look at them rocks, it looks like their all standin straight up, it's called the Reed. Byjo says there's a trail up there where they used to hike mules up outta there and said they packed so many of em, every mule would step in the same spot goin up them rocks. There's perfect mule steps all the way up over that hill where they wore the rock down

Clyde: I've heard about ??????

Chris: Byjo told me about it when we was down there, but we never, that's February of 57, I went to Sinbad with Byjo, the first of February and we went down there and down towards Mexican Bend there was about two foot of snow, we took a tent and we went down there, put up a camp, with enough snow to water our horses, and we'd gather all the ??? outta Mexican Bend around. We'd stay until we got what we thought we had all the cows. And, we trailed em up to the cabin and ah we just quite an experience. I don't know how, Clydes dad would know, but he always worked for BY, and I guess him and BY had a meeting before work. Then By would go somewhere, or do somethin, but every Saturday mornin about daylight Monroe would come to help us. I don't know how he knew where we was at, but we was trailin them cows up from Mexican Bend up and about eight o'clock that mornin, here come Monroe down the road on his horse to help us up through the mud and the snow ...laugh.... But, he, like Byjo said he worked, Monroe worked for ten years to get Ina Lee, I had to work for seven years to get Sunny. But I think he paid us both like five dollars a day. Then

Me and Bylo was way out there past I-70 one time, just lookin for a water hole and some grass, and he was ridin an ole horse, one of those horses that Sunny was tellin you about. This horse was the ruffest, onorvest ridin horse ya ever seen. Bent shoulders and legs so straight, every time they hit the ground they'd just rattle your teeth. If you did, if you had false teeth I'll guarantee ya you'd be rattlin, pretty good teeth they'd still rattle. This was the roughest horse, but anyway, we'd rode and we'd rode clear up there and we was camped around north, parked the truck around Cliff Dweller and then we rode waaay out there and we was settin up there above the reef and we could see the airport next and it wasn't too far away. But, Bylo and me started back up around, Bylo said, "I want to go check over here. There's a rock hole that might have some water". He said, "You, you go ahead and go back over Cliff Dweller and get the truck and come on over to Hides Pond. So, this Hides Pond is a big ole flat there, and I backed up to the back of the pond, I knotted a rope, nice horse, but he's just a colt, a colt called Tanjo. I backed up to the bank to unload my horse but was settin there on my horse on the bank and I hear a hoop and a holler and I look out there and there's Bylo chasin a burro. Oh man, I mean Tango comes out. Tango or Bylo had a broke a blood vessel in his arm and he couldn't control Tony and rope with this arm. And Tango had never seen a burro before and he would not get close enough. I could see the burro runnin here and I could make a run like this, but I couldn't get him to follow. And we run this burro around this big ole flat a couple a different times. Finally Bylo just reached down an pulled his tie hard fast off his arm, throwed his rope away. He got ole Tony with his good arm and he run up to this burro, this burro probably run ten miles by now. And, he grabbed the burro by the ear and I get ole Tango right square behind him, he says, "Are you ready" I says, "Yeah, turn loose". And I had ole Tango headed right toward him bout three jumps I roped him. Bylo says, "You want him?" I says, "No, I don't want him". He says, "Well wait a minute" and he rode back out on the flat, found his rope, and this is, this is the bloody part.

Clyde: Chuckle...

Chris: He says, you don't want him?" and I says "No, I don't want him". I had him roped around the neck Bylo rides up and ropes him by both flat feet, jerks him down, so he hangs back on the rope, and I set there and hold his head down, Bylo gets off and he says, "You don't want him?" And I said, "No, I don't want a burro". He takes his knife and right there at the point of the shoulder blade and

he goes in bout that far, and I mean that blood, that burro's heart was beatin so hard from bein chased so long, that blood went forty feet in the air. And it just splattered Byjo ...laugh.... he got to sit down and laugh bout that

Sunny: Anybody got any questions? After that lovely story?

Clyde: It ain't even a good story...Laugh...

Young Man: Is there a time your life was in danger? When you were most scared?

Chris: Well I was! Hell I don't know. Never try to remember that stuff!

Laugh...

Chris: Memorial Day weekend, here just about a month ago, I fell off my horse. Ain't the first time I ever fell off, but I fell off. And, ah broke some ribs. And I've had that many a time. But that was Saturday of Memorial weekend. Tuesday I wasn't gonna go to some emergency room. I come in here to see about the and ???? he says, "We better x-ray it". He says, "Hell Chris, every rib in your body's got scars! He says, I can't tell which is fresh! I think this one, and this one, and this one is fresh, but I can't tell bout this one. That's how many times I've had broken ribs. Me and Byjo was ridin up to the box one day. He used to have a cabin, down to the south end of the box, bout a mile up from the Swinging Bridge down there. Do any of you guys know where the Swinging Bridge is?

Audience: Some head nodding yes.

Chris: But anyway we was just, just goofin off this day. We got up there a ways, Byjo says, "I think I, I ain't never been up on that bench there", he says, "I think I'll go up there". So, I was sittin around there in the crick waterin my horse, and Byjo rides up there out on this ledge and he says, "Chris!" He says, "Does it look like I can get along under this second, this first ledge and this second ledge? Does it look to you like I can get along there?" I said, "It don't look very wide from down here". Then I was watching my horse drink water and lookin around and SPLASH! There's Byjo's horse there, right there in the goddamn crick right beside of me.

Excuse the language. Right beside of me. And I look up and he's hanging up there on that ledge on his elbow.

Audience: Laugh....

Chris: I said, "Are you alright?" He says, "Well, I think so".

Audience: Big Laugh....

Chris: He crawled on out and ole Ronne got up and stood there and I let him around and led him back up ?????? the little bench

Darlene:

Chris: What did you say Darlene?

Darlene:

Clyde: I don't think ??? since.

Chris: The Cowboy way is you go where you wanna go. You try to go on your horse!

Sunny: I can ??? too. He's got ????

Chris: Byjo hangin there on the ledge, his feet hangin.... 'd say it was a good thirty foot. That horse fell. I don't know why Byjo didn't land in the crick with it. But...

Clyde: Well that's ????

Darlene: There's plenty of room! I mean ????

Chris: He was hangin on his elbows. I mean he was hangin on his elbows! I could see the bottom of his boots.

Audience: Laugh....



Chris: Aww... it's...

Joe: Did he ever rope a deer or a buck?

Chris: I never did. I tried. I broke a few fawns down there. ByJo used to rope them fawns and cut that, ByJo always run one bell waddle on their neck. He would catch a fawn, and their, their the friskiest little suckers when you get a rope on em. But he'd cut a waddle on em and then he, on his left, left ear was just a cut half off and on the right ear on all of his cows, and ear was shaped like that. Ya cut, we called it a number, and under seven and upper seven, so the cow kinda looked like an arrowhead; the ear. That was ByJo's ear mark and waddle. And ah, when we would catch a fawn it would get waddled and earmarked.

Sunny: Nobody can be??????

Audience: Laugh, laugh.....

Darlene: That's always ???????

Sunny: I rode the river a lot of times and we, I never did have much, ????? much, but Chris did a little bit. I always thought one of these days we'll find a fawn with an earmark but we never did.

Chris: Never did.

Clyde: It was wild times!

Audience member: Cross the river – did you ever do that?

Chris: Cross the river?

Audience Member: Cross the San Rafael river. Did you ever do that?

Chris: You know I've swam that San Rafael river and stuff, but, the most fun I ever had was BY controlled the box from where his cabin was clear to Fuller Bottom. He also owned Fuller Bottom; that's why BY had control of it. And, every three or four days, we had to go move a bunch of cows from one bend of the river to the

next bend. And in the winter time, January or February, the ice would be that thick. But some places where you crossed, where the ra..., river run a real faster, the ice it'd be that thick but there'd be ten foot of water. And that mare that Sunny was tellin ya about, Alongqua, and that colt of hers, ole Pane; they, we'd rode them and that river so much movin them cows, we'd packed a little coffee..., ah, one pound, two pound coffee can just with the hole stuck in it, just pulled the saddle strings through it and tie a knot in it so it couldn't get off. But, when ya come to hafta cross that river, a place like where there was ice out there and I mean anywhere from four foot to two foot thick; this ole Alongqua, this ole mare, she would ease out there an, put this foot out there an ice and stand up. If the ice broke she'd pull her foot back, then she'd ease it out again, until that ice would hold her weight. When it didn't break with one leg swayed on it, then she'd put the other leg out and it'd break again, then she'd pull back. And then when you get down the river you got about three to four foot of ice, new colt went out across through the water, you got ice just the same way on the other side; this ole mare would , I couldn't get my foot up that high, but she'd pick up her leg and put it up, and it'd break, and then she'd put it up, put it up, put more weight on it, and then it'd break. When it would hold all of her weight on the one foot, she'd put the other foot and the suckered break again. This ole mare never got excited. Ole Crane was the same way. When that would hold her, then she would put them feet up on that ice and jump and I'd think when she pushes off the bottom of that creek and them feet's gonna fly out, gonna break my toe on that ice. But, she could do that better'n anybody!

Sunny: Tell em what the coffee cans for.

Chris: The coffee can was if you'd come to the crick, where it was froze clear across? You couldn't drive them cows across it, because they'd fall down. So, we'd go dig in the bank and find a little tin fold of sand and make a trail that wide. All you had to do is make a trail that wide across that ice and go turn them cows towards it, and don't rush em, cuz they would single file and walk across the crick, one cow at a time, in a single file. They don't want somebody like Lew Roberts, or somebody thinkin he was helpin ya, he'd holler at em, one cow would go off the ice and you'd have to rope her off the trail onto the ice and fall down. Lot of times they never did get up after that. We'd have to rope em in and drag em out across the ice to where they could get up.

Clyde: Tell em bout ole Crane ?????

Chris: Ole Crane was ah....

Sunny: Another story.

Chris: Another story. To start with, ole Cran was kinda a buckskin pinto. He was outta them pinto horses and them mustang horses and re-mount studs. And... I used to shoe all of ByJo's horses. The first time I saw this horse he was just a nice gentle colt. And, I don't know what BY done, but all that housing development up there behind that house where you live (talking to one of the audience members who lives in ByJo's house now), that was big meadow. ByJo let this horse get loose and drag a rope through it, bout a week before he ever got caught. And this turned that horse into the worst outlaw. You'd go up there, ByJo could catch him, but when I have to go shoe him, if BYJO wasn't there to catch him, I'd have to rope him, choke him right up, snub him right up tight again a fence. I mean this horse, if he could swing his head 6 inches, and you got within foot, his teeth would just a (smacked his hands together) SNAP!! He would just try to bit your head clear off. And... I get him snubbed up and get a halter on him, so I tie him up better to the fence, and like the scotch rope, have to get back there, and he'd be a kickin at ya, I mean, if you stood to the side of him, he'd reach out with that hind leg an bout kill ya. He never hit me, but boy I was really worried bout him. His hind legs crossed up and I could shoe that foot. And I'd have to do the same thing to get in the other one. And then front feet he wasn't too bad. But this horse, and ByJo, ByJo had his hip replaced I think three or four different times. And, he was down there in Fuller Bottom checkin things out and his horse jumped a ditch or a wash, By's leg broke. His hip where they put that hip socket and stuff, broke off, which it broke off several times. But, this day, you seen the show Smokey? Where Smokey drug, drug the cowboy back to camp? ByJo hooked his arm to the stirrup and Crane drug him back up to the truck. ByJo unloaded him there at that truck and he'd go back there an

Clyde: A pickup with a rack on it.

Chris: A pickup with a rack, an ole two ton truck. When ByJo get to where he was goin he'd unload Crane, becuz of his bad hip, he couldn't get on, so he'd say,

“Goddammit Crane I can’t get on!” And ole Crane would bend backwards, stickin his stirrup inta the back of that pickup so BY could get on.

And I don’t know Harold Draper was a horseman And we all didn’t not like, Boyder Boyd, Harold Draper, lives there in Orangeville there. Any of you know Della Cox? It was her dad.

Clyde: Rodney Cox’s mother....

Chris: It’s Della Draper (Della Draper Cox). But her dad was a horseman. But anyway, in his older years, Bylo asked me one day, he says, “Chris, you don’t know anybody I could get to break some colts do ya?” And I said, “Yeah, Bylo, I do”. He says, “Who?” And I says, “Well, you won’t let him on your place.” And he says, “Well, who can I get?” And I says, “Well, Harold Draper”. “I wouldn’t let that blankety, blank, on my place!” I said, “By I, I know how everybody’s complained bout him, but I said, “I been shoein horses up there and been around him”, and I said, “This man is a horseman!” I said did any of you ever watch RFD TV? See Clinton Anderson and Chris Cox, er Rod Kemmer on TV? This Harold Draper was a magician with a horse, but it went on for about two weeks. And one day, who do I see up there breakin By’s colts? Harold Draper. And Harold Draper worked on ole Crane, and I mean, anybody but By; I could ride him, but anybody but By couldn’t even catch him. Harold Draper worked on this sucker and he became the gentlest, most efficient horse there ever was. It’s like I told By, I said, he said, he’s too mean to him. I said, No. I said, “By he’s only as mean as the horse they bring him – and they bring him every bad horse in the western United States.” He says, “You give him a bad horse and you’ll make him a good horse. You give him a good horse and you’ll make him the best horse there ever was”. And, that was Harold Draper.

Sunny: This Ole Crane horse, my Dad, he had a granary and in front of the granary was kinda a round rock.

Clyde: Isn’t it still there? Isn’t there a granary in your back yard? (Talking to a youth that lives in Sunny’s parent’s old home).

Clyde: With a round rock.

Sunny: We always held ?????? log cabin. Anyway, the rock in front, my Dad would get up on that rock and he'd say, "Come on Crane. Get over here." He'd get up and that ??? and he'd say, "I can't reach ya". This was when he'd say ?????? "I can't quite reach ya. I can't quite reach ya". And, Crane would just leeeean in until Dad could....

Chris: And squat down at the same time.

Sunny: Till Dad could reach over and get a hold of the ???? to balance himself

Chris: The Saddle horn.

Sunny: Nobody else could do that. That was Crane. He was a good horse. I think he's buried down at the breaks.

Clyde:

Sunny: I think so.

Clyde:

Chris: I don't know. I think he's probably down to the Lindy place.

Sunny: Yeah! The Lindy place, yeah!

Chris: The Lindy place. What Cory and Shannon's got now. And Ray Jensen and Bylo would place em up together so they wouldn't associate to much...Laugh...

Clyde: We got about 5 minutes and then were suppose to be moving on, so, if you got, anybody got any questions?

Lori Huntington: I just want to know what you miss the most?

Chris: Me?

Lori Huntington: Yeah!

Chris: Well! I'm still trying to be a cowboy. Like I said, I fell off and broke four ribs at Farmington at a ropin. Two week later I went ropin in and done real good. Went ropin last night. And shoulda done some good, but, my healer didn't catch so, you no good! But I'm still a cowboy. I try to work with some of my grandkids.

I ah... tell em that ain't the way. I try to show em, I got one grandkid that's tryin to break a horse out there and I said, "When you get done with this horse, I want you to be able to spin with touch of your finger." And, I was riding with him here about ten days ago and, he couldn't make this horse turn. I said, "Watch!". I said now that he's broke. I said, watch I'll put this foot back here toward his flank and this one up towards his shoulder and just touch him and he'll spin. And he says, "I can't do that". I says, "I what'd I tell ya when ya started breakin this colt, your Mother and your Step-Dad give ya this colt, I said, you don't even know how to use two feet and two hands. To break a colt you gotta have four hands and four feet. Cuz, right now I got him ridin this cold with four reins. And, he says, "I can't do that!" "I can't do that!" "Well buddy, ya better learn how to use four hands and four feet at the same time, because that's, that's the cowboy way."

Sunny: Well, were outta time.

Chris: Well, Good! ...Laugh...

Sunny: Well, ya know he's full of wind.

Chris: Well, that works. You got a hand up. You got a question?

Audience member: What day were you married?

Chris: Pardon?

Audience member: What day were you married?

Chris: What day was I married!

Audience member: Yeah

Chris: Fifteenth of January

Sunny: Can't remember when! ...laugh..

Chris: Or,

Sunny: We were married in 1960. Married 64 almost 65 years, long time!

Joe: So, you got him reined in?

Sunny: No, nope... laugh...

Clyde: But, ya know, they're a good example of a husband and wife that works together. Their life has been made together. It's

Sunny: If you don't work at, it ain't worth it. And there's lots of times when I'd a walked away, he walked away, but you don't, you fix it. You don't walk away. And, I hear this all the time. It's too easy to get a divorce. Because if it's not, if it's broke, they don't bother to fix it. We don't worry about hurting the kids and step parents and ????

Chris: I have one more little story I'd like to tell, Clyde's dad and me. We was gatherin the horse's off Sinbad and we come down ???? wash and there was ah black burro. It was a mare. And it was comin down ???? wash. Got to thinkin maybe the gates not up, and the fence, and the gates not up right down there. And that burro would get clear down into the box. So, anyway, Monroe says, "I'll get down in the wash and see if I can out run him." So, I stayed back there in case he turned him back. And pretty, here he come so I started down there, pretty soon I got down there and he says, "I come outta the wash and there they was, he says, I throwed my rope at the burro and he caught him by a front foot. I rode up and roped him around the neck. Monroe tried to go down my rope to get his rope off the front foot. This burro just lay's his ears back, opens his mouth and charges him. He says, "Don't hurt him! Don't hurt him!" And after he charged Monroe about five or six times, I said, "Let me jerk him down". He said, "No, don't hurt him! Don't hurt him!" I said, "Well, he's gonna hurt you if I don't". So, next time he harnessed onto my rope. The sucker charges him again with his mouth wide open. I just followed him behind ya and tried to trip and jerk him down. I said, "Get your rope while he's down!" And, he made it. So, then we spent another whole hour to get him up and clear down around back over the lower end flat of the truck. He hauled that burro home and traded that sucker for 45 Cedar posts! ...Laugh.....

Clyde: I think I remember the burro....laugh....

Chris: Well, I always got a kick outta him. He just traded that burro, I was gonna hurt his burro, but, that burro was gonna eat him! ...laugh...

Shirley: I'd like to thank, I think our time is up, but, I'd like to thank Chris and Sunny for coming today. I just want you to know Chris missed two roping events today; to be here with you guys.

Chris: There was a ropin over to Ferron. There was a ropin in Spanish Fork.

..Applaud!!!!.....

Shirley: It's like you having a basketball game or baseball game and missing it to be here. So, I'd like to this to them for coming today.

**Big Applaud** from audience.

They are two of nicest, most wonderful people that I know. They would do anything to help anybody. And, Sunny makes quilts. I don't know how many quilts she's given away, but she makes a quilt then she gives it away. Sooo many! Most of can't even make one quilt.

Sunny: I just tie them ???

Chris: That's the Johansen girls.

Shirley: Anyway, thanks for coming today. (Handed them a basket of books and goodies) Anyway, that's from Kim and I.

Chris: I'll tell ya one more little deal. I was ??? and my partner's from Bluff Dale, Utah, he calls up and he says, "I'll see you in the morning in Spanish Fork!" I said, "Oh, I forgot about that one!" I said, "Ken, I can't be there." I says, I hate to turn ya down, but, I said, "The prettiest little Indian gal in the State of Utah, asked me to come and talk to some people tomorrow morning in the Court house. Whether she's gonna put me in jail or not, I don't know, but, I'm going to this meeting with Shirley."

Joe: Tell him what Amy said when you called her last night.

Shirley: Oh, I was going to do a little intro but I was going to introduce Chris, I probably ought to call his daughter Amy. I said, "Amy could you just tell me a little bit about your Dad so I can introduce him?" And, she said, "What's this for?" I said, "Well he's gonna talk to the youth". She said, "He's what!"  
...laughter....

Sunny: I worried all night long, because he didn't make any notes.

Chris: Why do I need notes! I know these stories, their life.

Shirley: That's right! Anyway, you've heard some history today. Thank you again for coming.

Sunny: Thanks for havin us.



Shirley: No, thank you!

Chris: So, what did my daughter tell you?

Shirley: She just said that um you started um, you started, um, rodeoin when you were about 11, 12, 13 years old. Whatever you are when you get out of the eight grade in school. You used to go to school here, it's the City Hall now, and the year that I got out of the eight grade I bought a horse that, one of Sunny's dad's remounts stud, a colt from that and a colt from off it's mares. And I broke him that year and I rode him just one rodeo that summer just because I'd, I trained this horse like I'm tryin to get my grandson to train this colt he's workin on. But I, I roped on that horse from the time he was three until he was twenty one years old. And, I put in my permit, I joined the Rodeo Cowboy Association. I've been a cowboy one way or another all my life.

Shirley: One thing that was interesting is that you started, they didn't have a high school rodeo or anything like that, so, you started rodeoing, he started at around 11, 12 or 13 and he had to rope with the adults, the grown men.

Chris: There was no Little Britches Rodeo. There was no Junior Rodeo's. There was no High School rodeo's.

Shirley: He was that good, that he could rodeo with the men.

Sunny: He thought he was! ... laughter...

Shirley: I'm sure he was.

Chris: There ain't that many of us left that's that old now. But, I tell you what, I had the reputation. Whether I could do it or not.

Sunny: Thank you much.