

Live Bait & Ammo #136: Restore and More

Two months after Ford tried to convince hourly workers to accept more concessions the company restored raises and benefits for salaried workers. So did GM.

"We always said it was temporary," a GM spokeswoman, Brenda Rios, told the Detroit Free Press.

Apparently, Ford rank & file workers who opposed and voted against more concessions were right on and the misleaders in the Concession Caucus led by Bob King were dead wrong.

What's the lesson?

Delphi workers hit hard by bankruptcy took deep concessions in 2006 and again in 2007. Now the Con Caucus is back for more. A raise scheduled for January has been suspended and the presidents and bargaining chairs from the five remaining Delphi sites, which have been taken over by GM, were called to Detroit to prepare them for another round of concessions. The lesson is:

Cons never give up trying to help their corporate partners screw the rank & file.

The UAW-Delphi contract has a successor clause that holds any new owner responsible to uphold the present contract including raises, benefits, and working conditions. Most importantly, UAW members under the 2007 Delphi agreement still retain the right to strike.

Time for a new lesson

Time for rank & file workers at former Delphi plants to take a page from the Ford playbook and tell the Cons who are currently misleading the UAW to cut their own wages and benefits.

Steve Miller, the vulture capitalist and self proclaimed "Turnaround Kid", who led Delphi into bankruptcy told the Wall St. Journal, "Delphi will come out with one of the strongest balance sheets in the auto industry." [Delphi Emerges from Bankruptcy, 10-6-09, WSJ]

It's time for UAW members to begin a new campaign to win back concessions: "Restore and More". It started with Ford and now the struggle has moved to the parts plants at GM.

"Restore and More"

There's a meeting called to do just that. A meeting for rank & file autoworkers to talk with each other about taking control of our future and restoring what is rightfully ours: a fair wage, healthy benefits, and an end to whipsawing, speedups, inhumane working conditions, zero tolerance attendance policies, company unionism, and intimidation.

Saturday, January 23, 2010

10:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Metropolitan Hotel - Detroit Airport

31500 Wick Road, Romulus, MI 48174

(734-467-8000)

Lunch will be provided So, please RSVP or for more info: e-mail: [rankfileautomtg@gmail](mailto:rankfileautomtg@gmail.com) or call **734-272-7651**.

Don't whine, complain, and grovel. Organize to win with your fellow workers on Saturday, January 23, 2010.

sos, Gregg Shotwell

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