

Thursday October 29, 2009

## Vote for this bullcrap they are putting in front of us?

by Sparrow

The last time the contract was opened a International Union Representative came to our plant, told us the various concessions and also stated that our Cola would be frozen at whatever rate the formula calculated it to. That calculation ofcourse conveniently was figured AFTER voting. That particular representative told us it was going to go down quite a bit but be frozen at what it was. We voted yes, we gave. The day after we voted a posting was placed in the Union box that our Cola had been formulated to zero and would be frozen at zero.

Now heres where I get pissed. Your telling me that my International Union Representative didn't have any idea what the Cola was going to drop to when he made his presentation to us the day before they announced it at a whooping zero? I get pissed that my father and my father in law who both worked over thirty years for Ford said NEVER EVER has it dropped to zero. Oh, but they reassured us, those that were furious that they used their formula on it and figured it correctly. With what a new friggen formula? Please....

My point is this. I probably would have given them that dollar an hour, I'm sorry two dollars an hour since my husband is also a UAW member if they had asked. However, they chose to not to ask me. They decided to take from me deceptively.

So someone please tell me, what sort of repercussions can we the actual working membership bring to the International Union when we are dissatisfied with their performance and outright deceitfulness? I do not doubt their are genuine hardworking International Reps up there, but the general feel around the floor is that as a whole they are completely out of touch with their membership. Perhaps that comes from not having to worry about your job anymore, how to feed your family if you get laid off. Must be nice.

So my question is when the membership has lost confidence with those representatives what can we do about it besides the obvious no vote on this crap they put in front of us? Is the International Union untouchable? What can we do to take back the Union Internationally so that we can have actual representation?

No one wants to cut their nose off despite their face and almost all of us are willing to give when needed, but our contract has become a revolving door. We live in a constant fear of not the just loosing our jobs but live in fear of OUR UNION coming at us yet again.

I understand pattern bargaining, but I also understand they are our representatives. As representatives they are supposed to hrm..... represent the membership. What a concept. However, since that is blatantly not happening what can we as the body of the membership do besides the obvious no vote for this bullcrap they are putting in front of us? I'd sure like for the International to get a taste at some concessions of their own.