

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by University of Maine, Maine Folklife Center

MMN # 75278

Date: Interview recorded in 2005 about events surrounding the Eastern Corporation's Mill in Brewer Maine before it closed in 2004.

Description: Interview with Manly DeBeck about his experiences keeping in touch with former coworkers from the Eastern Company's mill in Brewer.

Interview with Many DeBeck about keeping in touch with former coworkers from the Eastern Corporation's Mill in Brewer, 2004.

Manly DeBeck: Um so these people became your family because you saw as much of them four days a week as you did your own family. You know, like any family you had ones you liked and ones you didn't care for but you all got along and you went through all kinds of things together. You know, somebody would lose a family member or someone had a child or grandchild; it's all the same as real life and you don't stop seeing those people just like that. I still see, best place to meet most of them is over here at the credit union.

Amy Stevens: Oh is it?

MD: Generally, if I go in there on a Saturday I'll run into three or four of them. Some of them come into the store where I work. Some you know have moved away. Some still send me emails, some I see once in awhile and you know it will be that way forever, as long as there are a bunch of us around, when you run into them it's like running into a relative you haven't seen. Some are doing well, some aren't doing so well. We've lost two, one died of cancer and another one took his own life. That's a tough thing to deal with and we still talk about that and that's the way things are but we see each other, we talk to each other, we still kid each other and that will never change, ever