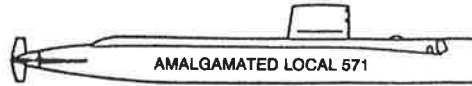




UAW LOCAL 571
MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION



P.O. BOX 7275
 GROTON, CT 06340
 (860) 448-0552
 FAX: (860) 448-3721
 E-MAIL: uawlocal571@snet.net
region9a.uaw.org/local571

APRIL 15, 2025
MDA LOCAL 571 BARGAINING UPDATE

Last night our membership spoke loud and clear in authorizing the Bargaining Committee to call for a strike (if needed), as was announced by Bill Louis just before introducing President Shawn Fain to the podium. The membership is demanding a fair deal and the contract we deserve and now the Bargaining Committee has the authority it needs to make that happen.

With the membership's strike authorization, and the growing crowds at the red shirt rally, the Company's disastrous town hall meetings, and the packed house at last night's tick tock rally, the Union has the growing strength and power to achieve our members' demands:

Pensions for All
 Real Profit Share
 COLA
 Fair Wages
 Protecting our Health Benefits.

Your Bargaining Committee prepared this morning for a 1:00 pm main table bargaining session. We invited not just President Shawn Fain and Regional Director Brandon Mancilla, but also a handful of MDA members from the plant to observe.

We only got two thirds of the way through our presentation to the Company, asking for the Company to at least respond to the key demands, rather than their routine answer of "it's not in our proposal."

The Company was disrespectful and dismissive throughout, with comments like:

"We have to do what is best for the team."

"Go talk to other workers in the area and see if they have it so good."

When asked if the Company can afford to pay 100% survivor pension to widows of MDA members (like salaried gets), the Company said only: "We are rejecting it."

When asked why they chose the things to include in their proposal, the Company answered, "We looked at everything out there and we picked the best thing for **your** members."

Regional Director Mancilla summed it up to the Company: "So what I am hearing you (the Company) say is, you've decided that what's good for the members is NO COLA, NO PROFIT SHARE, NO RETIREMENT SECURITY and INCREASED HEALTH CARE COSTS."

William E. Louis, President
 Amy Stephenson, 1st Vice President
 Robert Canova, 2nd Vice President



Martha Fletcher, Recording Secretary
 Dave W. Evans, Financial Secretary
 Robert J. Faraci, Treasurer

When the Company made a nasty comment to Bill Louis about being frustrated with the Union's presentation, Bill Louis had had enough, and we left the meeting after Bill explained (in summary, expletives not included): "you give me a call when you are ready to this seriously."

Sisters and Brothers, the Company is not taking you seriously and has shown nothing but disrespect. Last night's rally was a great starting point for us to gather more and more strength and making sure the Company knows we mean it – IT'S OUR TIME.

Be on the lookout for more member actions next week and ways to show SOLIDARITY as we drive towards the historic contract we deserve. And wear red shirts, pins, buttons, and make time for the upcoming member events. If you need red shirts, buttons, pins and posters, check in with your Councillor.

