

# Fisher Body Historical Team

9-14-05

9:10 am

- Interviewer - Cheryl McQuade
- # Interviewee - Mike Bennett
- Secondary Date - 12-16-70 to Trim Dept
- Married with 4 children Age 54.
- First Job = Power window buttons onto car
- First Boss - Dick Thelen
- Lay off = 2-74, call back in 3-76 till Retire
- Reason for being - Benefits over money.
- # Favorite Boss = Bob Deenan
- Union Office = 1982 Alternate Committee
- U.P. 1993 to 1999, President Gary Bernath
- # worked in Paint, Trim, Body shop.
- Most of secondary spent in Body shop.
- Before Fisher Body = Universal Electric
- # First Day = more people than previous employment.
- Met many friends here (fishing, hunting, motorcycle riding)
- # Pranks = wallet with grease on it on the floor.
- Reason for union involvement = Always read agreement and wanted to get involved.
- # Met his wife here by working right across from each other.
- # Mike felt that plant relationships were OK - as long as they didn't disrupt any of the departments.



Mike Bennett

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Retire = 11-1-2000

Changes from 1970 - 2000, Committeemen cannot get things done today like in the past years.

Always Fisher Body to him.

# Participated in a strike in the early 1990's the reason was benefits

# Most appreciated benefit, Health Care, Vice President job, never rocking, people expect more of you, basically a P.R. job, need to know the agreement.

He felt that anyone wanting for Pres or VP should have held a Committeeman job in the plant.

Most gratifying job = getting someone returned to work.

# This plant has more camaraderie and helpfulness than other plants.

# Biggest thing for N Car launch was the cooperation with Union + Management.

# Delta Township has the same cooperation with Union and Management.

Vice Chair of Retirees now = Reason to still be connected to the people.

New hires = get involved in the Union learn about what the Union means.