



UAW Convention

SOLIDARITY

RALLIES



3 pm Sunday, June 13
8:30 am Monday, June 14
COBO HALL, DETROIT



On June 14-17 the UAW will be holding its Constitutional Convention in downtown **Detroit** at Cobo Hall. As delegates arrive from around the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico, we want to welcome them and engage them in a discussion about the direction of our union.

The UAW has been in steady decline in both size and power. Last year alone we lost a whopping 76,000 members. Over the last three decades we've lost one million members, down to 355,200! Our *entire* union is smaller than the number of autoworkers employed at GM 30 years ago!

Gains won over decades of struggle have been seriously eroded. We have a 2-tier work force: new workers are facing drastically diminished wages, benefits and working conditions and an uncertain future. Last year retirees from the "Big 3" saw takeaways in health care benefits they believed were secure.

Something has to change. That's what tens of thousands of Ford and GM-Delphi workers said when they voted to stop concessions: "Enough is enough!" Will their brave acts of resistance be heard and honored on the convention floor? Or will their spirit be silenced as it has been in the pages of the UAW's magazine, SOLIDARITY(!)?

This may be the most critical convention as the UAW celebrates its 75th year. It's time to take stock: Have concessions made us more secure as workers and as a union? Many UAW members want to challenge the old ways of doing things, and want to chart a new course. Local Unions have voted for and endorsed resolutions for positive change, to be discussed and voted on by the convention delegates: These are:

- ⓪ Rebuild a fighting Union to reverse the concessionary trend of two-tier wages and benefits
- ⓪ Build a more democratic Union with one member, one vote on International officers
- ⓪ Guarantee the voice and vote of retirees on matters that directly affect them, ex: VEBA
- ⓪ Merge with the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) & United Steel Workers of America (USW)
- ⓪ Build a Union that defends the whole working class and the right to a job for every worker—pass EFCA!
- ⓪ Continue the fight for Single Payer Health Care- "Medicare to All"
- ⓪ Combat corporate globalization by building global solidarity - take on NAFTA!
- ⓪ Create new jobs by converting closed plants for a "green" economy to stop global warming.

We are asking delegates, UAW members and families, and union supporters everywhere to join us. We urge delegates to adopt resolutions for a UAW that will be a pioneer like we were 75 years ago. The spirit of resistance of the Ford and GM Delphi workers must prevail!!

SOLIDARITY FOREVER FOR THE UNION MAKES US STRONG!

Initial sponsors:

Auto Worker Caravan

(www.autoworkercaravan.org),

Retiree Chapter, UAW Local 160

Warriors of Labor (www.warriorsoflabor.com)

Factory Rat (www.factoryrat.com/factoryrat/)

Please join us!

Wendy Thompson—313-215-7672 Wthomp4490@aol.com

Frank Hammer— 313-863-3219 fkhammer@ameritech.net

Labor donated