

# Fisher Body Historical Team

11-10-05

10:00 am

Interviewer Cheryl McQuade

Interviewee - Diane Archer (5-12-1977)

Seniority = F-1983 Fisher Body (Laid off from Chevy Flint)

Marriage = Denise (25) daughter 29 year son

Education = 12 years school, Monroeville Colleg Flint

First Day - Journeyman Pipefitter, then went to management in skilled Trades.

Fisher Body Hiring = came to Flint to clear out tool box and had heard about Lansing was hiring and came the next day.

\* First Female pipefitter in the Chevy division. Very difficult to deal with. Women needed to prove themselves.

Women only got more rights and felt better in the early 1990's

First Day Fisher Body = Females were excited in the trades for women coming in to this trade. She was treated as an outsider, coming from Flint.

\* Culture from Lansing + Flint = In Flint very diversified workforce, Lansing workers were perceived as farmers by the way they worked and carried themselves.

Local 659 and 602 were pretty much the same in union representation.

Diane went into management for the seniority and to pick your shifts instead of taken back seat



about 10 months for the transition from skilled trades to management.

\* Skilled trades management = Best job in the world, a good crew to work with.

\* Most of her work done in the Body Shop for the last 17 years.

\* Robots were (named) in Flint Chevy but Lansing would not allow names on the robots. approximately 780 robots now. At CDT the new robots are looked at, at the manufacturer, and we can make changes on more parts before we purchase the actual robots.

Safety has become more and greater area that is looked at.

Changeovers = smaller ones are easier to work with than the transition

from Fisher Body to Lansing Delta Township.

\* General Motors = Father and grandfather worked here, money and benefits are great and skilled trades is a very exciting area.

As hourly she had a partner who was large person and had a job to do but Diane wouldn't get any help from him. So she went and applied to management that very same day.

In 1983 she was only given 1 lock for lock-ants. Now they



one given 3 locks. Management has been accountable more now with lockout than ever before.

Difference in Jansing and Jardstown = Jardstown didn't have a large lock-out program vs Jansing having in depth training for all lock out personnel.

Smoking Ban = Deane had a situation she couldn't figure out why large abuse stops were able to eat on the line.

She also couldn't understand why the vending machines still have non healthy food in the machines.

Holiday dinners = some in the past on hourly and management but they have gone away in recent years.

✶ Fisher vs other plants = we make the difference here in our plant just like all other plants.

✶ Fine close to plant = a lot of advantages, never call in sick, not getting up early.

✶ Family at GM = sister who teaches, brother electrician, brother on committee. They all get together on holidays and celebrations, there is 63 members of this group that get together.

Of the 54 maintenance personnel only a fraction of them will step up



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to the plate. They all still want to be placed and be shown what to do. They want management to make all decisions. She feels that in the next 5-10 years more employees will step up to the plate and make their own decisions. Special person to step out and beyond their call was Alvin Blocker. Probs = she remembers some but never took part in them. But you need to have fun in the workplace.