

2:00 pm

Interviewee Dorothy Stevens

Interviewer Linda Johnson

Retire 1984.

★ Seniority # Date: 12-30-52. (32 years)

First job = Cushion Room.

Cushion Room (Little Siberia) Springs
called Zig Zags.Men had higher paying jobs than women
back then. (Women had to fight harder)

Committee started 1957 (Committeemen)

Women had to go upstairs for restroom

Men had some floor restrooms.

Relief wasn't always allowed back then.

No women supervisors until 1960's but
they didn't last long. 1955 beforeregular ~~shift~~ relief period came along.

No get together's back then.

Shift rotation 3 weeks days 3 weeks nights
1970's was first Union Picnic.When she went on shop committee she
was fighting harder everyday★ Truck drivers got non glare paint for
hoods of their trucks.First women to utilize 63-A + 63-B
transfers.★ A strike was taken for no gloves in
cushion room★ Second strike was for water fountains,
& other things. A "Blue Monday" was called

So no one came to work that night.
As a result they got foas, drinking fountains
etc.

First day of work = Dirty, noisy, smelly,
but was only going to stay 2 years,
until she found out the benefits.

She came here for the hourly rate.

~~#~~ 5200 people in the plant in '50's
Punch card time clocks.

First wage ~~was~~ ^{\$1.72} ~~was~~ her to 10⁰⁰ per hr in 1984.

* Favorite memory, "Danil Oakly" quilt
a powder blue convertible for her.

Favorite local memory, Union hall was
on main street. (Olds Avenue)

Union Hall was paid for by selling
bricks for \$5⁰⁰ each.

* Books then dues were collected in the
plant by ~~Trustees~~ trustees. This is
the only union hall owned by the
local. ~~Every~~ Every other union hall is
owned by the International UAW.

People here were dedicated to quality in our
workforce, and our jobs

QWL - Quality of Work Life. (stress
abatement)

* She met friends here because of the
long hours at the plant.

* Now chairwoman of the retired chapter

9-6-05

Sign language was made up in the plant.

- * Young workers of today message = stand together, work together, help each other.
- * Politics (more involved in this since retirement has happened.)
- * Dorothy met and married her husband here, just getting together after work.
- # Respect needs to be earned and given before you can get it back.
- * Words of wisdom for Union Official (Respect them for what they are doing, and ~~try~~ support them.
- * Long term benefits are the key to organizing new employees.
- Heather wants to see the plant close.
- Take ~~the~~ bricks from the old plant and sell them for raising money for new union hall.