Chet Taylor
Interview Outline

* I have spaces on the outline for any notes you might add.

I. Introduction - Location - Birth - Parents - Brothers - Sisters

A. Discuss other Taylor family members who followed John to the local area.

II. What do you know about the John Taylor family history? (Sons Bill and Lou Taylor born in Minn.)

A. Discuss John's connection with Minnesota.
   1. Focus on John’s parents.
   2. Focus on how John got nickname "Big" John.

B. Discuss John Taylor's migration to the local area. (c. 1870s)

1. Focus on trip from Idaho to Soap Lake; then to Waterville; crossing at Vantage by wagon.

2. Focus on what Chet meant by the term, John was an Indian man.
   a. Comment on Indian Charley
   b. Comment on John's Shawnee wife. (Can we get her name and any family history?)
c. Comment what you remember about Indian activity in the Teanaway. (check on Indian John and Indian Pete/Indian fishery sites.)

d. Comment on Indian place names.

3. Focus on John's homesteading the Bristol Flats area. (Size of homestead)

a. Comment on origin of name.

b. Comment on trading wagon and team for homestead.

c. Comment on who else was already living in the Bristol Flats area c. 1870s)

III. What do you remember about John Taylor's life at Bristol Flats?

A. Discuss the buildings and home site on the homestead.

1. Focus on log house.

B. Discuss how John developed the homestead.

1. Focus on Indian Charley and John run cattle & sheep on Lookout Mt.

a. Comment on markets/competition (Ben Snipes)

b. Comment on cattle brands and round ups. (Also open range lands)
c. Comment on irrigation activity and crops. (Lakes and springs)

2. Focus on logging and mills near or on the Taylor property.
   a. Comment on Yakima River drives.

   b. Comment on how the NP Railroad changed the Taylor property. (NP pays for livestock hit by train.

   c. Comment on the Bristol Flats Depot.

3. Focus on cemetery on the Taylor property. (Chet can give names/also Indians)

IV. What do you remember about your father Bill Taylor?

A. Discuss marriage and the family of Pearl (Boyce) Taylor to Bill.
   1. Comment on the Minn. connection.

   2. Comment on Chet's brothers and sisters.

B. Discuss Bill's career's in the local area.
   1. Comment on his education.

   2. Comment on driving stage to Yakima.
3. Comment on Taylor ranch operations.
   
a. Focus on Bill's employment by NP to build the rail line. (Check on Chinese laborers.)

b. Focus on any placer mining activities on or near the ranch.

4. Comment on Bill's logging/mill experiences.
   
a. Focus on M.C. Miller

b. Focus on Cascade Logging Co.

c. Focus on river drives.

V. What do you remember about your childhood years on the Taylor Ranch?

A. Discuss family values.

1. Comment on Chet's education and schools you remember. (Teanaway/Bristol/Ballard/School next to Contratto place/Umptanum/Casland School)

   a. Focus on how you got to school/teachers/students/your school memories.

2. Comment on how chores were organized each day.

   a. Focus on term "farming out". 
3. Comment on what families activities took place with other families.
   
   a. Focus on Teanaway baseball team.
   
   b. Focus on family talent. (music)

4. Comment on special holidays in the home.

5. Comment on resourcefulness by Pearl and Bill.
   
   a. Focus on money shortage/banks

   b. Focus on using the woods as a food supply. (Frank Bryant and elk at Bristol/ salmon in runs)

   c. Focus on pioneer skills required to survive. (Treating illness/ food preservation and refrigeration.

B. Describe the home that replaced the log house.

1. Discuss inventions which improved home life (1st electricity/phone/radio/ indoor plumbing)

2. Discuss weather years ago-1916 snow/ floods

C. Describe the development of roads in and around the Taylor Ranch.
1. Discuss any trails in the area before roads came along.

2. Discuss road developments to Liberty and the Blewitt.

3. Discuss Taylor Road and names of other roads in the area. (Seaton Rd.)

4. Discuss the reasoning behind the building of Highway 10.
   a. Focus on the growing impact of the coal mining economy on the Taylor Ranch.

VI. What do you remember about your logging career?

A. Describe the development of logging operations in the Teanaway.
   1. Discuss the development of Teanaway River drives.

2. Discuss the development of the Cascade Rail Line and Casland. (Musser farm)
   a. Focus on the connection with NP line and outbuildings at the connection.

B. Describe logging developments in the Swauk.

C. Describe logging development in the Tanum.
D. Describe inventions which changed logging.

1. Comment on use of animal power and coming of donkey engines.

2. Comment on tractors/power saws.

3. Comment on the 1st log trucks.

E. Describe the forces at work which contributed to the decline in logging.

1. Comment on how the environment changed.

2. Comment on your decision to retire from logging.

3. Comment on what happened to the John Taylor ranch.

VII. In what way did the following events influence the Taylor Ranch?

A. Discuss the impact of wars on ranching and logging activities in the local area.

1. Comment on plane crash on Lookout Mt.

B. Discuss the impact of Prohibition in the local area.

C. Discuss the impact of the Great Depression in the local area.
VIII. What memories do you have about:

A. Cle Elum/Roslyn area? (Cle Elum Fire/holidays)

B. Thorp/Ellensburg area?

C. Seattle Slew?

D. Marriage and your children?

IX. Closing- What advise would you give to a young person in order to cope with the future? What should a new resident understand/appreciate about our local heritage?