

Invitation To International UAW Representatives

To all UAW international representatives.

Hello, and good evening to all of you.

As i am sure you know, many of us from the rank and file will be having a Solidarity rally this Saturday October 16, 2010 at Solidarity House. The purpose of our rally is to express our dissatisfaction with the two tier ("innovative labor agreement") that has been decided for the Lake Orion assembly plant.

I am sure you all are familiar with this agreement, but for those that are not, it goes something like this, 60% of the hourly UAW workforce will be paid traditional wages, and the remaining 40% will be paid second tier, or half the wages of a traditional UAW member.

My question to all of you this evening is, do any of you care enough about our dissatisfaction with this agreement that you are willing to come to the rally, or this site (Factory Rats Unite) and argue your case as to why this Lake Orion wage structure is beneficial to the membership?

I know some of you must visit this site, read our posts, and would like to comment. You don't have to identify yourself, you can be anonymous like the rest of us.

I have to believe that at least some of you know in your hearts that two tier wages is not a principle the UAW was founded on. Do some of you take a look at what the International has negotiated in recent years , and feel just a little uneasy? I hired in with some of you right here in to Lansing local 652 in the seventy's and we had 18,000 members. We now have a local population of 950. How many of you can honestly say "Concessions save jobs" and keep a straight face?

Are every last one of you so far removed from the shop floor that not one of you will comment on this site. Did any of you seek an international UAW position thinking you would be of service to the membership, or was it just about getting away from the plant?

Do you think it would be fair if 40% of you made half the wages you currently make? If that happened would you be financially scared to death?

Can we count on a couple of you to show up at this Saturdays rally and justify two tier? Is it not your administrative responsibility to meet rank, and file members with open arms at the entrance to Solidarity House?

As a dues paying member for 35+ years i think i should be welcomed by someone on my first visit. I will be there between noon , and 6 p.m.

I know their are a couple of you that work at Solidarity House that would love to join us Saturday, (because i know some of you disagree with two tier) and i hope you do, but you might be afraid of the consequences. If this is so i can't understand, who do you serve, us or Bob King?

But if you can't make the rally, once again, please feel free to post what you feel here on Factory Rats Unite! in the privacy of your own home.

Hope to see you Saturday,

In solidarity, Jakeinlansing